

# THE *Light*

39<sup>TH</sup> EDITION • 2018

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How do we engage in holistic Christian education at our school? Exploring SPH's 2018-2019 school theme.

## Page 40

The need for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education has increased throughout time. Read about how SPH is addressing this need.

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# NEW CREATION NOW

"He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish."

"So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn."

John 21:6 & 11

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K1

AGE 3-4

K2

AGE 4-5

K3

AGE 5-6

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📍 Pluit Village



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# THE Light

*The Light* is published two times a year by the Public Relations and Promotion Department at Sekolah Pelita Harapan to inform, equip and inspire our alumni and friends. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and they do not necessarily reflect the views of Sekolah Pelita Harapan or its administration.

Sekolah Pelita Harapan's vision is **True Knowledge, Faith in Christ and Godly Character**. Our mission is to proclaim the preeminence of Christ and engage in the redemptive restoration of all things in Him through holistic education.

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DESIGNERS  
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PHOTOGRAPHER  
HARIYANTO SOEWONO

CONTRIBUTORS  
ALEX THO, CLIFFORD P. MANDANG, DAMAR  
WIRASTOMO, EDDY HARLIONO, REBECCA E. MARINA,

CONTACT US  
2500 BULEVAR PALEM RAYA, LIPPO VILLAGE  
TANGERANG 15810, BANTEN  
PHONE: (021) 546 0233-34  
  
WWW.SPH.EDU

# Forging Ahead

**A**s SPH's 25<sup>th</sup> year draws to a close it is a joy to see reflected in these pages something of what we have been able to achieve. By God's grace and presence, many young people have been equipped to go on to further study and eventually take their place maturely in society.

As a Christian school, we hold fast to our vision statement and desire to see all students come to understand that true knowledge is only found through faith in Jesus Christ, the Saviour and Redeemer of this broken world. The wonderful consequence of faith is the formation of godly character. We become what God planned for us to be—his children, made in his likeness and living for his glory.

The holistic curriculum we offer is designed to equip and shape students in four key areas; spiritually, intellectually, socially and physically. It has taken us many years to develop our programs. Highlighted in these pages you will see all four of these areas illustrated.

Recently we held two events to give opportunity for some of our alumni to share their experience of SPH with current parents. It was a privilege to hear them speak of how SPH has contributed to their view of the world, and especially how it helped shape their approach to the professions they are now engaged in—politics, medicine, business, hospitality, and education to name a few.

Nevertheless, we are wary of becoming complacent. We know the world is changing and SPH must change with it. We have faced many challenges lately and these remind us that we cannot dwell in the past but must always live in the present. Our annual theme, which this year focussed on redemptive restoration, reminds us that Christ will make, and is making, all things new. Our group of schools must forge ahead into this uncertain and changing world, confident that our formula for transformation is a good one, and that it must be applied deliberately in new and innovative ways.

We appreciate all the families who place their children in our care and partner with us in this process. It is only as we work together that we can prepare our children for an uncertain future. May the stories in these pages be an encouragement to you, that together with SPH, we will see our children set off confidently into their future as redemptive agents of God's kingdom.



**PHILLIP NASH**  
HEAD OF SCHOOL SPH LIPPO VILLAGE AND  
COORDINATOR PELITA HARAPAN SCHOOLS







## Dr. Mochtar Riady's Special Talk with Grade 6 Students at SPH Lippo Village Junior School

The Chairman and Founder of Lippo Group, Dr. Mochtar Riady, visited Sekolah Pelita Harapan (SPH) Lippo Village and the Grade 6 students on Wednesday, March 7, 2018. This talk show was conducted to prepare the students as they embark on their personal projects for the upcoming PYP Exhibition.

In his talk to the students, Dr. Mochtar shared his life experiences, and the students were allowed to ask him questions. Dr. Mochtar told the story of his journey from his difficult childhood to his life today. He shared his recipe for a successful life: live frugally, work hard, and initiate change that can improve others' lives. Success should not be achieved merely to accumulate wealth, but also to build up and be a blessing to others.

"The most important thing is to gain knowledge and understand how to use that knowledge. Afterwards, that knowledge must be used to benefit many people. The purpose of education is not to gain knowledge in order to accumulate wealth for yourself," he said.

Dr. Mochtar has been a great example of how to improve the quality of life in Indonesia, specifically with regards to education and healthcare. He stated that one of the main concerns in Indonesia is the lack of access to good quality healthcare. As a result, he founded the PT Siloam International Hospital in 1996. He also founded the Mochtar Riady Institute of Nanotechnology (MRIN) in 2006 as a non-profit organization as part of his commitment to improving cancer research and cancer prevention in Indonesia.

In his interview, Dr. Mochtar also mentioned the Lippo Group's dedication towards the advancement of education within this country.

"I feel very grateful that my children, alongside my daughter-in-law, are dedicated to the nation's educational advancement. Education not only produces intelligence and skill, but it also shapes one's morality. A smart man without a good morality will not be useful to society. Society needs wise people who are dedicated to the improvement of society. We hope that SPH can produce such people," he added.

Through this inspiring talk show, we hope the Grade 6 students will be inspired to discover that their calling in life is to improve the lives of Indonesia's people in the future.



# SPH Sentul City International Week

International Week at SPH Sentul City Junior School was a memorable and festive celebration of diversity. Countries represented included: Colombia, Liberia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Italy, and the United States of America. Each grade level chose a country and decorated their classrooms accordingly. Throughout the week students participated in activities that focused on the history, games, food, folk tales, and crafts from their chosen country. The week culminated with classes performing a dance or song from their country and wearing matching

attire. Students could 'travel' to each 'country' and enjoy a potluck with food from that country. The faculty was very impressed by the students' hard work and creativity. We awarded prizes for: (1) The Best Performance – a tie between Grades 1 and 5; (2) Best Decorated Room – Grade 3; and (3) Best Visitors (a class) to a country – Grade 1.

We celebrate International Week so that students can appreciate cultural differences and overcome stereotypes. We see God's diverse creation through culture, language, and customs that may be different from our own. Much like

our diverse school community, the world's many cultures show the diversity of God's kingdom. International Week gives students opportunities to learn more about people who seem different from them, but who are so alike in many ways. As an internationally-minded school, SPH Sentul City embraces the diversity in God's kingdom. International Week helps us intentionally focus on and grow in our mission to God's world.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK 2018

# Celebrate Diversity





SPH LIPPO CIKARANG, INTERNATIONAL DAY

# Unity in Diversity

Unity in Diversity is a revered principle in Indonesia. Having different nationalities and cultures living together in harmony is a dream worth striving for.

Unity in Diversity does not mean ignoring differences or expecting people to agree with every idea or belief. It does mean allowing different ideas and thoughts to blend into better solutions. The world is becoming increasingly globalized. While peace and unity are celebrated, we see friction all around us.

Before we can impact our society, we must have a change of heart. The Bible says, *'Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.'* (Proverbs 4:23)

God calls unity good in the same way that He calls creation good. *'Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to live together in unity!'* (Psalm 133:1) If God thinks unity is good, then surely we must strive for unity which is like precious oil poured on Israel's priests to set them apart as holy to God.

The ingredients in oil can help us learn about the qualities and attitudes needed to build a spirit of unity. Like myrrh, we must be pure in our thoughts and humble toward others. Like

fragrant cinnamon, we must be kind through our words and actions. Like bamboo that adds extra sweetness, we must be loyal. Like cassia, which has strong roots, we must be strongly rooted in trust. Like the olive, which produces oil when pressed, we must stay strong and persevere to maintain unity. This means finding common ground and working through differences even when that is difficult.

Humility, kindness, loyalty, trust, and perseverance are fruits of the Holy Spirit. These attitudes are born in us as we make a way for God's Spirit to work on our hearts, if we are willing.

Do you know Jesus? Jesus makes us pure and teaches us to be humble.

Do you pray? As we pray God makes a way for those traits to be poured into our hearts.

Do you read the Bible? In God's word we discover His purpose for the earth and our place in God's plan.

Your faith in Jesus, which is heard in your prayers and which grows through obeying God's word, allows the Spirit of unity to grow in our hearts and flows out to our surroundings like a precious fragrant oil.





SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Musicalisation of Poetry Competition



On April 21, 2018, Sekolah Pelita Harapan Lippo Village hosted a ‘Musicalisation of Poetry’ competition to commemorate Kartini Day. The competition was organized by the Bahasa (a) committee. Bahasa (a) is an abbreviation of Barisan Pertahanan Bahasa dan Budaya (Line of Language and Cultural Defense).

The competition was joined by seven groups of high school students from five local schools: SPHLV, Sekolah Dian Harapan (SDH), Sekolah Lentera Harapan (SLH), Sekolah SoliDEO, and Sekolah Santa Laurensia. Three judges were

invited: Ibu Dhenok Kristianti, Pak Jodhi, and Ibu Yemima. All three judges are experts in Indonesian poetry.

“Selamat Pagi Indonesia” and “Karawang Bekasi” by Chairil Anwar were the only two poems performed. SLH gave an outstanding performance of “Selamat Pagi Indonesia” using a ukulele and piano. Each group member wore a vibrant, layered traditional Indonesian cloth over their white t-shirt. SLH won the competition and received one million rupiah. Second place went to Santa Laurensia. Third place went to SPHLV Group 2.

The competition ended with Pak Jodhi using just a guitar as a background instrument and his voice to musicalize the poem “Selamat Pagi Indonesia”. He also performed “Doa” (‘Pray’), by Chairil Anwar. His intense voice gave a sense that someone was earnestly pleading with God.

The winners of this competition will be invited to perform in an event called ‘Bulan Bahasa Highlight’ which will take place in SPHLV in October.



## SPH PLUIT VILLAGE, SENIOR SCHOOL RETREAT

# We are New Creations

Small schools create close community. In October 2017, the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students at SPH Pluit Village went on retreat to a resort near Bogor to take a break from the normal business of school in order to be refreshed and renewed. SPH's "All Things New" theme inspired us to become renewed in Christ. *"Anyone in Christ is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come"* (2 Corinthians 5:17). The concept of "I Am a New Creation" framed our speaker sessions and small group discussions. Our goal was to become closer as a senior school and to grow more like Christ.

Youth Pastor Tirza was a vital part of this goal as she spoke about our relationships with God. She began with the problem that separates us from God. "But God" was the phrase she used to emphasize that it is God who saves and changes us. After each session, students and leaders gathered in smaller groups to dig into their personal feelings and to support each other in their struggles and goals.

What would a retreat be without some competition? Students and leaders were divided into four teams and received points for various competitions, games, and even for cleaning throughout the three days. Everyone was dedicated to their own team and, in the end, the winners got to throw pies in the teachers' faces. It was a great time of comradery.

One of the most enjoyable mornings (or most challenging, depending on who you ask) was the hike. It wasn't your typical hike through the woods, but rather a walk through villages and rice fields and along streams. Perhaps almost as good as the hike was the collective decision to immediately jump into the pool upon return to the resort.

No retreat is perfect! We faced some challenges on the trip, such as marshmallow roasting sticks that were too short and general exhaustion from the constant activity. Nevertheless, the community drew closer through these experiences and made great memories. Months later, students are still talking about their time away on retreat.

As a first year teacher, I discovered the gift of community in a real way with my new Pluit family. God gives us each gifts, the best of which is knowing Him through Jesus. The transformational journey of a child of God is not one we have to take alone. We are all becoming new creations.





## SPH PLUIT VILLAGE, GRADE 6 RETREAT

# A Way in the Wilderness

*A Way in the Wilderness*, our theme was based on Isaiah 43:19 “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” My greatest hope for the retreat was that the students would grow closer to one another, closer to me as a new teacher and of course, closer to God through spending quality time in his creation. I wanted them to begin navigating the wildernesses of life while surrounded by the beauty of God’s creation in Indonesia.

Our speaker Ms. Lizzie Barrick, retreat leader Zhang Laoshi, and I were busy planning the retreat with student activity ideas in mind. We took some of their ideas into account and added some of our own, to include activities that many of the students had not been exposed to before, such as tent-pitching, fire building, and hiking. Along with swimming, basketball and other sports, these activities kept the students entertained. They also allowed the students to work as a team in order to build closer relationships with one another.

We observed students working together to navigate rugged forest trails to find beautiful streams and waterfalls. They had friendly competitions with setting up tents, build a camp fires. We witnessed acts of kindness and saw perseverance demonstrated. One instance of perseverance and teamwork stood out in particular.

During the campfire building contest, the weather was humid and the materials that we were using to build the fires were damp. As a result we had difficulty keeping the fires lit. Although it took many attempts for each group to create a campfire, not a single student gave up. All students worked cooperatively and in a friendly manner to meet the challenge. In the end, all groups created a campfire that stayed alight for at least a little while. I saw amazing potential in my students as they worked together in a Christ like manner to overcome these challenges.

Our retreat speaker, Ms. Lizzie, led students through five sessions that each included worship, a brief sermon, and a group discussion time. Topics discussed included: “God’s Faithfulness in Challenge”; “Making Wise Choices”; “The Importance of Community in the Wilderness”; and “Managing Change”. The students connected with the information shared.

It was amazing to hear about the triumphs and challenges each student is facing and to see the way God is at work in their lives. There was a clear sense that although students are entering adolescence and facing new changes and challenges, they are still putting their trust in God who is making “all things new”.

This retreat was a blessing. God is raising up a Grade 6 community committed to following and serving Him.





SPH LIPPO VILLAGE, PYP EXHIBITION

# Preparing Students to be Agents of Change

The Grade 6 PYP Exhibition is the culmination of student learning during their time at SPHLV Junior School. This year's exhibition was conducted from April 17-18 in Gym 1. Students displayed their work in booths, and each student highlighted one theme about a world issue as well as the solution to their issue.

