



**WESLEY
METHODIST
SCHOOL**
IPOH
(INTERNATIONAL)

WMSII Newsletter

Senior School

Issue #04: Term 3 (July 2023)

MAY 2023



MAY 2023



MAY 2023

JUNE 2023



“Don’t say you don’t have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Pasteur, Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson, and Albert Einstein.”

– H Jackson Brown Jr

Photo Credits to
Mr Reuben Chan

Editorial Board

We welcome all contributions [in Word for text, jpeg format for images], but reserve the right to selection for print.

Email to editboardwmsii@gmail.com

JULY 2023



JULY 2023

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



P.T.C



The Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC) for Term 2 was held on Thursday afternoon, 27 April 2023, about a week and a half after Term 3 began. Parents and guardians of students from all the senior year groups had the opportunity to meet with teachers to find out how their children/wards had been doing in school.

G.B. ACTIVITY



In conjunction with Mother's Day, the Girls Brigade organized an activity on May 12 2023, the Friday just before Mother's Day weekend. They wanted to show their love and appreciation, not just for their mothers and the women in their lives, but for all members of their families. Family members who came enjoyed light refreshments and spent time in bonding activities with the girls.



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Dodgeball – The Asia Pacific Invitational (API)

WMSII's fledgling competitive dodgeball team, the Wesley Knights, participated in the Asia Pacific Invitational (API) from 25 – 28 May 2023. The API is the largest dodgeball event in this part of the world, and this year it was held at the Shah Alam National Sports Complex. 139 teams numbering about 1000 athletes from 16 countries participated, Wesley's ten Knights included. Although the Knights only made it to the group stages in this, their very first outing, they no doubt gained invaluable experience and exposure upon which to build towards future match successes.



Organizing Committee
(Clockwise from bottom left)
Choong Shin Tong (Head Librarian), **Pah Onn Teng** (Secretary) **Alyssa Lee Poh Hui** (Deputy Head Librarian), **Esther Ong Xin Qi**, **Lim Yan Jing**, and **Cheah Zhi You**

Library Project

School librarians designed a crossword competition this year for their annual project. The competition ran from 6 – 9 June 2023, and was open to all year groups. There were three mini-crosswords to complete in the span of the week, and two big prizes – one Individual and one Group prize (for greatest number of participants from a homeroom) – to win. Tun Lee Yu from Year 7 Grace won the Individual prize at the end of the competition week, while Year 7 Love, with their enthusiasm in getting more and more of their classmates to join, took the Group prize.

Enrolment Sunday

WMSII celebrated its Annual Service of Dedication and Enrolment on Sunday, 18 June 2023, at Wesley Methodist Church Ipoh (next to Anglo-Chinese School). The congregation was led in worship by various students before ceremonies were carried out for the renewal of membership and recognition of promotions.



Best Wishes to Year 11 of 2022/2023

Friday, 23 June 2023 was the last day of school for the Year 11 students, batch of 2022/2023. With IGCSE finally over earlier in the month, they had returned to school the week of 19 - 23 June to complete a final week of classes in Life Skills. The classes included basic cooking, simple electronics and vehicular know-how, basic first aid training and financial management, amongst other things.

The week culminated in the School Leavers' Service, held in Kesselring Hall, and attended by the whole school. After Praise and Worship, Bible Reading and a sharing by guest speaker Reverend Ezekiel Raj, class representatives from each of the Year 11 classes - Amanda Looi Minyi (for 11 Grace), Louisa Teng (for 11 Love) and Yew Miki (for 11 Purity) - took turns to say a few words on behalf of their classmates. After the service, the Year 11 classes had the opportunity to spend time with friends and teachers before their very last dismissal from Wesley Methodist School Ipoh (International).

