

## MESSAGE FROM THE CAMPUS PRINCIPAL



The implementation of the COVID-19 Movement Control Order (MCO) to reduce people's movements has led to an unexpected and much needed boost to our environment. In a recent statement by our Environment and Water Minister, Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man, he reported that Malaysia has recorded an overall improvement in air and water quality. One example, as reported by The Star on 25 April, is the improvement of water colour of the Sungai Melaka that has turned from a murky *teh tarik* brown to clear and pristine. The New Straits Times have also reported that 50% less rubbish is now being collected from booms in Sungai Klang and that this has resulted in an increase of dissolved oxygen (DO) to support aquatic life in the rivers (18 April 2020). With the human race locked down and unable to move about, nature now has the opportunity to heal and grow.

Closer to home, we can see that the grounds at Matrix Global Schools are no exception to this. Built in the heart of the new township of Bandar Sri Sendayan, Matrix has always been proud of the lush greenery of our campus, but it has now flourished even more, offering patches of beautiful flora across our gardens. Although the school has been closed for the last few weeks, we have not abandoned the effort to care for our plants and flowers, which are now in full bloom.

In fact, the tranquillity of our well-tended landscape has attracted a number of birds who decided to take full advantage of the peaceful surroundings to build their nests. One favourite place among them seems to be the MGS Boarding House, the entrance of which now plays host to a few permanent feathered tenants making themselves comfortable and taking on the job of providing the few student boarders still in residence with morning wake-up calls. Our boarders have also had the pleasure of watching baby birds being hatched from their eggs, getting fed by their mother, as well as being taught how to fly. This is certainly an enriching experience for both our student boarders and our Boarding House parents.

Whilst we are away from school, our MGS Boarding House parents, the facilities team and our security teams have all put in an exceptional effort to maintain the school grounds and thus allowed nature to blush and bloom in harmony. We believe that a fresh and green environment helps contribute to a great learning experience and overall well being among our students. Their continuous effort to sustain our landscape, therefore, helps to ensure that our campus is ready to welcome students back with blooming flowers, well pruned shrubs and the humming of the birds. We can't wait to experience it again once we return to school!

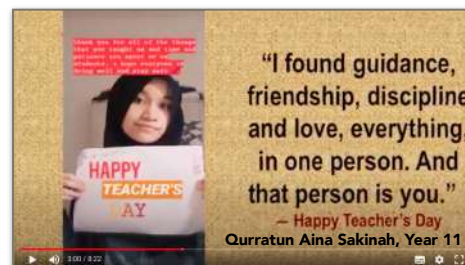
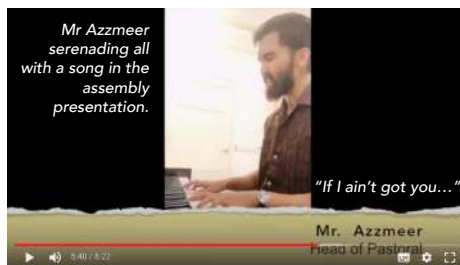
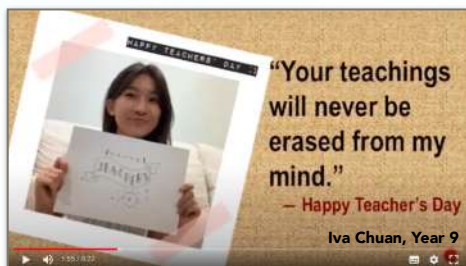


## Celebrations during MIS Secondary Virtual Assembly

As a way for students and teachers to stay in touch with one another, the school held weekly virtual assemblies either by video conferencing or sending out group email with pre-recorded messages. Last week, MIS Secondary held their assembly by spreading positive vibes to the students in dual celebration. For those who missed it, presentation for the assembly can be viewed [HERE](#).

### TEACHER'S DAY

Student representatives sent sweet messages which were compiled in a video to show their appreciation for their teachers.



### WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day, also known as International Day of the Book, is an annual event on 23 April celebrating authors, readers, illustrators and books. MIS had planned an assembly with a variety of activities to celebrate books and to encourage the students to read. Nevertheless, the plans could not materialise because of the current situation we are in.

So as to not miss out on such an important event on the school calendar, the teachers came up with a plan to engage and entertain our students. To make it an amusing yet interesting experience, a few teachers of MIS dressed up as book characters and made a video of themselves. These were then posted on our assembly platform and students voted for their favourite videos. The results were:



In order to increase student participation, [online book games](#) and [puzzles](#) were posted too. Even though we did not get to celebrate World Book Day with the usual pizzazz, it was beyond a doubt a very effective and memorable event. One to remember for many years to come.



