



HORIZON



YIO CHU KANG SECONDARY SCHOOL

| NEWS LETTER

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VIA

Service Learning

As the nation transitioned from a pandemic stage to an endemic stage, YCKSS moved our VIA efforts beyond school. The much-awaited big move saw the entire Secondary 1 and 2 cohorts moving out on VIA Day! Secondary 1 students went to Marina Reservoir to work with guides and volunteers and embarked on water cleanups along the reservoir.

Secondary 2 students went to Tampines Hub and learnt about food wastage and sustainability efforts in large buildings. At ACRES, students learnt about animal abuse and illegal trafficking. At Pathlight Primary, students engaged students with special needs through games to learn more about the environment. At AWWA and AMK THK, students interacted and played with the elderly.



'My visit to Our Tampines Hub was rewarding as I learned about how much waste we are producing and destroying the environment so this was a wake-up call for me.'

**Valene Thia Xue En,
Secondary 2E2**

'My visit to Thye Hua Kwan Hospital was meaningful because the elderly I interacted with reminded me of my own grandparents. I learnt to treasure them more and to spend more time with them.'

**Mok Shin Yu,
Secondary 2E2**

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead



Secondary 3 students embarked on their service learning project. This student-initiated project encourages students to discover more about a societal issue they are passionate about and plan a campaign to support the efforts. This year, our YCKSS students collaborated with ACRES to raise funds by making their own crochet animal keychains to sell while raising awareness. Another class planned game booths to be played by the elderly at a National Event, A Walk to Remember.

‘Through Service Learning, I learnt more about teamwork and being able to work together well to successfully communicate with the elderly and with my other team members. Looking back, I could have prepared a script in Chinese for the elderly who did not understand English instead of making one up on the spot.’

Zayden Ng Kai Rui, Secondary 3E1

NATIONAL DAY 2023



The celebration started with our annual flag raising ceremony but what made it extra special this year was the collaboration with Pathlight Secondary to be part of the parade. The flag contingent together with the flag commander comprised the scouts from Pathlight whilst our UG students made their presence felt on stage.



'Being the parade commander for National Day has been a great honour. We have spent many days training, and even when we faced challenges, we wanted to demonstrate our Singapore Spirit – Onward as One. I am happy with how the parade turned out!'

Karen Koh Sze Yee, Secondary 3A2



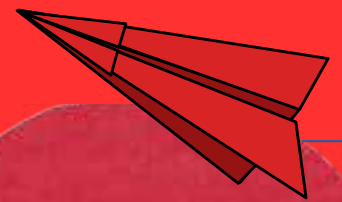


The celebration continued with a Drama, "A Sea of Change" which highlighted the Singapore Sea Port and Trade story. Students learnt how Singapore has grown from a little fishing village to the amazing port that it now is. This is to help students appreciate the growth of our nation and continue to build towards a shared vision.



'I was so happy to be part of the audience for this year's National Day Parade celebrations in school. It was fun and I liked the performances. My favourite part was when the performers for the NDP did a mob dance. It was spontaneous and the audience cheered them on.'

**Mohammad Shaffizal Bin
Mohammad Nasir, Secondary 3A1**



NATIONAL DAY PARADE @

Padang

Yio Chu Kang Secondary School had the honour of participating in Act 4 - "Onward as One" at the 2023 National Day Parade (NDP) alongside Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School, CHIJ St Theresa's Convent, and Nanyang Girls' High School.

Participating in the National Day Parade as a school was a memorable and heartfelt experience. The atmosphere was charged with energy as students, all dressed in the iconic red and white costumes for Act 4 on August 9th, came together from various schools to give their best for the show.



'I am extremely happy to be a part of NDP 2023. I had many enriching moments and forged new friendships. One of the earlier challenges I faced was moving to different grid positions to match the changing dance formation as the music played. Being nervous occasionally caused me to forget my steps. As we progressed from rehearsal to rehearsal, with encouragement from the team, I managed to focus on what I needed to do to put on a good show.'

John Britto Jeronica Queen, Indian Dance



' I am grateful to be part of NDP. I feel proud to be a Singaporean and the experience gave me a sense of belonging to YCKSS. The most exciting part was performing on the big stage at Padang. Performing in front of a large audience gave me a reason to keep smiling and give my best. The most memorable moment would be the display of fireworks. I was touched when we finished our finale and spectacular fireworks went off.'

Tan Po Yi, Red Cross Youth



The synchronised performances and meticulously coordinated routines showcased the tremendous dedication and hard work put in by both students and teachers. Their dedication was a reflection of their collective commitment to celebrating the spirit of their nation. As the students moved in harmony to the NDP 23 Theme song, "Shine Your Light," they symbolised the light that guides them into the future. The strong camaraderie and sense of unity among the schools created a powerful national identity and a sense of belonging.



TEACHERS' DAY 2023



a combined dance item put up by students and teachers of YCKSS

'Planning and organising Teachers' Day was a very memorable and enriching experience for me. Through all the planning and preparation sessions with the other EXCO members, I got to know them better. Even though it may be stressful juggling school work and planning the event, we were motivated to put together an event to be remembered and enjoyed by the teachers.'

***Tan Kai Xuan Lucinda,
The Student Council EXCO***

The theme for Teachers' Day 2023 was adapted from Walt Disney's and Pixar's movie, Elemental. Aligned to the chosen Elemental theme, our school's Student Councillors directed and starred in a skit, beautifully arranged and produced by Media Club CCA. The message of the skit was a meaningful one; to affirm the importance of embracing each other's differences, to show empathy, to constantly keep our hearts open and see the positive in one other. A vibrant concert segment concluded the day and this was beautifully arranged by several student performers. The finale item was a sensational hit as the audience were exhilarated and cheered to the joint dance performance of teachers and students to a mash-up of songs. Teachers' Day Celebrations in Yio Chu Kang Secondary School was a day to remember as staff members felt appreciated and enjoyed themselves tremendously.