Students were expected to develop critical thinking, inquiry and problem solving skills, through the issues they highlighted. These included: video game addiction, mental health, child labor, poverty and hunger, unemployment, traffic, natural disasters, sea pollution, and plastic usage. Some projects also focused on the students' personal interests, such as Australian Aboriginal art and digital art.

Students at SPH are becoming agents of change by understanding problems in the world and finding solutions to make positive change. Even young children are able to consider weighty issues.

Ashoka, a large network of social entrepreneurship, writes in *forbes.com*<sup>1</sup>: "A child's imagination, when paired with experiential learning opportunities, can be a powerful tool to confront global issues in new and innovative ways ... children that are aware of their surroundings have the potential to ignite movements to change the world today and in the future."

We may not be able to solve all the problems in our world, but God calls us to make a real difference in this life. We are "*created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand*" (Ephesians 2:10)

*"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."* (Matthew 5:14-16)



<sup>1</sup>[www.forbes.com/sites/ashoka/2013/03/11/how-children-can-assume-responsibility-as-change-agents-and-break-cycles-of-poverty/#7ac05b511401](http://www.forbes.com/sites/ashoka/2013/03/11/how-children-can-assume-responsibility-as-change-agents-and-break-cycles-of-poverty/#7ac05b511401)



SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Exhibition

Commencing Monday, April 16, 2018 in the F2 Chapel, the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual SPH Lippo Village Art Exhibition displayed artwork from students in Kindergarten to Grade 10. More than 60 artworks pieces were on show, ranging from digital art and mixed-media paintings, to drawings, sketches, and sculptures. These were entered into a schoolwide competition. The winners in the categories of creativity and skill were as follows:

## Grade 3-4

Matthew Adrian (Most Creative)  
Valentia Ellen Homin (Most Skilled)

## Grade 5-6

Jaimie Donnan (Most Creative)  
Gaby Yuwono (Most Skilled)

## Grade 7-8

Christophe Amadeus Santosa (Most Creative)  
Nadelin Setiawan (Most Skilled)

## Grades 9-10

Gamilang Janice Kurnia (Most Skilled)  
Amanda Fedora (Most Creative)

Ibu Regina Tyasratnawati, one of the art teachers, said that the exhibition celebrated the students' talents with the community. She added, "I think this year's exhibition was different because it included a wider range of techniques. I loved the simplicity, cuteness, and the composition of the primary students' artwork."

Art doesn't have to be complicated or sophisticated: simple observations from daily life also enable the students to express their creativity. Some higher grade student art was very skillful and detailed. Christophe Santosa from Grade 7 drew an intricate picture of the city of Edinburgh using black ink pen. Matthew Adrian from Grade 4 constructed "God's Creation" using dry leaves on paper.

The students were justifiably proud of what they were able to produce. Next year we hope that more students will continue to be creative and be challenged to bring out the best of their artistic potential.



## A Visit by World Development Leader

SPH Lippo Village welcomed Dr. Valentine Joseph Gandhi, founder of *The Development Café*—a global network of Development Professionals and Social Scientists—to speak with Grade 10 Humanities students on April 20, 2018.

Hosted by Mrs. Diane Fennell (Senior School Humanities Teacher), Dr. Valentine inspired the students with his story of faith in Jesus, which has helped him to become a leader in international development. Following Jesus' command to love God wholeheartedly and to love our neighbors sincerely (Luke 10:37), *The Development Café* was founded in 2001 as a non-donor, self-funded, low profile but high impact initiative whose mission is the eradication of poverty in all of its forms. Poverty means not only lacking income or a lack of material possessions, but also means lacking freedom and access to information.

*The Development Café* initiates change through collaborative interventions, action research, policy advocacy, capacity building and the use of innovative technology. An example of this is through the application created by *The Development Café* in Bandung, which is being used in Somalia to improve farming practices there by eradicating a weed introduced into Africa from Mexico.

Dr. Valentine is passionate about bringing government and grassroots together so that effective change can be implemented through the cooperation between governments, development agencies, and local projects. His presentation helped students bridge their studies and the real needs of the poorest communities, and it also opened their eyes to the ways that they can bring change to the world.

To have such an eminent guest presenter was a special privilege for our school.

SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Colorful & Stimulating Playground

Taking students to play with their friends in the playground enables them to practice their communication and social skills. Since the beginning of 2018, SPH kindergarten students have enjoyed a newly renovated play area, in which the teachers are always present and watch over the students.

Through the implementation of the holistic IB curriculum, Sekolah Pelita Harapan students flourish as well-balanced individuals through cognitive skill development, and also through emotional, physical, spiritual, and social growth. Early childhood is a crucial stage in a child's education and physical development. By giving opportunities for children to explore the world outside their classroom, they can optimize their fine and gross motor skills, as well as their left and right brain activity.

SPH maintains an enjoyable, safe, and colorful playground that stimulates students in their playtimes.



## SPH Lippo Village Hosts the British Ambassador to Indonesia

SPH Lippo Village had the privilege of hosting the British Ambassador to Indonesia, His Excellency, Moazzam Malik, on Wednesday, February 21, 2018. Phillip Nash (Academic Advisor), Elizabeth Konaniah (Senior School Administrative Principal), Xamantha I. Tjakra (President of Student Council), and Shaun Latip (Vice President of Student Council) warmly welcomed and accompanied Mr. Malik during his visit to SPH Lippo Village.

After an informal meeting, they moved to K-400 where Grade 11 students were gathered to meet Ambassador Malik. The Ambassador explained that the British Embassy chose SPH for his visit because SPH is renowned for sending students to study in the UK. Mr. Malik encouraged the students to pursue higher education abroad, especially in the UK, as it has an excellent higher education industry and receives a substantial amount of international students. Many overseas students view the UK as a fun, diverse place to study, and the British Embassy seeks mutual relations with these students to achieve purposeful results in various areas.

Ambassador Malik also mentioned the benefits of using the IB Curriculum as a beneficial pathway for learning. He stated that it is designed to equip students to understand education on a deeper level and to establish a good foundation for conceptual learning before studying abroad. Through the use of this curriculum, SPH is aware of its duty to prepare students as global citizens with global minds—as well as to encourage patriotism for the building up of Indonesia. Although he encouraged students to study abroad, Ambassador Malik also highlighted the importance of returning to our home countries. Indonesia needs competent young people to help determine and motivate its development in the future. This is in line with SPH's mission to engage in the redemptive restoration of all things.

We hope that through the ambassador's short visit to SPH, students are more motivated to strive for the best in their studies to be well-prepared as future agents of change in Indonesia. We are honored to have hosted Ambassador Malik and thank the British Embassy for this visit.



SPH LIPPO CIKARANG

# Literacy Week 2017

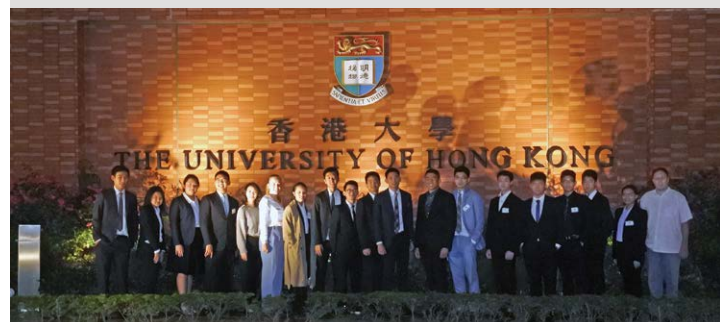
Literacy Week is a day Junior School students look forward to each year! This year's event was held from November 23-30, 2017, using the theme, *'Fall into God's Word'*. Students were encouraged to understand the importance of loving to read the Bible. The week began with students decorating classroom doors with Biblical themes. K1 and K2 chose "Daniel in the Lion's Den"; Grade One chose "Moses" and Grade Two chose "Joseph the Dreamer". In English class, students retold Bible stories, and in Art class they designed covers for their stories. Students also studied authors, including Laura Numeroff, Robert Munsch, and Patricia Gallagher, in order to gain improved knowledge about the Bible and to become more motivated to read the Bible regularly.

They enjoyed a week of spirit days that included Hat Day, Pajama Day, and Wacky Clothes Day. On Pajama Day they brought stuffed animals and blankets to school to make that day cozier! Students in upper grades read Bible stories to younger students. This created much excitement! Upper grade students shone as role models. Parents also joined as guest Bible readers as well as doing quizzes, puzzles, and hands-on experiments to help students enjoy reading the Bible.

'Dress Up Like a Bible Character Day' was held on the final day of Literacy Week. All Junior School students and teachers joined together in the gym to parade their wonderful Bible costumes. Many people dressed up as angels, shepherds, Mary, Joseph, or Pharaoh. The students listened to a guest reader dressed as Noah and his ark. The guest talked about how to love and enjoy reading the Bible, giving practical kid-friendly takeaway strategies. The event concluded with a fun Bible trivia game. Each class got a chance to answer and earned a small prize! Students talked excitedly about the things they learned for several weeks after the event.



# Harvard Model Congress Asia 2018



From January 4 to 7, 2018, 18 members of the SPHLV Speak Up club attended the Harvard Model Congress Asia (HMCA) conference at Hong Kong University. HMCA is an annual international simulation organized by Harvard University students in partnership with an Asian university. SPH students acted as delegates on a wide variety of committees, ranging from the United Nations Security Council, the House Oversight and Government Reform committee, to my own committee, the National Economic Council (NEC).

I chose to be a part of the NEC because of my keen interest in economics, particularly how economics can be applied to solve real-world issues. The NEC was comprised of students from many countries, including Hong Kong, the Philippines, and India. We focused on simulating the passage of bills regarding key economic problems, such as the expansion of America's government healthcare insurance program.

Throughout the conference debates and discussions, I learned valuable lessons about economics and the realities of passing legislation, as well as the need for compromise when acknowledging different views.

At the end of the conference, some SPH students were recognized for their contributions to conference committees. Belinda Larasati (11) and Christopher Pramana (11) received Honorable Mention, whilst Hugo Leo (12) and I were recognized as Best Delegates in our respective committees.



## SPH PLUIT VILLAGE, BOOK WEEK

# Dive Deeper Into Imagination

From October 30 - November 3, 2017, SPH Pluit Village Junior School celebrated Book Week with the theme “Dive Deeper into Imagination”. This theme was based on 1 Corinthians 2:9, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard and no one’s heart has imagined all the things that God has prepared for those who love him.” Through this event, students learned how our imaginations as human beings are limited compared to God’s, who reveals His highest purpose for His creation in Scripture.

On each day of Book Week, there was a special highlight. A book cover designing competition was

held to get students excited about diving deeper into their imaginations. Each class had three weeks to redesign a book cover, which was later hung on the classroom wall to be assessed.

On the first day, students were visited by a different teacher who read them a story. On the second day, some grandparents came and read stories also, which the students really enjoyed.

The next event was Buddy Reading. Students wore pajamas to school, and some upper grade students came to the lower grade classes and read stories to them. This was a great chance to make

new friends and for younger students to treasure books even more.

Character Day was the next highlight. Students and teachers came to school wearing costumes of book characters. Classes selected a representative from each house team for a fashion show that was held in front of students, teachers, and parents. Four judges assessed the costumes based on their similarity to the book character and the authenticity of the costumes. The green house team was the winner.

On the final day of Book Week, different mystery readers read stories to kindergarten and primary students but did not finish them. Instead, students imagined the endings of the stories. They either wrote or draw what they imagined the ending to be on pieces of paper that were displayed on the classroom wall. The students’ predictions were varied and interesting.

SPH’s school theme this year is “All Things New”. God is creative, powerful, and sovereign. By realizing that our imagination is limited, it humbles and thrills us to look through God’s unlimited vision. May God’s glory be magnified through our imagination as He makes SPH new.







# Streetizens

The word *Streetizens* is derived from two words: 'street' and 'citizens'. Streetizens was started in 2015 by five SPH alumni as a student-led club. The purpose of the club is to inform people about the lives of citizens who live on the streets of Jakarta.

Inspired by the Humans of New York project, we posted pictures on Instagram of the people we interviewed, alongside the stories and experiences they shared about their life on the street. We want to raise awareness about street people - especially street children - to show that every face has a story. As this student-led club became an organization, we expanded Streetizens to different schools. We have now successfully expanded to four other schools: Jakarta Intercultural School, Springfield, Bina Bangsa School PIK, and British School Jakarta.

We focus on empowering street children through providing education. In 2017, we received the San Marino Award presented by the Alexander Bodini Foundation which is organized by UNICEF. This award recognizes two youth-led global initiatives that promote children's rights and which contribute meaningfully to children. It was an honor to have UNICEF believe in our vision to empower street children through education and to align with UNICEF's sustainable developmental goals. We are now working

with Yayasan Biji Sesawi to collaborate on implementing a curriculum for children aged 5-12. Working with underprivileged children is only effective if they are given consistent and quality education.

Our original location in Bongkaran was not sustainable, so we started our new operations in the slums of Pulo Gadung where we taught math, english, arts and crafts, and character building exercises to about 15 students. Every Saturday morning, we met enthusiastic children who wanted to learn something new from us. We have since moved from that location out of respect to the local community.

The future of Streetizens lies in our expansion to different locations. Having grown in our membership, we plan to allocate our resources efficiently so that more children can be impacted with quality education. You can support Streetizens by following us on our Instagram page or by joining our community on our weekly visits. To know more about what we have to offer, please approach Darren Tolib or Kenneth Lee (2017-18 Grade 11 students) at SPH Lippo Village. We sincerely believe that through education underprivileged children will be enriched with knowledge that can greatly impact their lives for the better.





SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Parents Advisory Group Shop

The PAG Shop sells secondhand goods including clothes, shoes, books, educational toys, and other home appliances that are still in good condition. The PAG Shop is specifically for SPH field staff including janitors, office boys and girls, gardeners, security staff, and drivers, so that they can buy quality goods at affordable prices. All revenue from the sale of goods is used for the PAG Community Service Program, such as supporting an eye clinic. We hope that the PAG Shop will continue to achieve PAG's mission of sharing God's love with other people from different backgrounds.



