

True Knowledge | Faith in Christ | Godly Character

THE LIGHT

30th Edition/October/2014

Just
believe

THE LIGHT

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The Heart of Transformation

By **Phillip Nash**

Head of School SPH International Lippo Village and
Coordinator of Pelita Harapan International Schools

Just Believe – it sounds too easy to be true! But behind these two words lies a powerhouse of possibility. This year in our magazine series we pick up again on our annual theme which comes out of the central part of our vision statement: Faith in Christ.

UNLESS education is centered on belief in Christ as the Creator, Sustainer and Savior of this broken world, we fool ourselves into thinking we can make any changes. Humanistic education exists on the belief that starting from ourselves, with our own resources, we can make a better world. This is an admirable goal but the starting point is flawed. How can broken people, really see clearly enough to fix a broken world?

The Gospel offers us another alternative: Christ re-makes us, gives us new life, a fresh start and through his Spirit, empowers us to live in his strength and according to his ways. As our Creator he knows what is best for us and we find real freedom and fulfillment only when we are set free by him into his newness for us.

How does this come about? God gives us new life and we respond by believing in Him and in his son our Savior and so a new journey begins. Just as the father in the story our theme is centered on, had to believe that Jesus could not just heal but bring his daughter back to life, so we must believe and accept that God has given us new life. And belief does not stop there. It takes on-going belief to walk in this newness of life, believing in the one who has power to raise from the dead and who declares himself the truth.

In this edition, members of our community explore what Just Believe means to them and how believing in the Truth brings about a difference in their lives and circumstances. We feature an article by Dr Debra Buursma from Calvin College who led a team last year to help us learn more about how to cater for those who suffer from learning disabilities in our schools. Helping students like this means more than just instilling a false sense of hope that 'they can do it' if they try hard or we help them more. It means seeing them as made in God's image, precious to him and deserving of a belief that God provides a meaningful life for them as well. Our part is to work with them to release what gifts they do have and strengthen the parts that are weak.

Tracy Radbone then takes us on a musical journey as she sets out the way she tries to instill a Biblical world view in her approach to music. Our beliefs influence the way we see things and the way we do things. Having a belief in Jesus and allowing him to transform our minds with his thinking, allows music students to be discerning about what they listen to, distinguishing between what is Godly and helpful and ungodly and harmful.

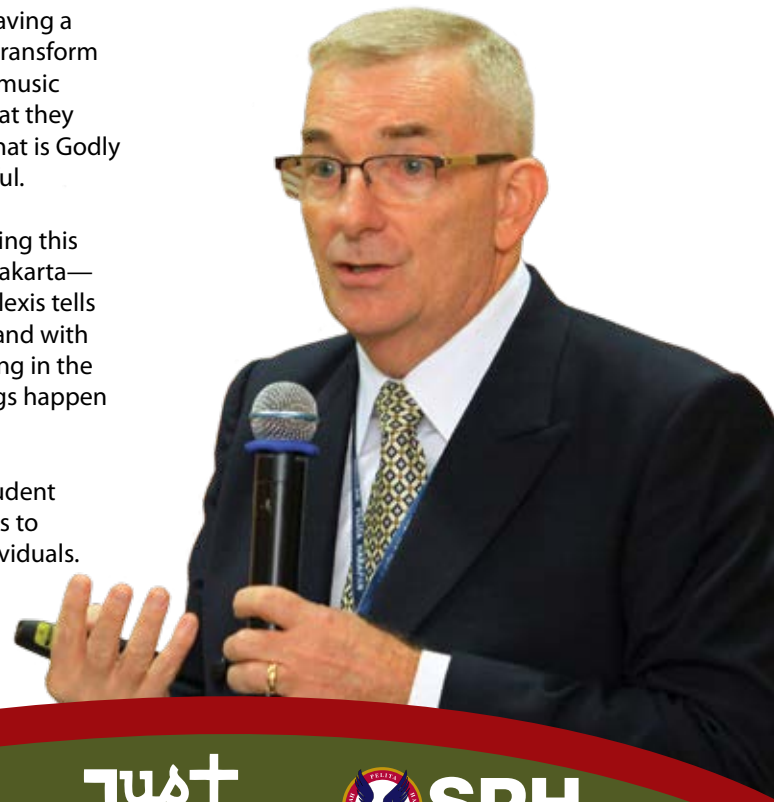
We are very excited about the opening this year of our newest school in north Jakarta—SPH International Pluit Village. Ms Alexis tells the story of how that is happening and with Ms Amanda also shows how believing in the God of the impossible, can see things happen we could never imagine.

It is great to see the vision of the Student Council focused on helping students to grow into influential and Godly individuals.

This captures so much the purpose of SPH International. The Founders (Including Pak Johannes if he was still here) will resonate with this year's Student Council desires. Maturing into such individuals will of course involve belief and as students put their faith and trust in Jesus, so he will transform them into his likeness.

Congratulations to another successful graduating class from 2013–2014. We wish them all the very best as they take up new challenges all over the world. We pray that they remember to Just Believe when the going gets tough, homesickness sets in and the assignment load becomes over-whelming.

Enjoy this edition of the Light. May it help to shed the light of the Gospel for you and challenge you to seek out the one to believe in and who will never let us down.



TRUE KNOWLEDGE

FAITH IN CHRIST

GODLY CHARACTER

Just
believe





By **Dan Fennell**
Biblical Foundations Coordinator
SPH International Lippo Village

Just Believe

While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?" Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." Mark 5:35–36

DEATH has come to Capernaum in Galilee. Can you imagine how Jairus feels? He is a highly respected religious leader, a synagogue ruler no less. But on this day the preacher is powerless in the face of humanity's last foe (1 Cor 15:26), that dark devourer. And



not just any death, the death of his daughter, whom he loves dearly! Neither Jairus' religious rituals nor his reputation can help his daughter now.

What can he do? What would you do?

Jairus remembers that Jesus has recently returned from the Gerasenes region across the Sea of Galilee. There Jesus entered a cemetery to deliver a possessed man from demons who had imprisoned that man in a life of undignified isolation and injury. Mark records, *'For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.'* (Mark 5:4–5). Jesus reversed

that man's 'life' sentence by removing the demons and restoring him back to human dignity and sanity. Jairus' mind is racing! *'If Jesus can reverse a 'life' sentence—perhaps he command death to flee!'* Ignoring his own social standing, he finds Jesus and falls in desperation before Him. Mark continues, *'when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." So Jesus went with him.'*

Jairus' faith is stimulated by the presence of Jesus. His faith looks to Jesus as the little girl's only hope of life. Jesus goes with him. Jesus always helps the sincerely humbled heart. He came *'to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death'* (Luke 1:79). However before they reach the house news comes that the girl is dead (5:35). The crowd suggests Jairus stop bothering Jesus. To them her death is final. Jairus must wait, they believe, as first century Jews believed, for the last Day, when Messiah will come to raise the righteous to life. But Jesus rejects their 'straight jacket' theology. He reassures Jairus and rewards his faith!



'Don't be afraid. Just believe!'

Jesus takes charge of the circumstances and of the girl's corpse. *'He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the*



brother of James.' These future church leaders must see the result of Jairus' faith. (Later, Peter will imitate what Jesus does when he is faced with death in Acts 9:36–43). Inside the house there is chaos (5:38), but Jesus says with calm authority, *'The child is not dead*

but asleep.' But they laughed at him.' (5:39–40). The world laughs at people of faith who see things that can't be seen. Faith is being 'sure of we do not see' (Hebrews 11:1). About Jesus Peter wrote, *'Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.'* (1 Peter 1:8).

Jesus said the girl was asleep. She was really dead! In the Bible 'sleep' is a euphemism for death. The Bible speaks of death as the 'last sleep' (Psalms 76:5). Jews believed the Messiah would raise both the righteous and unrighteous 'who sleep in the dust of the earth ... some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.' (Daniel 12:2). Saving faith





Phillip Nash, Felicity & Jonathan Carswell, Dan Fennell

believes the words of Jesus. When that faith is present all unreality is removed. *'After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha kum!" "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"*)'. This faith receives life from Jesus. *'Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around.'* (Mark 5:40–42). People were filled with wonder at the person of *Jesus and at his power to bring life in place of the horror of death.* *'At this they were completely astonished.'* (Mark 5:43).

Do you 'Just Believe' as Jairus did?

Recently our theme launch speaker Jonathan Carswell reminded SPH International school leaders that God is in the business of raising 'dry bones' to life. The prophet Ezekiel, seeing a vision of a valley of bones, was commanded by the Sovereign God to speak to the scattered skeletons. When he did, *'there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone.'* (Ezekiel 37:7). Then God commanded him to speak to God's Spirit

and as he did *'breath entered them'* (Ezekiel 37:9) and *'they came to life and stood up on their feet.'* (Ezekiel 37:10). When God's Word is preached the Spirit of God brings life to the dead.