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Life Skills Educational Week
19-23 June 2023



PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Date	Time	TOPIC
19th June (Monday)	8.00-10.15 am	How to Secure Scholarships?
	11.00-1.00 pm	What happens after IGCSE/Study in Germany
20th June (Tuesday)	8.00-10.15 am	Fitness & Nutrition
	11.00-1.00 pm	Basic First Aid Training
21st June (Wednesday)	8.00-10.15 am	Practical Life Skills 1
	11.00-1.00 pm	Practical Life Skills 2
22nd June (Thursday)	8.00-10.15 am	Who Am I?
	11.00-1.00 pm	Financial Management
23rd June (Friday)	7.30- 8.00 am	Chapel Service
	8.00 - 9.30 am	School Leavers' Service
	9.30-12.00 pm	Games/ Class Party
	12.00 pm	Dismissal

Note : Break time will be from 10.15-11.00 am



As the Year 11 students move on to the next chapter in their lives, we wish them well and look forward to hearing of future successes!

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Year 6 (3 Outstanding Bands)

Kiyoshi Sato, Choong Eason, Karthik Ramesh, Yip Wen Xuan, Catherine Tang Xiao Han, Foong Jie Yu, and Wang Meng Xuan



Year 9 (3 Outstanding Bands)

Nicole Shekinah Jeyahar Mark, Naalveeyn Rhaj Jeeva Pragasam, Jerrick Voon Jia Eyu, and Sara Choong Yen Ching



Year 6 (2 Outstanding Bands)

Thevendren Yogaraj, Akarathorn Khomso, Boon Shaun Ern, and Shannon Yeun Syuen Ern



Year 9 (2 Outstanding Bands)

Hilton Ho Hzi Hein

Checkpoint Results

Checkpoint Results were released on Thursday, 22 June 2023, and a brief ceremony was held from 1.30 to 2.30 pm in Kesselring Hall for the Year 6 and Year 9 students, and their families. Seven students from Year 6 and four students from Year 9 obtained the highest possible performance band of 'Outstanding' for all three subjects: Mathematics, Science and English. Four other students from Year 6 and one from Year 9 obtained 'Outstanding' in two of the three subjects taken. Congratulations to all the Year 6 and Year 9 students on their results!

For information purposes, Cambridge introduced new performance bands for Checkpoint that went into effect from January 2023. This means that from the May 2023 Cambridge Checkpoint series, both primary and lower secondary reports will show a score on a 0-50 scale (rather than on a 0.0-6.0 scale as before). A comparative look at how both scoring systems stack up against each other is shown on the right.

Cambridge Primary Checkpoint

Performance band	Cambridge Checkpoint score (0-50)	Minimum equivalent Cambridge Checkpoint score in 2022 (0.0-6.0)			
		Mathematics	Science	English	English 2nd Language
Basic	1-10	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Aspiring	11-20	0.2	0.5	1.1	0.5
Good	21-30	1.8	2.1	2.3	2.2
High	31-40	3.3	3.7	3.5	3.8
Outstanding	41-50	4.9	5.2	4.7	5.5

Cambridge Lower Secondary Checkpoint

Performance band	Cambridge Checkpoint score (0-50)	Minimum equivalent Cambridge Checkpoint score in 2022 (0.0-6.0)			
		Mathematics	Science	English	English 2nd Language
Basic	1-10	0.0	0.7	0.0	1.0
Aspiring	11-20	1.2	1.7	1.0	2.2
Good	21-30	2.6	2.8	2.1	3.4
High	31-40	4.0	3.9	3.1	4.7
Outstanding	41-50	5.4	5.0	4.2	5.9

OTHER INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENTS TAKEN BY STUDENTS



HIPPO - Achievement Awards

Wesley students this academic year, also participated in a variety of international assessments to see where they stand compared to their peers around the world. Among these assessments were:

- HIPPO** - The Hippo English Language Olympiad is a competition meant to encourage the use of the English Language at the international level. Students around the world compete in tests of listening and writing skills.
- ICAS** (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) - ICAS is a suite of online competitions designed to recognize and reward academic excellence at every year level. It is administered in over 20 countries around the world. Knowledge and/or skills tested are in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

Junior School Field Trip

Students from the Junior School embarked on a school trip to Kuala Sepetang on 12 July 2023. They explored the fascinating world of charcoal production at the local factory, witnessing the traditional methods employed by skilled craftsmen. Afterwards, they ventured into the enchanting mangrove swamp, marvelling at the diverse ecosystems within and learning about the swamp's role in the environment.



