

MGS ECHO

Matrix Global Schools Weekly Newsletter

CAMPUS PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



THIS WEEK'S TOPICS

Creative Ideas for CNY Celebration

Dare to face Challenges

Therapeutic Value of Art

Community Service - Examination Stationery kit

SPM starts on 22nd February. Best wishes to our students!

"The greatest glory in living is not in falling, but in rising every time we fall."



Nelson Mandela
(President of South Africa 1994 - 1999)

"The most valuable thing you can make is a mistake, you can't learn anything from being perfect." - a quote by Adam Osborne, author and computer designer who introduced Osborne 1, the first commercially successful portable computer.

We always hope to learn from our mistakes. When a mistake has been made it is important for us to reflect on why the mistake is made. We analyse the situation and reflect on the possible courses of action that we can take when faced with similar circumstances in future. With this reflection, we will reduce the likelihood that we will repeat the same behaviour in the future and face the same negative outcome. Why is it then that some people do not seem to learn from their mistakes? Often it is because the individual is not given the opportunity to carry out self-reflection on the outcome as action is taken by others to prevent the negative outcome from materialising.

Take this scenario, for example. A student in the primary school level does not submit his homework on time and faces a failing grade. Should the parent defend his child and ask the school to extend the deadline for him to submit the assignment? When children are young, the stakes are low. Your child is not going to lose his/her job by virtue of forgetting his homework. His grades in the elementary report card are not going to impact his choice of college or university in future. Hence the child should be allowed to face the consequence of his action. This lesson to take responsibility for their action at a young age is a valuable gift that a parent/ guardian can give to his child to help him succeed in future.

Another beneficial side effect of allowing children to make mistakes is the development of foresight, critical thinking, and problem solving and creativity. Students will be able to take themselves through a mental maze of "if this were done, then that would happen..." For long term success, this is more effective than being told outright by adults about what they have to do. A study by Nate Kornell, et. al. (2012) at University of California, Los Angeles (2012) demonstrated that people retain information better and longer when they fail to retrieve the correct information on the first try.

The implications and applications of this study for teachers are far reaching. When teachers give students extended time and assistance to answer a question, rather than provide the answer, learning is constructed and enhanced and the child learns it for life.

In school we have a practical example of what we are advocating here. In the last issue of our newsletter, we featured the murals that our staff and students have drawn all around the school. These murals have all been done in chalk, a medium that allows students to experiment with their creativity and allows them to make mistakes and rectify them. The team leader gives constructive feedback for improvement and the outcome is what we can see in school now - beautiful murals that reflect the artistic creativity and the confident expression of that creativity. Both the process and the product are greatly appreciated by all those who participated and also by others who enjoy the enhanced learning environment that has been created.



Our mural activities featured in China Press on 16 February 2021

We will continue to have similar projects that encourage creative expressions and confident explorations of ideas without fear of making mistakes or doing things wrongly. Children are here to learn and reflecting on the mistakes they have made along the path of learning is the surest way for them to succeed in life.

CAMPUS PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE TRANSLATED

"最有价值的事就是你犯了一个错误，你不能从完美中学到任何东西。"-亚当·奥斯本的一段话，这位作家是第一台便携式电脑的发明者。

我们总是希望可以从错误中吸取教训。当我们犯了一个错误，重要的是我们要反思为什么会犯错。我们分析情况，思考今后面对类似情况时可以采取的行动方针。通过这样的一个反思过程，我们可以避免重蹈覆辙。为什么有些人总是没有从错误中吸取教训呢？这是因为这些人没有给予机会进行自我反思，往往是我们身边的人进行反思并采取了预防负面结果的措施。