Jonathan concluded his Ezekiel exhortation with three challenges:

- 1. Faith that brings Life can seem unlikely because people are dead!**
Humans are 'dead in transgressions and sins'—dead to God. (Ephesians 2:1)
- 2. Faith that produces Life can seem unconventional because it's announced in a book—the Bible.**
Faith comes through 'the message concerning faith ... the word about Christ.' (Romans 14:8; 17).
- 3. Faith that results in Life is possible because it's from God!**
'God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved ... through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.' (Ephesians 2:6–9)

*I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys
Then Your Spirit gave me life
Opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace*

(Bob Kauflin 'O Great God' Sovereign Grace Praise)

The words 'Just Believe' are the words of Jesus. They are simple but not simplistic. They are short in length but not short of power. They

lead a person out of death into life. At SPH International we want our students to have saving faith—faith in Jesus—only – always – because, as John Piper writes, *'eternal life is not promised to those who think about Jesus as the Son of God merely, but to those who drink from the Son of God ... faith is not an idea in the head, it's an appetite of heart fastening onto the Bread of Life.'*

Some of our students are skeptics. Others are presumptuous! Some think faith is a 'blind leap' or a mere feeling. Still others are trapped in legalism (depending on rule keeping rather than on Christ for righteousness) while not a few are content with formalism (being religious without genuine faith in Jesus).

Faith is God believed and His gift received (John 3:27)! Faith begins when God convinces us that His Word is true, but faith doesn't rest with belief in the contents of the Bible. Biblical faith not only says, 'Lord I believe,' it says, 'Lord I obey.' (Acts 6:7; Romans 1:5). The faith that believes works (1 Thessalonians 1:3). Writing in his 'Preface to Romans' Martin Luther says, *'Faith ... is a divine work in us. It does not ask whether there are good works to do, but before the question rises it has already done them and is always at the doing of them.'* Faith expresses itself intellectually (Hebrews 11:3), verbally (2 Corinthians 4:13), and morally (James 2:14–20). Working through love (Galatians 5:6) faith does the good works God has prepared (Ephesians 2:10). So to 'just believe' is not a trivial call. It is a whole of life trusting in and serving of Jesus.

This is the faith—in Jesus—that we desire and pray, teach and hope—is alive and active in our community.



School Theme Launch (SPH International Lippo Village, 4 September 2014)

Just Believe

By Jonathan Carswell, 2014–2015 School Theme Launch Speaker



On June 30th, 1859 Chevalier Blondin began a daredevil stunt—he walked across a tightrope which was nearly quarter of a mile long, 50 metres above the Niagara Falls! He didn't just do it once, but several times, once pushing a wheelbarrow, another time blindfolded, and even stopping halfway to cook and eat an omelet! The vast crowd looking on were amazed. *Oooohs ... and ahhhh ...* could be heard from them. But Blondin wanted to go further. Shouting to the crowd he said, "Who thinks I can cross this rope, with a person in the wheelbarrow?" Having already seen him do amazing stunts they all shouted, "Yes! You can do it!" Pleased with their response he shouted out once more, "Ok, if you believe I can do it, who will volunteer to get in?" The crowd fell silent. Of all who shouted they believed he could do it, not one would get in, and prove their belief in him.

BELIEF is an important thing—but it isn't something that we can just have in our head and let it have no impact on our life.

Like Blondin's challenge, belief needs to lead to action!

We have loved being at the SPH International campus' in the last couple weeks. It's been such a privilege to get to know some of you, to know your names, the things you like/dislike, to talk with you and of course, to eat your food!

But above all that, we find it amazing that the almighty, Creator, eternal God would want to

come to earth, so that we could know Him! He isn't an unknown, hidden god, but rather the God who was big enough to become small, so that we could know Him.

We've been looking at the message of the whole Bible which is contained in one verse in the Bible—John 3:16: *'For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believe in Him should not perish but have eternal life.'*

The verse tells us that God loves the world—that's you and me! He really does love us.

The trouble is, as we've been learning with the students, is that if we are honest with

what we are really like, we know we aren't like the perfect God. We have done wrong. We've lost our temper, got cross, used bad words and had regrets—the Bible calls this sin, and it affects everyone. When we know who we really are we understand that we aren't who we should be.



Jonathan Carswell

But remembering that God loves us, He proves it, by giving us His only, perfect Son, Jesus.

As we open up the Bible and read God's truth we also see what He has done for us. While we were still rejecting God, doing our own thing, the Bible tells us that God sent His perfect Son Jesus, to be our Saviour. He saw our worst and gave us His best, so that we could be saved from the punishment we deserve. As Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life, He gave His life as the way by which we can be forgiven and brought back to God. We can't work our way back to Him—instead He came to us! And so when we look at what we are, it's even more amazing that God would give His Son as a gift of forgiveness, so that we don't need to perish, but can have everlasting life. But how can we have this?

There is something that each of us needs to do. It's not that we have to try harder, or do better. We could never be good enough for God and our good deeds will never eradicate our wrong. Instead God asks us to believe! The Bible says that 'if we confess with our mouth and believe in our heart this Jesus is our Saviour, we will be saved' from what we deserve. God offers to adopt us back into His family!

The theme for this year we think is very exciting—*Just believe!*—but our belief in God doesn't need to be a blind belief, but instead we can know who God is, who we are, what He has done and what we must do!

This year, don't let belief in Jesus just be something that you do in your head that has no affect on your life, but instead, **believe and let Him transform your whole life!**



Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award Winners Announced

WASHINGTON, D.C. – National History Day (NHD) announced today the teachers selected to receive the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award for their state. The teachers selected have shown outstanding creativity, commitment, and inspiration in developing student interest in history. Each state winner is awarded \$500, and is eligible for the National Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award. Two national winners, announced on June 19, 2014, will receive \$10,000.

JONATHAN STEELY, a teacher at Sekolah Pelita Harapan Lippo Village in Banten, Indonesia was selected as one of two regional winners. "To be perfectly honest I feel rather

undeserving of this award and it is a great honor for me," said Steely. "As a relatively new teacher to the NHD I have been thrilled to see the ways in which it has encouraged my students to engage thoughtfully with history and challenged them both research and think at a higher level. For me as a teacher it has really helped me to grow in my understanding of how to teach history and how to incorporate primary sources into my students' learning. The award is a great honor since I have been thrilled to just be a part of the National History Day competition and to encourage my students to get involved. It is very encouraging to me to keep pushing my students and myself to higher standards."

Middle and high school teachers are nominated by their administrators, peers, or self for the award. Each participating state is allowed to select one high school and one middle school teachers to receive the state award and consideration for the national award.

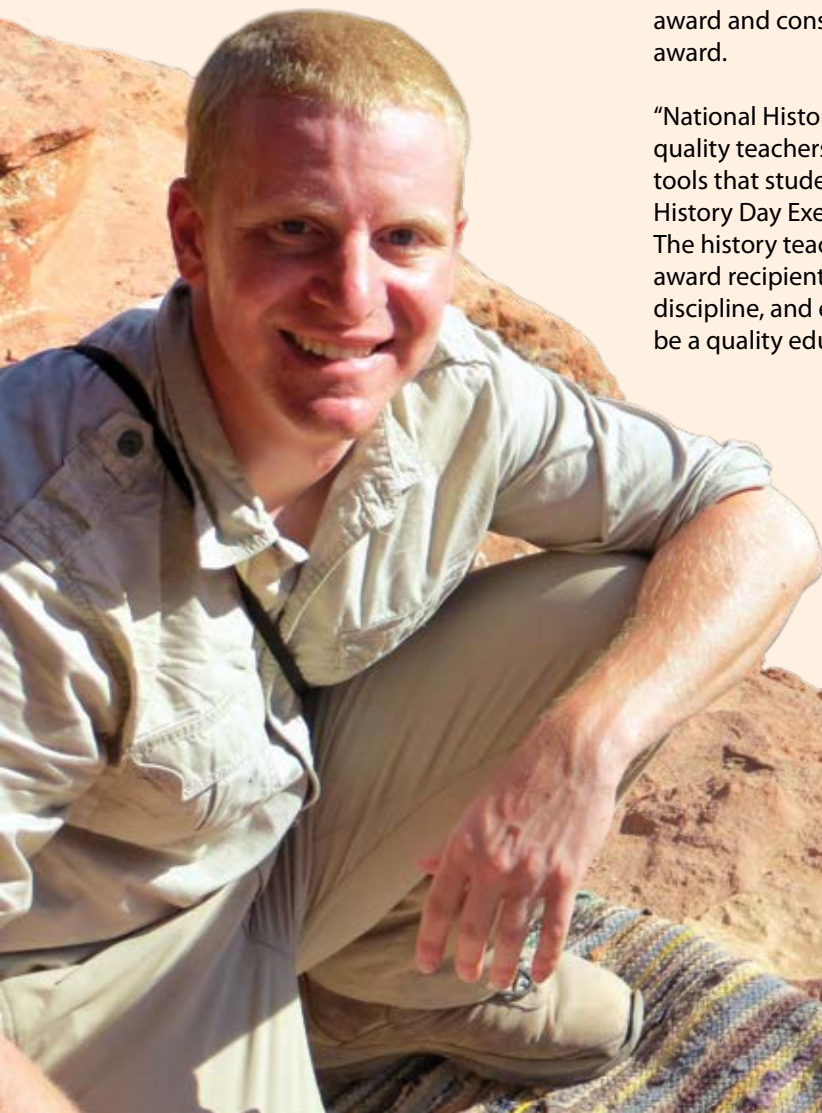
"National History Day firmly believes that quality teachers are the best educational tools that students have," said National History Day Executive Director Cathy Gorn. The history teachers selected as Behring award recipients are a credit to their discipline, and exemplify what it takes to truly be a quality educator."

Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award winners are NHD participating teachers who have demonstrated excellence in the classroom. Their work must clearly illustrate the development and use of creative teaching methods that interest students in history and help them make exciting discoveries about the past, and a commitment to helping students develop their interest in history and recognize their achievements.

NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

NHD is a non-profit education organization based out of College Park, MD. Established in 1974, NHD offers year-long academic programs that

engage over half a million primary and secondary students around the world in conducting original research on historical topics of interest. These research-based projects are entered into local affiliate contests, where the top student projects have the opportunity to advance to the national competition at the University of Maryland at College Park. NHD also seeks to improve the quality of history education by providing professional development opportunities for educators. NHD is sponsored in part by the History Channel, Kenneth E. Behring, Weider History Group, Inc., WEM Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Southwest Airlines. For more information about NHD, visit www.nhd.org.



Jonathan Steely, SPH International Lippo Village Teacher

Seeking Truth: Knowing Ourselves; Knowing Our Learners

By **Debra Buursma**

Calvin College Associate Professor and Learning Disabilities Advisor



On October 2013 SPH school professionals gathered in community to faithfully and honestly seek deeper truth about Christ-centered faithful teaching and learning that celebrates the unique gifts and diverse contributions of all learners. Together, we explored learning, considering teaching practices that would create possibilities for all learners to reflect the light of Christ in our classrooms, communities, and the world.

Professional Learning Communities

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are alive and well at SPH schools. On October 9 and 10, the PLCs at SPH schools deepened their understanding of the diverse ways students learn and what that means for how we as educators teach, especially those students who may learn best with intentionally differentiated instruction. Calvin College professors Debra Paxton-Buursma, Phil Stegink, and Jo-Ann Van Reeuwijk led professional development of over 225 teachers and administrators

from SPH International Christian Schools on the lovely Sentul campus. While SPH International educators engaged in emergent and cutting edge professional development topics recognized internationally by PLCs, the experience on those two days exceeded the literature's expectations of a learning community. Why?; because the Professional Learning Communities at SPH International are "Truth and Light-Centered".

Truth and Light-Centered Professional Learning Communities

The details of the two-day professional development evolved over 9 months; however, the foundational essence envisioned by Head of Schools, Mr Phillip Nash and professional development administrator, Ibu Yen Nie Oh remained constant. When the Calvin College team was contacted, Mr Phillip and Ibu Yen Nie were clear in their desired direction—understanding learners and learning well could not be achieved without a frame of Truth. When truth is sought within a relationship with Triune God where Christ,

our source of light, is at the center of our work, then our lens becomes clearer for understanding all other relationships.

Teaching-learning activity arises from relationships. As Christian teachers, we are in relationship first with God, the author of knowledge, truth and grace. Teaching that reflects vocational call borne out of relationship with triune God, suggests that teachers are not only called to the profession; they are called to pursue Godly, reconciling relationships with the people, practices, and within the places of our learning and living. Thus, we are called to explore, transform, and be transformed through relationships with: (a) God; (b) one another—students, teachers, and staff; (c) the curriculum and teaching choices; and (d) the world—SPH, Indonesia, and the places God calls us. Relationships create a dynamic part of the learning journey for educators and the learner. It is within that dynamic relationship that we can safely seek God's truth.

Teachers are called to consider the complex



variables interacting within relationships between the **people**, **practices**, and **places** of learning. Responses to complex learning variables can either move us toward or away from the flourishing experiences God intends. Our two-day professional development (PD) focused primarily on exploring complexities related to the **people** involved in teaching-learning activity: students and teachers—in relationship to one another. Part of teaching and learning well requires knowing our self and knowing our learners well. Each of us within the learning community brings common and unique personal qualities into the learning. By God's design, we were created and are being shaped so uniquely and in such complementary ways; yet, knowing and honoring that shaping process suggests mystery and requires truth-seeking through knowledge, skills, virtues and tools available in a learning community.

Seeking Truth

Together, the Calvin team, teachers, and administrators pursued truth in knowing learners well and learning more about us in our role as educators who are also learning. We analyzed how truth about God's good gifts in all learners impacts our curricular and pedagogical decisions challenging us to design and implement lessons in ways that increases everyone's potential to flourish in school and life. On Thursday, we began with devotions thanking God for activity within the Christ-centered community. We then explored these big topics through three sessions. First, we were introduced to learning

diversity, learning difference and why we need to know learners well by exploring the story of Peter, a student of unusual gifts and struggles. Second, we sought to understand more about the mind of learners through an introduction to neurodevelopment and related cultural factors that affect student learning. Third, we explored how a framework that helps us know learners better can impact our teaching decisions. Teaching, informed by a deep understanding of the relationship between what tasks demand of learners and the particular gifts and struggles of learners, can become more responsive, offering more intentional flourishing possibilities. We considered these concepts through story, lecture, discussion, and activity.

On Friday, we wanted to bring deeper meaning to the theoretical concepts and build links to classroom practice. After devotions, including sharing an original theme song from Cikarang, we began with a careful look at the role of attention in learning. One interesting issue we discussed was how to help students develop faithful focus in inquiry by learning how to create healthy balance between the role of social media, technology and persistence to deep and sometimes difficult problem-solving. Our second topic explored diverse ways to access and develop critical thinking, especially when students struggle with aspects of language. For our third and final session, a group of 25 teachers explored art-based learning with Professor Jo-Ann while the majority of teachers and administrators discussed and practiced collaborative meetings designed for deepening teachers' understanding of and communication around learners.

Bending the Christ Light

Professional Learning Communities centered on Christ seek truth from the Word and the body of believers. Together, a community celebrates truth and grace through loving accountability. People share knowledge, questions, struggles, and successes. It is the nature of sharing that provides multiple opportunities for deepening understandings and safety in trying out new learning. Ultimately, a PLC seeking truth and rooted in Christ works to bend light toward others—a gift we share together.



Developing Discernment through Music

By Tracy Radbone, Ministering Arts Coordinator

"God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there. There is no such thing." C. S. Lewis

AS we embark on our new academic year, with new classes, colleagues and perhaps curriculum, we have the opportunity to understand and to apply our vision and mission statements in a deeper way to our School life. The theme of "Just Believe" should permeate all aspects of our School and, for us in the MA Department, we are seeking to find connections with this theme. The teaching of Music, for example, gives us occasion to bring this theme into our classroom and to help students to engage with their beliefs and the music to which they listen in a constructive way. Thus, in encouraging students to develop their discernment, we invite students to apply this thinking to other areas of their lives.

Firstly, discernment in song lyrics. As we know, many belief systems bombard us constantly, and even more so our children, through a variety of media. Take, for example, the issue of happiness. These are just some of the ways in which happiness is said to be achieved. Charles M. Schulz said that "happiness is a warm puppy" while Audrey Hepburn advised that "the most important thing is to enjoy your life—to be happy—it's all that matters". Even Dr Seuss tells us, "Don't cry because it's over; smile because it happened."¹ Finally, Dorothy (in *Wizard of Oz*) is counselled by Glinda on achieving her heart's desire, to go home to Kansas, and is told she "always had the power to go back to Kansas ... she had to learn it for herself". Dorothy finally concludes, "If I ever go looking for my heart's desire again, I won't look any further than my own back yard. Because if it isn't there, I never really lost it to begin with."² Some truly interesting, perhaps puzzling, views of gaining happiness and our heart's desire.



