

# THE *Highlight*

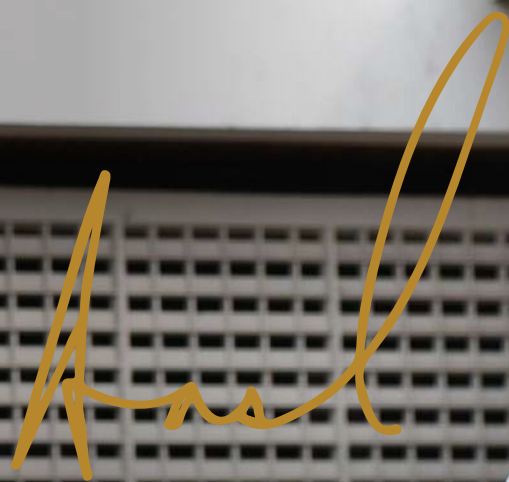
41<sup>ST</sup> EDITION • 2019

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SPH Lippo Village  
Holds its First Science  
Academy Exhibition.

**Page 46**

Sekolah Pelita Harapan  
continues to promote and  
create an environment where  
everyone is connected.



"I WANT TO LEAVE THESE WORDS WITH YOU. THE VISION AND  
MISSION OF SPH IS UNIQUE AND IMPORTANT. YOU NEED TO  
LIVE IT OUT, NOT JUST TALK IT OUT."

- PHILLIP NASH

TRUE KNOWLEDGE • FAITH IN CHRIST • GODLY CHARACTER

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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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This is my final editorial for the Light Magazine. I always enjoy getting an early glimpse of what is in each magazine, for they capture significant moments in the life of our group of 5 schools.

This edition summarises much of what I have enjoyed about working in SPH. After 26 years, our schools are growing stronger and are creating even more opportunities for students to develop in true knowledge, faith in Christ, and godly character. I hope that as you look through these pages you will see that our schools are providing many opportunities for growth in academic attainment, social skills, spiritual life and physical health.

A Christian school is naturally concerned with the spiritual life of its students, but it is still a school. Our goal is to train up well educated disciples of Jesus Christ who make an impact in the world as they carry out the purpose and responsibility of all humankind: to be God's stewards, caring for his world by using their gifts for his glory. The Cultural Mandate, given at the dawn of creation to Man, calls us to prepare young people for a life of service.

We do this through our curriculum, which equips students to be life-long learners, critical thinkers, and compassionate and bold citizens who bring positive change in the world. Our new Applied Science Academy in Lippo Village, and the project-based learning approach in Pluit Village, are both examples of how we train and equip students to tackle real world problems creatively.

Our academic goal is not the short-sighted seeking of top IB scores so that a student can be accepted into a prestigious university (although this is what we do achieve). Rather, it is to produce people of integrity and character who understand that their purpose in life is to bring restoration and flourishing into every sphere of life. This means we challenge students to think about how they can use their abilities and education for the good of the world, not for themselves. This is radically different to other schools.

When you look through these pages, you might be tempted to think that all we do is just what other schools do, and that is partly true. But our holistic approach focuses on growing the person, not just their knowledge

and skills. Anything we do is only as good as the reason for doing it. If done for selfish gain it will not amount to much. If done for God and for others, it has eternal significance and great effect.

I am proud of our academic achievements. When I compared our IB results from last year to those of the other international IB schools in Jakarta, we were the best. When I look at our international testing results (ISA), we are better than international schools in the Asia-Pacific, and much better than all other schools who completed the tests. When I look at the universities our students gain entrance to, I know that we have helped them enter into top quality higher education institutions which will all help them experience the most success.

I am most proud of the character and ability I see in our graduates. They are willing to serve others with their gifts, engage in society, and take up leadership in university life and then beyond. Our alumni are making their mark in the world. This speaks well of our purpose as a school, our quality programs, and our teachers. The vision of our founders is being fulfilled.

As you look through these pages, be aware of these things and appreciate that this is what quality schools do for their students. We serve them as whole people, made in God's image, with the goal of equipping them to be people of influence in whatever field God calls them.

It has been a great privilege to serve this community, and I wish you all the very best for the future. Do not take SPH for granted. Recognise the unique opportunity to have your children learn and grow up in such an educational environment. Encourage them to make the most of the opportunities our schools offer as displayed in these pages, and then be proud of who they are becoming.



**PHILLIP NASH**

HEAD OF SCHOOL SPH LIPPO  
VILLAGE AND COORDINATOR OF  
PELITA HARAPAN SCHOOLS



## ALL SPH MUSIC CONCERT

# A Celebration of Student Talent from All SPH Campuses

Of all his creation, God granted humans the capacity and creativity to develop art, music, and culture to reflect our Creator's beauty and harmony in diversity. Throughout history, humanity has celebrated music and art as part of God's common grace. Without artistic expression, life would be colorless and uninspiring.