我们就以接下来的事件为例：一位小学生不按时交作业，结果成绩不及格。家长是否应该为孩子辩护，要求学校延长他提交作业的期限呢？当孩子们还年幼的时候，所需要背负的后果其实也相对小。孩子不会因为忘记家庭作业而丢失工作。他在小学成绩单上的成绩也不会直接影响他的升学规划。因此，我们应该给予孩子机会，在没有父母干预的情况下，面对自己的行为所带来的后果。这是让孩子在很小的时候就学会承担责任的一门课，这也是父母或监护人可以给孩子的一份宝贵礼物，这能够帮助他在未来取得成功。

允许孩子犯错所带来的好处还有：让孩子发展远见、有批判性思维、解决问题的能力和创造力等。错误可以让学生在思路上预设“如果这样做了，那就会发生……”的情境，长期来说，这比起成年人直接告诉他们必须做什么更为有效。Nate Kornell（2012）在加州大学洛杉矶分校的研究表明，当人们在第一次尝试寻找信息时，若是失败了，他们会更好、更长久地保留这些信息。

此研究对教师的启示和应用意义深远。当老师不是直接提供答案，而是给学生更长的时间或给予帮助来回答一道问题，其实是在帮助学生建构和加强学习技能，使孩子成为终身学习者。

在学校里，我们有一个实际的例子来说明此理论。在上一期的简报中，我们特别介绍了我们的教职员和学生共同在学校范围绘制的壁画。这些壁画都是用粉笔完成的，粉笔是一种可以让学生进行“实验创作”的媒介，可以让他们犯错，之后再做修改。团队的负责人在这过程中会提供建设性的反馈，经过无数次的修改，最后的结果就是我们现在在校园内看到的——美丽的壁画。这些壁画反映了师生的艺术创造力和不畏惧、自信的艺术表达。无论是过程和结果都受到院校里的所有人的高度赞赏。

我们将继续开展类似的项目，鼓励学生的艺术表达和有自信的、不畏惧的探索，无虑于犯错误或做错。孩子们在院校里学习，在学习的道路上反思他们犯下的错误，是成功的人生最可靠的途径。

"Perkara paling berharga yang boleh kita buat adalah kesilapan, kita tidak dapat belajar apa-apa daripada kesempurnaan."- petikan kata-kata Adam Osborne, seorang pengarang dan pereka komputer yang memperkenalkan komputer mudah alih komersial pertama, Osborne 1.

Kita sentiasa berharap untuk belajar dari kesilapan kita. Apabila kesilapan telah berlaku adalah penting bagi kita untuk mengimbau kembali apakah punca kesilapan berikut. Kita menganalisa situasi yang berlaku dan fikirkan langkah-langkah yang boleh diambil sekiranya kita berhadapan dengan situasi yang sama di masa depan. Dengan imbauan ini, kita akan mengurangkan kemungkinan untuk mengulangi tingkah laku yang sama di masa depan dan menghadapi hasil negatif yang sama. Mengapa agaknya masih ada golongan yang masih tidak belajar dari kesalahan mereka? Kebiasaannya ini berlaku kerana individu tersebut tidak diberi kesempatan untuk melakukan refleksi diri kerana tindakan telah diambil oleh orang lain untuk mencegah hasil negatif daripada berlaku.

Mari kita lihat senario ini sebagai contoh. Seorang pelajar di peringkat sekolah rendah tidak menghantar tugas pada waktu yang ditetapkan dan menghadapi kemungkinan menerima gred gagal. Adakah ibu bapa pelajar ini patut mempertahankan anak mereka dan meminta pihak sekolah menunda tarikh akhir penyerahan tugas? Semasa kecil, taruhannya adalah rendah. Anak-anak tidak akan kehilangan pekerjaan apabila lupa membuat kerja rumah. Gred yang diperolehi di peringkat sekolah rendah juga tidak akan mempengaruhi pilihan universiti di masa depan. Oleh itu, anak ini harus dibenarkan menghadapi akibat daripada tindakannya tanpa campur tangan ibu bapa. Pengajaran untuk memikul tanggungjawab pada usia muda adalah hadiah berharga yang dapat diberikan oleh ibu bapa / penjaga untuk membantu anaknya berjaya di masa depan.

