

Weekly School Newsletter

Message from the Head of School

Arts is one of the three pillars of learning opportunities at GWA (Singapore) and is something we are incredibly proud of at the school. Last night we celebrated musical talent through two orchestral concerts, which provided more than 100 budding musicians the opportunity to perform in front of peers and family. We again thank the secondary years students for the support they provided as stage crew for the night, as well as the tireless efforts of Chris Brandt, Daniela Rodnite and Tracy Tan in motivating and guiding the students towards this successful event.

In a changing world, there can be little denying the importance of creativity, self-discovery and personal expression which comes from the Arts. Through Visual Arts, students are provided a broad range of media to display technical skills and expression. Through Drama, children are given a range of vocal and physical performance skills which develops confidence, collaboration and self-discovery. Through Music, students develop fine motor skills, attune their senses and work closely with peers to bring to life musical pieces across genres and instruments.

The musical performances last night were one set of opportunities for our students to display the skills, attributes and joy of music that each have developed. The ongoing commitment to consistent practice, study of musical theory, and the preparations for performing in front of a live audience, are all experiences that deepen the learning for our children.

In many ways, the various domains of the Arts are bound together by the importance of each artist telling a story. We see this through various drawings and sculptures, the expression, colour and tone imparting a narrative to the audience. In plays and musicals, the actors bring to life the joy, drama and comedy of life in a variety of contexts, sharing a story which connects with each member of the crowd. In music, the notes bind together to set a tone and mood, enhanced through the defined instruments, to impact our perceptions and feelings.

The Arts is a crucial component of life and as such, and absolute necessity of outstanding education. Your commitment as parents in choosing a school which has the Arts as a compulsory pillar, in which every child becomes engaged, is to be commended. As an education provider, we have worked hard to ensure that surrounding your family are educators who are passionate about their domains and are committed to ensuring that wonderful opportunities are provided to every child.

We have so much to be thankful for at GWA (Singapore), and the musical talent on show last night was an occasion for us to join together to showcase student development.



David Edwards
Head of School
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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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gwa.transport@hdt.com.sg

Parent Event

Fullerton Heritage Guided

Tour: *Learn about the humble origins of The Fullerton Hotel building, which was formerly a General Post Office and a government building. Find out which of our prominent former and current Singapore leaders once worked in this historic building and hear tales about her role during World War II as a place of refuge*

Date: 8 December
(Thursday)

Time: 11am

Meeting Point: The Fullerton
Hotel Concierge

Address: 1 Fullerton Square,
Singapore 049178



Important bus service notice

GEMS World Academy (Singapore) announces the implementation of an innovative & unique software system called **busRUN** to efficiently manage the school bus operations.

www.busrun.net

Message from the Primary Years Principal

School camps enhance school curriculum, provide community and service opportunities, develop team-building skills, as well as confidence and trust. The camps provide a safe, nurturing environment where students can test their limits and challenge themselves.

School camps are an important addition to the ongoing school-based teaching and learning. Over the years at GWA, students will be provided a range of camp opportunities in a variety of countries. The goal at all times is to ensure that we provide students with outstanding learning opportunities

On Tuesday 29th November, starting at 6:30pm we will be holding a Grade 4 and 5 camp information evening for parents with the purpose too providing information on the Experiential Learning programme, coordinated by Mr Paul Rimmer and an overview of each camp. For those who can not attend these information evenings, we will be sending a copy of the presentations to all respective families.

This week, our GWA musicians presented classic works of the great composers as well as a student composition as part of the School-wide Solo & Chambers Concert.

Please note some other key upcoming events that are taking place over the remaining weeks of the semester. On Friday 9th December, we will be holding our Sports day. This will be a fun-filled day of events in which all students, Pre K to Grade 11, will participate in a range of indoor and outdoor activities. All parents are welcome to attend. A schedule and more detailed information will be provided in the coming weeks.



Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions

Neil White
EY/PY Principal
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Message from the Secondary Years Principal

One element of our Homeroom programme is to provide our students with opportunities to plan, design and lead a Secondary Years assembly. Grade 8 students led an energetic, entertaining and informative assembly this Wednesday. Their theme was study skills in relation to preparations for the upcoming semester examination week, and I am sure that their advice on note taking, limiting distractions by switching off electronic devices, and revision techniques was appreciated by their peers.