Children (and their parents) seek to carve out a pathway for their lives (hopefully in the light of God's truth) and are faced with many beliefs on what makes us happy, why we should feel happy and how to achieve happiness. I have heard parents say that they just want their children to be happy, so it is obviously an important commodity in our lives. In a world which says that money can buy happiness, that it should be paramount in our choices, and that this is a goal for many, we need to teach students, through Music in this case, to consider deeper messages and not just to swallow a superficial diet of selfishness.

The currently popular song "Happy" (by Pharrell Williams) has a chorus which presents one such outlook for the listener to explore:

Because I'm happy

Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof ...

Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth ...

Clap along if you know what happiness is to you ...

Clap along if you feel like that's what you wanna do³

This song came up in a Senior School music class, as we compared two pieces of music from different musical eras which were related to the emotion of happiness—this and "Ode to Joy" by Beethoven. There were many points of comparison in musical elements worth exploring and this led to discussion on some of the implications of the lyrics. Some students were willing to question whether happiness is linked with truth, while



¹ <http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/1173-don-t-cry-because-it-s-over-smile-because-it-happened> accessed 19-09-14

² http://sfy.ru/?script=wizard_of_oz_1939 accessed 19-09-14

³ <http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/pharrellwilliams/happy.html> accessed 18-09-14



others were 'happy' to leave it and to move on. It is still worth asking students to consider the implications of lyrics, appropriate to their age and interest levels.

Secondly, discernment in understanding the impact of music. As well as considering the message of music, students need to be better equipped to discern ways in which music can have a positive or negative impact upon our emotions and spirits. Some songs are simply not uplifting while others can bring the listener to a new understanding and inspiration. While this can be to do with the lyrics, there are also other elements of music which we can explore. It can be a matter of personal taste but, a time in class to explore such issues, can help people to understand one another's thoughts. For example the Grade 8's in Classroom Music have considered "Moody Blues or Blue Skies" as a term topic. Historically, blues music had roots linked with the slave trade of African people who found themselves relocated against their will to the USA and to other countries. The blues style looks on the side of life which sees loss and hardship; this tone is reflected in the scales, chords, format and singing style employed, while other kinds of music can lift up through the shape of the melody, the key used, dynamics, the instrumentation and the structure of the song. Considering the psychological impact of music upon people can give students an insight into human nature, as well as the power of creativity.

Finally, discernment can be applied to discussion related to worship music, as many of our students who are gifted in music are involved in worship teams in their churches. While music in worship is ever changing, according to styles of the day, key worship leaders and the attitudes of the Church towards the place of music and worship in the service, some things stay the same. From the Council of Trent in 1545–1563 (a very long committee meeting!) we find that the Catholic church was concerned about the infiltration of melodies and other elements from the secular world into the sacred music of the Mass.⁴ Additionally, some musical techniques, such as polyphony, were obscuring the purity of the words. For some, there are similar issues today and, indeed, an area for discussion in our classes, as we study music through the ages and apply ideas to contemporary worship music and the current issues arising.

Students can understand the influence of music in the church as well as in the secular world; additionally, the separation of sacred and secular lives (a dualist worldview) can be explored and challenged through Music. When one defines worship beyond music and singing, in the light of Romans 12 (to "offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship"⁵), we can discuss the fact that all we do in our lives can be an act of worship and thanksgiving to Him.

So, where does this leave us as Music teachers and teachers of other equally vital subject areas? How can we apply the theme of "Just Believe" to our teaching and learning, whilst encouraging students to develop critical thinking which will stand them in good stead for their lives? Is it worth spending time on such discussions when there is a large portion of content to work through, particularly in Senior School subjects?

My answer is that it is worth it, that we do need to consider the beliefs of our students and the ways in which society seeks to impact them, whether or not they are aware of it. In recent student chapels, the message to the students has been to do "hard things". Perhaps this message is also relevant to us as teachers. It causes fewer ripples to allow the

beliefs of our society to influence our student population, especially when it is subtle. Often we will feel we are swimming against the current in drawing students' attention, in a constructive manner, to opportunities to discern such areas as the music to which they listen. It may be a 'hard thing' for us to move beyond our goals of covering content to discern the clash of cultures—God's culture versus the culture of this world.

Ultimately, if we can present thoughts and questions to cause students to ponder the importance of discernment and the development of such thinking skills, we will have added a vital facet to our teaching and their learning. We will move beyond the text book and will help students to engage with their world in a redemptive way, to see beliefs and worldviews as intricately involved in all subject areas. The more we can open up discussion within the safety of our classrooms, the more students can think critically about their beliefs, those of others and the ways in which they can understand and respect, yet challenge when they feel to do so, beliefs which seem inconsistent. Perhaps we will even come to the point where Charles. M Spurgeon's comment may challenge us: "*Discernment is not a matter of simply telling the difference between right and wrong; rather it is telling the difference between right and almost right*"⁶. Out of that, hopefully, we will grow and learn together as we address the theme of "Just Believe" in ways which may not have been expected.



⁴ K. Forney and J. Machlis – *The enjoyment of Music* – 11th edition (Shorter version) – Norton and company NY and London, p 93

⁵ Romans 12:1 NIV translation

⁶ <http://christian-quotes.ochristian.com/Charles-Spurgeon-Quotes/page-8.shtml>



Science Experiment (30 September 2014)



University Fair (1 October 2014)



Student Election (2 October 2014)



Bulan bahasa (7 October 2014)



Senior School Athletic Day (8 October 2014)



Children of The King (19 October 2014)





Summer Program (23 June - 4 July 2014)



First Day of School (5 August 2014)



Welcoming New Students & Parents (8 August 2014)



Latihan Dasar Kepemimpinan (14-15 August 2014)



Junior School Flag Ceremony & Independence Day Celebration (20 August 2014)



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING STUDENT

"From Him and Through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever" (Romans 11 : 36)

Our Graduates are now proceeding to prestigious universities worldwide. We commend them for having diligently used their God given We pray that they will be responsive disciples of Jesus Christ as Future Leaders of Indonesia and world citizens of tomorrow.



USA



Clarissa Stella Paimanta
Nutrition
University of California, Berkeley



Audrey Setiadarma
History
Boston College



Matthew Salim
Philosophy & Arts
Carnegie Mellon University



Abigail Alexandra Latip
Interdisciplinary Studies
Wheaton College, Illinois



Cindy Mare
Business Administration
University of Alabama



Matthew Jeremy
Engineering
Pennsylvania State University, University Park



Patrick Sulaiman
Chemical Engineering
University of Minnesota



John Samuel Uguy
Mechanical Engineering
University of Wisconsin - Madison



Arnanto Januri
Finance
University of Richmond



Ama Chri
Business Administration
Babson University



Errando Berwin Jayapurna
Biochemistry
Worcester Polytechnic Institute



Pepita Salim
Music (Voice)
New England Conservatory of Music



Sharlene Yulita
Interior Architecture
School of The Art Institute of Chicago



Won Hyoung Choi
Illustration
Fashion Institute of Technology

OTHER GRADUATING STUDENTS :

LIPPO VILLAGE : FREDRIC AGUSTINA, ADINDA ALITA, TIMOTHY ANDREAS, ANDREW, RAINA ANGDIAS, LYDIA ANGELINA, DAVID ASMADI, CAITLIN BAHARI, JOSEPHINE BOENAWAN, NATHANIA PUTRI BUDIDJAJA, NATASYA ELENA CAHYADI, TARA NADYA CALISTA, KEVIN CHAIRIL, FELICIA HUI XIA CHONG, YOSEPH CHRISTIAN, MARCEL CHRISTIANIS, VALERIE CHRISTINA, HEE UK CHUN, HEE JIN CHUNG, CINDY ALYSHA ABIGAIL COLONDAM, ABRAHAM CUANTO, ANDREW DANIEL, CHelsea EMANUELLA, SHANNON MARCELLA EVANGELINA, HADDON JOHN FENELL, LEVANA ABIGAIL FERNADI, ANTONIO BENJAMIN HANDOJO, DESMEN HARTONO, JESSICA HUTAMA, THOMAS SHOHEI ISHIKAWA, FABIOLLA JAUWANTO, MATTHEW JEREMY, ALBERT RAY JONATHAN, ASHLEY FIDELIA JUANA, ROBERTIO DANIEL KAMAL, ALICIA JOSEPHINE KOROMPIS, IRINA KRYSSELLA, JACQUELINE JOSEPHINE KURNIA, CAROL NATASHA TAMARA KUSWANTO, KAITLIN KWIECIEN, STEPHAN LAYANTO, BRIAN SEBASTIAN LEE, JI HYUN LEE, SUE MAE LEE, CHRISTIE LYDIAN LEONARDI, CHRISTOPHER LIANGGARA, JOSHUA ANDERSON LIONG, DAVID SHALOM LIU, SHAKA LOHARDJO, ANDREAS LOKITO, IRENE MAGDALENA, ENRIKO MAKNAWI, RACHEL MELISA, JESSICA AGUSTINE MINARNO, IRWIN PANGURIPAN, HAN NA PARK, PETER PRANATA, KENNETH ANDERSON PRIBADI, HANNA ARIMBI PRIMANA, CAROLE CECILIA PURWANTO, ANDRE CHRISTOPHER RASILIM, CARMELO ALFREDO REGALADO, THIRSYA PUTRI RIJANTO, EZRA PUTRA SANI, JOUNGHO SEO, JESSICA EVANGELINE SETIAWAN, BRYAN SILFANUS, WILLIAM SINANTA, MARC ANTHONY SOEDIBJO, KEZIA STEPHANIE, ANDARI WINNIE SUHERLAN, CYNTHIA SUMADI, THERESIA SUSANTO, GLORIA ELIZABETH TALBOT, THOMSON GUNARDI TEGUH, JULIAN TIRTADJAJA, WILLIAM TSAI, ALEXANDER JOHN WELIRANG, MATTHEW TRISTRAM WHITE, DARREL WIJAYA, FREDERICK HARRISON WIJAYA, ALEXANDRA KINETA WIRAHARDJA, GIDEON SETIAWAN TJAHJONO YUWONO

