

MESSAGE FROM THE CAMPUS PRINCIPAL

Malaysian Minister of Education, Dr. Mohd Radzi Md Jidin, has announced cancellation of UPSR and PT3 examination and postponement of SPM to first quarter of 2021. The end date of school closure will be announced two weeks before schools are allowed to start again.

It has been almost a month since we last met at school and I hope you all are keeping well. I would like to share with you my thoughts on two lessons that we can learn from this COVID-19 pandemic.

Lesson 1: Focus on our aim in life

Our medical service personnel have been working very hard despite facing various challenges to treat all the patients who have been infected. The constraints have not deterred them from being fully committed to their ultimate aim, which is to save lives. They do not waste their time blaming other people because they know that no amount of complaining would help get the job done. Today, we have among the lowest death rates due to COVID-19 virus compared to countries with similar number of infections.

With that in mind dear students, are you working hard and focussed on your aim in life? Or have you been giving excuses and strayed away from your goal to be the best person you can be? More than ever, we are in need of future leaders who can shape the new world and resilient members in our community to ensure a better life will follow these hard times. And you will not play a part in that if you keep giving excuses – that you cannot do this and that without your teachers and friends.

I need you to reflect on how hard working and tough our doctors and nurses are to face this crisis, and continue to work hard on your own academic skills for the good of your future.

So remember, whilst we need to stay focussed on our goals in life, we also need to be able to adapt to change and to remain strong, healthy and confident to enjoy our life to its fullest. Please stay safe, stay at home and till we meet again in Matrix Global Schools.

Lesson 2: Embrace change

Recent scientific discovery has found that the novel coronavirus has now evolved to a different strain of virus to ensure its survival. The struggle for existence is nothing new in nature, as the competition to survive is part of the natural selection – a concept explained in Darwin's evolutionary theory.

"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent that survives. It is the one that is most adaptable to change." – Charles Darwin

So just like the coronavirus, we too can no longer remain in our comfort zone and have to change. Your teachers have been working hard to ensure your academic success. And your parents have been supporting you by providing the tools needed for you to achieve that goal.

Have you upgraded your skills in order to change? I encourage you to use this time to learn important living skills, such as cooking. If you know how to cook, in future you will be able to prepare yourself some good food when you live apart from your parents. Always be willing to learn and have a positive attitude towards change, because that will determine your success in life.



校长寄语

距离上次在学校见面快一个月了，希望大家别来无恙。在此，我想与大家分享通过新冠肺炎疫情获得的两个启示。

启示（壹）：专注于我们的人生目标

纵使我们的前线医护人员面对各种严峻情况，但他们仍尽其所能地治疗所有的确诊病人。各种挑战与局限并未消蚀他们救人的终极目标。他们不浪费一分一秒来把责任归咎于他人，毕竟他们知道这并无济于事。如今，纵观与我国有相似确诊病例数量的国家，我国的死亡病例可算是相对的低。

有鉴于此，亲爱的孩子们，你们是否倾情专注于追求你们的人生目标？你们是否总在为自己找来诸多搪塞的借口或渐渐偏离成为更好的自己之路？然而，在这艰难时刻过后，我们需要能重塑世界的未来领导以及具适应能力的社群分子来共创美好生活。而那些总在为自己的找借口的人并不会是其中之一。

望各位能时时想起正在拼搏的医护人员并为自己的未来加倍努力。

启示（贰）：勇于接受改变

最近的科学研究显示新冠病毒已再次变种。据达尔文的进化论所言，物竞天择，这是生物求存的自然现象。

“存活下来的物种并不是最强或最聪明的，而是最能适应变化的”——达尔文

正如新冠病毒，我们并不能总是待在我们的同温层，而是要能适应改变。老师们都不辞辛劳地为你们的学术表现付出。家长们更是为你们的将来准备了一切所需。

而你，是否已提升自己以适应改变？愿你们能把握此机会去学习一些生活上的技巧，如烹煮。若你懂得下厨，未来的你纵使不在父母的身边仍能享受美食。冀你们能抱着正面的态度面对改变，并不拒绝任何学习的可能，而这或能对你成功与否起了决定性的作用。

愿各位安好，在我们真正到校见面之前，请好好待在家。

PESANAN PENGETUA KAMPUS

Sudah hampir sebulan sejak kita bersempa di sekolah. Saya harap semuanya berada dalam keadaan sihat sejahtera. Kali ini saya ingin berkongsi pendapat mengenai dua pengajaran yang dapat kita simpulkan dari wabak COVID-19 ini.