A diversity of music and creativity was evident at the All SPH Music Concert, held on Saturday, February 9, 2019. This concert brought together all five SPH campuses: Lippo Village, Sentul City, Lippo Cikarang, Kemang Village and Pluit Village. Mr. David Hamot, SPH Lippo Village Ministering Arts Director, explained why this combined concert was held:

"The aim of this concert is to celebrate students' gifts and to enable fellowship among the SPH schools across Jakarta. We want to bring out the best from our students and are glad to be able to do this concert again after a break of two years. Our hope is that students are encouraged by performing together with all SPH campuses"

What made this concert unique was the variety of performances on display. The diversity of student talent, including ballet, modern dance, hand bells, symphony orchestra, traditional music, choirs, and bands was inspiring. The concert covered a wide range of music genres - from classical music like "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" by J.S. Bach, to traditional Indonesian songs like "Arbab", "Sipatokaan", and "Janger";

from children's folk-songs to popular songs such as "I Feel Good". The concert reached its climax when choirs and bands from all five campuses joined together to sing "How Great is Our God".

Ultimately, it was not only about the great performances, but about giving glory to God, the giver of our talents. This concert brought SPH families together and created a very special experience for everyone involved.

The concert was evidence of how we are always "Better Together". We thank God for the success of this concert. We hope to see many more All SPH Music concerts in the years to come!





SPH SENTUL CITY

# 25<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Celebration

On January 19, 2019, SPH Sentul City held a very special 25th Anniversary event. Families, teachers, and staff engaged in many fun family-friendly activities. The celebration began with an opening performance of the “Poco Poco” dance – a traditional Northern Sulawesi dance – and also a talent show. Many other interesting activities were held including making “Nasi Tumpeng” (a traditional Indonesian celebratory food), face painting, and sports activities. During this wonderful event we witnessed the closeness of the SPH Sentul City community.

Ibu Stephanie, a teacher at Sentul, described this special sense of community:

*“I think the best thing about SPH Sentul is the community that we belong to. Our relationship is very tight. It is a very supportive community where everyone can grow and learn together.”*

Head of School, Mr. Matthew Mann, said:

*“Something we have noticed in our school over time is that children are happy to be here. It is one of the most distinctive things about SPH Sentul. That is why a Saturday family fun day is an appropriate way to celebrate the 25 years of operating as a school.”*

On March 21, 2019, the school held a Thanksgiving Celebration to remember SPH Sentul City’s establishment 25 years ago. All of the SPH community – the founder, leaders, teachers, staff, students, parents, and alumni – gathered in the SPH Sentul City gymnasium. A highlight of this event was the giving of gifts to teachers and staff who had served for 25 years. These teachers are:

Ibu Harumdah (School Principal), Ibu Yulvita Hadi Yarti (Senior School Teacher), Ibu Theresia Dwiyantri (Head of HRD), Bapak Dayat Hartoto (GA Housekeeping Staff), Bapak Suproni (GA Field Staff), Bapak Tamsir (GA Field Staff) and Bapak Yahya (GA Field Staff).







We are grateful for their commitment to SPH Sentul City over such a long period of time.

The celebration was filled with musical performances by students and with parent and alumni testimonies. Ryan Adhy Pradhana, who now serves as an officer in Indonesia's National Police Headquarters, along with other alumni, recalled precious memories from when they attended SPH.

SPH's founder, Bpk. James Riady, reminded us in his speech about why SPH Sentul was established. He went on to encourage students to maximize their talents to bring transformation to this broken world.

*"You need to pursue your God-given, unique talents, but it better be also combined with a special calling God has put in your heart to make this world a better place."*

The celebration ended with a tree planting ceremony led by Pak James and Ibu Aileen Riady. Mr. Phillip Nash, Mr. Matthew Mann, and Mr. Brett Bonnema joined in the tree planting, along with kindergarten students.

Founded in 1994, SPH Sentul has undergone many changes. Commencing as an SMA (High School), it added SMP Junior High School) and SD (Elementary School) in subsequent years.

As recently as 2018, Sentul expanded again to add a program for 2 and 3-year-olds! Originally a national school, it has changed curriculum over the years. In 2003, SPH Sentul City became the first school in Indonesia to offer all three IB programs.

SPH Sentul City is currently undergoing a facilities renewal process. Original learning spaces are being upgraded to meet contemporary educational standards. We pray that the Lord Jesus will continue to use the ministry of this school to bless thousands of children over the coming years.



## SPH LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

# Celebrating God's Blessing through Cultural Festivity

Each of us is born into a family with cultural traditions that are preserved from generation to generation. For Chinese people, in China and in ethnic communities around the world, Lunar New Year is the most important festive holiday of the year.

Sekolah Pelita Harapan celebrated Lunar New Year with many exciting activities, including a costume parade, Chinese calligraphy, making dumplings, and traditional games. We also decorated every corner of the school with Chinese decorations. At SPH Lippo Village, some Junior School students had the chance to learn more about the meaning behind why Chinese New Year is celebrated. For example, Grade 5 students learned about the meaning of Angpao, the glutinous rice ball “Tang Yuan”, and about Yu Sang tossing.

