

5 February 2025

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Greetings from ACS(J).

Thank you for taking the time to attend the Meet-the-Parents (MTP) sessions for Primary 1 to Primary 6 in January. I hope that the MTP sessions have given you a good overview of the level and class activities for the year, and you had the opportunity to meet and interact with your child's/ ward's form teachers.

To support you in partnering us to develop your child/ ward holistically, MOE released a Parent Kit entitled, "Journey Together, Growing Together" – The Primary School Edition on 31 Jan (Fri) for Parents of Primary 4, 5 and 6 students. You may access it through Parents' Gateway or find a copy of it attached with this letter. We hope that the information will be useful for you as you journey with your child/ ward through his primary school years.

Soaring in Unity (Romans 12:4-5)

- 1. ACS(J) warmly welcomes Mr Aaron Chua, our new Vice-Principal (Administration), who joined us on 3 Feb (Mon). Mr Chua will oversee matters related to administration, finance, school facilities, safety, security and operations. Our incumbent vice-principals, Mrs Jessie Heng and Mr Goh Sheow En, will continue to oversee academic and student-related matters. Together, we serve as one leadership team to support the school's efforts in developing every ACSian to be a young gentleman of character, ready for the future to lead and to serve.
- 2. Our school theme for 2025 Soaring in Unity is inspired by the analogy of "one body with many members" found in Romans 12:4-5. Based on our school theme for the year, we have designed our learning experiences to encourage our students to Chart the Course, Ready the Crew and Ascend the Skies, together as one. We started the new academic year with a series of orientation activities that focused on character building, class bonding, team building and developing school spirit for all levels in the first week of school.
- 3. We were particularly heartened by the brotherly love shown by our older boys to their juniors. To welcome the Primary 1 students, the student leaders engaged them in games, while the Primary 4 students supported them as recess buddies. The Primary 6 students also started the year by serving the school community, sharing useful active listening strategies with the Primary 3 students through the "Seven to Start Buddy Up" session.
- 4. During the first ACSians Assemble of the year, our Primary 6 student leaders welcomed all students to 2025, highlighting its significance to Singapore as we celebrate SG60 together.

They also shared how students can demonstrate the ACSian values through our school experiences and their daily lives.

Museum-Based Learning Experiences

5. As part of Museum-Based Learning for Character and Citizenship Education (CCE), our Primary 6 students went on a learning journey to the Asian Civilisations Museum on three different days in January. Through this experience, they developed a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical ties that influence the countries in Southeast Asia, and explored how Singapore's cultural heritage has evolved over time, influenced by the diverse mix of cultures.

Chinese New Year Celebration

6. The festive mood was in the air as teachers and students decorated their classrooms in the weeks leading up to Chinese New Year (CNY). The students learned more about the festival and its traditional practices from the display boards set up in the library and through the singing of CNY songs during Music lessons and their participation in recess activities. We would like to thank our parent volunteers for organising the CNY craftwork activities during recess on 22 Jan (Wed) to engage our boys.

Our staff and students were treated to an hour-long concert on the eve of CNY, featuring enthusiastic performances by the Speech and Drama Club, greetings from the school leaders, teachers and school staff, followed by skits and interactive quizzes.

Blessing Our Community

- 7. At ACS(J), we believe in nurturing each boy to be an ACSian Servant Leader who works with others to make a positive difference. We are glad to be able to provide our boys with the following platforms to contribute to our community and be a blessing to others.
 - (a) Methodist Walk Fundraising 2025 "A Million For A Million"

The MethodistWalk is a biennial fundraising activity organised by the Methodist Schools' Foundation (MSF), on behalf of the Methodist schools in Singapore. Traditionally, on the last Saturday in March, student representatives from all 15 Methodist schools gather together with teachers, family members and supporters from the Methodist churches, to walk together and raise money for the needs of individual schools. In this edition of the MethodistWalk, we have pledged to collectively walk 1,000,000 km from 1 March 2025 to 29 March 2025 and to collectively raise \$1,000,000.

