

FROM THE MGS MANAGEMENT TEAM

In our strive to provide education which is 'Second to None', it is important that we cater our teaching to meet the learning needs and abilities of all of our students. We do this in Matrix Global Schools (MGS) through **differentiation**.

Carol Ann Tomlinson, a leading expert in this field, describes differentiation as 'a way of teaching in which teachers proactively modify [the] curriculum, teaching methods, resources, learning activities and student [work]. The needs of individual students and/or small groups of students are addressed to maximise the learning opportunity for each student in the classroom.'

To maximise learning opportunities in the classroom, we need to acknowledge that all children have individual learning needs - they have different interests, different styles of learning and they have different reading abilities. By catering to these differences, it makes it easier for children to understand what they need to learn in a way that best suits them. They might not be doing exactly the same activities, but we still ensure that children are making progress towards statutory curriculum requirements.

Some of the ways that we differentiate in MGS are:

1. Group activities

3. Formative assessment techniques

2. Learning tasks

4. Enhancement work

As a school, we also need to consider the impact of giving each child exactly the same activities. If we always provide learning tasks that are too hard, our students will become frustrated, anxious and may develop a negative mindset to learning. On the other hand, if learning tasks are always too easy, our students will get bored from a lack of challenge and they may lose their desire to learn. Therefore, it is important that we avoid using a 'one-size-fits-all' approach with our students.

In our attempts to meet our students' learning needs, regular assessments are used to monitor the progress they have made and to adjust the learning and teaching accordingly to ensure our students are achieving curriculum expectations for their age. If a child is found to be performing below expectations, it is important that the school and home work together to support the learning needs of the child.

Academic staff in MGS have received training on various ways to differentiate learning and teaching over this year to improve their knowledge and to help us provide more consistent practices across the school.

5th Year Anniversary: MGS TRIVIA



In this last section of trivia relating to our school, it is important to highlight how committed we are towards the greenery of our campus. 40% of the school compound is dedicated to landscape and greenery which amounts to more than 7 acres of land. You can even find some potted plants in the students' toilets!

Dedicated gardeners were employed to ensure the plants and trees are well tended as we strongly believe that natural plants are the best way to beautify the school and provide fresher air in order to give a better learning environment.



REMINDER ON PARENT SURVEY

An email has been sent out to all parents on 23 October with a link to an online survey to measure Parents' satisfaction as an MGS stakeholder. For those who have missed the email, the survey form can also be accessed by scanning the QR code inserted here.

We look forward to receiving your feedback before 8 November.



MGS DEEPAVALI CELEBRATION

What a colourful affair it was on 24 October during the MGS Deepavali celebration! Across campus, it was heartwarming to see the students and teachers working hand in hand to raise the bar for our celebration of the Festival of Lights.



From classical Indian dances to Tamil rock songs, the performances by the Secondary students truly deserved a standing ovation. It was even more impressive when one of our students from Hengshui (second photo from the left) performed a song in Hindi!



The same can be said for the performances by our Primary students. Supported by class activities to fit into their IPC Learning Goal of International Mindedness in MIS and into the cultural immersion programme in MPS, the students had a wonderful time experiencing how Deepavali is celebrated by their Indian friends. At the end of the day, everybody took home a pack of *omompoodi*.



Going into the Deepavali Bazaar set up in the school hall was like entering into a Little India town with traditional delicacies, henna painting, Indian costume experience and wonderful decor.



Our little ones were so excited to learn the beautiful traditional stick dance, Dandiya Dance, and experience different activity stations relating to the celebration specifically devised to enhance early years learning. From playing dress up to making their own Muruku and Dhosai, as well as learn to write and pronounce some alphabets in Tamil!

As a global school that houses many different cultures, it is always a privilege to be able to celebrate and experience festive occasions like this as one community. Thank you to our student photographers for sharing these wonderful photos. Looking forward to the next MGS celebration!

MGS Post UPSR Corporate Social Responsibility Effort

On 21 October, Standard 6 students paid a social visit to *Pertubuhan Kebajikan Kanak Kanak Seremban*, a multi-racial orphanage shelter house in Taman Bidara, Seremban.

Although the Standard 6 students led the effort as part of their post-UPSR activity, the project was truly a collaboration between MGS students, staff and parents who had generously supported the cause by contributing money, food, preloved items as well as their time and energy.

Leading up to the day, the students were busy coordinating the donation drive around the school, planning the flow of activities to be conducted with the orphans, practising their performance and buying dry items to bring to the House. The class carefully planned out which necessities would most benefit the shelter house and use the donated money thoughtfully when they made their purchases.



It was fun making new friends with the children at the orphanage. After the ice-breaking session to get to know each other, we jumped into a game of football with the boys while the younger ones did seed planting. Never thought we would have so much in common because we really enjoyed playing with them! I hope I can visit them again - **Gavin Lee**



I was surprised to discover that many of the kids there speak good English. They warmed up to us almost immediately and made us feel right at home. We brought some food to eat together and we played a few games such as bottle flip, arm-wrestling and *congkak*. This trip has given us the opportunity to understand the life of the orphans and that we have so much to be thankful for in our lives - **Woo Fung**



MGS Production of 360 VIRTUAL REALITY VIDEO

MGS students were excited to lend their hands in the video recording conducted as part of the school's marketing effort. The experience exposed the students to the role of actual practitioners in a video production while letting them see that there is more work to be done behind the scenes to get to the published video. The students were also invited to take a closer look at the professional 360-degree camera used to shoot the virtual reality video and were free to ask questions of the crew. As part of the video production, a few students were auditioned to be the narrator and our talented Aisyah Jasmine Ramzi of Year 10 was chosen for the part. We hope this experience will spark interest in more students pursuing performing arts as a career.



MGS Primary PE STARS OF THE WEEK

Every week, MIS PE Department will award deserving students a star based on their behaviour, effort, performance and improvement in the class. MIS Secondary winners are posted on @mgs_sports Instagram while Primary winners will be shared in the newsletter for young students to view.



Nilesch Shan Nair,
Year 6



Wong Li Hong,
Year 1



Muhammad Ryan Danish,
Standard 2



Chen Ted Gwan Thaddeus,
Standard 3

MGS R.E.S.P.E.C.T CAMPAIGN

Respect is a key component of the greatest rule for social conduct which states that 'we do unto others as we would want them to do unto us'.

The school has been working hard to positively transform the tone and culture of our community, with a major focus on **respect** which is highlighted in our Student-Parent Handbook under the Community Code of Conduct. We seek everyone's support as we continuously work on these areas of RESPECT:



Respect towards ourselves:
being careful with our thoughts
and actions, personal hygiene,
managing own time and money



**Respect towards members
of our community:**
peers, teachers, supporting
staff, parents and school visitors



**Respect towards
our surrounding:**
school property and
the environment



Seeking Knowledge ; Opening Minds