Students also participated in a sharing session with our amazing guest speaker, Ibu Lillian. From her talk students learned that as Chinese Christians we must value our culture and seek to understand its symbolism because it contains life wisdom and many important values. Above all, we must put God first before our culture. It is important to discern which cultural values are in line with biblical truth so that we can be firm in our Christian identity, while also living out the wisdom of our cultural heritage.

For example, Lunar New Year emphasizes the abundance of blessings, but what does it mean to be blessed? According to the Bible, blessings are not merely health, longevity and prosperity, but are the joy of knowing God and being favored by him through Jesus. The most important thing is not the length of our life but how we fulfill God's will and accomplish his purposes as long as we live.

On the China Christian Daily website<sup>1</sup>, Rev. Li from Jianxi states that Chinese Christians can view these traditions from a different perspective. In line with this thinking, Rev. Elijah from Shanghai believes that Christians should have a correct view of the Lunar New Year celebrations. He adds:

*“Now many [Chinese] people are not superstitious anymore during the celebrations, so the celebrations do not affect Christians. Christians can eat, drink, and be merry during [Chinese] New Year without any involvement in superstitious matters.”*

God can use many things to show his blessings, including our celebratory days. What matters most is our perspective as we participate and how we preserve positive cultural values in line with Christian values.

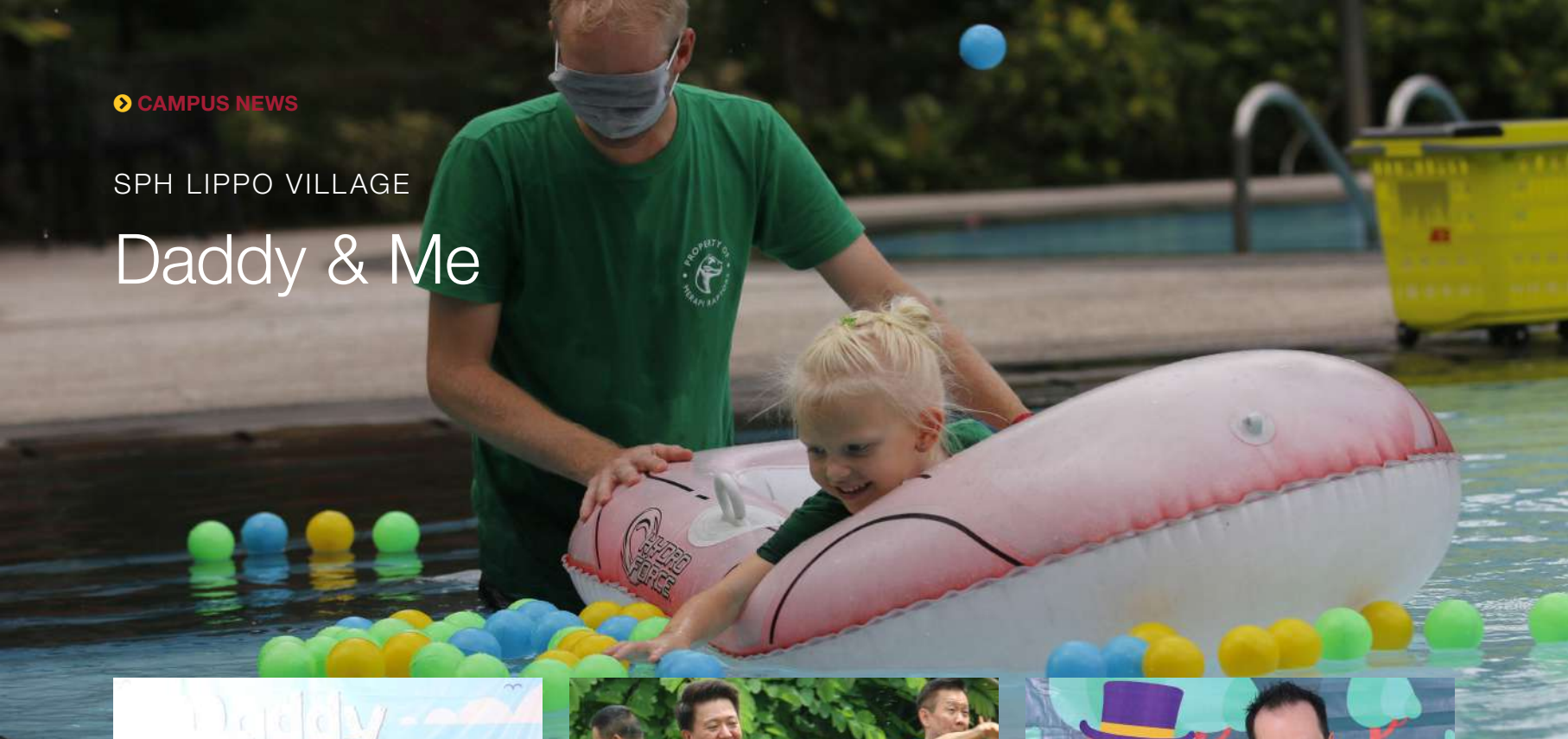


1. [http://chinachristiandaily.com/news/church/2017-01-13/-annual-debate--on-chinese-tradition-and-christianity--should-christians-celebrate-chinese-new-year-\\_3826](http://chinachristiandaily.com/news/church/2017-01-13/-annual-debate--on-chinese-tradition-and-christianity--should-christians-celebrate-chinese-new-year-_3826)



SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Daddy & Me



In megacities like Jakarta, fathers are often so caught up in the hustle-and-bustle of their careers that they have difficulty finding time for their children. When they arrive home from work they are so tired. It is hard to find the energy to work at building close relationships with their children.

The Daddy & Me program aims at rebuilding intimacy and warmth in the family, especially between fathers and their children. SPH believes that children need to grow holistically, not just through academic excellence, but with strong family foundations and healthy relationships with their parents.

The Daddy & Me event began with a talk show and sharing sessions between fathers, mothers, teenagers and younger children. Children and fathers then wrote letters to each other. Fathers and their children had a special time together, pouring out their hearts openly and building a warm relationship. After concluding their heart-to-heart time, fathers and children gathered in the field to play exciting games. The father and child team that worked best together received a prize.

The program closed with a family lunch together. Eating lunch is often a very ordinary activity, but this time it was expected that parents focus on interacting with their children at the dining table. No gadgets were allowed. This program blessed many fathers.

A parent, Mr. Steven, gave this testimony:

*"It was a great idea for SPH to organize this event to encourage parents - especially Dads who normally spend less time with their kids - to spend quality time together. I enjoyed every session, starting from the talk which was very relevant and practical. The topic was about how loving God limitlessly teaches the next generation to love God also. This is not an easy task but the tips and examples given were helpful. I appreciated the time I was able to spend writing a letter to my older daughter Shermaine. It has been a really long time since I last wrote her a letter. Thanks again to the organizing committee for the time and effort they put into arranging this program. It was a special and meaningful day for me and my kids. We were still talking about it for some days afterwards. Well done to the team."*

We hope that through this event many fathers are reminded again of their God-given role to lead their whole family in God's ways, where everyone in the family can experience God's love and can flourish.



SPH LIPPO VILLAGE, GRADE 7 MSL

# Newspaper Bags & Conducive Music



What is significant about newspaper bags? For approximately 20% of the world's population they might seem to be meaningless pieces of garbage. Grade 7 students recently had the partial experience of living in poverty. For our first day of Mission Service Learning we were tasked with surviving 3 grueling 25-minute 'months' which involved manufacturing newspaper bags, convincing shopkeepers, innovating new designs, and putting up with the shopkeeper's absurd conditions just so that we could live in Mr. Jason's ("King James") kampung. We were also faced with the looming deadline of paying for one family member's education. Selling paper bags for an income proved a bothersome task.

While some thrived, making designer bags with various ornaments, others were forced into selling personal possessions such as shoes and

wallets. The desperate villagers either clawed their way up the economic ladder or dragged others down with them callously. Many of us learned during this experience the amount of power which middle men who interfered with the sales have. While some shopkeepers demanded the latest design, others went for the most effective and durable bag. If we didn't evolve according to their demands, we would have been left to the clutches of homelessness. Surprisingly, over the course of these "three months", only one group failed to pay for the use of King James' facilities. As the months progressed, times got tough and shopkeepers demanded more for less. This cornered us, so we had to come up with one-of-a-kind designs. But this could compromise the durability of the bags, rendering them useless and unsellable. This may seem like a fun little simulation, but it does contain some

aspects of reality. Across the globe, people must work under difficult conditions just to earn a basic living. This burden is passed down from generation to generation. This is often referred to as the poverty cycle. These individuals have the potential to excel in society, but don't have the opportunity. This is where the Be Sharp foundation comes in.

'Be Sharp' is an organization that helps kids be sharp. They utilize music as their 'blade' to end the poverty cycle. Music has proven to be more useful than just stress relieving. Music increases efficiency and improves memory. This is crucial in the business world. Many successful businessmen and businesswomen were fueled by their upbringing with music. We were blessed with the opportunity to partner with 'Be Sharp' to help give children hope for a better future.



SPH LIPPO VILLAGE, GRADE 7 MSL

# Sekolah Budi SD Visit and Pasar Obral

Indonesia is constantly growing and advancing. Growth involves change and that means we must try to solve problems such as poverty. Indonesia's growth and development impacts many people. For example, when starting to mine a mountain for resources, traditional living is sometimes destroyed, homes have to be moved, and local people are left without a way of providing for their families. Grade 7 students at Lippo Village wanted to help people who go through these challenges.