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



BB Expedition Camp

From 13 to 15 July, the Boys Brigade went on a 3-day, 2-night expedition themed 'Far From Home'. The objective of the expedition was for the senior boys to earn their Expedition and Camping badges, and for the junior boys to attain their white, green and purple badges. 69 boys from Years 4 to 11, chaperoned by 7 Officers made up of 6 teachers and one alumnus, stayed at The Hideout in Gopeng. Highlights of the trip include the treks to and from the camp site on foot, Level 3 caving at Gua Tempurung, setting up and staying in tents, and preparing breakfast and dinner using woodfire.



MSSD/MSSPK
Events and Participants

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

MSSD Ping Pong

20 June - Aeon Big Falim
Chong Wen Jing 10G
Reuel Arputharaj 7L
Ashritha 7L
Niranchana 7G
Ling Wenyong 10L



MSSPK Golf

27 June - Kelab Golf Kinta
Yew Nic-Sern 8G
Sidharthean F1Peace



MSSD Merentas Desa

27 June - SJK(C) Wan Hwa 2
Lim Chi Xuan 8L
Kuee Bo Xiang 8G

MSSD Badminton

4-7 July - YMCA Badminton Hall
Female U18
Tai Zhi San 10G
Pah Onn Teng 10G
Eleena Key 10G
Chong Zhi Xin (Chermaine) 10P



Male U18

Tan Kok Hin 10G
Chong Wen Jing 10G
Wong Hau Zhen 10L



Male U15

Terry Teo 9G
Evangel Tee 9G
Ean Key 8L



MSSPK Swimming

12 July - Stadium
Yew Nic-Sern 8G

MSSD Tennis

12 July - Stadium
Long Zi Yang 9G

MSSD Chess

31 July - SMK Jelapang Jaya
Nyeoh Chuan Jiun 7L
Tun Lee Yu 7G
Lim Zhong Yang 8G
Samuel Chen Jun He 10G
Adrian Lee Zhe Feng 10L
Kevin Liew Kai Yip 10L
Wong Hau Zhen 10L
Yeap Shan Hoong 10L



Wesleyans Got Talent

The main post-exam activity this year was a Talentime with students displaying their talents in acting, dancing, singing, doing stand-up comedy or playing musical instruments, all in competition for the top three spots. The top three performances (from Years 10 Grace, 10 Purity and 8 Grace) were then showcased during Friendship Day for the selection of the ultimate winner. Year 10 Grace with their performance entitled 'Teen Spirit' ultimately won the coveted First Prize!

WESLEYANS' GOT TALENT 2023

DATE: 18TH JULY 2023

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

1. 1 PEACE – Havana
2. 7 GRACE – The Malaysian Star Wars
3. 7 LOVE – Fly Me to the Moon
4. 8 GRACE – Alice through the Multiverse
5. 10 GRACE – Teen Spirit
6. 9 GRACE – Aimbhatouklum Talent Show
7. 8 LOVE – The Dreadful Dinosaur
8. 10 LOVE – Batman Saves the World
9. 10 PURITY – Revolution



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Friendship Day

Production this year was labeled Friendship Day and was a slightly different affair from previous years, focusing more on strengthening the relationship bonds of the extended Wesleyan community through a variety of activities. Friends and families gathered at the school on Saturday, 22 July 2023 for the morning through to lunch time to be a part of the event. In addition to a few stage performances from the strings ensemble, Chinese fan dancers, Junior school bell players, and the top three groups from the senior school Talentime competition, the school also set up stalls and booths in a carnival-like atmosphere for games, as well as contests in floral arrangement, cake weight guessing, condiment/spice identification, and history trivia, amongst others. Breakfast was provided throughout the morning, so no one would go hungry.

