



Academic Value-Added Award



It was a proud moment for East Spring when the Principal, Mrs Sng announced that the school had achieved Silver Award for the Express Stream and Bronze Award for the Normal Stream in the 2007 GCE Examinations. This is an improvement from the Bronze Award (Express) won in the last two years.

Our heartiest congratulations to the graduands of 2007 and their teachers for their remarkable performance!



9th Anniversary and Prize Giving Day - A Star Within

On 18 April, East Spring Secondary celebrated her 9th Anniversary And Prize Giving Day. It was a day that recognised and applauded the efforts of the students, the stars of East Spring, who did their best in their field in the past year.

The ceremony started with the arrival of our Guest-of-Honour, Ms Chew Ing Lim, Assistant Director of CPDD, our former Vice-Principal. Our Principal, Mrs Sng Ong Teck Hui, and members of the School Advisory

Committee accompanied our Guest-of-Honour to the hall. As they walked up from the foyer, they were saluted by our uniformed groups who formed the welcome contingent. This was a new initiative, a change from the usual marching contingent. Every cadet who represented his or her uniform group, stood with pride and honour along the corridor leading to the hall.

At the hall, Mrs Sng gave her report on the school activities and achievements in 2007. Prizes were then given out to students who

made excellent achievements in their studies or CCA. Stakeholders, like our Parent Support Group members were also recognised for their efforts in the holistic development of the students.

The occasion would not have been complete without the concert performance that not only entertained the audience but also showcased the talents of East Springians. Without fail, our aesthetic groups did us proud. The Chinese Dance Troupe and the Malay Dance Troupe bedazzled the audience with their vibrant costumes and dance moves. The Choir mesmerized us with their magnificent voices. The Drama Club awed us with their energised performance about the importance of cooperation.

The entertainment continued at the parade square with the busking performance of the Circus Arts team. They performed stunts like walking on stilts that one is likely to see in Chingay celebrations. Their performance certainly got the attention of the spectators who actually left their food to snap photographs of the young buskers.

It was indeed a day when stars come out to play!

Jojo Lee Yan Ru, Sec 2E2

Staff Movements

A warm welcome to the following teachers who joined East Spring in the Second Semester:

- Mdm Linda How Chwee Fong
- Miss Luan Qian Qian
- Mr Mazli Bin Said
- Miss Fardyana Binte Abdul Aziz
- Miss Lynette Li Peiwen
- Miss Yap Qiao Lin
- Mdm Norbaizurah (CSO)

National Day Award

We congratulate our Vice Principal, Mrs Mohinder Singh on being awarded the Commendation Medal, in recognition of her contributions to education.



EZ COE EL Launch

The Launch of the East Zone Centre of Excellence for English Language at Tanjong Katong Girls' School on 5 August was widely attended by school leaders, key personnel and teachers of the various schools in the east. East Spring EL teachers were among the hordes of teachers who descended there to learn new strategies and innovations in the teaching of English Language.



Among the workshop instructors who shared their innovative EL lessons and learning journeys were our EL HOD, Mdm Noreha and EL teachers, Mdm Salena Salleh and Mr Ng Tai Seng.

Mdm Noreha and Salena together with 5 students from 4E2 demonstrated the use of the digital camera to add value to drama strategies employed to teach narrative writing. The 5 students showed how working in a group, they dramatized each of the three scenes that were pivotal to their story and capturing them on a digital camera. They then narrated their story to the class presented as freeze frames.

Mr Ng Tai Seng, together with 2 teachers from other schools shared some exciting activities in their trip to Beijing organised by Channel NewsAsia, last November. In the workshop they talked about how creative EL learning tasks can be assigned to students to develop oral communication skills.

These were just two of the many concurrent sessions in which the participants could learn creative ways to teach EL. Judging by the number of very interesting workshops on the list, one can surmise how fruitful the afternoon must have been for any participant.

Visitors from UK



On 28 August East Spring proudly played host to a group of educators from as far as United Kingdom.

Leading a team of inspectors, advisers and head teachers from the Secondary Maths and Computing Specialist Schools on their visit to schools in Singapore, was Mr Keith Blake from the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, UK.

At East Spring, they visited classrooms and special rooms to observe English Language, Mathematics and D & T lessons being carried out.

PBL Workshop



Problem-Based Learning is one of the two school wide pedagogies of East Spring. The other is Cooperative Learning.

The PBL workshop was held on three separate days this year: 8 April, 15 April and 23 May. Teachers continued to learn strategies in PBL so that they can incorporate them into their lessons.