PARENTS & TEENS CONFERENCE

## "Limited Opportunity"

Raising teenagers can be challenging. Parents get frustrated when their child's behavior turns from sweet obedience to turbulent rebellion. Likewise, teenagers get frustrated with their parents. Barbara Greenberg of the HuffPost writes that teenagers get angry when parents make misinformed judgments about them. Misunderstanding through miscommunication is common in parent-teen relationships.

Because Sekolah Pelita Harapan recognizes the importance of cultivating positive relationships between parents and their teenagers, we hold annual conference for parents and teens. This year's Parent and Teen Conference, held on Saturday, March 10, 2018, was titled "Limited Opportunity". The time parents have together with their children is limited. There comes a time when children no longer live with their parents, nor do they feel obligated to obey their parents or heed their advice. It is crucial to cultivate basic life values and to create a strong bond with our children as early as possible.

The guest conference speakers were Sutjipto Subeno, Johanis Putratama Kamuri, Charlotte Priatna, and Rizal Badudu. Participants divided into parent and teen groups in the morning, and parents later split into groups of fathers and mothers. There were several engaging talk shows and workshops, and at the end of the conference, parents and their teens exchanged letters and had the opportunity to reconcile. There were beautiful moments as parents and teens spoke heart-to-heart.

We thank God for giving us this opportunity and we hope the impact of the conference will last. Our prayer is that SPH continues to contribute to the building of healthy, Christ-centered families.





## SPH LIPPO VILLAGE, SOCCER CARNIVAL

# 13 Years of Tradition

Soccer Carnival is an annual tradition and a highly anticipated event at SPH Lippo Village. Soccer Carnival brings the school community together. From Kindy through Senior students to teachers and admin staff to parents and families. We all enjoy a break together from our regular routines in a great day of active fun.

This event began with the Spirit Assembly in Gym 2. House team representatives and house captains did an amazing job with their cheers and decorations. The gym was abuzz with enthusiasm. Two of our house teams went through a much-needed transformation this year. Krakatau revealed its new image, changing from yellow hornets to formidable black wolves. Kintamani, named after one of Indonesia's mightiest volcanoes, and transformed into the Rinjani rhinos. Welcome, Krakatau wolves and the Rinjani rhinos! The Bromo bears and the Merapi raptors kept their enduring identities and, once again, the Bromo bears were victorious in the spirit competition.

After the assembly, students and teachers gathered at the soccer field to commence the competitions. God blessed us with cloudy skies and a relatively cool day. The atmosphere was festive, active, and fun filled, with soccer teams competing, music groups playing, carnival booths buzzing, and people ingesting lots of yummy food. The Junior School Merapi raptors won their soccer competition, and the Krakatau wolves won the soccer competition in the Senior School. This was another great community experience for all in SPH Lippo Village. We look forward to seeing many people joining us at next year's Soccer Carnival!





# Avensis Revival 2018

Since 2015 SPH Lippo Cikarang has held an annual sports tournament called AVENSIS for the Junior and Senior schools.

Our goal is to create a lively spirit that represents our school's unity. This year's basketball tournaments included 5x5 mixed Junior School teams (Grade 1-3, Grade 4-6), and separate teams for girls and boys (Middle School Grade 7-9, High School Grade 10-12). More than just a school tradition, these events symbolize our

worship of God. He has given us wonderful talents to glorify Him with—whether academic, physical or artistic—so that students develop character and integrity in Christ.

Organized by the Student Council, the theme of this year's AVENSIS was "Revival". The tournament connects to our school theme, 'All Things New': *"Behold, I am making everything new"* (Revelation 21:5). As a part of God's new creation community, we make new friendships

through AVENSIS with other schools, regardless of our differences (curriculum, social status, nationality), and we strengthen our own school community—teachers, fellow classmates, staff, and parents. Every student at SPH Lippo Cikarang plays a vital role in this huge event, whether by playing on teams or by supporting teams. Our witness to God's greatness revives us to look forward, stay motivated to study, and maintain our health.





## SPH PLUIT VILLAGE

# Talent Show

SPH Pluit Village Grade 1-8 students, along with teachers, parents, and staff, gathered to watch a special talent show called “SPH’s Got Talent”. The main purpose of this show was to give students the opportunity to perform through singing or playing an instrument. Twenty-one students participated. Their performances included solo singing, duet singing accompanied by piano, solo piano, solo guitar, solo violin, and violin quartet. Three teachers—Mr. Samuel (Music Director), Ms. Jessie (Kindy/Music Teacher), and Ms. Marina (Visual Art Teacher)—acted as judges.

The talent show is a way to boost students’ confidence in expressing their performing arts skills in order to develop their growth in a more holistic way. Furthermore, students are trained to master their unique, specific talents so that they can inspire and bless others.

In light of a Christian worldview, the talent show was not merely a chance for students to perform for an audience, but to maximize their God-given talents in order to bless others. The Christian life requires honoring God through our stewardship of all that he has given to us. We hope that all SPHPV students will continue to edify the community for God’s glory.





SPH KEMANG VILLAGE, MUSICAL DRAMA

# Princess Whatsername



In life we go through periods in search of our identity. It is the deepest need of humanity to know our roots in order to define ourselves. *Princess Whatsername*, the fourth SPH Kemang Village musical drama production, centers around a princess who is in pursuit of her own identity.

The story begins with a girl who can't remember anything; thus, she is called "Princess Whatsername" (abbreviation of "what-is-her-name"). She embarks on a journey to discover her identity and meets several fairy tale characters along the way, such as Hansel and Gretel, Goldilocks, and Cinderella, who give her clues to help the young girl find her true identity. Eventually, she realizes that she is Princess Aislin (which means 'dreamer'), who is under the spell of the Evil Fairy. After breaking the spell, she reaches her home, The North Kingdom, and reunites with her parents and Prince Reveille. The story concludes with a happy ending which includes her marriage to Prince Reveille.

"Princess Whatsername" was held on Friday, February 9, 2018, in the SPH Kemang Village Theatre Room. With a classic fairy tale setting, hilarious roles, an adventurous plot, and entertaining music, this musical drama had it all. Producing a musical requires much hard work

and effort from many people within the school community, including students, parents, teachers and school staff.

Being part of a musical drama production gives students a wonderful opportunity to develop their skills and confidence through stage performance. They learn to demonstrate their God-given talents in the performing arts—whether singing, acting, or dancing, and they learn how to sharpen their critical thinking by the way they interpret the characters they represent.

*"SPH has always been open to nurturing students' talents, especially in the arts. Each student is special. All of them have their own unique abilities. It is important for parents to let their children succeed in what they are passionate about, so that their confidence, creativity, and relationships flourish. SPH is proud of their students,"* said Novita Menayang Fischer, parent of Olivia Fischer, who played Princess Whatsername.

As the story's name conveys, in performing this adventure of the search for identity, SPH students develop a better understanding of themselves and those around them as their gifts are discovered.

SPH is confident that this musical experience will be a moment to remember for a lifetime.





SPH KEMANG VILLAGE

# Timelapse: A Collection of One-Act Plays

As part of this year's Grade 12 student-led project, SPH Kemang Village held a theatrical performance of five one-act plays entitled *Timelapse* on Thursday, November 30, 2017.

Three hundred fifty teachers, families, students, and guests gathered to enjoy the performance. Which was produced by students from Grades 7 to 12.

*Timelapse* is based on the concept of changes and details over a period of time being recorded, but in an accelerated manner. Each act metaphorically represented concepts in the Four Stages of Learning: (1) Unconscious Incompetence, (2) Conscious Incompetence, (3) Conscious Competence, and (4) Unconscious Competence. The audience observed the changes to better understand each stage and enjoyed unique plot-twists throughout each act.

The one-act plays were:

- (1) *My Fair Lady* : (as a supporting context)
- (2) *Juleo & Romiet* : Unconscious Incompetence
- (3) *Who's on First* : Conscious Incompetence
- (4) *No Apologies* : Conscious Competence
- (5) *Sure Thing* : Unconscious Competence
- (6) *My Fair Lady* : (as a supporting context)

The students' efforts in shaping and expanding each story's script, fund-raising, rehearsing, and developing concepts within their plays, and the final performance, was very impressive.

Rachel Nielsen, a SPH Kemang Village student and the director, said:

*"After three months of hard work we present to you something I*

*am very proud of. Thank you to everyone who believed in me, and whom I believed in, and for everyone who helped my passion and dream come true. Without dedication and hard work, 'Timelapse' could not have happened. As I am soon graduating, I pray that by initiating this student-led production, it will inspire other SPHKV students to initiate their own creative ideas. I truly believe that with Christ, the people in this school are able to pursue whatever they are passionate about."*

She thanked the SPH Kemang Village leaders for seeing potential in her and for teaching her professional life skills. The PAG also participated in generously financing this production.

Mr. Peter Randall, one of the supervisors, praised this performance, saying:

*"This fully student-led program showcases the talents, hard work, and organization skills that are possessed by students at our school. I eagerly anticipate what is ahead for student-led initiatives like 'Timelapse'."*

By providing the theatre club as an extracurricular activity, students can enhance their talents and passion for the performing arts, which is vital for youth development. Through theatre education, young people increase in self-confidence, improve communication and focus skills, and have an outlet for their imagination. We are grateful that SPH Kemang Village acknowledges this need in students and encourages the development of artistic talents.





## SPH LIPPO VILLAGE, JUNIOR SCHOOL DRAMA

# *A Little Princess*

**A** *Little Princess* is the expanded and dramatized adaptation of the short story written by Frances Hodgson Burnett titled, “Sara Crewe” (“What Happened at Miss Minchin’s”). In 2012 this book was ranked number 56 among the all-time children’s novels in a survey published by School Library Journal.

The story centers on Sara Crewe, the only daughter of Captain Ralph Crewe, a wealthy English widower who is stationed in India. Because India's climate is considered too harsh, British families usually send their children to boarding school back home in England. Captain Crewe enrolls Sara at Miss Minchin's Boarding School for Girls in London. He ensures that his daughter's needs are well provided for, even paying the headmistress, Miss Minchin, to give special treatment and exceptional luxuries to Sara.

Not long after Sara has settled into her new life in England, she receives devastating news that her father has died. To make matters worse, her father has left her penniless and completely indebted to Miss Minchin. Infuriated and without pity, Miss

Minchin abuses Sara by taking away all of Sara's possessions and forcing her to work as a lowly servant. Sara is starved, over worked and poorly dressed. Despite her hardships, Sara faces each challenge with strength and confidence. She even shows empathy and kindness toward those who treat her badly.

From this story we learn how a healthy dose of confidence and empathy will serve us well, no matter how difficult our situations may be. The students who took part in this drama learned important skills including how to interpret their characters to bring them to life, and how to collaborate with other actors.

We hope that through this story students will remember how our Lord Jesus left the glory of heaven and humbled Himself as a lowly servant. He did not repay the evil that sinners did to Him. Instead he prayed, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:24). Jesus suffered for sin with authority and dignity to show mercy towards His persecutors. What a wonderful Savior we have!





SPH SENTUL CITY

# Student Achievements in News Casting & Debating

SPH Sentul City's English Club won several competitions at BPK Penabur Sentul!

In the News- Casting Competition Adrian Irawan won 1<sup>st</sup> place and Bernadette Tissa Anggita won 2<sup>nd</sup> place. In the Debate Competition our team won 1<sup>st</sup> place. The team members were: Aurelia Tanasal (Grade 12), Nadia Eliora (Grade 12) and Sherri Makhijani (Grade 12).

We are grateful for the students' talents in public speaking and how these competitions boost their confidence and develop their skills. SPH provides a supportive environment for students to express their opinions and foster their confidence in public speaking, in order to prepare them to be future leaders.



SPH SENTUL CITY

# Student Wins 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Asian English Olympics Speech Competition



The Asian English Olympics is a prestigious event held by BINUS University's English Club (BNEC). This annual event attracts more than 500 students from various countries across Asia.

Held on February 8-12, 2018, the Olympics challenged its participants in several fields, such as Debate, Speech, Storytelling, News-casting, Spelling Bee, Scrabble, Short Story Writing, and Radio Drama. This year's Asian English Olympics theme, "Discover Your Extraordinary," encouraged Asian youth to be brave and bold in stepping out of their comfort zones to become extraordinary.

One of SPH Sentul City's English Club members, Sherri Makhijani, successfully achieved 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Speech competition. Another student, Alexia Pane, successfully advanced to the speech competition Octofinals. Three other students – Dhira Vidhea, Rebecca Emmanuella Rangabua and Aruna Fransisca Tung – advanced to the semifinals of the News-casting competition.

Sherri Makhijani says, "I've learned that instead of focusing solely on the prize, it is better to focus on improving oneself. Joining the English Club taught me not just public speaking skills, but also how to become a better and stronger person. This led to my success in the Asian English Olympics."

Sherri also met many new people from other parts of the world and learned to take risks. She added "I have learned that when you put yourself out into the world and take risks, what I gain from it is bountiful. I am grateful to my school and to my English Club for always encouraging me to take those risks. I hope that the students from SPH Sentul City will continue to do so."



SPH SENTUL CITY

# Junior High Girls Basketball Team

The SPH Sentul City Junior High Girls Basketball team won the school's first JAAC league title this past January at the British School in Jakarta!

JAAC is a league of 10 international schools that compete in many sports throughout the school year at high school and junior high school levels.

SPH Sentul City encourages students to develop their sporting talents. We believe in holistic education that promotes physical, intellectual, social, and spiritual growth. Through sports, students learn the benefits of team work and commitment. We are very proud of our students' achievements.

We hope many more talented sports students will emerge in the future!



SPH LIPPO CIKARANG

# Grade 3 & 4 Assembly



Grade 3 and 4 students had the opportunity to show learning from their science classes during an assembly in November. Grade 3 shared information about how to stay healthy through exercising and by eating healthy food. Grade 4 presented knowledge about hearing.

