# MGS ECHO Matrix Global Schools Weekly Newsletter



#### CAMPUS PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



# THIS WEEK'S TOPICS

Cognitive Ability Test: Fourth Edition (CAT4)

Monitoring Students' Progress at MPS

Earth Day At MIEY

MISP - Achieving success in STEM Olympiad

Enhance Creativity with Music



"The greatest test of courage on earth is to bear defeat without losing heart".

- Robert Green Ingersoll

(A popular American lecturer in the late 19th century, a leading figure of free thought) In school, teachers need to gather evidence of students' learning and to provide feedback for further improvement. But in order for a teacher to be able to give accurate and constructive feedback to the students, there is a need for the teacher to assess the students' learning through assessment procedures involving the individual or the group.

Completing assignment needs an discipline and rigour on the part of the students and the findings of the assessment are only as accurate and reliable as the effort that students are willing to put into completing the reliable assignments. Accurate and findings will lead to meaningful feedback to the students as well as an important source of data for the teacher to plan future lessons.

Some students might feel that they are doing all right as they have been successful in their studies thus far and need not do more. They complain that the teacher is not fair to give them more assignments that reduce their leisure time. It is not wise for students to think that they are already good in their studies and there is no room for further improvement. As Bill Gates, an American computer programmer and entrepreneur who co-founded Microsoft Corporation, commented, "Success is a lousy teacher. It seduces smart people into thinking they can't lose."

We will endeavour to continuously give feedback to our students to ensure that they have an accurate view of themselves and are prepared for life beyond the school. As a 'guide on the side' for all our students, this is a responsibility that teachers in MGS carry with pride and dedication.

## COGNITIVE ABILITY TEST: FOURTH EDITION (CAT4)

The CAT4 is a standardised cognitive test used by many schools in the United Kingdom and Malaysia. At MGS, we use this test to gauge a student's developed abilities as an entry assessment requirement and a tool to forecast and improve the student's performance in their learning and in the public examinations. It provides insights into children's ability to reason across 4 fields: verbal, nonmathematical verbal. and spatial reasoning.

The content of these tests is not curriculum-based. Instead of testing a child's knowledge, they are meant to highlight strengths and weaknesses. It is also to gauge pupils' potential, and to use such benchmarking in the teaching process. It helps teachers to see which students will need assistance and support in addition to those who need to be pushed and challenged.

#### Samples of test items

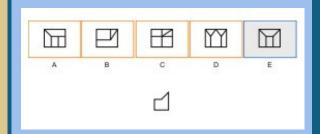
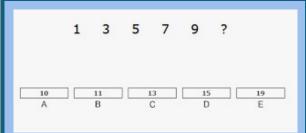


Figure recognition - student needs to identify the shape within the complex design selections



Number series - student needs to identify the number to continue the sequence



Verbal classification - student needs to identify the fourth word with similar properties

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#### **CAMPUS**

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE TRANSLATED

在学校,教师需要收集学生学习的证据,并给出高质量的反馈以帮助学生提高改进。但是,为了让教师能够给学生提供准确并有建设性的反馈,教师需通过个人或小组评估程序评估学生的学习进展情况。

学生须有纪律并严谨地完成作业,评估结果的准确性和可靠性取决于学生完成作业时所付出的努力。越准确、可靠的评估结果能给予学生有意义的反馈,也是让教师规划未来课程的重要数据来源。

有些学生可能认为他们已经做得很好了,因为到目前为止他们的学习成绩良好,因此他们认为不需要做更多的作业。他们常埋怨老师不公平,给他们特别多的作业,因为占用了他们的闲暇时间。这些想法与行为是非常不明智的,因为当学生自认为自己达到了优等的水平,就没有进步的空间了。正如美国计算机程序员和微软公司创始人比尔·盖茨

(Bill Gates) 所说: "成功是一个糟糕的老师,它诱使聪明人认为他们不会输。"

我们会不断向学生提供反馈,让学生明白自己的优势和问题所在,并为未来的生活做准备。作为我们所有学生的"侧面引导",这是金群利环球院校老师们的义务与职责。



Di sekolah, para guru perlu mengumpul bukti pembelajaran dan memberi maklumbalas kepada para pelajar bagi penambahbaikan. Namun begitu, untuk memberikan maklumbalas yang tepat dan membina, para guru perlu menilai hasil pembelajaran pelajar melalui tugasan yang diberikan, sama ada tugasan secara individu mahupun berkumpulan.

Seseorang pelajar memerlukan displin diri dan kecekalan untuk menyiapkan tugasan; dan ketepatan penilaian pembelajaran tertakluk kepada usaha pelajar tersebut melengkapkan tugasan-tugasan yang diberi. Penilaian yang tepat akan menghasilkan maklum balas yang bermakna kepada pelajar dan menjadi sumber maklumat kepada para guru untuk merancang pengajaran seterusnya.

Sebilangan pelajar mungkin berasa selesa dengan kedudukan mereka dan tidak perlu berusaha dengan lebih lagi kerana setakat ini mereka mendapat keputusan yang baik dalam pembelajaran.