Pengajaran Pertama: Fokus kepada misi hidup

Kakitangan perubatan negara sedang bekerja keras walaupun menghadapi pelbagai kekangan untuk merawat semua pesakit yang telah dijangkiti virus ini. Cabaran ini tidak menghalang mereka daripada memberikan komitmen sepenuhnya terhadap misi utama mereka, iaitu menyelamatkan nyawa. Mereka tidak membuang masa untuk menuding jari kepada orang lain kerana mereka sedar bahawa tindakan itu tidak akan membantu menyelesaikan masalah. Kini, kadar kematian akibat COVID-19 di Malaysia adalah antara yang terendah berbanding negara-negara yang mempunyai kadar kes jangkitan yang serupa.

Dengan itu murid-murid sekalian, adakah kamu semua bekerja keras dan fokus kepada misi utama hidup kamu? Sebaliknya, adakah kamu memberi pelbagai alasan dan sudah tersasar dari matlamat untuk menjadi insan cemerlang? Dunia kini amat memerlukan pemimpin masa depan yang dapat membentuk dunia baru dan masyarakat yang berdaya tahan untuk memastikan kelangsungan hidup yang lebih baik di hari hari mendatang. Sekiranya kamu terus memberi alasan bahawa kamu tidak boleh belajar tanpa guru dan rakan rakan, maka tidak ada tempat untuk kamu dalam usaha membentuk dunia baru ini.

Saya mahu kamu semua merenung kembali betapa bersungguh-sungguh dan sukarnya para doktor dan jururawat kita dalam menghadapi krisis ini, dan teruskan usaha untuk menggilap kemahiran akademik kamu sendiri untuk kebaikan masa hadapan.

Pengajaran Kedua: Bersikap terbuka terhadap perubahan

Penemuan saintifik terkini mendapati bahawa coronavirus baharu ini telah berubah suai kepada jenis virus yang berbeza pula untuk memastikan kelangsungan hidupnya. Persaingan untuk kekal wujud adalah norma alam semulajadi berdasarkan konsep yang dijelaskan dalam teori evolusi Darwin.

“Spesies yang terkuat mahupun yang terpendai bukanlah spesies yang akan bertahan. Sebaliknya, spesies yang dapat menyesuaikan diri dengan perubahan yang terus berkekalan.” – Charles Darwin

Oleh itu, seperti coronavirus, kita juga tidak lagi boleh kekal dalam zon selesa kita dan haruslah berubah. Para guru telah bekerja keras untuk memastikan kejayaan akademik kamu. Dan para ibu bapa telah memberi sokongan dan menyediakan peralatan yang mencukupi untuk kamu semua mencapai tujuan tersebut. Adakah kamu telah meningkatkan kemahiran diri untuk berubah? Saya menggalakkan kamu semua menggunakan masa ini untuk mempelajari kemahiran-kemahiran hidup yang penting, antaranya memasak. Sekiranya kamu mahir memasak, kamu akan dapat menyediakan sendiri makanan yang enak ketika tinggal berjauhan dari keluarga kelak. Sentiasa bersikap terbuka untuk belajar dan menerima perubahan, kerana inilah penentuan kejayaan dalam hidup kamu semua.

Sehingga kita berjumpa kembali di Matrix Global Schools, jagalah keselamatan dan duduk di rumah.