The program was led by Detective Jack, Molly the dog, and Maggie the Magnifying Glass. Together, they solved mysteries including, the answer to the question, *How do people hear sounds?*. Detective Jack, Molly and Maggie invited The Ear, which consisted of students dressed as the different parts of an ear, to explain how they each play important roles in enabling people to hear well.

The second challenge was to understand the difference between pitch and volume. Some students dressed as musical instruments and explained the definitions via a short poem. Following that explanation, all Grade 4 students sang the song "High and Low" with movement.

During the Grade 3 presentation, Detective Jack, Molly and Maggie were represented by their children, Little Jack and Little Molly. They received letters that asked for their help to solve a mysterious jumbled word and difficult vocabulary. To answer the first mystery, a group of students assisted Little Jack and Little Molly. Those students each wore a big letter to unjumble the mysterious word. The students also demonstrated the importance of exercise for our bodies. Students invited the audience to exercise together by singing and dancing to the song, "Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes".

Little Jack and Little Molly then invited a new group of students to use a PowerPoint presentation to solve another case about more mysterious vocabulary pertaining to food groups. They explained the words with examples and described the functions of food in our bodies. Another group invited the audience to play the Food Pyramid puzzle to demonstrate how we should balance our meals. Grade 4 students also explained the importance of keeping our hearing healthy by not wearing headphones for too long so as to avoid permanent hearing loss.

At the conclusion of this assembly, Grade 3 and 4 students sang "Listen", to remind the audience to turn our ears to God, to listen to His words, and to obey him.



SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Whole School Easter Celebration

On Thursday morning, April 5, 2018, the whole school assembled together with parents and other visitors, to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. A banner over the stage read *A New Day and Living Way Open for Us*, from Hebrews 10:20.

Pak Gideon and his team led four evocative worship hymns, after which Xamantha Tjakra performed a beautiful interpretive dance on the musical theme of “Even When It Hurts”. What followed in the next half-hour was an amazingly fresh account of the freedom we have gained in our risen Lord Jesus, juxtaposed with the hopelessness of the ‘freedom’ to not believe in anything.

Mr Dan Fennell’s address, “Two Men in Two Chairs, One Man on a Cross” enthralled

his audience. His theme was brought into sharp focus by a graphic illustration of two related yet contrasting concepts – freedom and captivity. We were drawn to two pieces of the DP Art Exhibition that displayed these concepts, Priscilla’s Indrayadi’s artwork showcased the beauty of free-flowing movement, and Felicia Cindyagatha’s artwork showcased freedom or constraint, depending on one’s perspective.

Two chairs were placed before the audience and two men were introduced: renowned physicist, Dr. Stephen Hawking, recently deceased, and retired US Naval Officer, Dee Elliott. Both had been explorers – Hawking, of deep space, albeit from his wheelchair, and Elliott, of the open sea from the bridge of his ship.

In their own ways, both had roamed quite freely through the great spaces of Creation. Eventuallys both became wheelchair-bound, immobile and incapable of speech. Both men had become trapped by Motor Neuron Disease. Each chair represented one of these men.

Shortly before he died, Hawking testified that “in [his] mind, [he was] free”—free to believe whatever he wanted. Hawking chose to simply believe that there is no God, no Creator, no Controller, no Heaven and, therefore, no Sin or need for Salvation. He believed in nothingness; he would one day merge into the cosmos and cease to exist. Elliott, still very much alive and suffering the same physical constraints as Hawking had, conversely finds his mind to be “full of thoughts







that are mostly trapped”, exercising “all effort and no progress”, but he is simply unable “to imagine [his] fight [with this disease] without the wisdom and truth of Jesus”. Unlike Hawking, Elliott’s freedom lies in his understanding that, no matter his physical condition, his soul needs saving, and that Jesus has done this for him. He acknowledges that, when it is time to lay his body down, Jesus will take him up to heavenly splendor. Hawking merges into nothingness, Elliott into glory. A stark contrast in worldviews. One is consummately empty and renders this fleeting life meaningless; the other celebrates the uninterrupted continuation of a glorious eternal

life with the Giver and Sustainer of life. We were asked, which chair, would we want to sit in?

We then were directed to the Cross where, 2000 years ago, our Savior hung, trapped, not by nails, but by His obedience to His Father’s will, a Father who had delivered His Son up to death so that we might live. Jesus knows what it is like to be trapped. He has experienced it before us. He has experienced it like you and I will never have to, and He will carry us through our own instances of captivity, and free us, as He himself became released from the constraints of death and the grave on Easter Sunday. Like Dee, we too, can be set free!

Which chair do you sit in?

Following Mr. Dan’s address, the Grade 12 Chapel Band led the assembly in two further hymns of worship. As this was the last assembly for the graduating class of 2018, Patrick Kurnia delivered a deeply moving pastoral prayer for his classmates. Mr Phillip Nash closed the event off with words of thanks and a final prayer.

It was, in the words of many, an assembly that stood in a league of its own. Every part of it resonated with the presence of God, and the SPH community was richly blessed to have been allowed to experience and participate in it.

Praise the Lord!



# Upcoming Improvement for Grade 4 Classroom

Grade 4 classroom at SPH Lippo Village will be under renovation during the summer holiday and will be ready for next academic year. We continue to improve its facilities to boost the whole teaching and learning process. A body of research found that school facilities improvement has a tremendous effect on students' motivation in learning. With a modern and fresh new look, we hope that students' motivation in learning will increase.











📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS | GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018



📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS | 1ST PLACE SPH CUP GRADE 10-12 BASKETBALL









📍 SENTUL CITY CAMPUS | 1ST WINTER STRINGS RECITAL



📍 SENTUL CITY CAMPUS | GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018













📍 KEMANG VILLAGE CAMPUS | CLASS OF 2018



📍 PLUIT VILLAGE CAMPUS | EARTHQUAKE DRILL



# All Things New

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This year, SPH schools explored the significance of our mission to 'engage in the redemptive restoration of all things' through the theme, 'All Things New'.

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Like Reid Stowe, whose 1.152 day voyage around the world which set a record for the longest continuous sea voyage, never putting into port or setting foot on land, we have reflected as he did, that *'We must see and discover new things or else we degenerate'*. What is true of sailing is also true of schools!

Research shows that organizations tend towards either development or disintegration following on from their foundational phase. To avoid the decline of 'old age' there must be renewal. Central to this 'rebooting' or 'reconfiguring' of any organization is the embodiment of cultural values and core beliefs through the 'explication, re-iteration, and perpetual telling/re-telling of the organizational narratives' (Abrahamson, 2004; Denning, 2005). This creating of purpose, meaning and a 'community of mind' (Sergiovanni 2006) is vital if we are to 'keep the organizational narrative alive' and to ensure the corporate story remains 'collective, interpretive and well disseminated.' (Iselin 2011). That is why we do 'Thinking Themely' at SPH.

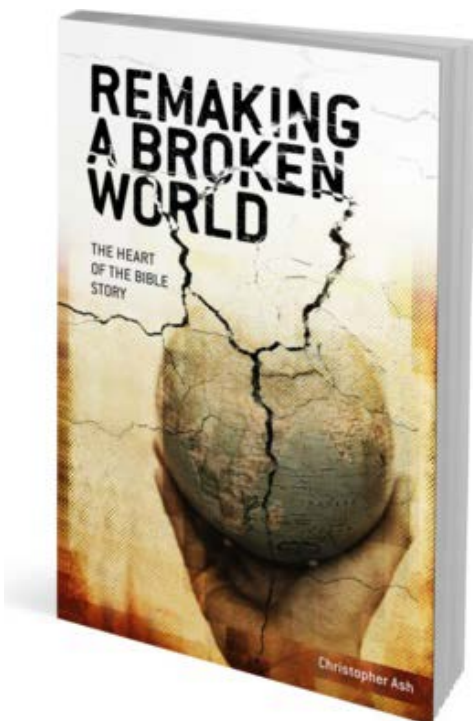
SPH's narrative is its Vision, Mission and Relational Context Statement. This year we focused on our mission, to be *'engaging in the redemptive restoration of all things'*. We believe with Christopher Ash that God's creation is 'not a prisoner on death row, but rather a prisoner awaiting release.' We are convinced that there will be a sudden joyous turn in the world's story—initiated by God's

grace—that ushers in the ultimate reality of a new heaven and new earth which will flourish under the reign of Jesus forever. Seeing that future, we live with great hope.


To launch our theme we invited **Mr. Travis Johnson** from Australia to make the new creation visible, tangible, and personal. Using a **'Story Formed'** and **'Discovery Based'** approach, Travis engaged minds, hearts and hands by inviting us to participate in the story of new creation now. In our 'Thinking Themely' staff chapels we took up the challenge of becoming explorers. Using the text, 'Remaking a Broken World', we rediscovered **Christian Imagination, Eden, Israel, Babylon, Jesus, the Spirit, the Church and New Creation**, and were challenged by these questions and themes:

*What can you imagine being different – better – new – at SPH? Christians must be a living contradiction of the world God will judge. Those who live in proud autonomy exclude themselves from Jesus' gathering. How can we ensure that SPH stays gathered by the gospel of grace?*

'Thinking Themely' is the method that we use to connect God's Word to our work. It offers: **An interpretive framework to know God. A deep understanding to see his purposes. A shared commitment to talk in community. A personal response to take the risk of faith.**







Teachers recently reflected on their year of rediscovering God's 'All Thing New' promise.

"We know we should think redemptively, but having this theme repeatedly all around us, helped me to question if I was living by grace, and extending it to others."

"Seeing how God has been at work in the gathering and scattering of His creation helps me to understand His ultimate plan and how he has been and continues to fulfill his plan."

"The theme reinforced the hope we have in Christ as Savior of this broken world. It reinforces the vital mission of our school, to prepare students to act redemptively."

The cover of this magazine quotes Jesus' words to seven disciples as they sat frustrated in their fishing boat on the Sea of Galilee, having fished all night and caught

nothing. They had no success until Jesus invited them to cast their net on the other side of the boat. Of this event Sir Marcus Loane writes: *"The tired boatmen at once prepared to act ... with the non-resistance of fatigue and the faint hope of success ... the result was immediate: ... fish!"*

Jesus' words were a prophecy of their new work—to catch people from all nations.

The invitation to us from the resurrected Lord Jesus is to live faithfully now as His new people, doing the new work of the kingdom, even as we look forward to a new heaven and new earth. We do this having discovered, like the disciples did on Lake Galilee, that *'to take him at his word and to let down our net in the simplicity of faith is the one way in which to know the grand surprise of true success.'*



Each year SPH schools are united by a theme that derives from our Vision and Mission. Themes direct our community into biblical thinking and learning so that we will more effectively teach Christianly and live out our faith maturely.

The 2017-2018 theme, based on the Mission statement, 'engaging in the redemptive restoration of all things', is **'All Things New.'**



**DANIEL FENNEL**  
BIBLICAL  
FOUNDATIONS  
COORDINATOR



# BETTER TOGETHER

## 2018-2019 School Theme

BY DANIEL FENNELL

Each year SPH schools use a theme that derives from our Vision and Mission to gain a deeper understanding of the gospel, which in turn informs how we live in Christian community, what we teach, and how we learn. We think *'themely'* to ensure God's scriptural story remains foundational to our educational practice. This methodology ensures that SPH's Vision and Mission statements, which sit static on school walls, become dynamic words to stimulate faith in Jesus and to transform our culture.

The 2018-2019 theme—**'Better Together'**—is based on our schools' mission to *'engage in the redemptive restoration of all things **through holistic education.**'*

We live in an increasingly fragmented world. Families, companies, and nations find it hard to make and maintain harmony. Schools mirror society. Western society has been significantly shaped by Greek philosophy. Like Plato, who believed that separating functions and specializing labor were keys to a worthwhile society, Western education has traditionally organized learning into separate fields of study and viewed students as being the sum of their 'parts'—physical,

intellectual, emotional and spiritual. However, neither people nor pedagogy are meant to be disconnected. Our theme arises from Paul's words to the 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman Christians.

***"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God. For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen."***

Romans 11:33-36

The biblical view is that *'God is ultimate reality, and the ground of all other reality. Yet God is not a single monad or an impersonal absolute, but God is relationship.'* These words by David Broughton Knox are foundational to understanding Christian living and learning. That God is One means that Father, Son and Spirit live in undivided unity. Knowing God as Triune means that all true knowledge correlates to reality—it connects, coheres and is clear. Life and



learning are (and can only be) holistic when coming from, through and for God.

Paul's doxology invites us to **recover** in God and the gospel the transforming power of living together as the whole people of God in community, and to **discover** the glory of a holistic pedagogy. Our theme logo contains the Greek letter theta (the first letter in the word *Theos*: God) inside the word 'together'. By this slogan and symbol we mean Christians talk about everything by talking about God.

Our goal for the next academic year is to experience life together through God who puts people back together and brings them together in Jesus. Just as God reconciled Jews and Gentiles through the cross (Romans 11:28-30), all the nations represented across the five SPH communities are called to live out that redemptive reality.

This challenges us to reject any notions of racial, economic or intellectual entitlement. It also requires of us to refuse to think of individuals dualistically or as a trichotomy (body, soul and spirit), for these terms are not used in the Bible scientifically or psychologically to divide people into parts. Rather, they are different ways of viewing a human person as a unitary being: a whole person who lives in a physical place and before and in the presence of the eternal God.

When Paul says to the Thessalonians: *'May God sanctify you completely. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ'* (1 Thess 5:23)—he is praying for them to be holistic. **'Completely'** and **'whole'** are the Greek words **'holoteleis'** and **'holokleron'**. Both derive from **'holos'** and mean: **'be whole in such away as to reach the goal.'** Saint Paul is praying for their total completion in our Lord Jesus.