The Grade 7 team went to Sekolah Budi SD where they did sports activities and read English books, hoping to connect with students and help those who are going through difficult times.

## Sekolah Budi SD Interview 1

Jin Wan Kim (SPH student) interviewed a student from Sekolah Budi SD who expressed how much he enjoyed playing together with SPH students because it was nice to see someone new. He also described the difficulties of living in his neighborhood. "What is needed around here," he said, "is better and safer transportation. With the roads being narrow, traffic is a huge issue. Students have to walk in vulnerable or dangerous areas."

## Sekolah Budi SD Interview 2

Jin Wan Kim interviewed another student named Vallen. She said she would like Sekolah Budi SD to have a Middle School and High School program. She expressed this wish because she would like to continue her education into the future. In Indonesia, there is a huge drop-out rate from middle school and high school.

It is estimated that 2,061,360 students left school in 2017. The nation is in a critical phase. We need to build more schools and create more opportunities for students to go to school. Schools are not being built fast enough, especially high schools. It seems that a majority of Indonesians do not see building schools as important and therefore not enough money is spent in this area.

We learned many things from people who are living desperate lives because they are unable to afford basic education. We believe Indonesia needs to improve its education system so that the nation can advance. Perhaps this change begin with small actions and thoughts. We hope that as Grade 7 students we can make even a small impact that might lead to someone else having a brighter future.

Another way we chose to serve the community around us was to hold an event called Pasar Obral. This event allowed nannies, helpers, drivers, office boys, and field staff to be able to buy daily necessities. At the Pasar Obral people on low incomes could buy clothing that was still in good condition at affordable prices. Audric Widjaja interviewed multiple customers who attended the Pasar Obral. They unanimously said they really liked Pasar Obral because items were cheap and there was a lot of variety to choose from. They also liked that the items being sold were still in good condition.

Keona Setiawan, one of the students who helped as a cashier, gave her perspective.

"Seeing a lot of people buying items made us happy because we knew we were helping them. They seemed happy as they shopped because they were buying items they might not be able to afford at normal retail prices."

We believe the Pasar Obral was a great event as we were able to serve others. Through the money raised at Pasar Obral we were able to help people at the Be Sharp foundation.



SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Grade 10 Mission Service Learning



**“I don’t ever want to leave!”**  
**“Do we really have to go back now?”**

These sentiments, shared amidst tears and hugs, express how eighteen Grade 10 LV students felt as they said goodbye to their new friends on their final evening in Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines. Letters were exchanged with promises made to keep in touch, symbolizing how hearts and minds together had been impacted by God on this MSL trip. I was blessed to be given the opportunity to serve – blessed to be a blessing.

For ten days our students enthusiastically embraced a different culture through song, dance, food and service. In turn, they were embraced by the generous hospitality of our local partners: Life College and the communities our students served - Bubusawin Elementary School and High School, as well as Manggapin Elementary School.

On Sunday, February 11th, 2019, the students performed two songs in a moving Praise and Worship service before a congregation of 3,000 people. The next day, students enjoyed candid discussions with the Assistant Mayor to understand how a city is run, including their eco-



**AURELIA KALESARAN**  
GRADE 10, SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

I have always had a passion to serve, particularly in my home country. I applied to participate in the Grade 10 LV MSL trip to Nias because I felt compelled to serve in a more isolated, rural area. Having the mindset to serve helped me endure through the extreme change to my lifestyle in that underdeveloped island that is often disregarded by fellow Indonesians.

The facilities were limited – even basic necessities such as a working toilet were scarce. Nevertheless, I continually reminded myself that one small act can make a huge difference. Living in a crowded city like Jakarta, we are often distracted by its demands and fail to appreciate the little things in life such as having conversations that might brighten someone’s day. As I pondered the vastness of nature that God created, I realized that amidst these poor living conditions, God’s grace is present and still nourishes His people.

Even with their drastically differing lifestyles, everyone is still fundamentally the same. As I stepped out of my comfort zone, engaging and conversing with as many people as possible, I began to discern a thinking pattern in which they see no hope for their future. No longer viewing the people we were serving with a shallow perspective, but seeing them as people who lack financial stability, God opened my heart to notice how they need validation. Simple conversations served as sweet reminders to enlighten hope in God. This altruistic attitude brought me into a state of euphoria knowing that I put a smile on their face just by the simplest of gestures, such as a high-five.

This experience taught me how to become selfless as I learned how to put others’ needs before my own. I prioritized their happiness over my own comfort. I was humbled by how they find happiness in the simplest of things. It was heartwarming to see the smiles on their faces. Even with limited access to healthcare and education, they treated us with respect and welcomed us gladly. I believe that nothing we do is ever done in vain. Throughout my MSL trip, I realized that one small act can transform lives. I was blessed to be have the opportunity to serve and be a blessing.



friendly and no-littering policy. This made the students appreciative of their environment and the civic decisions required to maintain this.