I am also pleased to invite all SY parents to the second *Coffee with SY Principal* which will take place on Monday 28 November from 2.45-3.30pm in the Auditorium lobby. The invitation email will be sent shortly and the chat will revolve around the follow up on Quarter 1 feedback and a closer look at MYP assessment.

After a very successful UN celebration evening two weeks ago, we just had another opportunity to showcase our students' talent at the *Solo and Chamber Concert* on Thursday night. Led by our dedicated Music teachers, Mr Brandt, Mrs Rodnite and Ms Tan, the event featured 30 classical and traditional music pieces played on the piano, violin, cello, guitar, saxophone, harp, as well as vocal performances. Congratulations to all performers!



Jan Stipek
SY Principal
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Click [here](#) to view detailed Events Calendar

28 Nov - 2 Dec

**SY SEMESTER
EXAMS**

30 November

**PARENT ENGAGEMENT
WORKSHOP**

GWA Auditorium Lobby
Time :9am

GWAPA:
gwapa.singapore@gwa.edu.sg
Judy (PRE) j.lee@gwa.edu.sg

9 December

**SPORTS
DAY**

16 December

**END OF
SEMESTER 1**



SPORT AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The new season of Sports and ECAs brings new opportunities for the athletes at GWA to train and compete in various football, basketball, swimming and touch rugby teams. It is looking like a busy schedule of home and away fixtures which will commence from next week onwards. Our policy for school sports teams is that all players are wearing the correct team uniform when playing games. Team uniforms can be purchased from the school shop and must be handed to team coaches so numbers can be printed on them before the first game.

GWA (Singapore) celebrated a milestone on Saturday, as our swim team won their first-ever gold medal at the ACSIS HS Swimming Championship. Alicia Soosai finished first and took home the gold medal in the Girls' 100-Meter Breaststroke, along with placing second in the 200 Individual Medley. We had three swimmers taking part in this meet, and Alicia, Ronan Baccarini, and Emma Middleditch each swam lifetime best times in each of their events. Amazing!



Danny Tauroa
Activities Coordinator
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MESSAGE FROM GWA PARENT ASSOCIATION (GWAPA)

Dear Parents,

We have extended the deadline for GWAPA Wine Tasting to this Sunday, 20th November. The night itself is on 23rd November (Wed) from 7.30pm to 10.00pm at the very beautiful and centrally located, China Collection. For \$30 you spend the evening in a beautiful Black and White house with unlimited wine tastings, finger foods, yummy desserts, there are Christmas shopping opportunities and a lucky door prize. This is a strictly adults only event and a chance to socialise in a unique environment. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Details for the payment are mentioned below:

You can pay via

1. electronic transfer
2. cash

To pay and confirm please contact Kathleen via email at kathbacc@yahoo.com or mobile +65 9061-1032.

GWAPA would like to encourage parents and students to support Food Bank with food donations leading up to Christmas. From Monday the 21st November, you will find a Christmas tree in EY lobby area (1st level), under the tree will be a decorated box to collect non-perishable food items. Food Bank accepts all types of non-perishable food items that are unopened, unused and with at least 4 weeks of shelf life. These are the following food that are in greatest demand: **rice, beverages** (UHT or powdered milk, Milo, Tea, Coffee), **noodles** (rice vermicelli, instant noodles, cup noodles, pasta), **biscuits, canned food, cooking oil, sauces, seasonings, spreads**. The food will be collected by Bank of Food in the second week of December.



GWAPA Team

We invite all interested students to hang decorations on the Christmas tree related to the food donation (handmade decorations with food shape/food name)

The Wine & Cheese GWAPA evening

When: 23 November, 7:30pm-10pm
Venue: The China Collection - 20 Malcom Rd S308259
Dress: Smart Casual

The GWAPA meeting

Date: November 30th
Time: 10am (following parent engagement workshop)

CONTACT THE GWAPA TEAM
gwapa_singapore@gwa.edu.sg

Share your sports news with us, Join our Facebook page