## Offline Activity for Primary Mathematics

In finding the right balance for remote learning, Ms Sivakumari and Ms Angie of MPS Primary assigned hands-on activity to complement the learning Standard 3 is having on Google Classroom.

For the topic 'Problem solving involving multiplication', students were assigned to use multiplication of 2 numbers to set up a window display of the items to be sold in their stores. The task was broken down into two parts to make sure students would understand the instructions given.

### PART 1: Planning

- Alliteration - students need to think about the shop that they wanted, create the store name and listing all the items they want to sell.
- Math Proof - by using multiplication fact to plan how they are going to display their items in their stores.
- Planning - students design a window to display their items around the shop.

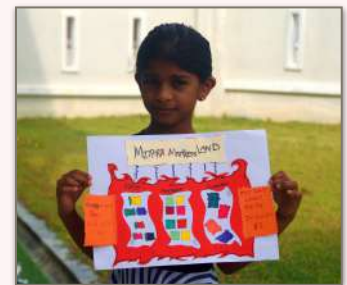


### PART 2: Designing

Finally, they have to use their strategy and creativity to design a poster as in the photos shared below.

*In this Math project I have learned to use multiplication, not just by memorising or counting on paper. It was also fun to name my own brand and design my own shop display.*

- Mithravani Jagathesen



## Ramadhan Mubarak! Students observing fast during MCO

### Megat Rashidi, Year 6

The first week of fasting went very well. This is my 5th year to fast from dawn to sunset. So I know from experience that the first few days you will feel the pain from hunger but it will be less and less as we get used to it.

We woke up very early (another routine to get used to during fasting month) to have our *sahur*, which is like a heavy breakfast to get us ready for a full day of no food and drink. Although tired, I still attended the afternoon live classes set up by my teachers, but only do my homework at night when I could think better with a full stomach.



Fasting is a way for us to build empathy and compassion, so we would understand how the poor and needy feel. As the eldest, I encourage and lead my younger sisters to help them get used to fasting. We have made an achievement chart to mark our names with

a star for each day we manage to fast. They are happy to get their stars so that encourages them to fast for the whole day.

### Wan Afief Putra, Year 6

Apart from the daily school closure routine of online classes and homework, my brothers (Wan Arief Putra, Year 10 and Wan Ariez Putra, Early Years) and I enjoy playing music, draw and bake to distract us and make time go faster while waiting for break of fast at sunset.



Fasting does not stop us from exercising and following the school's PE challenges.





## Teacher's Insight on Academic Misconduct

by Ms Barbara Madeja-Edmunds

Let's imagine students...

Fast forward the clock to the future, you are now at university. Are you aware that certain behaviours are treated as academic crimes, and may put you at risk of being expelled? Or even cancelling your degree? Each university (and school) has their own Academic Honesty (also referred to as Academic Misconduct) policy executed by nominated scholars responsible for investigative and punitive action.

**What are those crimes? How can you avoid them?**

**Is it worth being caught?**

The role of schools is to educate young adults on behaviours that foster fair intellectual contribution, and the responsibility of universities is to ensure that the bright brains called to shaping the world's future handle the knowledge and information in an honest way. Just like in the sporting world, your own hard work matters, not your social status, your parents' connections, or your financial agility, but own dedication and effort earn you that laurel wreath.

Did you know that in UK and USA, students who are caught cheating are not only frowned upon by teachers, but fellow students, too? They are branded as cheaters and it is hard to eradicate that shameful label. Any shortcuts which give you an academic advantage are considered dishonest and break the rules of 'sportsmanship'. Each of these dishonest behaviours carry a formal label, and in effect, specific consequences. These include, but are not limited to: bringing unauthorised equipment to the exam room ('cheating'), using other people's words and submitting them as your own ('plagiarism'), asking another person to write an assignment for you ('ghosting'), taking an exam pretending to be someone else ('personation'), using fabricated statistics and data ('falsification') etc.



As you are forming your own work ethics now, you will be faced with choices. The choices you make will determine who you are as an individual. So, the stakes are high, would you agree?

*This article is an extension to Ms Barbara's presentation for MIS Secondary weekly assembly to encourage authentic work submissions during this MCO period. The full content of her presentation can be viewed [HERE](#).*



Sharing more photos of the colourful flowers blooming in MGS campus.

Seeking Knowledge ; Opening Minds



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