SENTUL CITY : AARON ARYANTO SUTARTO, ALDINO ALKUN MULIAWIJAYA, ANGELA ADINDA PERKASA, CAROLINE, JOSHUA KENNEDY PURWANTO, DANIEL FEGA JULIANSHA PINAKUNARY, EKO SURYO SANTOSO, ELIZABETH VICTORIA F. RITONGA, EUGENE PRASIDHA, CHANDRIKA VANIASARI, KARUNIA SAMARA SILITONGA, LARISSA WELLA, MARIA ERIKA HAPSARI, MARIA JESSICA, SIMRAN, TANNIA AUDRY SUTANTO, DIMAS KUSUMOJATI, TIMOTHY ALEXANDER, ADRIAN RANDY SATRIA NUGRAHA, ALICIA STEFANI LESMANA, ALLAN GRAHAM PANGARIBUAN, CLEO MARGOT GOOSSENS, DEDI RAHMAN, GIOVANNI AGRIPPINA, JESSI LEDWIN LEBE, CATTLEYA TRI NUGRAHANINGRUM, KURNIA SALIM, KYNAN EKASURA MERGANA BANGUN, LEVINA LASMANA, NADIA MARIA PANTOW, JULIUS ANGKAWIJOYO, PINIA CHANDRA, RICHIE WINARDY, SAFIRA RAMADITA NUGROHO, VALENCIA BESTINA WAISMAN

LIPPO CIKARANG : CODY ISAIAH MCCLENDON, IRENE HARTONO, KIM GI YEOP, MARCONIO SUN, PARK SO JIN, PARK SEUNG WOOK, YOHANNA PETER, ELIZABETH YONATHAN

KEMANG VILLAGE : ALVIN NATHANAEL HALIMWIJAYA, ALVIN WAHYUDI, ARTEM MOSKALEV, DISMAS ALVIN MIKHAEL WIJAYA, FREDERICK NATHANIEL, HEYEON SEOK CHEONG (JACK), HYUNG CHUL KIM (JASON), JI MIN AN, JI SOO PARK, JOSUA KRISTIAN HANDOKO, KUSUMA SRI WISUNU PUTERI, MOHAMMAD ILYASA ADRIELLE NOVA, NA YEON PARK, RARA-SATI LUBBE BAKKER, SYAFI DJOHAN, THALIA, TIMOTHY SITUMEANG, VANIA FLORENCIA ALBERTA, WILBERT DUDON TRISTODIANTO TJANG, WILLIAM TJAJADI

S 2014

talents and abilities.



ASIA

Olivia
tha Ng
Business
University of Texas,
Austin



**Vania Devina
Budiutami**
Creative Writing
University of
Southern California



**Natasha Aslan
Tenggoro**
Commerce
University of Toronto,
Mississauga



**Gabriella
Fidelia**
Business with Enterprise
University of
Edinburgh



**Fernando
Guntoro**
Virology & Immunology
University of Bristol



Yu Hee Jung
Accounting Finance
The University
of Hongkong

anda
santy
Administration
College



**Tarishka Azzahra
Stamboel**
Finance
University of
California, Davis



**Samuel Eldon
Tjandrawinata**
Commerce
University of
British Columbia



Joey Junarta
Medicine (MBBS)
St. George's,
University of London



Yoon Seo Park
Veterinary
Seoul National
University



**Christina
Claudia**
Psychology
Covenant College



**Evan Goldwin
Widjaja**
Mathematics/
Financial Analysis
University of Waterloo



Jasmine Tjoeng
Law
King's College
London



Khrisnawidya
Mechanical Engineering
University of
Melbourne

OTHER UNIVERSITIES THAT HAVE ACCEPTED OUR GRADUATES :

USA & CANADA: THE PEABODY INSTITUTE OF JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - LOS ANGELES, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN - ANN ARBOR, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY, LAFAYETTE COLLEGE, ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY, MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC, BENTLEY UNIVERSITY, CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS - URBANA-CHAMPAIGN, BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, BATES COLLEGE, BOSTON UNIVERSITY, COLBY COLLEGE, COLGATE UNIVERSITY, INDIANA UNIVERSITY - BLOOMINGTON, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK, PACE UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK CITY, UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - IRVINE, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII - MANOA, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, BIOLA UNIVERSITY, BOSTON UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - RIVERSIDE, BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC, CALVIN COLLEGE, NORTHWEST UNIVERSITY, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY, WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE, NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, OUCHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY - BUFFALO THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, BOSTON, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY, CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY, TRINITY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, DORDT COLLEGE, CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA - LINCOLN, SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY, PURDUE UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO, BAYLOR UNIVERSITY, SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY, PARSONS THE NEW SCHOOL FOR DESIGN, SCHOOL OF VISUAL ART - NEW YORK, TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY. **CANADA:** MCGILL UNIVERSITY, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY, MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY, REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. **AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND:** SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, ROYAL MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF NSW. **UK:** UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER, CITY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, UNIVERSITY OF EXETER, QUEENS UNIVERSITY-BELFAST, UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD, KINGSTON UNIVERSITY. **EUROPE:** IE UNIVERSITY, GRONINGEN UNIVERSITY. **ASIA:** HONGKONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG, UNIVERSITAS ATMAJAYA, UNIVERSITAS GADJAH MADA

ASSOCIATED WITH :



True Knowledge | Faith in Christ | Godly Character



Senior School Breakfast (6 June 2014)



Senior School Graduation (6 June 2014)



Junior School Graduation (11 June 2014)



Flag Salute and Senior School Independence Day Celebration (18 August 2014)



Senior School Leadership Camp – Cikole, Lembang, West Java (22–24 August 2014)





Independence Day (21 August 2014)



Sports Day (4-5 September 2014)



Math Week (22-26 September 2014)



Fall Concert (30 September & 2 October 2014)





By **Alexis Hughes**
SPH International Pluit Village Lead Teacher

Living Beyond Belief

What it takes to raise a school

There is an African proverb which says, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Never have these words rung more loudly in my head and heart. However, it’s not in the context of raising a child that I think of this proverb as you might expect coming from an educator of SPH International. But rather in the context of raising a new school community!

As a member of the teaching community at Lippo Village (on and off) for 14 years, I have been able to witness the changing environment of the Lippo Village school—physical, academic and spiritual. I grew to love the community to which I belonged. However, with a recent relocation to Pluit, I have been reminded that it’s not just a community in which I have been called to live and work, but also it’s a family ... a village, if you will! And without connection to/interaction with the village, we’re not living as God intended his people to live.

As usual, the school theme has an impactful message to us within the community. This is expected as the themes are always based around what we believe (The Vision) and how we live (The Mission) that which God has called us to do within our schools. In James 2:14–26, God speaks to his followers to remind them that faith and action go hand in hand. He also says in John 13:35 that His people would be known as disciples by the love shown to one another. Belief in Christ changes us, makes us new, and causes us to act in a way which goes against our old nature and to LOVE others is a demonstration of our belief. This year, I have experienced such love in action whilst working alongside many to begin the Pluit Village campus.