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS



Last Day of School

- Thanksgiving

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

The last day of school for this academic year 2022/2023 was on Friday, 28 July 2023. It began with a Thanksgiving Service in Kesselring Hall followed by some group games before the students were given time in their own classrooms for the Last Day of School parties. School dismissed early with the final bell going at 12.30 pm. After the last student had left school, teachers and staff made their way to Excelsior Hotel for a Thanksgiving Lunch before finally dispersing for the year.



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

What do Staff Get up to?



Staff Appreciation Day
WMSII Staff Appreciation Day was held on Friday, May 19 2023 this year in conjunction with Teachers' Day, usually celebrated worldwide on May 16. Staff members from all WMS schools met in a brief Zoom meeting organized by the MCoE (Methodist Council of Education) to give thanks for all the blessings received thus far. Teachers were also presented with goody bags of chocolate, and when the school day ended, gathered together at Tower Regency Hotel for a celebratory lunch.

Prep for Production

Teachers, in early June, had the opportunity to practise their floral arrangement skills under the tutelage of Mdm CS Yeoh, in early preparation for Production (with the theme Friendship Day) later in the term.



MCOE Symposium 2023

On Saturday, June 10 2023, WMS schools participated in their first Symposium organized by the MCoE. The theme was 'Technology and Innovation', with a hybrid attendance – some attendees being physically present in the auditorium (KL) and others being online. A total of eleven teachers from across the various WMS schools presented their papers, and two guest speakers shared their experiences and thoughts as well for a broader perspective on the topic. With one of the aims of the symposium being sharing good practices, it is hoped that together, teachers will continue to strive for excellence and make a difference in the lives of their students.



Non-Fiction Writing



Lego Designing

byline *Evangel Tee (9 Grace)*

LEGO is known worldwide as a giant toy company. Everyone has at least touched a LEGO brick. Did you know that there is a hobby about LEGO that not many know of? LEGO designing – this is a hobby that is not talked about enough. I think that there are many benefits to this hobby.

Digital LEGO designing is using computer software to design LEGO creations. Using software to design your own LEGO is much more flexible and efficient than using your limited pieces. I have designed multiple LEGO creations that are cool, eye-catching and creative. Some software is free and I think that everyone should try them out.

This hobby is not beneficial just for LEGO fanatics but anyone seeking creativity. Designing software stimulates a person's creativity and idea imagination. It also exposes the user to good computational skills.

If done for enough time, you can be a more creative and smarter person. That is why I keep on designing LEGO pieces, to maintain and expand my ability.

In my opinion, designing LEGO is killing two birds with one stone. I enjoy designing and learning skills simultaneously. My mother supports me because she knows how much this hobby helps me. Two minor drawbacks are that it requires a computer and patience. In the beginning, it can be challenging to understand the interface and the functions, but after a short period, you will be designing a million designs a day.

I think that you should try out digital LEGO designing. It is a good hobby with a lot of advantages. All you need is a computer and some patience. This hobby expands your creative skills and computer skills. It is even better when you enjoy the activity, as it has more purpose that way. Try it out and see the wonders of this hobby!

How to Prepare for an Upcoming Examination

byline *Won Jen Xi (7 Love)*

Exams are stressful for students, especially for those who have strict parents. Here are some tips and advice that might be helpful.

The one thing that is very important is to pay attention in class. If you do not understand something, you need to ask the teacher. Next is that you need to make notes about the topics being taught. When making notes, colour is very important because if your notes are dull, you can't focus on reading it as well as if you have made it colourful. To make your notes interesting, you can add drawings, highlight or draw tables.

Something you need to avoid when preparing for examinations is not having enough sleep. Sleep is very important since you will need to focus well in class. If you do not have enough sleep, you won't have enough energy to do activities as well as pay attention in class. Another thing that needs to be avoided is not studying regularly. This especially applies to people who are easily distracted. If you don't study regularly, you will forget what you have just studied, which makes the time wasted.