Manfaat sampingan lain yang diperolehi dengan membiarkan anak melakukan kesilapan adalah mengasah kemahiran berpandangan jauh, pemikiran kritis, penyelesaian masalah dan membina kreativiti. Para pelajar dapat mengemudi arah pemikiran, "jika langkah ini diambil, akibatnya...". Untuk kejayaan jangka masa panjang, cara ini lebih berkesan berbanding bantuan langsung daripada orang dewasa akan apa yang harus mereka lakukan. Kajian oleh Nate Kornell, et. al. (2012) di Universiti California menunjukkan bahawa mereka yang menyimpan maklumat dengan lebih baik dan lebih lama adalah mereka yang gagal mendapatkan maklumat yang betul pada percubaan pertama.

Implikasi dan aplikasi kajian ini kepada para guru adalah sangat mendalam. Apabila guru memberi masa dan bantuan kepada pelajar untuk menjawab soalan, daripada terus-menerus memberikan solusinya, pembelajaran akan terbina, ditingkatkan dan kekal bersama pelajar sepanjang hayatnya.

Di MGS sendiri terdapat contoh sebenar akan apa yang kami anjurkan di sini. Dalam edisi bulletin yang lepas, kami telah memaparkan mural yang dilukis oleh para kakitangan dan pelajar di sekitar kampus. Mural ini dilukis menggunakan kapur, suatu bahan yang membolehkan pelajar bereksperimen dengan kreativiti, di mana mereka boleh membuat kesilapan dan membetulkannya. Ketua projek memberikan maklum balas untuk penambahbaikan dan hasilnya adalah apa yang dapat kita lihat di sekolah sekarang - mural indah yang mencerminkan kreativiti seni dengan penuh yakin. Proses pembuatan dan hasil kerja ini sangat dihargai oleh semua pihak yang terlibat dan warga sekolah yang lain dapat menikmati persekitaran pembelajaran yang lebih menarik atas hasil usaha ini. Kami akan terus menjalankan projek seumpama ini untuk mendorong ekspresi kreatif dan penerokaan idea tanpa kerisauan untuk membuat kesilapan. Anak-anak berada di sini untuk belajar dan mengimbau kesilapan yang telah mereka lakukan di sepanjang perjalanan sebagai seorang pelajar, inilah caranya untuk mereka berjaya dalam hidup.

CREATIVE IDEAS FOR CNY CELEBRATION

This year, CNY celebration across the schools was a lot quieter, but filled with many of the same traditions and customs. MGS activities were organized virtually with cultural elements in art and craft as well as performances from each year group of students.



"We had fun doing the calligraphy and an ox paper puppet."
- Medha Brammi and Eshaal Abu Bakar, Reception



学生的新年海报作品。
Chinese New Year posters by MPS students



欢庆牛年，学生亲手制作创意牛儿手工。

学生的手工作品。

To celebrate the Year of the Ox, students made creative craft by themselves



"It is awesome to explore the art of drawing blossom flowers that are symbolic of the Chinese New Year. I experimented with my painting skills by trying the wet and dry technique to create amazing art pieces."
- Rylie Ong, Year 6



"What a pretty ox I have created! I used a plain paper plate, cut and coloured it."
- Priscilla Leia Lim, Year 2

"I had fun drawing an ox to usher the year of the ox in the Chinese Lunar Calendar."
- Ryden Ong, Year 1



"My artwork has turned out to be an amazing Chinese fan! I used red paint and coloured paper."
Sameera Thevy Manidharan, Year 3

"I used paper and sticks to create a paper dragon. I also learned design, colouring and folding skills."
Jewel Ishani Shanker, Year 4