'The highlight of this year's Teachers' Day Celebration was witnessing the joy and smiles of my teachers and friends. This year, I got to perform in my band, the Mcats, and be the emcee for the concert segment. I had great fun and this is an addition to my fond memories at Yio Chu Kang Secondary School.'

Sami Sharieff II, Secondary 3E1

'I am grateful for the opportunity given and the immense belief my teachers and friends had in me to lead a group dance item. It was indeed very challenging to choreograph steps to a lyrical genre of dance but thankfully, given my Chinese Dance CCA background, I managed to lead my friends in formulating fluid steps to fit the music. I enjoyed the whole process and was very proud of the outcome of our dance item.'

Chin Zhi Xuan, Secondary 3T1



Graduation Ceremony 2023



The Graduation Ceremony is an annual event organised by the school as a formal send-off for students of the graduating cohort. It also marks the last day of school before the students embark on their study break and national examinations.

'I truly felt sad when I realised I was about to leave this school environment and the people I have grown close to. I will never forget this day which marks the completion of our academic journey with dear friends and teachers. However, this is just the beginning of our future and the world of opportunities that lie ahead. May we all excel in our future endeavours!'

Noor Cahaya Binte Abdullah, Secondary 4A2

GOALS:	
1.	
2.	
3.	
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'I had mixed feelings during the Graduation Ceremony. I was nervous when it was my turn to deliver the speech as I have not given a speech in front of so many people before. At the same time, I was sad knowing that my friends and I will go our separate ways after graduating from YCKSS. I will miss the jokes we had made together and all the fun we had!'

Prakash Arjunan, Secondary 4T1



Emotional moments through the valedictory speeches and the "Walk Down Memory Lane" photo montage were interspersed with light-hearted moments from the creative staff-led video. Teachers of the graduating cohort also rallied together to compile their best wishes to encourage the students for their examinations and in their post-secondary journey.



'During the ceremony, I felt emotional as it was the last day of my four years of school life in YCKSS. The video montage showing the photos of my friends and I made me reminisce about the times we had with one another since Secondary 1. Also, the last segment where all of us stood up to sing the school song for one final time was particularly moving and meaningful to me as this showed the strong school spirit and bonds that we all had with one another.'

Wong Tin Lok, Xavier, Secondary 4E2





THE PURPLE PARADE

The Purple Parade is a unifying national platform which aims to promote awareness and celebrate the diverse abilities of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). The core of the Purple Parade movement is to ensure that PWDs are included in the main story of Singapore's growth and have equal access across the various aspects of life.



'It was a fun experience and I really enjoyed it. I enjoyed the delicious food and bonded with my friends over the fun game. I had the privilege to host the VIPs and I got to bring them around and show them what the school had to offer for our Purple Carnival. In addition, I also got to interact with several of my Pathlight friends which made this event even more fun!'

**Lee Rong Jie,
Secondary 2A2**

Yio Chu Kang Secondary School supports inclusion and celebrates the diversity and abilities of PWDs while upholding and celebrating the close partnership between our school and our Gen Ed-SPED school partner, Pathlight School. In 2023, our school's Purple Carnival took place with Student Leaders from CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School and Beatty Secondary School hopping on the bandwagon to serve alongside YCKSS & Pathlight Student Leaders thereby contributing to the richness of the event!



'I enjoyed helping out in the Purple Carnival as it was not only a great way to take a break from exams but also to develop my communication skills. What I like most about the Purple Carnival was working together with students from different schools. I learned how to work together with my teammates and guide other students when they came to the booth.'

***Ragnar Ho,
Pathlight School, 4NTa
Tupelo***



Principal's farewell

**THANK YOU,
MRS LIM**



On the last day of school, the entire school staff and students gathered in the school hall to bid a heartfelt farewell to our Principal, Mrs. Carol Lim. In her term as the Principal of Yio Chu Kang Secondary School in the last six years, Mrs. Lim has guided the school with unwavering dedication, passion, and wisdom. The school embarked on a journey down memory lane as we watched a touching farewell video montage showcasing Mrs. Lim's contributions to Yio Chu Kang Secondary School from 2018 to 2023. The video was a way for us to express our gratitude to Mrs. Lim and thank her for her tireless effort in leading YCKSS over the past 6 years.

Damie Yoot (Student Council President) and Trissie Choong (Sports Leader President) presented Mrs. Lim with a farewell gift. The gift was an artwork that captured the heartfelt thoughts from each of the 26 classes in YCKSS this year. The tree at the centerstage of the artwork is reminiscent of our Treemendous Tree, which is a labour of joy led by Mrs. Lim in the first year of school merger. Surrounding the tree in this artwork are ginkgo leaves, each bearing the thoughts and well-wishes from the student body. In the artwork is a quote that accompanies the Treemendous Tree - "A tree was once a seed that did not give up."

We hope that this quote and the memories Mrs. Lim have of YCKSS will continue to accompany her in her new journey as the next Principal of Fuhua Secondary School.



'Mrs. Lim's farewell is meaningful. From the video montage, you can really see how much she has changed and improved YCKSS for not only the students but for the teachers too.'

Putri Querissha Natasha Binte Suhardy, Secondary 1A

'LEADERS ARE THOSE WHO EMPOWER OTHERS' BILL GATES



'It was nice to hear her address the school to share her words of wisdom for one last time. I feel that the montage and the gift from the student body made it a nice send off for her.'

***Liau Qian Yee,
Secondary 3E3***





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