A tip from me for studying is that whenever you feel tired or bored of studying, take a break for a few minutes before continuing. Rest is important; you can't go studying for a long time continuously. Take a break especially when you can't focus anymore because if you can't focus anymore, there's no point in continuing.

I hope that this advice and tips will be helpful to you in preparing for an examination.



Acrostic Poem

Everything is coming to an end
Not everything stays the same
Days pass by
Overwhelmed with memories and feelings
Friends saying their goodbyes
Yet we are still so close by
Even after saying our goodbyes
A new beginning
Ready for a new year? New challenges ahead.

by Jeslyn Teh Ryu Qi (10 Love)

Acrostic Poem

End of year
No change of peers
During classes and recess
Of the time we always spend
Friendships seem to never end.
To the peers I see
Howling crazy like the wind
Every single happy glimpse.
Years and years,
Every single day
Always we say,
Real friends are there.

by Kuee Bo Xiang (8 Grace)

Acrostic Poem

End of Year 8 2022/2023
New year is coming
Do the best thing
Onwards you go
Find more interesting things
Time flies fast
Hard time, suffering but easy after
Endless knowledge
Yawn less, listen more
Endless studying
Assigned homework, getting more
Read more books during holidays.

by Meiji Fong (8 Grace)

Acrostic Poem

Endless amount of joy in school
Nice teachers and friends
Delicious food school canteen provides
Only happy in school
Friends and teachers support me
Teachers putting effort into teaching
Helpful teachers
Effort to help students
Year is ending
Endless amount of joy in the year
Appreciate everyone and do the
Right thing.

by Rick Foo (8 Grace)

Poetry



Happy 1 Ams

I am
 the ball point pen
 that always works
 with never
 a hiccup in the ink.

I am
 the garden
 full of beautiful flowers.

I am
 a library book
 that everybody reads
 a stray
 that everyone
 thinks to feed
 a piece of good advice
 that everyone
 seems to need.

I am
 a shirt
 with beautiful colours
 an iPhone 14
 that is very popular
 a puppy
 that is adorable.

by Sidharthean Puspanathan (1 Peace)



Poetry

Acrostic Poem

Ending of school is near
Not everyone is sincere
Don't cry, my dear
Of all the memories,
First day was the best.
To the leaving teachers,
Hope we'll meet again soon
Every year, please think of us.
Year after year
Everyone's growing older,
And with the coming year,
Remember the good memories we made this past year.

by Ashlee Poh (8 Grace)

Acrostic Poem

Ending of a chapter
Never really noticing until it happens
Days that go by feel like seconds when you have friends along the way.
Of course there are bad days but remember,
For every new chapter, there's a new beginning.
Tomorrow is a mystery
How are we going to make history?
Every moment is as precious as gold.
Yet every failure factors into a new lesson
Every step you take will lead you closer to the future
Are you ready to take the big step in life?
Ready yourselves, because this is your time to shine.

by Lim Chi Xuan, Louis (8 Love)

Poetry

Reboot r.e.b.o.o.t

Amos Tham (10 Grace)

For a brief moment, the forest seemed rather peaceful and undisturbed by human presence. But what lay ahead was sinister, inhuman and above all, bloodthirsty, for now all obscured by the dark leaf canopy of the gigantic trees.

Images of the past few days flashed before Philip's eyes. He moved his arms, seeing flashes of code and glitchy fragments covering where his fingers should have been. When he hit his left breast pocket, what looked like the story of his character shimmered into existence.

A howl resonated from the forest, causing his hair to stand on end. He tried to move but his legs felt like pudding. As Philip looked on, his strength bar glitched away and he fell to the mossy ground of the forest. There he lay as day crept slowly away.

So everything here was designed to kill him or render him helpless at the mercy of 'The Beast', he thought to himself as he tried to get to his feet. The once mossy ground suddenly filled with broken glass shards as the day shifted to night. Red eyes leered at Philip; eyes full of conviction that it could kill easily.