Mereka mengadu bahawa guru-guru bersikap tidak adil apabila memberikan lebih banyak tugasan yang mengurangkan masa untuk mereka berhibur. Tidak wajar bagi seorang pelajar merasakan bahawa apa yang dipelajarinya telah mencukupi dan tiada ruang lagi untuk diperbaiki. Seperti kata ahli perniagaan Amerika Syarikat dan pengasas Microsoft Corporation, Bill Gates, "Kejayaan bukanlah satu pengajaran yang bagus. Ia akan membuatkan mereka yang pandai berasa kebal dan tidak boleh kalah."

Kami akan terus berusaha untuk memberikan maklumbalas bermanfaat kepada para pelajar untuk memastikan bahawa mereka mempunyai pandangan yang tepat tentang diri mereka dan bersedia untuk kehidupan di luar sekolah. Tugas sebagai pembimbing di sebelah pelajar adalah tanggungjawab yang dipikul oleh para guru MGS dengan penuh bangga dan dedikasi.



# MONITORING STUDENTS' PROGRESS AT MPS

At MPS, part of students' progress is monitored with activities like quiz, projects, assignments, examinations, individual/group work and co-curricular activities. Students' performance in these activities are evaluated and contribute to the total scores achieved by the students. To obtain a high score, students need to always keep up with the learning and the activities. This feedback gives insight to teachers on the student's capability and areas that students need to improve in.

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April 22nd is celebrated world wide as Earth Day, and this year's theme is "Restore Earth". At Matrix Early Years we always look at fun ways to connect our children to the world around us. The children had a great time exploring new ideas and went around the school enjoying lots of activities to celebrate the Earth Day.

They took back a shovel as a gift from their teachers to continue planting at home with their parents. We need to save the earth for our children as there is no Planet B.

# MISP - ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN STEM OLYMPIAD

One way that we help our students work towards our MGS core value of 'Everyone Maximising Potential' is by encouraging them to participate in external competitions. These allow our students to showcase their talents and to apply the knowledge and skills that have been developed through the learning that we offer.

From 1st to 7th April, 2021, a Virtual STEM Olympiad @ MSN was organised by the Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi; Minggu Sains Negara and Sains Untuk Kesihatan. This Olympiad involved a range of online activities and competitions involving science, technology, mathematics for engineering and students throughout Malaysia of primary and secondary school age. We are pleased to announce that two of our MISP students, Ashreyna Kaur Mallan (Year 2) and Alyshaa Kaur Mallan (Year 4), both achieved 3rd place in the online science quiz in the Primary Students category.

We would like to congratulate both Ashreyna and Alyshaa on their success in the competition.



"Thank you teachers for guiding and teaching my daughters. Your hard work has paid dividends and was evident when both of my daughters won 3rd place of the 'Virtual Stem Olympiad @ MSN 2021' daily challenge organised by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Information.

Ashreyna won 3rd place for the daily challenge quiz on 3th April 2021 whilst Alyshaa won 3rd place for the daily challenge on the 4th April 2021.

My husband and I believe that credit must be given where it is due and for us, the credit goes to you teachers and for that, again, THANK

- Karamjit, parent of Ashreyna, Year 2 and Alyshaa, Year 4

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The benefits of music education are immense and highly beneficial to students. Music positively impacts a child's academic performance, assists in developing social skills, and provides an outlet for creativity that is crucial to a child's development. And because of this, it should always be considered a pivotal part of a child's educational process.





"Music class was a very memorable and happy experience. I participated in many engaging activities that gave me enduring impressions that will never fade. Some of the activities that were most memorable were the band battles and the concert. All in all, it was an amazing experience. The music lessons have helped to challenge me to strive for perfection in whatever I do".

- Manavjit, Form 4M

IMPROVES EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

PROMOTES SELF-CONFIDENCE

"From my experience with the music class, it was very entertaining and leaving me with long lasting lessons. My music class helped me improve greatly in my singing as well as my piano skills. It took me out of my comfort zone and made me challenge myself to strive for excellence. The performances that I took part in boosted my confidence as well. Overall, my time in music class was a memorable one and I will always cherish the memories".

- Kushalini, Form 4A



RELIEVES STRESS ENHANCES FOCUS

SKILLS



"Amid the global pandemic, music classes were conducted very differently throughout the whole of last year. There were times when we managed to attend practical classes physically, but at other times we had to adapt to the changes around us. In 2020, I'm glad to say that I've learned a lot in both online and physical music classes. An example of a notable experience is learning to play the 'virtual piano' "

- Vincent Pak, Form 4M

"Music has played a very big role in my school life since my years in the primary school. It has always been there for me when I am sad, happy or angry. At first, I thought I could only sing for class purposes. To my surprise, my dream to perform on the stage in front of huge crowds came true two years ago in 2019. I was given the opportunity to perform 3 songs for the National MABA Competition in Kuala Lumpur with our school band, the Crimson Cadence. It was a wonderful musical journey for me in my lower secondary years".

Rania, Form 4M









Happy Labour Day to the workers in every field!