As this is not the final campus to be planned and developed, it’s important to share how

the SPH International big family has lived ‘beyond belief’ in making this site a reality. Throughout the months leading up to the start of this campus and even in the month and a half since our opening, it’s been clear ... this campus would not have come to existence without the “Village”. As such it’s important to begin saying THANKS to all who’ve made the vision of this campus to become a reality;

- To Bapak James Riady, Mr Phillip, Ibu Aileen and the Yayasan Board for your continued vision for transformative, holistic education in our schools and for the ways you model living beyond belief.
- To the builders and designers for providing us with an AMAZING transitional facility.
- To the Pluit Village Mall management team for giving us space and for looking for ways to help us and make our presence known.
- To Mr Gregg Faddegan whose planning, mentoring, support and continued input in our Pluit team is invaluable!
- To the parents of SPH International Pluit Village who’ve entrusted us with partnering with you in the education of your children and have extended such grace and patience to us—even whilst in our transitional campus.
- To the Heads of Schools Leadership team for guiding and supporting us in every way and for the thought and care which goes into the development of our school’s working out of the Vision and Mission.
- To the teachers and staff of SPH International Pluit Village who’ve answered the call to become pioneers here in North Jakarta—whether relocating from SPH Pluit Kindergarten, SPH International Sentul City, SPH International Kemang Village or SPH International Lippo Village or whether joining from Jakarta and overseas.
- To the staff of SPH International Lippo Village, Lippo Cikarang, Sentul City and Kemang Village who’ve passed along advice, shared documents and resources

and have helped us (and continue to help us) with our ordering, our services, our building, our resources, our advertising, our admissions, our teacher housing, our computer systems ... basically everything!

- To Ibu Daisy, Dr Brenda and the teachers of SPH International Kemang Village who have gone above and beyond to partner with us and help us understand, set up and implement all things Cambridge!
- To the teachers of SPH International Lippo Village, Lippo Cikarang, Sentul City and Kemang Village who have shared resources, ideas and materials with us.
- To the parents, students, administration and staff of SPH International Lippo Village, Sentul City and Kemang Village who have released and gifted the Pluit Village campus with teachers and staff from your campuses.
- To all whom have faithfully prayed for and supported the growth of this school (and whom will continue to do so!)

And although these few words of gratitude won’t ever be enough to convey the THANKS we feel, our gratefulness runs deep. It is such a privilege to work in this big SPH family! And although I personally have grown so much as a professional over the 14+ years here, I have been humbled and challenged to live beyond belief and to continue to act as a ‘VILLAGE’ in the planting of schools throughout Indonesia!





By **Amanda Elliott**
SPH International Pluit Village Teacher

Just Believe – A Proposition, a Plan, and a Promise

It's interesting what can happen in a year. Some years we find ourselves doing pretty much the same thing we did the year before and even the year before that. But sometimes God has a surprise in store for us when we least expect it, and as it goes with surprises, you don't see it coming. 2014 has been just that sort of a year for me. It has been one full of surprises and change.

LAST year was my second year of teaching at SPH International Lippo Village. I was settling into my role as a grade one PYP teacher and feeling much more confident in what I was doing, as well as home in my new environment. In December, I signed another one year contract expecting to continue in the same role the following year. I had no idea what was just around the corner.



The **PROPOSITION** came about January of 2014 a colleague and good friend of mine told me she was asked to join the team that was starting an SPH school in Pluit. I

had heard that SPH International was going to expand the Kindergarten in Pluit and needed teachers to be a part of this project, but had not really even given transferring a thought until my friend asked if I wanted to come with her. My usual response would have been to answer her no straight away, but something began stirring in my heart. As I prayed and thought about and sought counsel from trusted mentors, I could feel quite quickly that this was the new path that God was leading me towards. I accepted the call and asked the administration if I could

transfer to teach in Pluit.

The first trip to see our new school was a visionary trip. We didn't yet know that our school theme for this year would be "Just Believe." But it would have been a very appropriate statement for Mr Phillip to use when he showed us around what was then the fourth floor of the Matahari Department store. It was a bit hard to envision a school at time, that but we were given a general rundown of the **PLAN** for how things would be.

Over the next few months things began to come together. Teachers were hired, construction was done, and prayers were said. We had a hope of a new start and a **PROMISE** of something that was to come.

When I returned in July, there it was, our new school! No longer were there any sights of camping supplies and suitcases, but a full blown school with furniture, teachers, and textbooks. Nervous anticipation filled the air.

On July 25, we opened our doors to our new family. Parents and students were able to see the "almost" finished product, meet teachers, and get ready for the big first day of school. As often happens at the beginning of a new school year, twenty two first graders walked through the doors of my classroom and stole my heart. They were eager to learn and excited to be in their new school. I even heard one of my grade one students say, "Pluit Village is the best mall!"

The start to the year has not been without challenges. As we begin there are still many unknowns, many materials that have yet to arrive, and much

work to be done. But with those challenges have come great blessing. We have been very blessed to start this year with around 100 students. They fill the classrooms and hallways with joy, laughter and energy everyday. They are eager to learn and are supported at home with parents who are committed and caring. We now can see the product that did not exist a year ago. SPH International Pluit Village is a reality. It is here. I am resting confidently in the fact that God brought us here for a reason. He has begun this good work and we can be confident that he will carry it through until completion.

My challenge to you, reader, is to "Just Believe" in God's purposes and his good plans for your life. If you have a "normal" year, savor the goodness of the season that God has in your life, cherish the familiarity and stability that ordinary years bring. If you are in a year of big changes and new adventures, hang on tight to God's hand and with each up and down, twist and turn ask God for a teachable heart to show you what he has for you to learn in the midst of the changes. And no matter what kind of season you find yourself in, be ready, because God may have a big surprise, a new adventure, or a twist you least expect right around the corner.



Amanda, Laura, Alexis

Growing Together

The Student Council is a student-run organisation that aims to create better and more holistic experiences for all Senior School students. Our Student Council aims to do its best in facilitating for student life in school and sometimes outside of school. A President is elected to run for a year and will form an Executive Team as well as a certain number of committees, appointing Committee Leaders to lead each committee.

The current **Vision** of the Student Council SPH International Lippo Village, set by the President (Marcel Satria) and Vice-President (Christian Lawrence) is: *We envision students, who can grow and mature, through involvement in better student experiences, into godly and influential individuals.*

The current **Mission** of the Student Council, the way in which we will fulfil the vision, is to:

- *Provide opportunities for student growth and development*
- *Stimulate a sense of belonging in the school community*
- *Foster love and concern for God and for others*

In executing and hopefully fulfilling the vision and mission we have 9 committees that facilitate for different aspects of student life. These are, in alphabetical order:

1. Arts and Academics Committee
2. Deeper Committee
3. Fundraising Committee
4. Media Committee
5. Motley Committee
6. Social Outreach Committee
7. Sports Committee
8. Support Committee
9. Yearbook Committee

Many students are involved in serving in the Student Council but it is also worthy note that the Student Council ultimately aims to facilitate for all students. Involvement also comes in participation in the myriad of events we hold and not only in membership.

Some of our most recent events:

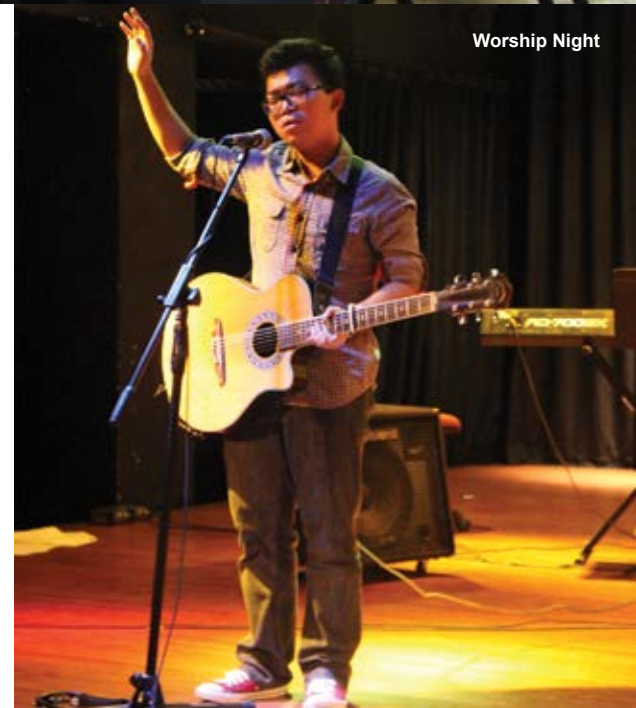
- The Student Council has actively helped new students over the years in Orientation Day but this year we also held a *Welcoming Lunch for all New*



Welcoming Lunch for all New Students

Students on Friday 8 August. This was a way for students to relate to and get advice from students as well as to check on how new students were doing in their first week.