Students had opportunity to develop leadership experience, planning activities to share God's grace and love by helping to rebuild an outdoor stage for Bubusawin High School. The team spirit was contagious and inspiring. Some helped with the stage while others organized games and activities with the local students. It was fun to see the local people's love of Karaoke singing which was a constant feature of most places we visited. With this music background, our students served with lots of laughter and full hearts. As a tangible means of showing Christ's love they presented hygiene packs to the local children which contained toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo and face cloth.

The community's thankfulness was evident through the preparation of a whole roasted pig, and their sharing of a traditional performance. It seemed only natural to use this setting to have two students, Marvella Elfreda and Josiah Fennell, share their testimony. God was at work and it was only the beginning of the week!

Our second project required a wake-up call at 4am the next morning to trek through small, shallow rivers and jungle to reach the Manggapin community. Students marveled that the Principal of the Manggapin Elementary School made this trek daily! Again, games and gift hygiene packs built bridges of friendship. This school was visited by our school last year, and it was humbling to see their need for better and more up-to-date resources.

The needs are many and obvious in the places visited. The LV students were under no illusion that they had all the answers, nor were they the 'solution'. Instead, by offering God's grace and love through respect, friendship, compassion and involvement in small ways, our students and the communities they served were impacted. Seeds were sown. Students spoke of wanting to continue beyond this MSL. God is at work.



## SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Junior School Drama: "A Heart to Change the World"



The SPHLV Junior School performed a musical titled "A Heart to Change the World" from March 13-15, 2019. The play demonstrates how a transformed heart helps us extend God's love to everyone by our being compassionate, generous, and thankful to God.

This musical drama involved Junior School students from different grade levels as cast and stage crew. It also involved teachers who managed and directed the play, and who designed the costumes. Because the story centers on people from different places around the world, cast members wore costumes that represented various countries.

Students, parents, teachers, and staff members were moved by the performance. What was unique about this drama was the clear, biblical message and how this story reminds us of our school's theme, 'Better Together'. SPH communities must love God and love others. In so doing we will have a heart like God's to change the world.





SPH KEMANG VILLAGE

# Fro\$en: A Frozen Parody

Who doesn't like Disney's "Frozen"? Frozen is an all-time beloved Disney animation about two sisters, Elsa and Anna, who go on a journey of self-discovery and find true love. From January 11-12, 2019, SPH Kemang Village performed a twisted version of the musical Frozen.

They called their comedy version "Fro\$en".

"Fro\$en" was an independent production planned, arranged, directed and performed completely by students. Jemima Tobing (Grade 12) initiated this production one year ago with her friend, Keren Ryant. Both Jemima and Keren acted as directors – writing the script, choosing the actors and actresses, and planning almost the entire event.

Their strong commitment to making the production inspired their classmates to form a core committee comprising Febri Daneswary, Hannah Nielsen, Jemima Tobing, Kayra Dermawan, Keisha Zefanya, Keren Ryant and Thuraia Kayla. Besides this core group, the production crew, choreographer, heads of set and props, heads of costumes, head of sound and light, head of documentation and ticketing, and a stylist were essential to the show's success. SPH KV teachers, Mr. Joel Holmes and Ibu Roselta Anggorosari, served as the supervisors. The whole process required hard

work and great teamwork from everyone involved.

Besides planning the performance, students had to manage administrative responsibilities including finding sponsors, promotion, publication, and selling tickets. Students not only learned valuable skills through this process, but donated fifty percent of the ticket sales to the Ronald McDonald House Charities Foundation which provides health facilities for children. We are grateful that our students have used their God-given talents in theatre arts to give back to the school community as well as extending God's love to those in need.

By the end of the show, everyone could see that the students' hard work had definitely paid-off. Everyone enjoyed the show. We could feel the bond within the SPH Kemang Village community strengthening as we witnessed the incredible power of working hand-in-hand. A commendable effort and strong teamwork from students, parents, teachers, and staff is an amazing testament of our school theme, 'Better Together'. To God be the glory!





# SPH Spelling Bee 2019



The final round of SPH's annual Spelling Bee was held at SPH Pluit Village on March 22, 2019. Students in Grade to Grade 6 from each SPH campus participated in this competition which helps students gain knowledge by expanding their vocabulary and enhancing language and cognitive skills.

This spelling competition is not focused on winning or losing; rather it trains students to develop sportsmanship qualities and collaborative skills. The Spelling Bee initially begins with the Classroom Round in early February, followed by the Grade Level Round and culminating in the Final Round.

The competition was divided into groups according to year levels. The degree of difficulty was adjusted according to the capabilities of students. Audience members were impressed by how well students mastered difficult vocabulary, especially Grade 6 students. For example, one of the required words to spell was paleolithic - a prehistoric era distinguished by the development of stone tools. This word is considered complex even for adults!

We praise God that the SPH Pluit teachers and staff managed to organize and coordinate this large event so professionally. We especially appreciate the hard work of Mrs. Anastasia Marks, the coordinator, and the whole SPH Pluit team for their wonderful teamwork!