That God is One is also foundational to Christian pedagogy. Knowledge and wisdom have their source, growth and fulfillment in God who is One. We join together as a Christian community to learn together. When knowing and glorifying God through Jesus is understood as the source and goal of education, learning is permeated with spiritual life and integrated into a healthy wholism.

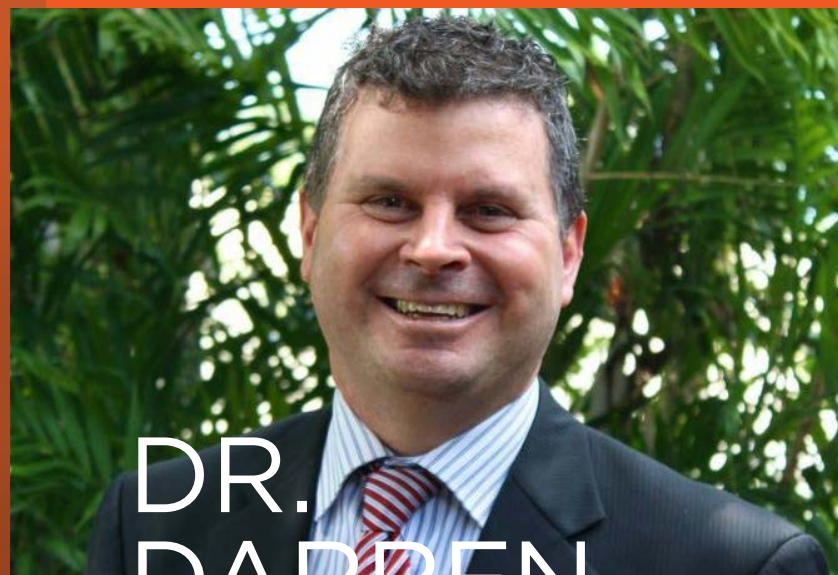
### **Life and learning are better together.**

**Better** emphasizes that God who is One is the foundation, source and goal of all Christian community and pedagogy. **Together** reminds us that we must not compartmentalize or fragment the Christian faith.

The biblical view of life and learning is an interconnected, healthy whole. We await that great day when *'Jesus will hand back the whole created order to the Father 'so that God may be all in all.'* (Christopher Ash)

### **Through Jesus everything connects, coheres, and is clear.**

You are invited to prayerfully consider the place of the school theme in your life and learning, in your family, and in your child's class and curriculum. Join us as we seek to further understand the importance of intentional holistic biblical living and learning.



## DR. DARREN ISELIN

(B.Teach., B.Ed., M.Ed., Ph.D. MACE) from Queensland, Australia, will help us launch our new theme in August.

Darren is currently is the Christian Schools Australia Executive Officer: National Tertiary Partnerships and Research. Prior to this, Darren served for three-and-a-half years as President of Christian Heritage College and 6 years as a Course Coordinator at the University of Queensland. Darren has also worked internationally as a leader within a multi campus International School in Hong Kong. Darren is passionate about Christian Education and knows how to cultivate relationships that see the flourishing of leaders, staff, boards and students within a variety of contexts.

**The SPH Theme Launch dates are  
August 13<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018**



# STEM *education*

as the *Catalyst* for the *Emergence*  
of Future Innovators

*As we live in  
an increasingly  
changing world  
of science and  
technology,  
innovations have  
become more  
important.*

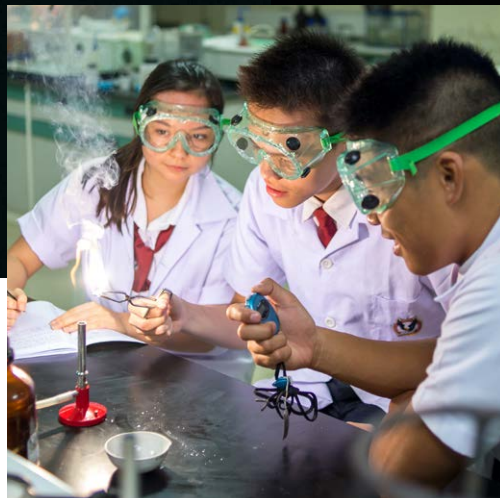
The need for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education has increased throughout time. In InTech Magazine, Francis Eberle pointed out the importance of STEM education in giving rise to the future innovators who will move a country forward<sup>1</sup>:

*“STEM education creates critical thinkers, increases science literacy, and enables the next generation of innovators. Innovation leads to new products and processes that sustain our economy. This innovation and science literacy depends on a solid knowledge base in the STEM areas.”*

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center of excellence at  
SPH Lippo Village

**Applied Science Academy**

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Students who like math and science classes seem to be decreasing in numbers. Reports from several institutions promoting STEM Education, such as AmGen Foundation and Change the Equation, find that teenagers tend not to enjoy their physics, biology, math, and engineering classes, despite their personal interest in those subjects<sup>2</sup>.

This sparks a question: what happens in these classes? Daniel Nichols writes, in an article from STEM Jobs, that students often cannot find the practical purpose of studying those subjects<sup>3</sup>. They often ask, “When will I ever use this?” and teachers have little or even nothing to say to answer this kind of question. The challenge of teaching STEM education lies in a school’s curriculum design and the teachers’ ability to connect the concepts or materials with the purpose and meaning of the procedure.

STEM Education is more focused on experiential learning. Brenda Berg from Coder Academy writes that STEM Education is very hands on and skill based education<sup>4</sup>. Students in the 21<sup>st</sup> century should be trained well to develop their capabilities in STEM fields beyond traditional approaches. UChicago News mentions that the “learning-by-doing” method helps students perform better in science. Science research projects are preferable methods that provide students with real experience, rather than the traditional theoretical approaches.

Recognizing the need for a hands-on STEM Education, Sekolah Pelita Harapan (SPH) seeks to meet the growing interest in science amongst our students. SPH Lippo Village is on its way to launching a

new program, Applied Science Academy, in August 2018. The SPH Applied Science Academy (ASA) is an enrichment program for Grade 10-12 students who have a passion for science. This program is founded to empower and nurture our student scientists by providing authentic exposure to research environments for scientific exploration.

To support this program, the school is investing more than **1 billion Rupiah** into new lab facilities with modern equipment as well as renovating one of the laboratories. For this upcoming program, SPH is collaborating with experienced professors and senior lecturers from Universitas Pelita Harapan (UPH) who will mentor the students.

This program is led by **Dr. Eden Steven, Ph.D.** who is the program’s director. Dr. Steven is an SPH Lippo Village alumnus who received a doctoral degree from Florida State University, specializing in Advanced Materials and Electronics. As a young Indonesian researcher, he and his team discovered the possibility of using spider silk and other Nano materials for electronic applications, such as advanced microchips. He states that advanced research should be accessible, not only for students at a doctorate level, but also for high school students.

Indonesia needs more science graduates and innovators to engage in the development of the country. We at SPH believe that the implementation of STEM Education and applied science should start early in a high school education to prepare many competent scientists in the future.

- 1 Why STEM Education is Important <https://ww2.isa.org/standards-and-publications/isa-publications/intech-magazine/2010/september/why-stem-education-is-important/>
- 2 Teens Like Science, Not Science Class, Study Finds [http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2016/06/teens\\_like\\_science\\_not\\_science.html](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/curriculum/2016/06/teens_like_science_not_science.html)
- 3 Students that say “I Hate Math” and What to Do about It <http://edu.stemjobs.com/i-hate-math/>
- 4 Why is STEM Education Important? <https://coderacademy.edu.au/blog/general/why-is-STEM-education-important>







God gifted humans with creative artistic ability that reflects the image of our Creator in us.

We are designed to be visual creatures. An article in T-Sciences states<sup>1</sup>:

*“Visualization works from a human perspective because we respond to and process visual data better than any other type of data. In fact, the human brain processes images 60,000 times faster than text, and 90 percent of information transmitted to the brain is visual.”*

The visual arts are primarily visual in nature<sup>2</sup>. We see visual arts everywhere, as drawings and paintings, in sculpture and photography, and on billboards. The visual arts are an integral part of our lives, for they allow us to express not only human creativity but also to convey the messages behind cultural values.

Sekolah Pelita Harapan continues to develop students' artistic talents through the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Visual Arts Department. Each year, the school holds the IB Diploma Visual Arts Exhibition in which Grade 12 students display their personal artwork. This year's exhibition, titled “Enigma”, was held from April 3-7, 2018. On display were various pieces of art from twenty-one Diploma Program students. Students submitted artwork that included paintings, digital printing, installations, photography and wood carving.

Through the Diploma Program (DP) Art Exhibition, students are encouraged to develop their artistic talents and skills by exploring visual arts through inquiry, investigation, personal reflection and creative application. Besides imagination, the process of art-making requires thorough research and critical thinking skills. Students are free to create many pieces of art that represent their concerns about issues. Each piece conveyed a conceptual meaning, ranging from a thought-provoking social critique to self-expression. Charis Makmurputra's drawing demonstrates how smartphones damage the young generation. His messy and disarranged drawing dramatizes the deteriorating brain of a young boy who is addicted to his phone.

This year's DP Art Exhibition was an achievement that students, parents and teachers can be proud of. Much of the students' time, energy, passion, and creativity were poured into the success of this exhibition, as well as the sustained support from parents throughout their students' working process.

1 <http://www.t-sciences.com/news/humans-process-visual-data-better>

2 <http://www.unboundvisualarts.org/what-is-visual-art/>

ENJOY SOME OF OUR STUDENTS' ARTWORK ►►►





**Assumptions** by Audrey Kurniawan  
*acrylic paint on photography*

For this artwork, I composed photography and painting. I did photography as a way of exploring new mediums, however as this is something I lack experience in, I combined it with painting. The photography is specifically done in black and white with the face of the subject unseen. This is done intentionally as I am trying to convey the emotions of the subject without any bias from the subject's expression. The point of this artwork is to convey the message that a perception of someone's emotion is entirely based on your their interpretation.

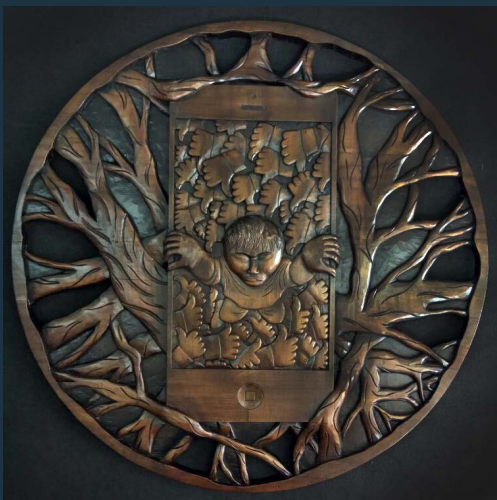
**Body of Money** by Calista Sudjono  
*digital illustration on print*

For this piece, I am focusing on the way society seems to be centered around money. Using color attribute, I am showing the way people love money and how their personalities are corrupted by money, represented by the color green. The figure is hugging herself as a way to show how people are so focused on money, and how they seem to value and care for money more than themselves.



**Beauty** by Benita Amadea Krisno  
*digital illustration on print*

This art piece represent Japanese history in paintings. Through the use of elements like their trademark facial characteristics and colouring. They aim to potray elegance.



**Alien** by Charis Makmurputra  
*caring on teak wood*

Creating the first man out of the earth marked the height of technological advancement. The smartphone is no doubt another great advancement for mankind, as we are able to connect with others within seconds. My artworks explore the overuse of the smartphone which mimics the isolation experienced by those who venture into space. Inspired by Art Nouveau motifs and Borobudur reliefs, my artwork aims to show the pressure that is created by social media to alter identity in order to be perceived differently.





**Would You Care More?** by Davina Wijaya  
*photography on print*

This piece intends to show domestic violence experienced by girls after marriage. I chose students as the subject matter because it shows girls of the same age who are fortunate enough not to be trapped in violence. Would the world care more if those subjected to violence were students of a well-respected school? The black and white of the picture gives more dramatic effect to ensure the audiences focus is on the picture as a whole instead of only on the small details.

**Jakarta, 2017** by Samantha Shanne  
*street photography on print*

"I discovered a rather grim truth about our social lives. These photos were taken at Glodok, Kota Tua, and SCBD. They are among the most crowded areas in the city where people come to interact, yet the amount of people actually interacting is equal to those owning phones. Thus, I created a parallelism between these two kinds of people. Those happily interacting with others are placed outside as they are connected to the outside world. Those with devices are placed inside."



**Emotions of Life** by Sunho Lee  
*mixed media (oil, acrylic, yarn) on canvas*

Because my artworks explore both the positive and negative sides of social interaction. Through the theme of 'Party' I portrayed two contrasting emotions felt while interacting with people: joy and sadness. Using complementary colors for the background, two different forms and colors of yarn, I contrasted these emotions to suggest contrasting experiences felt through social interactions.





**Raw** by Priscilla Indrayadi  
*graphite on drawing paper*

Christie Watson said, "Beauty found a way to grow in the ugliest of places." Within every being there is a masked beauty of sophistication and imperfections that is covered up. I used graphite to draw this woman who portrays the beauty in ageing.

**手 - Shou** by Felicia Cindyagatha  
*mixed media (acrylic on plaster, cane)*

手 (Shou) is inspired by a hyper-realist sculpturist, Marc Sijan. The subject matter of this piece is Oma Christine. She is chosen as the representation of many elders who use canes to support themselves as they walk. Through the existence of a cane, the elders are able to take a step forward, which creates the idea of the elder's fragility seen through the 'flying' wrist.



### **The Story of One**

by Kimberly Kolengkongan  
*drawing pencils (color pencils on paper)*

Maya Angelou stated, "There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you." This shows how important it is to share our story with others and to encourage them to do the same. Such is the concept of this drawing of my hand in this particular motion—as I would like to reach out, build new relationships and live a distinctly more colorful life.