The Prefects' Investiture

It was a simple ceremony but dignified and meaningful particularly to the newly appointed prefects including Chee Kai Yee from Sec 3E1, the new Head Prefect.

Before the baton was passed on to the new Head Prefect, our outgoing Head Prefect, Loh Shi Chiang had this advice to the student leaders of the prefectorial board, after thanking the school for giving him the opportunity to serve and to develop as a person:

"My advice to all of you is to be humble and ask whenever in doubt. Mrs Lee, the Discipline Mistress is always at hand and ever ready to assist all of you."

Chee Kai Yi then made his debut speech at the assembly. He emphasised that among his fellow prefects, he was sure that there were others who were just as or more deserving to be the Head Prefect.



Therefore, he humbly accepted the honour to lead the prefectorial board to serve the school, especially fellow school-mates, to the best of his ability. However, in order to serve the school better, they would also need the co-operation of the rest of the school.

"We need to work together to uphold the name of the school and give East Spring Secondary a name to be proud of, so every student who has had their education in this school, would proudly say, 'I am from East Spring Secondary School.'"

We congratulate Kai Yi, the Head Prefect for 2008 and all the prefects who will continue to make East Spring a conducive place to grow.

Jane Lee, 2E5
Lydia Lim, 2E5

Breakfast with my Teachers



The first semester in East Spring ended with a hearty breakfast. The tradition of students having breakfast with their form teacher and form tutor began last year. It was a huge success judging by the overwhelming response by both teachers and students. This year was no different.

As one walked past each level of classrooms, one was bound to see a breakfast spread of homemade favourites like sandwiches, muffins and scrambled eggs. In some classrooms, a cake could also be spotted to mark the end of a school semester.

Apart from the sumptuous food, the mood was also lighthearted as students and teachers

mingled and laughed with music playing in the background. There were also crossovers of students from one class to another to share food and jokes.

But the session ended on a more serious note as form teachers and form tutors gave out report books. Good students were congratulated and weak ones were encouraged to do better in the coming examinations. Still, at the end of it, students and teachers walked away from the classroom glad that it had been a fruitful semester.



I am Gifted

The camp conducted by Adam Khoo Technologies, was organised for the graduating students of Secondary 4 Express and Normal Academic classes to help them prepare for the GCE examinations at the end of this year.

The workshops also aimed to empower these students with life skills necessary to become successful in life. It was clear that the participants enjoyed interacting with their trainers as they learned useful skills like speed reading, mind-mapping, time management and thinking skills.

Besides learning new skills, the participants also spent time for personal reflection, either taking stock of their achievements or the lack of it and their relationship with their parents. This was apparent at the close of the workshop when participants affirmed their promise to do their best to their parents and teachers.



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Potpourri in East Spring

Held on 19 July, the annual fund-raising programme was a huge success, judging by the turn-out on that Saturday morning at the various designated venues.

The objectives of the charity drive were to raise funds for needy East Springians and to donate 10% of the proceeds to Metta and Jamiyah Home, our preferred beneficiaries. It was also an occasion to continue our green efforts to protect the environment. With these objectives in mind, each secondary level went about playing our part in raising funds or awareness in our bid to contribute to the community we live in.

CHARITY Bazaar



Secondary two students had a more challenging but perhaps more enjoyable time practising their entrepreneurial skills selling food items and trinkets made of recycled materials or running games stalls. Some classes were so enterprising that they also distributed flyers to advertise their product which included a car-washing service. There were stalls selling chocolate fondue, bubble tea, cookies and others made by their students and their parents. The Parents Support Group members with their array of savoury and sweet fare certainly

attracted the most patrons with their good food.

Games that called upon certain skills were also a hit with students especially those from the upper secondary classes who were eager to show off their soccer skills at scoring goals.

The presence of students, teachers and parents on the parade square and foyer supporting the secondary two students in their fund-raising efforts had contributed to the more than \$5000 raised that morning.

Beach Cleaning

Secondary Four Express and Five Normal Academic students congregated at Pasir Ris Beach to participate in the Seashore Life Programme. This programme aims to educate students on the harmful effects litter has on the seashore environment, seashore life and seashore ecosystem. Armed with garbage bags and plastic gloves, students combed the beach to rid it off litter. With the presence of Mrs Christina Lee, the Geography teacher, the students also had their first-hand lesson on soil erosion.