## SPH PLUIT VILLAGE

# Senior School Visit to Cikananga Wildlife Center

God created humans to cultivate and take care of the earth (Genesis 2:15). One way we do this is by protecting and preserving endangered species. SPH Pluit Village senior students have been learning about animal conservation in one of their science units. At the conclusion of this topic, students and teachers visited the Cikananga Wildlife Center at Sukabumi in West Java, on December 7-9, 2018.

The Cikananga Wildlife Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and their habitats. It aims to assist government efforts to rescue and preserve Indonesian wildlife. It also works to enforce laws created for the protection and rescue of native animals. The Cikananga Wildlife Center

accommodates, trains, and cares for confiscated animals and releases them back into the wild.

Our students volunteered to participate in the animal rehabilitation program. They learned directly from conservationists about the rehabilitation and conservation process. Staying at the center gave students first-hand experience of living amongst wild animals, preparing their food, and even cleaning their cages.

Through this experience students learned how humans have ruined the habitats of many wild animal species and have cruelly hunted endangered species for their own greed. SPH educates students in the classroom and beyond to expose them to the real world and to learn firsthand about God's amazing creatures.





SPH KEMANG VILLAGE

# Teachers & Staff Appreciation Day

As a Christian community we are called to serve and appreciate one another. We are grateful to God for our dedicated teachers and staff who work hard to ensure every student receives the best possible education.

Proper appreciation for teachers and staff encourages everyone to stay motivated and engaged in what they do. Research shows that when appreciation is expressed there is a mutual benefit for both parties. This strengthens relationships between teachers, staff, students, and parents, thus creating a more positive environment where everyone can flourish by using their gifts and talents.

SPH Kemang Village is a tight-knit community. Teachers, parents, students, and staff are closely connected. This connectedness was evident at the Teachers and Staff Appreciation Day, held on Friday, February 15, 2019. This annual event organized by the SPH Kemang Village Parent Advisory Group (PAG) aims to show appreciation and gratitude to the teachers and staff who work at SPH Kemang Village.

The PAG provided breakfast and lunch for all teachers and staff, as well as for the field staff including cleaning and security staff. There was even a massage service for teachers. The following day the PAG held a sports day where parents, teachers and staff played basketball, volleyball and ping pong together. Ms. Thessalonica Brenda, one of SPH KV's Kindy teachers, really enjoyed this event:

*"This was a great event to build relationships between parents, teachers, staff, security, and ISS staff. We had time to set our differences aside and play sports together. It was intense, but also lots of fun - a wonderful program!"*

The whole community was excited to be involved. Through these events we can see there are no barriers between us. As Saint Paul said in Galatians 3:28: *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."*

SPH LIPPO CIKARANG

# AVENSIS 2019



AVENSIS is an annual sports tournament held at SPH Lippo Cikarang. This year, seventeen schools participated in the event held on January 22-26, 2019. The sports played were soccer and basketball.

SPH Lippo Cikarang teams gained many awards in several tournaments. The highest award went to the Elementary School Basketball team who achieved 1st place. Other teams, such as High School Basketball, Junior High School Basketball and Soccer, earned 2nd and 3rd places respectively.

Winning tournaments is great, but playing sport is not just about winning or reaching the top. It's about stewardship of the bodies God has given us. For the players, sports tournaments are a way of developing character, integrity, teamwork, and collaborative skills.

AVENSIS also aims to establish and maintain effective communication and friendship between schools. Last but not least, through events like AVENSIS we witness how well SPH LC's tight-knit community supports and encourages each other. We hope to see you at next year's AVENSIS!







SPH SENTUL CITY

# Students Successfully Win 3 Competitions at National English Olympics 2018

SPH Sentul City students joined the National English Olympics 2018 at Bina Nusantara University (BINUS) from October 28th – 31st, 2018, earning three awards from three different competitions. The students who participated were Charlize Forlani Nurmawan, Adrian Francis Irawan, and Kireyna Aurelia Santoso.

- ▶ Adrian Francis Irawan earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Storytelling Competition
- ▶ Charlize Forlani Nurmawan earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Speech Competition
- ▶ Kireyna Aurelia Santoso earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Newscasting Competition

At the National English Olympics high school students from across Indonesia compete in 5 fields: Debate, Speech, Scrabble, Newscasting and Storytelling. This year's theme was "Shaping Notions".