ACS(J) aims to raise \$250,000 through MethodistWalk 2025 for our school's needs in the following areas:

- 1. Educational Aids and Resources
- 2. Financial Assistance
- 3. Building Grant

Each student was given a pledge card on 31 Jan (Fri) with which he can seek donations from family and friends. Besides the usual pledge cards, donors may also donate through **Giving.sg** at our campaign page https://www.giving.sg/donate/campaign/anglochinese-school-juniormw2025- or scan the QR code on the pledge card. We seek your generous support for MethodistWalk 2025.

(b) Methodist Welfare Services (MWS) Hong Bao Drive 2025

In addition to the MethodistWalk 2025, we would also like to appeal for your support on behalf of the Methodist Welfare Services for its Hong Bao Drive. As a family, do consider blessing other families in need of support through the Methodist Welfare Services (MWS) Lunar New Year Hong Bao (Red Packet) Donation Drive. MWS serves over 16,000 people, including families, those who are very ill, lonely or homeless, as well as children and youth who need help and support. Your donations will be used meaningfully to build stronger families and stronger communities. You may visit https://hongbao.mws.sg/product/hongbao-project/ to make your donations electronically.

Total Defence Day (Monday, 17 February 2025)

- 8. The school will commemorate Total Defence Day (TDD) on 17 Feb (Mon). The theme for Total Defence Day 2025 "Together We Keep Singapore Strong" focuses on ways we can put Total Defence into action in our everyday lives.
- 9. In the week of TDD, students will be engaged in an array of activities to learn how they can contribute to the six pillars of Total Defence. Through the Assembly Programme, CCE (FTGP) and recess activities, we hope that our young gentlemen will understand their role in keeping Singapore strong.

139th Founder's Day Thanksgiving Service and Academic Awards Presentation (Friday, 28 February 2025)

10. Our 139th Founder's Day Thanksgiving Service and Academic Awards Presentation will take place on 28 Feb (Fri) from 8.30 am to 11 am. The Guest-of-Honour is Mr Peter Tan, Distinguished Old Boy and former Principal of ACS (Junior) and ACS (Barker). Only Primary 6 students and prize recipients are to be present for the event. Primary 1 to Primary 5 students do not need to report to school on 28 Feb (Fri).

ACS 139th Founder's Day Dinner (Saturday, 1 March 2025)

11. The ACS Old Boys' Association (ACSOBA) is organising its annual gala dinner in conjunction with the ACS 139th Founder's Day. This dinner will allow all ACSians to have the opportunity to re-connect with one another as an ACSian community.

Date: Saturday, 1 March 2025 Time: 6.30 pm to 10.30 pm

Venue: Shangri-La Hotel (Island Ballroom)

22 Orange Grove Road, Singapore 258350

Cost: \$1886 per table (10 pax per table, regular)

Sales Period: 20 Jan (Mon) to 19 Feb (Wed)

12. To register and purchase your ticket(s), kindly complete and submit the form through the link: https://tinyurl.com/sch139FDD by 19 Feb (Wed). We strongly encourage payment via online transfer. For any further enquiries, please contact the school at 6733 7911 or email us at acsi@moe.edu.sq.

Primary 3 Gifted Education Programme Identification Exercise

13. The schedule for the Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise in 2025 is appended for Primary 3 parents' information.

Stage	Date	Participants	
GEP Screening Exercise	21 Aug (Thu)	Primary 3 students enrolled	
GEP Screening Exercise	21 Aug (111u)	in the school	
	14 Oct (Tue) & 15 Oct (Wed)	Primary 3 students	
GEP Selection Exercise		shortlisted after the GEP	
	, , ,	Screening Exercise	

More details, including content coverage matters, will be shared at a later date.