- We've also had our first *Worship Night* on Friday 5 September where we emphasized the theme of starting strong in the school year ahead, keeping in mind the importance of our faith in everything we do.
- Another exciting event was the *Dodgeball Tournament* held from 11 to 16 September during lunch times where students formed a team to compete in the fun game of dodgeball.
- *Battle of the Bands* was an entertaining event that was held on 18–19 and 25–26



Worship Night



D-Day (Different Day)



September. In this competition, students formed a band and performed against each other during lunchtimes.

- *Movie Night* was a fun night afterschool in which students from different grades came together and watched a movie. On Friday 19 September, we watched Mrs. Doubtfire in honour of Robin Williams.
- *D-Day*, short for Different Day, was held on 24 September and it was a day when student could dress up with different accessories (ties, hats, shoes) on top of their regular uniform.
- *Support Staff Appreciation Day* is an annual event held to show appreciation from students to all the support staff (janitors, security guards, office boys) that help keep the school run smoothly. This year it was held on 24 September and included student performances, lunch, and fun bonding activities between students and support staff.

A little more about Worship Night ...

The theme of our first Worship Night of the year was *Start Strong, Finish Stronger*. We know that a strong start means that we must put all our efforts into perspective and so we acknowledge the importance of dedicating the start of our year to God. We were glad to see so many students come out and participate in our first Worship Night. A few seniors also gave testimonies about their lives and suggested ways in which students can start strong this year. Students

shared their difficulties in balancing our rigorous academics with their own journey in faith and devotional study of the Bible. Testimonies shared the importance of doing daily devotionals, keeping everything in perspective, recognising God's will in our lives, and trusting His plan.

Besides all these events, the Student Council also does monthly E-News videos to keep the student body informed about the events going on in school and these are uploaded on our *YouTube* account. *Facebook*, *Twitter*, and *Instagram* are also social networks the Student Council actively uses to keep the student body informed. We encourage students to follow or like us @SPHEagles

and stay informed. We also have a physical calendar on the Student Council board that is synced with our online student newspaper, *VOICE's*, calendar.

All in all, we have an exciting, vibrant and dynamic year ahead filled with events and programmes to facilitate our vision and mission as a Student Council. We work hard to serve our community. The events, programmes, social networks are ultimately for the students and we hope students can get more involved in the activities we facilitate so students can mature as caring individuals in our school community. There's a lot to look forward to and students should definitely not miss any of it!



Worship Night



MORE than anything, my biggest “dream” for my children is that they are courageous. I dream that they will have the courage to be imperfect. *“How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God.”* Hebrews 9:14

I dream that they will be authentic and have the courage to be the person that God made them to be, rather than the person that others want them to be. *“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”* 2 Corinthians 10:5

I dream that they will have the courage to embrace their uniqueness and to believe that God created them with specific strengths to be used for a specific purpose. *“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”* 1 Peter 4:10

I also dream that they will have children who adore me and live in a house full of laughter, puppies and loyal friends. Mostly, however, I dream and pray that they love, seek and find joy in Jesus every day of their lives.

By **Mrs Brooke Olsen Roush**

Mother of Sam (Grade 5), Molly (Grade 3) and Annie (K3)
SPH International Lippo Village



WE arrived at SPH more than ten years ago with our daughter, Rhea, who was then in Grade 1. I had heard of SPH but had never thought I would consider it as a place to school my child as I had placed her in a school from the country of our origin. However, after being disappointed by the education there, we were led to SPH by friends who told us it was a place of care and compassion.

SPH was then starting off as a true international school and had just started to implement the PYP and IB standards. None of this mattered to me more than finding caring and warm teachers. The first three to four years saw quite a few problems as national

teachers learnt to deal with an international curriculum and very often I found myself being critical of them rather than supportive. (Unfortunately I only realized this when I reflected upon those past years). However, despite my sometimes unreasonable expectations, the teachers were always gracious and forgiving and it was these traits of theirs that began to first touch my heart. As PD got into full swing and regular training sessions took place for the teachers I witnessed a growth in the school’s standards that truly brought joy and cheer to the lives of the students and parents.

As my child settled down I was drawn to the many Christian aspects of the school. Whether it was the yearly theme, the opening and closing prayers, the worship songs or just giving thanks to God I realized that this was no ordinary place. This was a blessed and unique school where God came first and His Holy Book was the guide. There were teachers who worked selflessly, who you could tell dealt with all issues only from a point of love and care and who knew every child was special. I realized that they believed

everyone was created by God and this put things into a whole new perspective.

By this time my child was singing gospel songs at home and sharing stories about God with me. It didn’t take long for God to touch my heart and open it to the truth about His Son, Jesus Christ. What once seemed offensive: that there exists only one true God, became the foundation of my life. My daughter followed suit as God touched her heart too. With Bible studies, devotions, chapel times and teachers who lived their lives based on this truth my child grew strong in her faith. For us it has been a most wonderful journey.

The last eleven years in SPH have been about God and what He has done in our lives through this school. With our future secure in His hands, we thank God for SPH and we thank SPH for showing us God. This is truly our second home.

By **Mrs Sunitha Girish**

Mother of Rhea Girish (Grade 12)
SPH International Lippo Cikarang

QUE Sera, Sera ... whatever will be, will be These are the lyrics of a song written in 1956 and sung all over the world. If I was there when Jay Livingston and Ray Evans were composing it I would have asked them, 'Why would it be just 'whatever', and not 'whatever God purposes'. *Que Sera, Sera ... whatever God purposes will be, will be*

Abram received a promise from God that he would become the father of all nations. Joseph dreamt that all his eleven brothers and parents would one day bow down to him. David received God's anointing and promise that he would become a king of the Israelites.

I believe these Bible heroes are not just a few handful to whom God has given a big dream or purpose. These Bible heroes became heroes because they believed in God's promise and dream, and then they obeyed, although the circumstances were not leading to that promise at that time, and they were not fulfilled instantly.

I am a mother of three. Rachel is seven years old, Daniel is two and a half, while Joseph is one and a half. When I was pregnant with Rachel, I asked God what was His purpose for the child in my womb. And He revealed it to me. Rachel has been different since the day she was born. She is exactly like her name, and adults who dialogued with her were always so impressed with the conversations they had with her. She has been able to hold long conversations with any adult since the age of three.

With my sons, it was different. Two months before

we conceived our second child, God impressed upon me to write a poem of proclamation, that God would bless me with twin boys; one named Daniel and the other, Joseph. A year later, Daniel was born. When Daniel was four months old, we found out we were pregnant again. We did not expect a third child but we were happy to receive another blessing from God.

Exactly a year after Daniel was born, Joseph entered the world. When Joseph turned one, I came across my poem about having twin boys from God. I had totally forgotten about it. Husband David did not know about my poem and when we both read it, we felt God's amazing presence and love. We know God has big dreams and purpose for all our children and we as parents need to seek God for the dream and purpose, so that we can teach our children to live in obedience to His word, so that one day His dream and purpose will come to pass.

So if you ask me, should I dream big dreams for my children? My answer is, I should not, because I want to discover God's dream and purpose for my children. Are those big dreams? Yes, they will be impossibly big, but as we all know, nothing is impossible for God.

Jeremiah 29:11—*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

By **Julia Tjokrorahardjo**
Mother of Rachel (Grade 2)
SPH International Lippo Village



"Don't be afraid, just believe"

Mark 5:36

What's in your backpack? That backpack that you bring to school every day; feel the weight that's cutting down on your shoulder. Now imagine this world is coming to an end and you can only take a backpack full of your belongings with you. What things would you take?

WHAT you would take will be influenced by your experience, parents, friends, and teachers. In a few months when you receive an IB Diploma, you will be starting a new page in your life, venturing into the world of the unknowns. While there will be lots of challenges, I firmly believe that you are all well equipped to conquer. The education I received from SPH eight years ago prepared me to become who I am today.

Class of 2014, you are receiving that same high standard of education if not better and it would not happen if it wasn't for the teachers. There is a wide range of schools to choose from in Greater Jakarta, but there is one difference that makes Pelita Harapan unique. While teaching is a profession, teachers in SPH Lippo Cikarang take it not as a job, but rather a passion. A job is a self-repeating routine that requires minimal level of engagement. Teachers in SPH, on the other hand, spend their eight hours a day in school to collaborate with students and help them find their potential. Class of 2014, you are very fortunate to have the opportunity to interact with these great people in SPH.

The transition from high school to college life might look a lot like stepping out from a bubble or your comfort zone. There are three points I want to share, which hopefully will help you navigate and move forward in this new territory. I call it the 3P principles: Proactive, Priority, and Provider.