The mist hovering over the forest was now turning a bright green and water began to kill the various aquatic life that had been residing in it. He touched the fruits and immediately, he got a de-buff of slowness once again. This was so unlike the last few days. Or had it been just hours? Years? Panic engulfed him. He dimly made out a figure moving towards him.

As he began to lose all consciousness, a 'face' appeared before his eyes. Against a red background, a bird head, with two antlers. Where the eyes should have been was a bright blue orb that lit up the place in a menacing way. The creature had no neck as the head floated above a body coated in rust red flakes. It whistled in a high-pitched way, blood dripping off its beak.

This was it then. This was how dying felt like. The beak stabbed through Philip's chest, numbing him as the creature tore into its meal. What was left of Philip was a blood soaked shirt and suspenders.

"Congratulations, you have unlocked the twisted ending" intoned a disembodied voice. Philip came to and peered at his laptop. The game appeared to have finished, leaving the screen blank except for these words:

**THANK YOU FOR FREEING ME FROM THIS PURGATORY.
WILL CATCH UP WITH YOU SOON.**

Beyond his room window, Philip slowly became aware of a blue gleam and the tips of what looked like antlers. The Beast has been real all along..... ?

Change

Pah Onn Teng (10 Grace)

Something had changed this time. My life was not like before, and had instead turned upside down. A couple of days ago, I had finally come back home after studying for three years in Singapore. Excitedly, I had unlocked the door expecting a great, warm hug from my parents. But instead, there was no one. The atmosphere was thick and heavy. Piles of dirty clothes were scattered all around the floor, and on the table were unwashed plates and cups.

Confused, I ran upstairs, only to find mother lying in bed, with father sitting worriedly by her side. As I looked at mother more closely, I noticed that her face had aged ten years, was pale with wrinkles everywhere. I gently held her hand, stroking her palm and the inside of her wrist. Like a baby, I cried beside her. Why hadn't mother told me earlier that she had cancer? Berating myself, I was overwhelmed with guilt that suffocated me.

On my way to bed that night, I saw father sitting miserably on the couch, looking blankly out of the window. I sat beside him and remembered the good old days when we would have dinner together joyously, sharing stories, playing board games and exchanging jokes. I miss those days terribly.

Fiction Writing

But, I told myself to be strong because I had to take good care of both father and mother. Determination pulsed through my every vein, even though I did not know how many more days mother would have.



Life in a Zoo

Chermaine Chong (10 Purity)

Yaaaawnn. My throat vibrated as I stretched my neck to its maximum length. Blinking slumber from my vision, I gave my nose some good long licks to clean it of night snot. I had just woken up to another day of having boring visitors feed me tasteless and dry leaves for their own entertainment. Ho hum.

I rose leisurely to my feet and hovered for a moment above the trees to take in the view. I could see the other animals in their enclosures. Over in the distance are the lions, who often stare at me hungrily, and there in the next enclosure are the meerkats, all standing around awkwardly, waiting for food to be tossed to them by the visiting two-legged creatures. I realized then that I had overslept as the noisy creatures who often threw inedible things into my territory were already crowding around my enclosure.

I have never liked them, as they are so unpredictable. The smaller ones could burst into horrid screeches if left unattended, and some of the bigger ones made all kinds of strange movements that I cannot understand. Some can actually be rather gentle though when they touch my head as I lean towards them for the carrots they offer, but they in turn, do not seem to like it when I attempt to groom their own sparse mane.

So today, the creatures do their usual standing around, staring at my brother and me with their googly eyes. My brother must be in a good mood as he is accepting all the apples and carrots being offered. Me, however, I am feeling rather gloomy. Is this all there is of life? Is there nothing for me to look forward to any more, but this same routine day after day? There is just nowhere to run, no new areas to explore within this enclosure.