师生线上庆新年

疫情当下，行动管制延长，2021的农历新年与往年不一样，师生们别开生面，在线上庆祝新春佳节。

线上华语课堂好不热闹，学生们学会了一首又一首的新年歌曲，还认识了新年的传统习俗，以及十二生肖的由来故事。

此外，教师也在线上指导学生做剪纸、红包封手工艺品、新春装饰手作等。学生们满心欢喜地分享自己的手作成品，说着自己对新一年的展望，还不忘彼此献上新年祝福，谷歌课堂里满溢喜洋洋的年味儿！



各族学生一起欢庆新年，唱新年歌。

Students of different race and religion celebrated the festival together and sang the Chinese New Year song



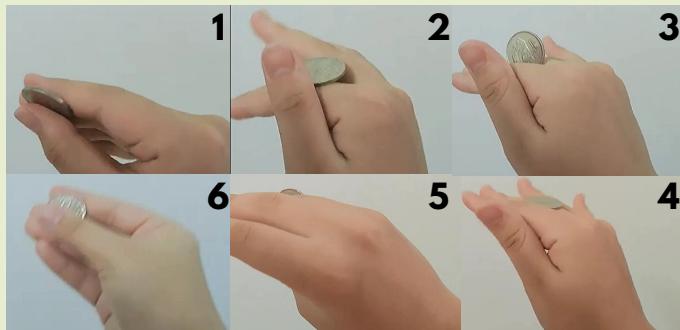
学生一起欢唱《爱你moo moo哒》边做手语
Students sang Moo Moo Da with sign language

DARE TO FACE CHALLENGES



"With this challenge , I have overcome my fear of breaking eggs."
- Yassheka, Standard 5

Trying new challenges and overcoming fears are not easy tasks. They take a lot of courage, patience, and time. The best way is not to be afraid of any failures. Rising to the challenge given by MPS Pastoral team, our students showed how they tried new challenges and tackled activities that they are fearful of. With guts and patience they managed to overcome their fears and anxieties. Bravo students!



"Wow, I managed to do the coin walk after practising for two hours!"
- Chloe Aristella, Form 1



"I have to conquer my fear of heights."
- Ayden, Standard 1



"My contrast of colour technique really helps enhance the details of my turtle."
- Low Yu Le, Year 9



"I love how it turns out. It's so soothing drawing it as much as seeing it now."
- Nur Syaqira Abdul Rashid, Year 9

THERAPEUTIC VALUE OF ART

Art has been one of the most effective tools for students at home during the Covid-19 pandemic. It is an outlet for their emotions when they cannot come to school or go out to socialize with their friends and peers. It is therapeutic and has proven to be relaxing, fun, and an escape from the mental and emotional challenges that they face daily.

Our Year 9 MIS students were given a topic of sea creatures in their art class and the focus was to develop the art skills: use of space, effective colour contrast and realistic details. They have come out with impressive artwork below.

COMMUNITY SERVICE - EXAMINATION STATIONERY KIT



On Tuesday 16th February, MGS hosted a presentation of essential examination stationeries to 8000 SPM and STPM candidates in Seremban and Rembau. Representing the sponsor, Matrix Concept Holding Berhad (MCHB) was Dato' Logendran A/L K. Narayanasamy, Non-Independent Non-Executive Director of MCHB. Representing the organisers at the ceremony were Encik Mohd Kameel Bin Abdul Karim (representing 'Kumpulan Penggerak Ibu Bapa dan Komuniti Negeri Sembilan) as well as Dato' Dr. Mohamad Rafie Bin Ab. Malek (Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Bertindak Pelaburan, Perindustrian, Keusahawanan, Pendidikan Dan Modal Insan, Negeri Sembilan). Dato' Dr. Mohamad Rafie presented the gift packs to the representatives from 11 schools at a drive-through ceremony whilst the rest of the gift packs were later distributed to the other schools. To all our students as well as the other SPM and STPM students who benefitted from this project, we would like to wish them all the best in their coming examinations.