Community Day and Project 3R



Secondary ones armed with brooms and dustpans trooped to the neighbouring void decks to sweep the floor and pick up litter. The newcomers felt that the new experience was quite fun, but admitted that it was tiring as the weather was very warm and stuffy. However, they realised that the whole event was very meaningful and hoped to take part again in a different way.

The Secondary Three students did their part for the community and the needy students through Project 3R. A week prior to this meaningful event, flyers were distributed by the students personally to all the units under their charge to inform the residents of the event.

On the early morning of 19 July, Mrs. Sng personally flagged

the students off from East Spring. Students then departed from the school foyer and went knocking on the doors of their assigned blocks collecting newspapers and old clothing. Enthusiasm built as students were greatly encouraged by the amount of newspapers and clothing they collected as they went through block by block.

Though they were tuckered out by the end of the collection, many felt a sense of achievement as they were able to give back to the society through this collection. As the saying goes: It's more blessed to give than to receive.

At the end of the beach cleaning session, some classes took the opportunity to bond with their classmates as they sat down to enjoy the picnic and the cool sea breeze. Then it was a trip back to the school to support the Charity Bazaar.



Project ESpiration



During the June vacation on 25 May, thirty students from secondary two and three classes and three teachers arrived at Vientiane, Laos, excited about the week that they would spend in Laos. Except for Mr Neu Wee Teck, the others including Mrs Pamela Ong and Mrs Selena Hitchins was full of anticipation of their visit to this ASEAN country.

The objectives of the trip were to instil in these East Springians, a sense of adventure, resilience and an enterprising spirit. Needless to say, the visit would provide the participants with valuable knowledge and experience in enhancing NE. Perhaps, more importantly such a visit would expose them to conditions that are out of their comfort zone. In this regard the students would not only learn the value of empathy but also appreciate what they have back home.

There were also ample opportunities for the participants to develop their leadership potential by imparting I.T. skills (Microsoft Word,



Powerpoint, emailing tool) to the Sikatabong Secondary School students so that they may use the skills in their studies and daily lives and starting up an English books library for the school to provide opportunities for them to read. The sessions generated a lot of zeal and excitement from both the young instructors and learners.

The exchange of cultural experiences was also an invaluable learning point, particularly for the Singaporean visitors. They were amazed by the palaces and museums they visited, entertained by Laotian music and dance and enjoyed traditional Laotian food. The visit to rural Laos and places of worship also provided them with a lesson in empathy when they saw the hardship of the inhabitants there.

Aptly named, this overseas project should instil in the participants the aspiration to be better citizens of Singapore.

Happy Toilet Project

'The Happy Toilet Education Programme' was adopted as part of the service learning for secondary 2T1. For the duration of three weeks these students spent their SFL periods painting the boys' toilet on the first floor. The project was carried out not only as a CIP activity but also as part of the school's effort to care for the environment.

Mr Tan Wee Siang, the teacher who was in charge of the project enthused, "I have never seen the class display so much zest and class spirit. They also displayed a great sense of responsibility in their work, picking up every little piece of litter and scrubbing off every bit of paint on the floor after every session. The past three weeks working with them have been memorable for me."

He also added that the project was a tremendous success because of the help rendered by the other teachers like their form teacher, Mdm Tey. It had also made the teachers teaching the class see another side of the class which was refreshing and encouraging.



National Education

International Friendship Day

The day began with our Thai student, Rattanatanyaporn Rarintip of 3E5 sharing a story which emphasised the importance of working together to overcome obstacles at the morning flag raising ceremony.

It warmed up with an exhilarating performance of hip hop and native dances at the atrium during recess. Cheers of encouragement filled the air as Peer Support Leaders invited the audience to join the dancers.

On a more serious note, students from every class wrote warm messages welcoming their

friends from other countries and wishing them a pleasant stay in sunny Singapore. These messages which were put together by the class representatives, were displayed at the library and NE notice boards. A display of memorabilia from different cultures across the worlds was also put up at the library.

Parents of our international students were also not left out. Their video presentation was used them for our RISE lesson.



Racial Harmony Day



The commemoration at East Spring began with a performance by 'The Wild Rice Production' during the school assembly on 'The importance of being KayPoh'. The entertaining skit taught us to understand the cultures of the different ethnic groups in Singapore. This understanding is crucial because in times of crisis, we need to work together to combat threats like terrorism.

On 17 July, the secondary one and three students were treated to a presentation by representatives of the two levels. The secondary one students presented their version of 'Project Runway' which saw the models donning costumes creatively put together using recycled materials. It was fun watching the students parading, some like professional models.