Turning away from the yapping creatures waving at me, I amble over to the big tree and watch the insects on the tree trunk building a fortress for their queen. I swat my tail at some which land on me because it itches to feel them walk on my skin. As I study one particular insect more closely, I find myself wondering what it would be like to be able to fly. What would it feel like to be small? To be light enough to have wings that could lift me, up and away into the sky? Oh, for a day to be something else

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE REPORT

Choral Workshop with Haileybury Chamber Choir, UK

Date of Event: 9 July 2023

By: Hannah Mak (10 Love)

To say that this was an experience of a lifetime would be an understatement. On a beautiful morning, all the Year 10's were called to stay back after assembly. We were told that a choir group from the UK was coming to Malaysia and that we were invited to join them for a workshop. Me being indecisive, led to a look for an answer from my friend. With my friend saying yes, I said yes too! After registering, the excitement continued to grow in everyone as the date drew nearer.

To ensure that everyone was able to get the most out of the workshop, we learned all about the two songs that were going to be performed together with the choir. The songs were "The Road Home" by Craig Hella Johnson and "Underneath the Stars" by Kate Rusby. We learned the melody and rhythm of the songs.

The workshop was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Eight students and one teacher from our school attended the workshop. With the workshop being held in another state, we took a train down in the wee hours of the morning to be able to make it on time. Everyone was very sleepy but excited about the journey ahead. The train ride was a pleasant experience for us all.

After arriving at KL Central, we were greeted by the coordinator of the event and hopped onto the bus. The trip continued with us taking a trip to the hotel to pick up the directors of the Choir. When they came up on to the bus, they greeted all of us personally, introducing themselves. Shortly after, we arrived at the Selangor Institute of Music (SIM) where our workshop would be held. Refreshments were served with some hot drinks. Then we went upstairs for the first session of the workshop.

The first session of the workshop was vocal warmups with the directors. It was an eye-opening session with many techniques to aid us in singing better. But out of them all, my personal favourite was singing "I Like the Flowers" by Beat Boppers Children's Music as after a few rounds of practising it, we were split into four groups and started singing the song at different intervals. This created a melodious sound that brightened the atmosphere of the room. It taught us that as we sing, we need to put effort into memorizing the lyrics of the songs and at the same time be able to sing in key together as a team.

After an hour, we went downstairs for a 30-minute break with refreshments. It was also during then that the choir group started arriving one by one and we all used that as an opportunity to get to know them. They were all friendly people.



The second session of the workshop was the directors teaching us the two songs with lots of helpful techniques on how we could improve to make it sound better. We were all divided into groups of those who sang Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. Whenever there was a slight error in the singing, the director would patiently guide us group by group using different techniques that everyone could understand. This made it easier for us all to sing the songs without making it a difficult task. We learned the songs part by part before trying it all together collectively, giving us the opportunity to hear them come to life. We got to enjoy lunch downstairs. It was a vegetarian lunch with all kinds of dishes. We all got to sit with the choir group to get to know each other even more.

Session 3 of the workshop was a time for the choir group to have their rehearsals for the upcoming tour in KL and Australia. It was a surreal experience seeing them all perform. With minor tweaks made by the director as they rehearsed, it made the songs sound better each time. We were all awed by the beautiful melody that came out song after song. It was definitely a moment that we all tried our best to soak in. After some time, we got to take a break with more refreshments and meaningful conversations.

The last session was a question and answer (Q&A) session with the director and the performance of the two songs together with the choir. The question and answer session was really informative for us all and a great platform for us to get to know more about choir singing and the schedule of the choir group. We were all looking forward to the opportunity of performing together with the choir.

With that, the workshop came to an end. We all said our goodbyes and got dropped off at NU Central for dinner and later walked to KL Central to catch the train back to Ipoh. The train left exactly at 7.03 pm and departed for Ipoh. On the train ride back, we were all exhausted but grateful for the experience we had had. We reflected on our experiences over a conversation filled with laughter, with the sun setting. When we arrived back in Ipoh, our parents picked us all up and we went back home.

This was an unforgettable experience for us all as we got the privilege of meeting and learning from one of the most famous Chamber Choirs in the world. We are definitely excited to put to use the knowledge we learned from the workshop in practice.