*Seeing this broken and suffering world, we may be left in a dire pessimism. We can never fix all the problems in this temporary world that we live in. As sinful creatures, we are actually the problem. But this is not the end. Why? This is the key: we are new creations in Jesus Christ. When we believe in Jesus Christ, renewed by the Spirit, we are not what we were. As Paul said, “The old has passed away: behold, the new has come.” And it is coming later, but also now. Yes, now!*

**How this realization should enliven us!**

We can do something in this life, now. Our God is a living God. He is our Redeemer, Savior, and Healer.

We believe that when we truly are in Christ, God enables us to restore what has been broken. He sends us into the world to do his mission: to bring redemptive restoration to all things by living out his mission through Mission Service Learning. In this edition, you can find how Sekolah Pelita Harapan engages in redemptive restoration of all things through Science, Technology, Arts, and live out his mission in Mission Service Learning.



# NEW NEW NOW

## ◀ CREATION

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."

2 Corinthians 5:17

John 21:6,11

**"To take Jesus at his word and let down our nets in the simplicity of faith is one way in which to know the grand surprise of true success."**

**-Sir Marcus Loane**

When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish... but even with so many the net was not torn.





## Benefits of Mission Service Learning

Mission Service Learning (MSL) is a unique program that is integrated into SPH's curriculum. Through gaining real world experiences outside of the classroom, students get to put their faith into action. From a Christian education perspective, MSL is missional in nature. Roger Erdvig writes in ACSI's blog that in a Christian school, the Christian Biblical worldview ought to be implemented in all of its pedagogy:

"Certainly, the biblical worldview ought to inform how we teach, and not just what we teach ... Even the way in which we teach can (and should) be intentionally leveraged to develop every student's worldview."

SPH cultivates core Christian virtues through MSL as students are engaged in meaningful learning and authentic service that meet the needs of a community.

Here are five benefits of MSL:

### 1 Faith & Mission in Action through Serving Others

Christian faith must be demonstrated by loving deeds. Just as faith without works is dead (James 2:17), learning without action is insufficient. Our faith drives mission and service toward others. MSL is, in itself, consistent with the way Jesus delivered his teachings and why he sent his disciples on their mission. They demonstrated learning by immediately applying what they were taught by meeting the needs of people. MSL is the "hands-and-feet" of Christian faith.

### 2 A More Deep & Reflective Learning through Experiential Learning

MSL is application-based and experiential learning. It requires both students and teachers reflect on and respond to their learning. Reflective practices enrich their experiences, since students and teachers are encouraged to think about the larger world outside the classroom.

### 3 Developing Character & Leadership Skill

Through the real experience of serving others and engaging with community, students develop more generous characters and leadership skills. The process of learning and action can enhance critical thinking and organizational leadership skills by accomplishing a goal. From this, character traits—such as responsibility, accountability, kindness and altruism—may be developed.

### 4 Learning Empathy & Social/Cultural Awareness

In MSL, students leave their comfortable school environment to gain understanding about other cultures and diverse people. This helps students develop empathy towards others which fosters social, cultural, religious and socio-economic awareness. This counters any perceived sense of entitlement. In this way students learn that life and learning cannot be taken for granted or kept to themselves.

### 5 Promoting a Healthy Civic Engagement & Community Development

MSL builds a new compassion and capacity to care. Students are challenged to consider what they can do to improve social conditions in their country. This is in line with SPH's mission to develop a missional generation who is willing to be agents of change that transforms society.







In February, Grade 8 students went to Ambarawa. Students in Grade 9 went to Lampung, and Grade 10 students went to Jakarta, Manado, Toraja, and the Philippines to do Mission Service Learning. In April, Grade 7 students travelled to Sukabumi. We hope that each experience was a memorable time of learning that will inspire in students the desire to continue to grow as servant leaders.



**Vania Lee Suriato**  
*Grade 8, SPH Lippo Village*

*“The main objective was for us to learn about the daily lives of people who are very unpretentious. I experienced several memorable moments. Spending time with the SKL students stood out for me. I was not expecting to communicate well with them at first, but it really wasn’t hard. It was fun interacting with them. I was assigned to do household activities with one of the students. She helped a lot and what I thought was going to be a difficult assignment turned out to be very entertaining.*

*In conclusion, I have to let myself be more open to new experiences and get out of my comfort zone to learn new things. I learned that interacting with new people from a different environment is not difficult. Neither is doing household chores. I would never have known this if I had not gone to Ambarawa.”*



**Dan Admiraal**  
*Grade 8 Teacher,  
SPH Lippo Village*

*“Exploring and learning about God’s world happens in the classroom. However, it is often more meaningful when that learning comes through first-hand experience. Grade 8 students were able to do that this year during their Mission Service Learning in Ambarawa, in Central Java, from February 6-9.*

*The students became part of the local community in Ambarawa and experienced cultural life in a rural Indonesian setting. We teamed up with a local Christian school, Sekolah Kristen Lentera, and together worshipped in English, Bahasa Indonesia, and Javanese. We also played a number of traditional games, learned basic Javanese script, and taught English using the game Codenames.*

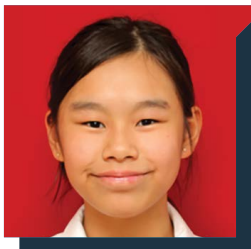
*Along with experiencing school life, we were also able to go into a local village and work alongside the people. Our students were challenged through the work they did in the rice field; on the lake with fishermen; in homes doing chores with women; and shopping at the local market. We learned what it is like to get really dirty and to work with our hands.*

*Upon reflection, it was evident that our students gained a much better understanding of and appreciation for what local people do each day, and how gracious the local people were in welcoming us into their village and their homes.*

*Now that we have returned to our normal lives, we hope and pray that this experience helps to shape our students to be ambassadors for God’s kingdom—to be a people who take delight in helping those in need and who appreciate how God has made us all unique, yet similar as His image-bearers.”*







**Nadelin Setiawan**  
Grade 8, SPH Lippo Village

*"We enjoyed a trip to Amabarawa on our Grade 8 MSL trip. There we learned to associate with local people. We toured popular tourist sites, such as Candi Songo on horseback and Kampong Pelangi, while being constantly drizzled on by rain! Through this trip, I discovered a different way of living. People there view harmony as a crucial part of community, as seen through their relationships with one another. The kampungs and schools that we visited work together to preserve Javanese traditions through language and food.*

*We had the opportunity to join them in preserving this culture during our visit to Sekolah Kristen Lentera (SKL). We learned to speak Javanese with our SKL buddies who were very patient in teaching us. We were blessed to witness patience as a popular Ambarawan trait when we visited Kampong Pelangi the next day. I was stationed in a household chores group with an SKL peer. An elderly lady taught us to cook and clean, Javanese style. My peer and I thought very highly of the lady's sincerity.*

*This trip signified a positive change in each of us. I now realize that communities on Java reflect a very positive ideal of life in the way they associate with others. We, too, should show kindness to others as willingly as they did when they invited us into their lives."*



**Gautami Dubey**  
Grade 8,  
SPH Lippo Village

*"The sun was shining brightly as we made our way to SKL. The peoples' smiles brightened our mood as they welcomed us with love and warmth. We expected awkwardness but as we talked together it was as if we were long lost friends. Something that I learned from this trip is to treat strangers like family. Throughout the trip manyvillagers opened their doors to us and offered us a variety of food and drinks. Just like the Bible mentions in Galatians, we are neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free. We are all created the same in God's eyes.*

*We treated each other equally because our social status didn't matter. We had hoped to embody Christ through our attitude and behavior. Even though there were a few ups and downs, people could see the light of God in us. We had the opportunity to learn more about Javanese culture, which is very open minded and believes in serving others. We served people in the village as part of the fishing group, doing household chores, helping in the rice paddy fields, and at the traditional market. Through this experience, we discovered how diverse Indonesia is as we were exposed to Indonesian culture. This was one of the most memorable trips I have ever been on."*



# LEARNING TO SERVE, SERVING TO LEARN



**Isabel Amara  
Poetri & Calvin  
Guswidi Putra**  
*Grade 9, SPH Lippo Village*

*“The MSL trip enables students to get outside their comfort zone and have new learning experiences. We had the opportunity to join a homestay program, which meant spending two nights in a village. This was a contrasting environment compared to Jakarta. We slept in a local house with stark darkness and a natural breeze. We spent our days teaching at SLH Gunung Agung and doing after-school activities with the locals. Other than teaching, we bonded with our host families and got to know their culture and lifestyle. Through it all, we learnt valuable lessons that we will cherish forever. This memorable trip has had a long-lasting impact on us as we learned and grew together from all our new experiences.”*



“You are about to learn without the confinement of classroom walls. Your teachers will be people in the community and your new experiences.” This was the introduction given to SPHLV Grade 9 students in an orientation meeting to prepare them for Mission Service Learning in Lampung, South Sumatera. Lampung was chosen as our MSL destination to connect with the three Sekolah Lentera Harapan schools there: SLH Way Pangubuan, SLH Banjar Agung and SLH Gunung Agung.

Students often associate “service” with donating items to organizations or to people in need. One goal of this trip was for students to learn how to serve in new ways. We worked with the SLH schools to design a program where SPHLV students would have opportunities to contribute their gifts and talents. In the process of serving, our hope was that LV students would step out of their comfort zones to learn more about themselves and about their roles and responsibilities in God’s world.

Some Grade 9 students participated in a homestay program to immerse themselves in the local community. All students were divided into three main groups to work with the three SLH Schools. They were involved in a range of activities including: playing sports and traditional games; working on a science project; learning how to make compost; leading learning stations, and assisting SLH teachers to teach classes; planting trees; making trash bins for the schools; painting a laboratory, the indoor court and outdoor sport fields; decorating the library; and drawing and painting a wall-sized logo.

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone*

*serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.*  
- 1 Peter 4:10-11

This MSL week was a great success. Students were covered in sweat, dirt, and paint, and they rose to each challenge. When we debriefed to reflect, students gave very positive feedback. Yes, they were tired, but they also felt a great sense of accomplishment. Some said that it felt good to make a contribution to the local schools. In our post-MSL survey, most students indicated that serving can be an enjoyable and a rewarding experience, especially when the outcome is to not only bless the communities they served but to provide them with life lessons not gained in a normal classroom. Students recognized how much they learned about themselves, about the world around them, and their capacity to make an impact. They also expressed the desire to have more interaction with the SLH students and to stay longer in Lampung to explore the surrounding area and learn about the culture. This signifies that the goals we set for our students—to learn how to serve and by serving to learn something meaningful about themselves and about God’s world—were accomplished.





## Valeska Purnama

Grade 9  
SPH Lippo Village

*"The MSL program is a great opportunity for students to get away from our daily routines and stress to try something new. MSL trips enable SPH students, who are accustomed to comfortable lifestyles the opportunity to explore new places and meet new people. Interacting with the SLH students in Lampung was a blessing to me. They were very welcoming. I had great conversations with them. My interaction with the SLH students showed me that we all live in the same world—God's world. These experiences will greatly help SPH students to mature and stay humble."*



## Anthea Phalosa

Grade 9  
SPH Lippo Village

*"MSL trips are great opportunities for me to break out of my 'group bubble' and learn how to mingle with unfamiliar individuals. They encourage us to offer our service to others instead of being on the receiving end. This year's MSL Trip to Lampung was the most memorable so far. The kindness and openness of students from the school we visited made my stay unforgettable. We came to offer our service but in turn, they offered their love and I returned home with cherished memories and life lessons. I observed the loving relationship between parents and children during our house visit and was reminded of the insignificance of wealth to attain happiness. It was a trip compared to none."*







# LEARNING ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

From February 26 to March 2, 2018, Grade 10 SPH Sentul City students enjoyed a special time of learning in Jogjakarta to deepen their knowledge and understanding of human rights. Thus involved direct interaction with people who are involved in different endeavors to care for those who have “lost” their rights.



**Marvella Elfreda**  
Grade 9  
SPH Lippo Village

*“The MSL trip is a service learning program worth doing because we leave our comfort zone to engage with people from various cultures, religions and backgrounds. In Lampung, we learned the importance of respecting others, valuing their culture, and learning to adapt to a new community. We helped enhance their facilities by painting their libraries, planting trees and painting their sport courts. Since SPHLV is a school with facilities that benefit us greatly, we wanted them to gain the same privilege we have. One of the life lessons we gained was to appreciate what we have, rather than complaining constantly about our ACs, swimming pools or the food in the canteen. Through the home visits, we realized that the citizens in Lampung view their religion as a huge part of their lives. Every student should go through this life changing experience. We are created to serve others just like how God served us in the first place.”*



YAKUM Rehabilitation Center, an institution that specializes in providing education for children with cerebral palsy, was the highlight of the trip. YAKUM provides equality in education and health. SPH students gained important information from children with cerebral palsy, parents, teachers, and volunteers.

In the YAKUM Emergency Unit students witnessed how the workers provide for elderly people. Even though ageing is inevitable, many do not realize how important it is to take care of and provide for the needs of the elderly.

Students also visited Bethesda Community Development Center to learn about HIV-AIDS. This institution provides people with HIV-AIDS with reliable and accountable information about how to get proper medical treatment. It also provides psychological assistance for people rejected by their community or by their families. People with HIV-AIDS experience many human right violations. A particular problem for them is the negative stigma associated with the disease.

Sukunan Village is a self-sustaining village that has developed an effective program to turn its waste into more valuable material. Its recycling program was founded as a solution to the waste problem of pollution in the nearby rice fields and rivers. Today, 90% of the villagers manage their own waste for the benefit of the whole village. This innovative mentality has transformed Sukunan Village into a tourism site and into a study center for people all over Indonesia.

Students’ hearts were opened to see difficulties in life as opportunities to care and to find sustainable solutions for community challenges. With reliable information, people experiencing difficulties, such as cerebral palsy, HIV-AIDS, and ageing, should not have to experience any human right violation. Our dream is that SPH Sentul City students will promote the wellbeing of all because God has commanded us to bring change to people’s lives with the love of Christ.