Affirmation of ACS(J) Teachers

14. The Inspiring Teacher of English Award, the Arif Budiman Malay Language Teacher Award and the Most Inspiring Tamil Teachers' Award acknowledge and affirm teachers who have been instrumental in igniting a love for the languages and are effective in helping their students communicate better. In the process of engaging their students, they have used innovative and engaging pedagogical approaches that considered their learners' readiness, interests and learning profiles. These teachers also demonstrate a keen interest in students' well-being and inspire students to be self-directed and engaged learners.

If you know of such a teacher in ACS(J) and would like to nominate him/her for the following award(s), please follow the instructions accordingly.

Award	Organiser	Details of nomination	Closin g Date
Inspiring Teacher of English Award 2025	The Speak Good English Movement and The Straits Times with the support of the Ministry of Education	Download nomination forms through this link: https://www.languagecouncils.sg/goodenglish/inspiring -teacher-of-english-award/nomination-information 60,gov.sg	5pm, 24 Mar (Mon)
		Email completed form to Ms Ng Xinyi at ng xinyi@schools.gov.sg	
		For more information, please email SGEM at nhb_speakgoodenglishmovement@nhb.gov.sg	

Arif Budiman Malay Languag e Teacher Award 2025	Malay Language Council, Singapore, Malay Language Teachers Association , Berita Harian and the Malay Language Learning and Promotion Committee	Nominations can be made at: https://go.gov.sg/agab2025	5pm, 4 Apr (Fri)
Most Inspiring Tamil Teachers' Award 2025	Tamil Murasu, Tamil Language Learning and Promotion Committee (TLLPC) and the Singapore Tamil Teachers' Union	Nominations can be made online at: https://go.gov.sg/mitt2025	4 Apr (Fri)

School Security

15. For the safety of our boys, please note that the teaching blocks as well as the corridors linking them are strictly out of bounds to all visitors (including parents and caregivers) at all times. Visitors are to remain in the foyer when they drop off or pick up students from the school. Parents/ Guardians will be allowed to enter the school and meet their children/ wards only at the foyer at dismissal time.

Road Safety and Consideration for Others

16. Driving to School

Thank you, parents and guardians, for observing road safety and traffic rules when sending your child/ ward to and from school. We have observed a smooth flow of vehicles entering and exiting ACS(J) in the morning and at dismissal time these past weeks. Please continue to ensure that your child's/ ward's bags are with him so that he can alight quickly at the foyer and external lay-by. Please also encourage your child/ ward to alight on his own in the morning, if he is able to, and to board the vehicle quickly during dismissal time as a consideration for others in the queue. We seek the understanding of our parents/ guardians

that some of our boys do need more support to alight from and board their vehicles, and we thank you in advance for your patience and graciousness as we give them more time to familiarise themselves with the routine.

17. Parking Outside School Premises

Additionally, it has been observed that cars are often parked along Winstedt Road while waiting to pick up students before the school gates open at 1.40 pm for dismissal. This obstructs traffic flow, extending to Bukit Timah Road, and inconveniences other road users. The school has also received feedback that some motorists do not adhere to the proper use of the Yellow Box along Winstedt Road, further disrupting traffic. We kindly seek the cooperation of all parents/ guardians in setting a good example for our boys by following traffic rules and being considerate of other road users.

18. Road Safety

We also seek the support of parents/ guardians in reminding their children/ wards to cross only at designated traffic pedestrian crossings and to practise the kerb drill - looking out for oncoming traffic before they cross and raising their hands to increase visibility while using the pedestrian crossing.

Singapore Road Safety Council (SRSC) had produced a Road Safety Jingle which was launched at its 15th Anniversary celebration event on 1 November 2024, to promote awareness on road safety and gracious behaviours on the roads. This jingle encourages motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians alike to practise patience and consideration, reinforcing the message that road safety is a shared responsibility. Listen to the jingle with your child/ ward as a fun way to remind each other about the importance of road safety. You can access the jingle via this QR code:



We look forward to deepening our home-school partnership and thank you for your continued prayers and support for ACS (Junior).

To God Be The Glory, The Best Is Yet To Be!

Yours faithfully

Miss Cheryl Chee Principal