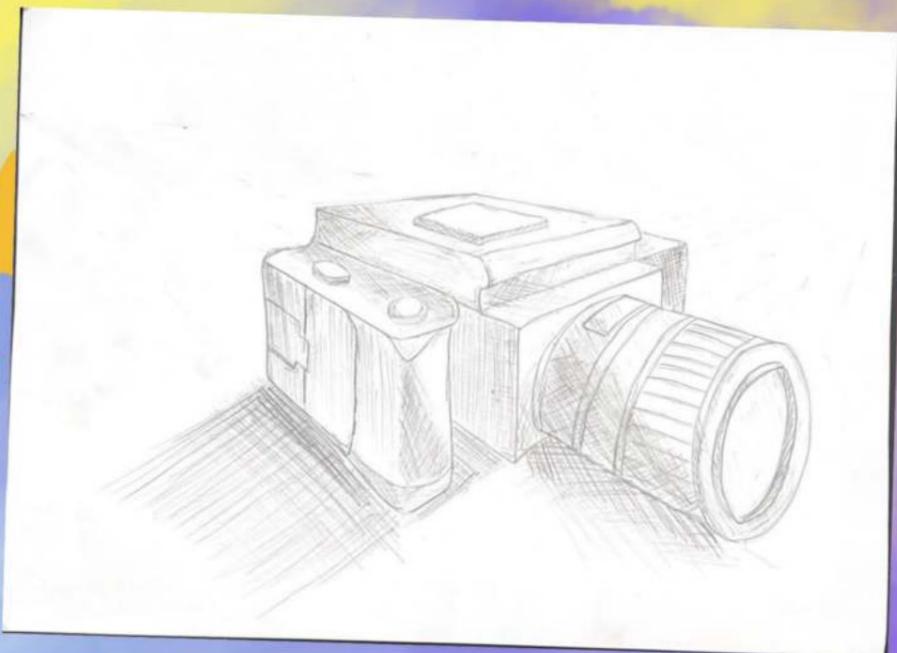
ARTWORK



Deborah Boey (8 Grace)
Butterfly



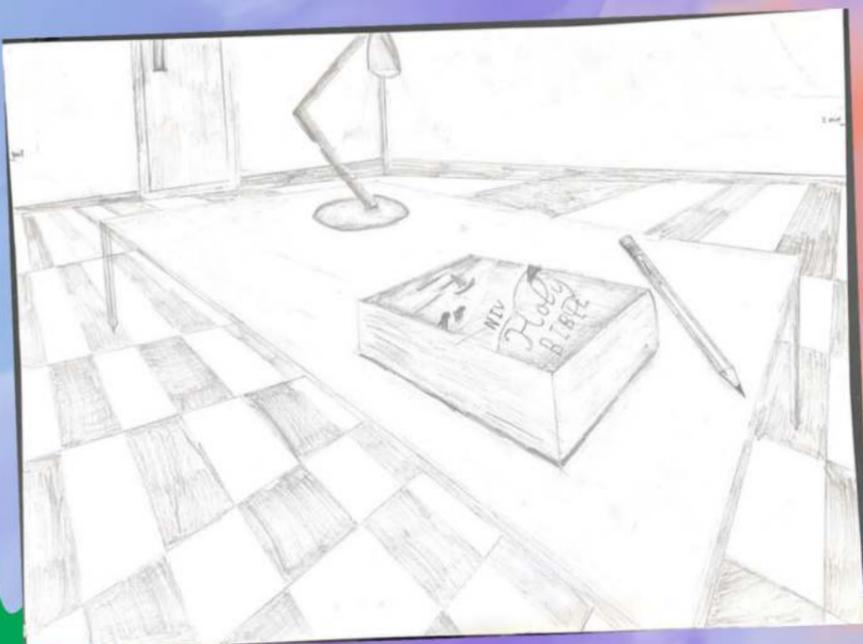
Wan Xiao Qi (8 Love)
Coffee Shop



Anissa Teng (8 Grace)
Two-point Perspective of an Object



Deborah Boey (8 Grace)
Coffee Shop



Joel Chan (8 Love)
Two-point Perspective of an Object