The 'Let's Sing' competition by the secondary threes came with a difference. The participants had to sing part of a Malay or Chinese song, or name the title of the song. The audience also had the opportunity to answer the questions. The audience was also watched the screening of the Best Trailers on 'Singapore Welcomes You' by the secondary three participants.

In the midst of fun and laughter, we were reminded of the true meaning of Racial Harmony.

National Day



The celebration in East Spring began with the march in by the NCC cadets for the flag raising ceremony. Then at the different venues, secondary two students watched the two tournaments. At the parade square, the captain's ball match between the finalists from secondary two was keenly contested. At the school field, loud cheers filled the atmosphere as classes rooted for their soccer teams. The two matches ended with 2E5 and 2T1 as the champions for captain's ball and soccer respectively.

A celebration of a different kind was taking place at the school hall. It began with the Observance Ceremony by the RISE Champs. Soon a concert performed by secondary three students followed by the winners of 'Project Runway' by secondary one participants, entertained the audience.

The second part of the celebration began with the reading of the National Day message by the Principal. The winners of the National Song competition performed an encore for the benefit of the students who had just joined the audience after the completion of their games. They were indeed, deserving winners, creative and entertaining.

The finale without fail saw many students singing and swaying to the tunes of a medley of national songs. It was a joyous occasion worthy of the Singapore Spirit.

“Change it! You have the Power!”

On 31 May, the Drama Club and the Environment Club jointly organised an event at the Tampines Regional Library to heighten environmental awareness among the young ones in our Tampines community. It was a great success not only judging by the response received but also the learning experience we had taken away from it.

The “Mother Earth” drama segment put up by the Drama Club was an excellent introductory opening. With sturdy “trees” standing amongst the audience and colourful “butterflies” fluttering around, the performance not only captivated young children at the theatre, but also illustrated to them the decadence done to Earth’s beauty.

This was followed by a short presentation by the Environment Club who took the

audience through the 7 simple tips to conserve energy at home that can help replenish Earth’s beauty.

The children then adjourned to an activity room where they took part in environment-related games and learnt to weave heart-shapes with straws. The student ambassadors from both the Drama Club and the Environment Club interacted with the young participants. It was clear that both parties enjoyed the session as evident by the reluctance of the children to leave the place when it was over.

At the end of the activity, the children kept the straw hearts that they had made as souvenirs and the rest were distributed to the people at the library befitting our slogan, “Have a Heart, Save the Earth”.



Earth Day



East Spring commemorated Earth Day which fell on 22 April with games that raised environmental awareness in an informal and fun way. These games booths manned by Environment Club members took place at the foyer for the whole week.

The games included one called Tumble Blocks which required the players to draw out chips from a stack of pictured blocks, similar to the game, Jenga. The blocks came under the categories of “recyclable” or “non-recyclable” materials based on the pictures found on them. This proved the most popular with the students.

Puzzle Whiz saw students complete a traditional jigsaw puzzle with a picture of recyclable bottles. It allowed the more enthusiastic

players to play it over and over again to improve their timing. Smart Match required the students to group pictured tiles under various categories like Metals, Plastics, Glass, Paper and Non-Recyclables. Another such game was the Recycling Wheel, where students attempted to put tiles which described various recycling processes of different materials.

With so many games to excite the students, it was little wonder that the foyer was abuzz with so much enthusiasm about the environment.

This would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the EC members who facilitated the event.

STARS of EAST SPRING

ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

The prize-giving ceremony recognised the hard work of our students who had excelled in the various subject areas. CCA awards were also given out to students who were outstanding in their CCA.



EAST ZONE SOFTBALL COMPETITION



School Awards

Congratulations East Spring for achieving the 2008 People Developer Award and the Cherish Award (Bronze).



Publications Committee

Teacher Advisors: Ms Tahiya A Rahman
Mr Wang Jun Yi
Ms Yap Qiao Lin

Members : Lee Yan Ru, Jojo, 2E2
Jezebel Yeo, 2E2
Ng Xin Yu, 2E2
Charmian Tan, 2E3
Lydia Lim, 2E5
Jane Lee, 2E5
Mavis Loh, 1E4
Lee Hui Hui, 1E2

East Spring Softball created another breakthrough when they emerged Second in the East Zone Softball Competition.

It was their first big win. They had made it through the qualifying rounds to move on to the semifinals. Winning Pasir Ris Crest in the semi-finals saw them advancing to the finals.

Congratulations to the Softball Team and may this be the beginning of a bigger win in the future.