CHANGE is the only constant in life - Heraclitus, Greek philosopher

As this current pandemic affects all spectrums of human life, adaptation to change is important. Pre-pandemic methods of classroom teaching and learning now need to be changed and adapted to ensure that all children are not left behind in their learning.

MGS educators are working hard to find ways in delivering high quality and effective lessons to the students using online platforms and we value parents' support and encouragement in monitoring the students to adapt as we continuously improve on this new learning environment for them.

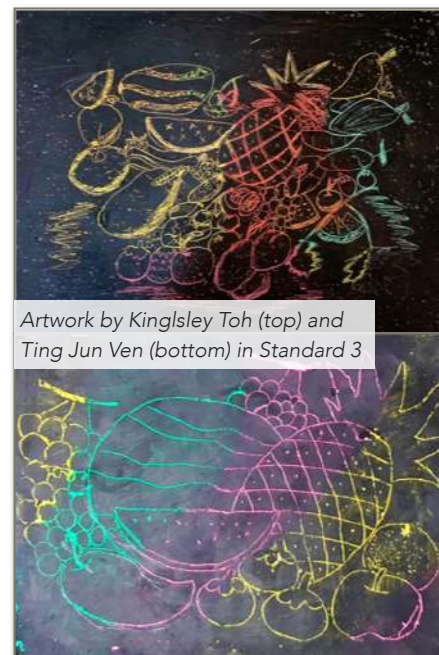
One example of this new effort has been carried out by Ms Aimie Shazana using Google Classroom for her Visual Arts lessons. Ms Aimie constantly engages and interacts with her students to ensure the quality of their work and to assist them when they have issues or problems. With her support and guidance the students have produced many masterpieces as shown below.



Interior Design: Living room model
by Tan Co Ee, Form 2



House model construction and design
by Carol Lim, Standard 6



Artwork by Kingsley Toh (top) and
Ting Jun Ven (bottom) in Standard 3

Lifting Each Other's Spirits with Creative Language

Ms Josephine's Form 5 English class was assigned a creative challenge of designing a logo and slogan for their classmates, in order to encourage one another to stay positive, motivated and hopeful in these challenging times. Creating slogans is a great way to encourage creative writing as students need to express ideas that are inspirational using only a limited number of words.



Chung Kai Hong submitted this design saying, "The muscles are to show that we are strong to overcome this problem. While the anxious expression means that even though we may have been "beaten up" by the pandemic, we are still able to stand strong."



Peggy Lee submitted this artwork for the assignment, where the sword represents the number "5" while the lightning is shaped as the letter "M" which makes up the class of friends that she is missing in Form 5M.



This logo is from Yasmin Alia of Form 5A. "The number 2 represents the number of girls in my class, while 13 is the number of boys."



Keeping Up with MIS Early Years

As teachers, parents, and students adjust from having the structure of classrooms to the world of distance learning at home, many education tech companies have opened up their tools and materials for free access to help with children's learning from home. However, the group that would be most difficult to keep track on are the preschoolers.

Screen time learning may limit the time children need to spend outdoors. Also, young learners need materials that are concrete to help them visualise and understand things or concepts. Hence, we have used concrete and play-based learning activities for our preschoolers.

The MCO and school closure have brought about drastic changes to normal routines, that our students still cannot understand or adjust to. As such we would like the home to remain their home, where they can still attend "school" by doing their hands-on learning activities that focus on both the cognitive and social aspects of education. At home, their parents can work with them at their own pace, while still enjoying family bonding activities. Parents now take on the supportive role of being teachers to their little ones.

The Early Years team would, therefore, like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for being supportive, being involved in the children's learning and diligently carrying out these activities with the students. Great job, parents!

We will continue to support you by preparing interactive lessons and meeting up with your little ones as frequently as possible via video conferencing. We are counting the days to having them back in MGS - safe and healthy.



Face to face interactions with the children via video conferencing.



Off-screen learning with concrete materials suitable for preschoolers.



Cikgu Normahayu (bertudung jingga) bersama murid-murid yang dilatih untuk mempersembahkan tarian Melayu pada sambutan Hari Raya MGS 2019.