First of all, God called His children to be the salt and light of the world (Matthew 5:13). We are instructed by our Father to become leaders and implement Godly values in our leadership. You should not stay by the sideline, instead be proactive in seeking leadership roles. Don't wait

for opportunities, rather create opportunities. Secondly, you should know and align your priorities well. Once you enter college, you will encounter a lot of people and practices, where the values might differ greatly from what the Bible teaches. Make sure you always put God first. Lastly, serve others in every way possible. Be a provider, instead of a receiver. You will gain much more personally when you share what you have with other people. God has provided us with abundance; do not hold yourself back from sharing with others.

Believing in the power of God is reflected by having faith in our decisions and conduct. Matthew 17:20 says, *"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."* Our flesh and mind, however, tends to act otherwise. Most people rely on their own strength and often take conservative decisions that will keep them within their comfort zone.

As followers of Christ, we have to realize that there is a greater power (His name is Jesus!) within us that facilitates growth and makes us achieve greater things in life. All it takes is the willingness to step out, set new personal challenges and combine our faith with concrete actions.

Having worked in business for almost four years after graduating from college, I felt my life had reached a plateau. I was doing routine things every day; commuting to the office and hanging out with friends at the weekend—I was not growing! In the early months of 2013, I made the decision that I wanted to get my MBA (Masters in Business Administration). An MBA would allow me to broaden my perspectives and develop my career. I applied to two highly recommended MBA programs in the US, hoping that I would get accepted. The applications required rigorous preparation, which involved multiple essays, recommendation letters, standardized test results and an interview.

Reflecting on my slightly-below-average test scores and limited professional experience, I felt it was a stretch to apply to these prestigious schools. However, I held onto my faith and believed that God would lead the

way (Jeremiah 29:11, Philippians 4:13). On one gloomy afternoon in March, I was on my way home from work when I received a phone call from my first choice school telling me that I had been offered a seat in the program. The next day, I received another call from the other school giving me another good news of acceptance. God didn't give me one but two schools to choose from. I am very thankful that He gave me the opportunity to be one of the twelve percent of applicants accepted in the Kellogg School of Management MBA program despite my average credentials. Time and time again, I am amazed at the abundance God provided when I believed in Him steering me through this chaotic world.

Profile

ANDRY LESMANA graduated from SPH Lippo Cikarang in 2006. He gained a Bachelor Degree at Purdue University in Indiana USA, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. Following the completion of his studies in 2010, he worked as an engineering project manager for Fortune 500 company in the heavy machinery industry. Andry is currently working on his two-year MBA program in the Kellogg School of Management in Chicago, focusing on marketing and strategy. In his leisure time, he enjoys traveling to all corners of the world and appreciating the local culture.



Following Forward

By **Hendhy**, SPH International Lippo Village ICT Staff

It is natural as a human being that we are worried about what we cannot see. A teacher taught me that we cannot see the future and it is too difficult to anticipate what will happen in the future. In a time of struggle and worry he spoke to me about faith and shared with me many Bible verses. Often we remember Bible verses and God's promises as mere knowledge instead of living in those promises and putting our hope in Him.

MY name is Hendhy. I have been working for over two years in the ICT Department as a Server Administrator at SPH International Lippo Village. I graduated from the Department of Computer Science at Parahyangan University, Bandung, and have been Microsoft certified since 2008. Tangerang is a brand new city for me to live in. I was afraid to live outside Bandung, especially in Jakarta and Tangerang. I saw on the TV horrible traffic jams, floods, crime, hot weather and many other things that seemed so scary. But here I am now enjoying my "new season". A wise man once said, "Our anxiety is bigger than its reality, therefore move forward."

Before I moved here, I attended a retreat that changed my decision. The guest speaker was from Colorado, US. We'd never met before, however in one session he knew everything about me, including my struggles. I knew that this was the work of Holy Spirit. He had a prophetic message to me that said that I will go into a "new season" and to not be afraid. After this retreat, I was doing everything normally, until at one point, I knew that I had to leave and go to a new place that God had prepared for me. At this difficult decision of uncertainty, I took a personal retreat and let GOD move deeper in me. And here I am now. God still keeps my passion in Information Technology, but He has added more passion in education. With the expertise God has given to me, I can serve Him to make Education in my country better.

This new calling and new place is so challenging. I am given the responsibility to look after all servers in SPH International campuses. I have learned many things about enterprise IT infrastructure in these schools, new technology to be developed and also the most important thing—building character. I am so thankful that God continues His desire in building me to be what He wanted before the time begins as written in Psalms 139:16–NIV "Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."



I remember my initial experiences when GOD was leading me through all the challenges in this school. I was setting up the email server so we have a more reliable email system, strengthening our IT infrastructure and optimizing connectivity between SPH International campuses and I was not alone as I have a great team who perform very well. Now, I am trusted to develop and maintain Cloud Computing (Microsoft Office 365) to support better education, to provide flexibility in delivering and supporting information not only for staff and teachers but also for students. This new IT System should be the next supporting tool for making education better. At this point, I

am experiencing "What no eye has seen, no ear has heard and no human mind has conceived the things God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Delivering this brand new system is not easy. Every morning when I open my eyes I try to let my day be led by the Holy Spirit. Surrendering our lives does not always mean our life will run as we like. However it reduces our anxiety about today and the future. In Biology we learn that "something we don't feed will die". So, what do we want to keep alive: our anxiety or our faith? Let's choose to follow Him forward, because "... He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6–NIV). It's not easy to be in between the beginning and ending of what God is doing, but let's keep believing "For we are God's masterpieces. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." (Ephesians 2:10–NLT).



Hendhy

Summer Program 2014

DURING my time in Indonesia, I was able to spend two weeks with an amazing group of kindergarten students. I was always excited to go back the next day because the students I worked with brought so much joy, happiness and laughter to my day. I was also blessed to work beside other college students like myself from America as well as Indonesia. I learned a lot from each of them and I also formed close friendships with them.

Whilst in Indonesia, I experienced a culture very different from my own. I rode an elephant for the first time, visited mosques and temples, experienced different kinds of transportation and tried different kinds of food. Being able to immerse myself in a different setting like this was awesome! I am so thankful for this opportunity because it has helped me grow as a future teacher and person.

Melissa Stalman

FROM riding an elephant through the forest; teaching English workshops to children less fortunate; visiting an orphanage and seeing the children worship the same God I worship; to standing in the shadow of the largest Buddhist temple in the world; I cannot begin to describe how working with the Summer Program in Jakarta changed me.

Learning how to teach my own class, being in charge and responsible for all that that entails, was invaluable experience to have at this point in my life as a student. This trip helped to continue to confirm the Lord's call for overseas missions.

The Indonesian people we interacted with were so welcoming, loving and enjoyed listening to our stories and loved answering all the questions we had about their country. They introduced us to delicious foods, allowed us to interact with their children and made us feel part of their country, a part of their family. The amount of passion and love they have for advancing the kingdom of God was inspiring and challenging, showing me how to relate to the children in my class and how to love and teach them with the same passion. Walking down the street and

smelling the traditional foods, smiling at the locals as we passed and embracing the culture around us was not only exciting but eye-opening.

Walking into the orphanage in Lampung showed me how God is worshiped in all languages, by all peoples, over and under the equator, across continents, races, cultural groups and economic class. He is that good and awesome. Seeing the children worship, when materially they have very little, was convicting and challenging, seeing that I am immensely blessed but do not worship as such. Seeing joy in the children's faces as we tried to learn Bahasa as they taught us and when they understood English made my own heart swell with joy that comes from the One who made those children. This community of learners filled us with joy and gratitude. There was not a day we woke up and were not grateful to be in another continent with the incredible people we were able to work with and the sweet children we were able to teach. This trip changed my life and I am unbelievably grateful for the opportunity to learn, explore, and grow in another country of God's creation with His people.

Andrea Hunt



Summer Program 2014



MY Summer Program experience was fantastic! The environment was welcoming and the staff made us feel highly valued. Myself, and the other summer instructors, often felt that we were being spoiled due to the living arrangements, touring and teaching environment. My time spent in the classroom was very rewarding for me as the students quickly took to what was being taught and made the most of their time in class. The time I taught was an excellent opportunity for me to increase my teaching knowledge in a safe environment with students who genuinely value learning. I am very thankful I had the opportunity to be involved in the Summer program and I would do it again in a heartbeat!

Robert Backstrom





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OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2014

9 AM | Lippo Village | **546 0233**

WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2014

10 AM | Kemang Village | **290 56789**

10 AM | Pluit Village | **6667 0315**

SATURDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2014

9 AM | Sentul City* | **8796 0234**

9 AM | Lippo Cikarang | **897 2786**

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