# CULTURAL LEARNING

SPH Lippo Cikarang undertook a field trip to Toraja from 13-17 November, 2017. Grade 11 and 12 students, along with five teachers, stayed five days and explored Torajan culture. Students learned about Torajan philosophies, ceremonies, and art. They had an opportunity to attend a funeral ceremony called Rabu Solo in a village next to Kette Kesu, which provided a deeper understanding of Torajan culture. Here are some reflections about this field trip.



**Natalia Yap**  
*Grade 12, SPH Lippo Cikarang*

*“Toraja is a region located in South Sulawesi known for its unique traditional dance, called Pa'gellu. The dance captures the Torajans' understanding of their environment, traditions, culture, and faith, making Pa'gellu a form of gratitude from the Torajans to the Creator. When I visited Toraja it was my pleasure to dress as a local Torajan and learn how to dance their traditional dance. The fact that Pa'gellu is usually performed during important ceremonies, including the day of the harvest and wedding ceremonies, made me feel I was carrying out an important role. I felt pride in being an Indonesian. While following the instructors' simple movements accompanied by the sound of drums and flutes, I thought about other Indonesian traditional dances and how these dances reflect my country's diverse ethnicities and cultures. As an SPH student, I often forget what being an Indonesian really means. Although we say we value diversity, I never understood the essence of it. Now that I have experienced it in real life, I realize that all cultures, ethnicities, and diversities are part of my Indonesian identity.”*



**Eric Laksmono**  
*Grade 12, SPH Lippo Cikarang*

*“I'm very blessed to study at SPH because the school gives me a patriotic spirit. Getting to know more about our nation, I realize that Indonesia is rich in diversity. It is amazing how two different places on the same island can have very distinctive cultures. Our visit to Toraja was a unique experience for us to learn more about Indonesian culture. It was the first time for most of us to visit Toraja. I experienced much more than I thought possible. As part of our program, we visited Kette Kesu, a traditional village, including its cemetery. The cemetery was unlike any other, it was somewhat scary, but it also contained the beautiful traditions that the community values. There, coffins are hung on mountains and noble families are placed in a boat-like shaped house. Ceremonies, such as the Ma'nene' and Mangaluk Tomato, honor ancestors. Experiencing Torajan culture has opened my eyes, rejuvenated my spirit, and helped me appreciate Indonesia's rich culture.”*



"EACH OF YOU SHOULD USE WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED TO SERVE OTHERS, AS FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ITS VARIOUS FORMS. IF ANYONE SPEAKS, THEY SHOULD DO SO AS ONE WHO SPEAKS THE VERY WORDS OF GOD. IF ANYONE SERVES, THEY SHOULD DO SO WITH THE STRENGTH GOD PROVIDES, SO THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE PRAISED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. TO HIM BE THE GLORY AND THE POWER FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN."

- 1 PETER 4:10-11





# MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR CHILD'S *FIRST 5 YEARS*

*“The first five years have so much to do with how the next 80 turn out.”*  
– **Bill Gates.**



**The first five years of your child's life are critical to their development.** God created humans in such a way that early childhood is foundational for their future. It is the most rapid period of brain cell and neuron development [1]. Early life experiences affect their physical, cognitive, emotional and social development. Everything they see, hear, touch, smell and taste stimulates their brain, creating millions of connections that influence learning, health and behavior.

Research shows that children who receive excellent early childhood education “tend to be more successful as they grow older and are more competent socially and emotionally” [3]. Making the most of your child's first five years is the best investment in their future success. Milton V. Uecker, Director of the Lowrie Center for Christian School Education, states that [4]:

*“It is important that families choose Christian schooling at the beginning of their children's education since early education is the foundation for not only later academic success but also a biblical worldview.”*

Sekolah Pelita Harapan (SPH) provides a complete family package of specially designed Early Childhood Education programs for children aged 1-5 years. We provide holistic Biblical Christian education in an enjoyable, stimulating learning environment to enhance your child's growth.

- **Spiritual Life:** By teaching them about God and leading them to faith in Jesus Christ.
- **Language-rich:** Through songs, stories, daily conversations and instructions.
- **Math concepts:** By teaching basic colors, shapes, geometry and patterns.
- **Structured Play:** To develop body coordination, motor skills and their confidence.
- **Social Skills:** Through their interaction with other children and adults

They learn basic values of sharing, kindness, respect and obedience to parents and teachers. Our teachers also train them in responsibility, when they eat together and tidying up their toys.

Our expert teachers attend to each child's needs. Our facilities provide a secure environment for young learners to explore and enjoy the learning process. We believe a holistic Christian education should start early to lay strong foundations. Children are ‘fearfully and wonderfully made’ (Ps 139:14)—“a gift from the Lord” (Ps 127:3). By educating young children with a holistic Christian education, we believe they will flourish spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially.



# Our Future Agents of Change



**JORDAN SHERMAN RUSLI**  
(GRADE 6 - SPH LIPPO VILLAGE)

Indonesia is struggling to distribute electricity evenly across the many provinces of its vast archipelago. Papua has the lowest Electrification Rate<sup>1</sup> (45.93%) among all of Indonesia's provinces<sup>2</sup>. There are many rural communities and mountainous areas in Papua that have no access to electricity at all.

SPH Lippo Village Grade 6 student, Jordan Sherman Rusli, chose this problem as his topic of inquiry for his PYP exhibition. He focused on how solar panels might address the electricity problem in Papua.

"By using solar panels, we can produce electricity and not waste resources, because we use the sun's almost infinite power. Coal and other types of non-renewable energy sources will run out," he said.

Solar panels capture sunlight and convert it into DC (Direct Current). A solar inverter then converts DC into AC (Alternate Current), which produces electricity in real-time. Since its power source comes from the sun, solar panels only work when the sun is shining. That energy can be stored in solar batteries. One of the benefits of using solar energy is the reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions.

In his Personal Project, Jordan made a website through which where we can make donations that will be sent to Papua to provide light bulbs powered by solar panels. We are so grateful that Jordan, even at his young age, has the passion to find a solution towards a real problem in Indonesia.

Read more about his research at [jordan-rusli.squarespace.com](http://jordan-rusli.squarespace.com)



# Cherish Every Moment in SPH Sentul City & Pelita Harapan House



HEZKIEL (CLASS OF 2011 - SPH SENTUL CITY)

My name is Hez. I graduated from SPH Sentul City in 2011 after 4 years of living in PHH (Pelita Harapan House). After graduation, I went to Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where I received my bachelor's degree in electrical and computer engineering. I was then hired by Philips Medical as a software developer engineer. I have returned to my home country for a few months to support Indonesian politics before I go back to school to pursue my Master's degree in Computer Science.

When I first started living at PHH, I was surprised to learn how many roommates I would have—nine! Fortunately, when I reached 11<sup>th</sup> grade, I roomed with only three people, and in Grade 12, with just one. Although this experience seemed unpleasant at first, it helped me to understand how to behave around and to be mindful of other people. I cherish the relationships I made during my time at school and in the dorm. SPH and PHH taught me many life lessons. My experience of living with nine other people shaped how I interact with others. At first, I minded about others too much, in that I tried hard not to do anything foolish. I made life-long friendships. We grew close because we were in the same boat, sailing towards the same goal—surviving the IB Diploma program.

The desire to love and care for others should be our foundation in building relationships that go beyond rules and fears. I developed good relationships with my teachers, supervisors, and staff members at school. I viewed my teachers as mentors, my supervisors as big brothers and sisters, and staff members as friends. I continue to respect each of them.

When I lived at PHH, my parents were not there. I soon realized that my freedom required me to choose to become responsible and independent. We can always choose to disobey and disregard our teachers, supervisors, and/or foster parents, but what good is that to us? I chose to respect my supervisors and parents. I trusted their judgment and thinking because they only wanted the best for me. I am grateful to know that PHH continues to have a foster family here. The environment at SPHSC and PHH has become even more loving, caring, and disciplined, rooted in the right foundation.

During my first year of college, I found the transition fairly easy and manageable, due to my previous school and dorm life experience. The workload was similar to IBO. I knew how to manage my time responsibly, and I could adapt well to dormitory life. I hope the current students at SPHPC cherish their time at school. At college, I found myself reminiscing about PHH and SPH, my friends and supervisors, group devotions, and chapels. These all have helped me become who I am today.

This text from Hebrews Chapter 12:7-11 is very meaningful to me, and I hope it is for you, too. *"Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."*





# Finding Joy in Life's Trials



**BRETT VINCENT BONNEMA**  
PRINCIPAL,  
SPH SENTUL CITY

**C**ount it all joy, my brothers.

As I read these words in James Chapter 1, I think I know where the author is going with this. Then I continue, *“Whenever you meet trials of various kinds.”* Wait, what?

The Lord called me to teach in a Christian school in the United States ten years ago after graduation from Calvin College. Two years ago, after finishing graduate study in Educational Leadership and feeling called towards school administration, I again hoped to find myself in a Christian school. When the offer to serve as Assistant Principal at Sentul came last year, my wife and I immediately knew it was the right decision. One year later, we couldn't be happier with where the Lord has called us. Moving around the world with three young boys comes with its share of trials. We're a long way from family and what

was once familiar, but the Lord has been true to His word and we have experienced the joy that comes from those trials.

I remember using James 1:2 when speaking at an evening gathering as a Grade 12 student. Even though I believed what James wrote, I wasn't sure I wanted to completely put it into practice. Fifteen years later I found myself using this passage again as I taught my Grade 9 Biblical Studies class at SPH Sentul City. Some of the same thoughts came flooding back. Does James mean *all* trials? There must be some problems that do not fit with this verse, right?

Earlier this year, in my Grade 8 Individuals and Societies course, we were studying the concept of power, particularly the power displayed after the fall of Rome. My students and I saw many examples of

leaders displaying an earthly view of power as they fought for control of the world. Then we noticed that many of their behaviors during that period are still on display in leaders today. We began comparing the earthly definition of a powerful leader with Scripture's definition. The differences were stark. The questions running in my mind were like my reactions in Bible class. Is it worth displaying biblical power as a leader? Can a biblical leader even be successful in today's world?

Through a series of discussions, my students and I realized that even though it might look foolish, as leaders we would rather be defined by the standards Scripture uses. We would prefer to follow a leader displaying biblical power and respect the way he or she obtained that power. In Biblical Studies, I was encouraged by the stories my students shared about times they saw joy come out of difficulties. I was impressed with their ideas about how SPH Sentul could help students experience growth and joy when facing the common trials of school life. They mentioned how valuable conversations with teachers and administrators are when they are facing discipline for arriving late too many times, or when struggling with a broken relationship.

We do see the trials James writes about in James 1:2 come up each day at SPH. Thankfully, James did not end his letter there. Chapter 1 verse 12 says, *“Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life.”*

What a joy it is getting to guide students through daily, weekly, and even yearly trials with the knowledge that in today's trials God is at work in His creation to make *All Things New!*





# God is My Provider



**SAMUEL HAMILTON BELLEQUE**  
MUSIC TEACHER,  
SPH PLUIT VILLAGE

Growing up in a small community as the youngest of four, I never expected to be the one to leave home and travel abroad. I thought for sure one of my three older siblings would be the first to do that. However, God had a much different plan for my family.

My parents are missionaries, so I grew up travelling around the USA. Despite all that travelling, my siblings never really left the safety net of my parents. Both of my oldest siblings live in the same town as my parents, and my other brother still lives with my parents. I was different. After high school, I travelled to the other side of the country to pursue my education and passion for music at Corban University. I met my wife Jessie at Corban and married her in my Junior year. Over the next two years, we finished up our school work and each graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. During the last year of my schooling, as we began looking for teaching jobs in our field, we began to see more of God's complete control in our lives.

Corban has had a long-standing relationship with SPH, and because of this, I attended many presentations about SPH schools. Jessie and I had always been interested in applying but never saw any positions listed for music teachers. God did not open that door until I was finishing up my elementary music teaching practicum. Looking through the SPH website on a whim, there was an open music position at Pluit Village! Jessie and I had prayed, God opened the door, and here we are in Indonesia!

There have been some struggles in this first transition year. Beyond the struggle of living in a new culture, there are also the difficulties of teaching in a school with an unfamiliar curriculum, new colleagues, and

lofty expectations. I can honestly say that the best and most valuable resource to get through the tough days has been the fantastic community I work in and its utter devotion to put God first in everything we do. This is the most uplifting community I have ever been a part of. The love teachers and staff have for the students goes beyond words and description. In their actions, I see God's love being spread around to students in need academically, emotionally, and spiritually. Each day I see teachers take an active role in molding these students into holistically-developed, God-seeking new creations. God's new world is breaking into the lives of teachers and students here at SPH Pluit Village.

God has shown his plan for me this year—one of growth and constant learning. I am learning to be more patient with students,

staff, and parents. I am learning that God demands all of me all the time to benefit those made in His image. I am learning that being made new is a process, something that does not occur overnight. The biggest lesson I have learned is that God is a cross-cultural provider. He provides for us in ways we may not fully realize. Through Him, my wife and I could transition to this culture and teach something we love to students who we have grown to deeply care about.

I have grown so much during these first months in Jakarta amongst this amazing community of believers. God is at work at SPH Pluit Village to create a new generation of business people, teachers, and world leaders. He is equipping others to go into the world for Him to spread His Word. We have had to learn to let Him take over and make us new. I hope you let Him do the same for you.







# Every New Beginning Comes from an Ending



**THOMAS CHRISTOPHER JONES**  
GRADE 6 TEACHER,  
SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

**M**atthew 6:33 tells us, "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." As a follower of Christ, it can be challenging to separate God's will from our own. I have discovered that the more I submit to God's will, the more I see of Him.

My family and I have spent the past nine years at SPH. I have been surrounded by amazing leaders and colleagues who have challenged me to display excellence in life. Part of my personal growth has involved working towards my M.Ed. from Liberty University and, most importantly, being a husband and father that my wife and children can be proud of.