NUKILAN GURU

**Normahayu Ali,
Ketua Panitia Bahasa Melayu MPS**

Seperti yang kita ketahui, setiap perkara yang berlaku pasti ada hikmahnya. Begitu juga dalam sistem pendidikan sekolah. Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan telah memberi ruang kepada guru-guru menguasai dan mempratikkan teknik pengajaran dan pembelajaran secara atas talian. Jika sebelum ini, guru sudah terbiasa dengan rutin mengajar di dalam kelas, berhadapan dengan murid-murid dan menyemak tugasan murid di dalam buku, tapi sekarang guru perlu menganjak paradigma mereka kepada pembelajaran atas talian.

Tiada lagi bilik darjah, tidak lagi bersemuka dengan murid-murid dan tiada lagi tugasan di dalam buku untuk disemak. Guru kini beralih ke sistem pendidikan digital iaitu kelas dijalankan melalui aplikasi 'Google Classroom', 'Google Meet', 'WhatsApp' dan sebagainya. Guru juga menyemak tugasan murid menggunakan aplikasi tersebut.

Walaupun kekok pada awalnya, namun bak kata pepatah 'alah bisa, tegal biasa'. Yang pasti, kelangsungan murid-murid untuk mendapatkan ilmu tidak boleh diabaikan. Walau di mana guru itu berada, selagi bernama guru, tugas mendidik perlu dilaksanakan. Tiada yang janggal. Jika dulu menggunakan papan hitam dan kapur; kemudian papan putih, pen marker dan papan pintar. Kini, maju selangkah lagi dengan menggunakan aplikasi atas talian. Ayuh, guru semua. Kita pasti boleh menyahut cabaran ini!

BH Birthday Celebration amidst MCO

Our friend's birthday fell during the quarantine so we planned for a surprise party for her at the Boarding House! Since we cannot leave the premises, we used bread, strawberry jam and ice-cream to make a cake for her. The quality was not very good but that is not important. What's more important is that we made it from our heart and was happy that we could enjoy our special party together!

- Ahn Yedam, Year 11 and Pornpawee, Year 10

I am really thankful that Ms Tea and the boarders helped to celebrate my 18th birthday. Although we are in quarantine and could not get a proper cake, they still used bread, jam and ice-cream to make a birthday cake for me! I will remember this special birthday forever.

- Ki Hiu Tung, Year 11



MGS goes LIVE!

Ms Dornehl Kitching hosted our first live Facebook webinar on Monday to share ideas on how teenagers can remain engaged in their learning at home. She also shared some interesting activities for parents to do together with their children.

If you missed the chance to watch it live, you can view the recorded video on Matrix Global Schools' Facebook page.



Here is what Saieesivasoriaa Sivagurunathan, Year 11, had to say after watching one of the TED Talks recommended from the webinar:

Ms Dornehl had given a variety of activities in her webinar that students could get involved with amid the current Movement Control Order. One of her suggestions was to watch a TED Talk titled "Grit: the power of passion and perseverance" by Angela Lee Duckworth.

Not only was this TED talk inspiring to me but it showed me what education was all about and what knowledge truly means. The speaker (Angela Lee) conveyed the message that education does not depend on IQ tests or the textbooks but instead, it depends on creativity and most importantly, GRIT. What is grit? Grit is passion and perseverance for very long term goals. Grit is sticking with your future day in and day out.

She also said that, and I quote "What we need in education is a much better understanding of students and learning from a motivational perspective". Angela Lee believes that IQ tests are not the only thing that was separating successful students from those who struggled. But instead, she highly accepts the fact that "grit" is a predictor of success. Angela Lee had also studied grit and she had asked thousands of students to take grit questionnaires. The result? Grittier kids were significantly more likely to graduate.

What this means is that education is not based on what needs to be done today or tomorrow, but it is also for your future and the days ahead of you.



Soriaa took his laptop outside and watched the video under the moonlight for a change of scenery.

Seeking Knowledge ; Opening Minds



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