My extended time in Indonesia is due in large part to the amazing Indonesian colleagues I worked with. The parents of my students have been kind and gracious in many ways. I have been made to feel that this is home. Building relationships with students has been a vital part of my teaching. One way I have been able to accomplish this is through coaching in the after school sports program. Building relationships outside of the classroom allows for a deeper and richer understanding of what motivates and inspires students. I encourage anyone who has not coached to see what happens when you make a connection in a competitive setting outside the classroom.

God has shown me much grace, patience, and forgiveness. In so doing, I have a much greater desire to submit myself to His authority, knowing that His plan is far superior to anything I could imagine. I teach this truth to my students as well as to my own children. Ultimately, God leads us and we must follow. Sometimes where he sends us does not align with our desires. I encourage my brothers and sisters in Christ to look closely at your own journey and reflect on how closely you are aligned with God's will.

Each one of us is richer for our time spent at SPH. My prayer is that our experiences at SPH will continue to bless all who have been a part of this amazing chapter of our life.





# Every Day Might Be His Last

## Drinking from God in the Drought of Suffering

Article by **Ryan Chase**

RYAN CHASE is a pastor at Emmaus Road Church in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. His wife is Barbara and their son is Caleb.

### Prolonged suffering is like sweltering heat.

For my family, the drought began in a dark ultrasound room that foreshadowed the grief to come. At first, the news was vague—there might be some congenital birth defects. But over the next eleven weeks, foreboding fears materialized and our dreams withered and died. Our twin sons were born by emergency C-section nine weeks premature, their joints contracted, their muscles motionless. The culprit was a single mutation in a solitary gene.

Isaac and Caleb spent the first four months of their fragile lives in the NICU, precariously sustained by a web of ventilator tubes, IVs, feeding tubes, and probes. Eventually we took our babies home to our own mini-ICU, where 24-7 care for severely disabled children became our new normal. Three years later Isaac died. We never expected the boys to live long, yet his death still blindsided me. Caleb has now outlived his brother by two and a half years, but we wonder every day if this one will be his last.

Whether it comes as chronic illness, disability, death, or any of a million other forms, suffering is like scorching heat to the soul. It threatens to turn once-fruitful faith into a wilted husk. But in my own suffering, God's word has taught me that the heat of hardship can also drive me deeper into the all-sufficient, refreshing grace of God.

### Hope for Our Parched Souls

Jeremiah was no stranger to suffering. He endured reproach and hostility. His own hometown conspired to murder him (Jeremiah 11:18-23). He was acquainted with loneliness. Political turmoil and moral decay were the norm in his day. He lived through the Babylonian destruction of Jerusalem.

Jeremiah has been called the Weeping Prophet because of his numerous laments. In one lament he asked this haunting question: *"Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail?"* (Jeremiah 15:18). God graciously replied to that mournful query. Thus says the Lord: *"Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not*

*see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."* (Jeremiah 17:5-8). In the months after our sons were born, these words became an oasis of hope to my parched soul—soothing my fears, alleviating my anxiety, and sustaining my faith.

### Where Have the Rains Gone?

The first thing God does in this text is reframe my interpretation of heat and drought. When we suffer, it is tempting to think hard thoughts about God, to conclude that he has abandoned us, or to assume he is punishing us. But these words assure me that heat is a normal part of life in a fallen world. Even when it seems the rain of God's pleasant blessings has stopped, God has not abandoned us. In fact, he graciously intends to use seasons of suffering to deepen our experience of his sufficiency and to display his glory. I've learned that when the heat comes, I will thirst; and when I thirst, I will trust someone. Whatever I rely on for strength, security, and satisfaction, that is what I trust. It's inescapable: I will either make flesh my strength, or God will be my trust.

*"Cursed is the man who trusts in man," but "blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord."* (Jeremiah 17:5, 7). This is pivotal. The difference between blessing and curse, the fruitfulness and the barrenness, hinges on the object of our trust, not the difficulty of our circumstances. Whether we languish or thrive when the heat comes depends on where we look for help. Tragedies, trials, and trauma don't cause fruitlessness; trusting in anything other than God to satisfy us does. God is glorified in our suffering when we bear fruit through the heat by relying on him as our all-satisfying source of strength.

### Broken Cisterns Are Tempting

I know how easy it is to turn to Netflix



to get me through days in the hospital or to imagine that money would solve my problems. I also know how easy it is to use suffering as an excuse for spiritual apathy. I'm praying less because life is really hard right now. Or, I'll watch TV because I don't have the energy to read God's Word. But Jeremiah 17 exposes my heart. It's not that I'm ever too exhausted to rely on something for help. It's that I choose broken cisterns instead of the fountain of living waters (2:13). God is not "a deceitful brook," as Jeremiah feared. He is a never-failing stream through the most stifling heat. No drought can diminish the fruitfulness of the one who trusts in the Lord, because God himself is an inexhaustible reservoir of soul-satisfying water.

This is what Jesus promised in John 4:14: *"Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."* Speaking of the Holy Spirit, Jesus promised, *"Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water'"* (John 7:38).

### **Where I Am Sinking My Roots**

Through the heat of caring for disabled sons and the drought of Isaac's death, I've found those promises to be true. Now as I anticipate the torrid drought that Caleb's death will bring, I will continue to sink my roots into that river through ongoing repentance and faith.

First, I forsake all shallow confidence in the flesh and turn away from trusting in myself, in others, or in created things for my security and joy. And when the heat comes, I confess to the Lord every sinful response to suffering: wallowing in self-pity, grumbling to God, or envying those who have the life I wish I had.

Then in faith, I send out my roots by the stream, fixing my thoughts and desires on all God's promises in Jesus. Treasuring him through the drought sustains obedience and testifies to the world that Jesus himself is better than every other gift he gives.

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The **PARENTING PROGRAM** equips and empowers parents with a holistic view of educating and training a child in the way of the Lord (Proverbs 22:6). Parents learn new knowledge, beliefs, strategies and skills to make good and healthy choices in raising their children in the fear of the Lord (Proverbs 1:7).





We are Horace and Emily Tjakra, parents of Kristian (Class of 2016) and Xamantha, who is studying in Grade 12 at Sekolah Pelita Harapan in Lippo Village. We first heard about SPH through a family recommendation. Our children's cousins attended SPH many years ago.

We relocated from California to Jakarta in 2008. After visiting SPHLV we concluded that the school and the surrounding neighborhood would be a good fit for our children. We bought a property in Lippo Village so that they would not waste hours in traffic and could apply extra time toward sports and other extracurricular activities. Most importantly, SPH offered our children the best balance of a rigorous IBO curriculum, well qualified teachers, and a strong Christian emphasis.

As a school that promotes holistic education, SPH provides a wide variety of extracurricular activities to develop students' talents. We hope the school will provide more opportunities for students who need academic tutorial support and continue to create a supportive atmosphere where parents and teachers can have an open and transparent relationship.

One of SPH's strength is its focus on parenting and its scheduling of regular parent seminars. We think SPH should provide seminars about social media and up-to-date apps that our children use so that we can tackle current issues, such as social media safety and cyber-bullying. A seminar that informs parents about proper and effective online academic resources for our children's learning would also be useful.

For parents who have not yet joined SPH's parenting program, we highly recommend it. The seminars are very useful and can be an excellent opportunity to network with other parents.



My name is Holland Simanjuntak. I am married to Tiurida Hutabarat and we have two children, Samuel Simanjuntak (SPH Lippo Village Class of 2010) and Jordan Simanjuntak, currently studying in Grade 8.

I first knew about SPH when we moved to Lippo Village in 1993. My son, Samuel, joined SPH in Grade 9 after transferring from the International School of Ho Chi Minh City (ISHCMC), Vietnam. Later, Jordan joined SPH. As an Indonesian expatriate, I was entitled to send my sons to an international school during the four years of my overseas assignment. Upon returning to Indonesia, we decided to send our sons to SPH because it is known as one of the best schools with strong Christian values, and also because of its proximity to our home. I enrolled my children in SPH because of its clear Christian vision and mission.

One of SPH's strengths is the school's high commitment to having parents actively involved in educating their children. SPH regularly holds parent seminars and parent-teen conferences to equip families. The seminar topics are always helpful and the speakers are highly qualified to lead the topics. I hope SPH continues to hold these creative conferences and involve CPR's and the PAG in its planning, as the school maintains its overall high standard of education.





Our journey to Sekolah Pelita Harapan began when God called us to ministry in Indonesia. We homeschooled our children for our first two years in Jakarta. Later, upon moving to Karawaci, we were introduced to SPH. We had heard so many wonderful things about the school, and we were keen to tour the campus and meet the faculty.

It was all we had imagined and more! You could sense that the teachers really cared about the growth of the students, both academically and spiritually. The design of the campus was impressive and seemed to cater to the physical needs of the students.

Our children have loved school at SPH ever since! They continue to be challenged towards excellence in their course work; compassionate engagement with others; a deepening of their relationship with God through His Word; staying active in sports, dance, and theater; and developing and enjoying friendships. As parents, we appreciate that there is a passion for nurturing the hearts of our children as well as their bodies and minds, knowing maturity in all areas of life is needed for them to become lasting and meaningful contributors to society.

All students are given the gift of a student Bible when they begin at SPH. This highlights the centrality of God's Word in educating our children as Scripture teaches in Deuteronomy 11:19: *"Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up."* With eight to ten hours at school each day, how grateful we are that God's Word permeates that time!

SPH extends the same concern for families, that they may grow under the Lordship of Christ, by offering seminars and retreats focused on biblical parenting and living. What an incredible benefit that helps build the character and community that is Sekolah Pelita Harapan!

THE REVEREND JAMES and Nanci Long  
Parents of SPH Lippo Village students: Anna (Gr. 9),  
George (Gr. 6), Mary (Gr. 4), Della (Gr. 2)

## How do children and teenagers learn about dating and marriage? How do parents learn about how to raise their children?

Some mothers at SPHLV and SPHKV are studying Gary Smalley's book, *Sacred Parenting*, to learn more about parenting. Another group of young people in a church I visit regularly is studying how to search for a life partner using his other book, *Sacred Search*. In both books, Gary Smalley emphasizes the 'why' question in the journey of parenting, as well as in the search for a 'sole mate' (instead of a 'soul mate'). Our first priority in relationships is to understand the 'Why' of getting married and of having children. The 'why' determines the 'who' and the 'how-to'.

A lack of Christian mentoring and modeling means that young people increasingly look to TV soap dramas and to K-pop celebrities for their ideals about relationships. This is a concern for parents who want to guide youth along the path God has set for them. Without the correct 'why' to the question of marriage and children, parents might give up on their relationships when life is hard, or just raise children so that one day they will take care of them when parents grow old, or view their children only as the pride of the family and as the successors of the parents' own dreams.

God's 'Why' is found in His Word—the Bible. Marriage is God's gift to society and children are God's covenant command. We should not deviate from His decrees which are the foundation of the family. The commands to *'not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds'* (Romans 12:2), and to *'teach children to love God with all their lives'* (Deuteronomy 6:5-6) should always echo in the life of every Christian parent as we teach and train our children.

When families do not function in this way, we should not be surprised to see lonely children, parents without authority, and worldly-minded teenagers. May God strengthen all the SPH families!



**SOEKARMINI**  
PARENTING  
PROGRAM  
COORDINATOR



# CONGRATULATIONS

TO GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018

## SPH Lippo Village

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## SPH Sentul City

Abelhard Moshe Jaime Jauwena, Agung Andrea, Alif Reza Indra Roovers, Alvin Kowanda, Amanda Cornelia Tjhin, Angela Dyah Shima Cahya Maharani, Angela Grace Swecker, Aryasatya Wikara, Aurelia Priscilla Tanasal, Bella Fidelia, Bernadette Tissa Anggita, Christin Winata Halim, Darius Alamsjah Pane, Edwin, Febe Sarah, Fredy Johan Lianggara, Gabriel Tangke Rantetoding, Gabriella Dinda Ayu Utami, Genesis Lemuel Ginting, Hae Eun Hong, Jerrycho Tanaya, Jessica Tarida Nahomi Lumbantoruan, Joachim Braska Miquel, Kezya Gunawan Wijaya, Kristoforus Deodato Indra, Lauren Allegrasari Haditono, Lee Seung Hee, Lidya Devega Rajagukguk, Marry Ann Putri Nurcahya, Nadia Eliora, Olivia Klandita, Otilingam Sivakumar Premanand, Rachel Amabel Lianto, Ricard Felix, Ryuta Dharmaputra, Sally Salim, Samuel Jason Wijaya, Samuel Palungan Rantetoding, Tadeus Azriel Kartawijaya, Verena Aurelia Delova, Willienn Octavianus Salim, Wira Gavra Maulana, Woo Sung Koh, Yoo Ri Na

## SPH Lippo Cikarang

Alisa Anwar, Alveria Cecilia, Celine Solomon, Crisella Mareta Harsono, Edrik Mulia Tjhie, Filbert Miko Linardi, Kezia Elizabeth P. Laksmono, Kim Mi Seon, Lee Jun Hwoa, Natalia Yap, Park Je Young, Victoria Suryana, Yip Shawn, Yohanes Eric P. Laksmono, Yoon Seong Wook

## SPH Kemang Village

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**“Love one another  
with brotherly  
affection. Outdo  
one another in  
showing honor.”**

ROMANS 12:10 (ESV)

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Living creatively for Christ in the home is the acid test for any Christian man or woman. It is far easier to live an excellent life among your friends, when you are putting your best foot forward and are conscious of public opinion, than it is to live for Christ in your home. Your own family circle knows whether Christ lives in you and through you. If you are a true Christian, you will not give way at home to bad temper, impatience, fault-finding, sarcasm, unkindness, suspicion, selfishness, or laziness. Instead, you will reveal through your daily life the fruit of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, and all the other Christian virtues which round out a Christ-like personality.

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