Adrian writes:

*"NEO is a competition where people from all over the country come to compete. It isn't just about competing to see who is better, but about making friends. That is the perk I love the most about joining NEO. We not only support each other and also take each other's minds off the competition. I felt like I could be myself when competing since I am very expressive and I like to act as well. At school I usually keep my acting and expressing myself to a minimum, but in the competition, I am able to let go of any restrictions and just be myself. This is another good thing about the competition."*

*I could only achieve this because of the training I received from my coaches Bu Stephanie and Alexia. They have taught me how to say certain sentences with emotion; how I should act, how I should express myself, and most importantly, how to be myself."*

Kireyna says:

*"I am an introverted person. From a young age I have tended to avoid competitions, preferring to stay in my comfort zone. Over time I have realized that I cannot stay like this forever. If I continued to avoid challenges, I would never be able to improve myself. This school helps to completely change my perspective and outlook on my life. My friends and teachers have become an inspiration. I have often thought to myself, "If others can do it, why can't I?" NEO taught me that we are stronger than we think; that we are able to do things we never thought we would be capable of doing. Having the right mindset and working hard means we can accomplish our best. There were definitely times in the competition when I felt hopeless, believing I could have done better. At the end of the day, I realized that it wasn't about winning or losing. Instead, the competition was about the experiences, the people, and developing one's own sense of achievement. That, for me, was the most important lesson I learned."*



SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Honorable Mention Award at Harvard Model Congress Asia

Several Senior School students from SPH Lippo Village participated in the Harvard Model Congress Asia (HMCA), an annual event organized by Harvard University students. This year, HMCA was held at the National University of Singapore from January 4-6, 2019. Eleven students from Grades 10-12 participated. One student, Victoria Rose Liando (Grade 10), was awarded an Honorable Mention.

Harvard Model Congress Asia (HMCA) is a government simulation conference. High school students from many countries gather to simulate the process of government by playing the roles of officials in the United States government and other international political bodies, such as the United Nations and ASEAN. Students from more than twenty nations work together to address challenges facing governments around the world under the

guidance of Harvard University students.

We had the opportunity to interview Victoria Liando who told us more about her experience.

**Can you tell us about your experience at the HMCA?**

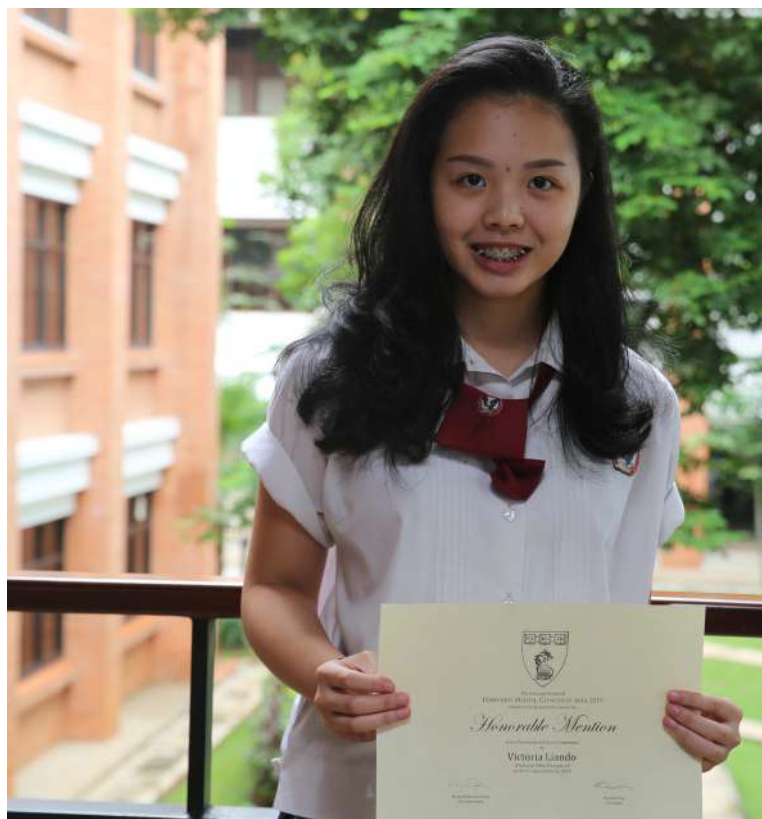
"I chose to be part of the USA presidential cabinet. Through this experience I was able to see the inside functioning of Donald Trump's cabinet and how policies are made about issues such as education reform and campaign finance. It was a unique experience to see five hundred students from all over Asia come together to talk and be passionate about big issues in the world."

**What values or skills did you learn and develop through joining HMCA?**

"There were several skills that I developed. Public speaking is something that I am not really comfortable with, so over the past few years,

through participating in the Speak Up Club and other school events, I have had to learn how to express my thoughts and ideas. I realize that if we do not speak up and do something about life issues, then what is the point of living? Another important skill was learning how to collaborate with people from many countries like China and the USA whom I had only just met. It is important to be able to collaborate with people from different backgrounds and cultures. This helped me learn how to negotiate and to compromise whilst respecting others' differences."

It was a privilege for SPH Lippo Village to be able to send a team of students to this year's HMCA. We congratulate Victoria on her success. Praise the Lord!







## SPH LIPPO VILLAGE First Place in the Digimark Business Competition

Two Grade 11 SPH Lippo Village students, Matthew Foo and Brian Mandala, won the Digimark Competition conducted by Bina Nusantara (Binus) University on Friday, November 30, 2018!

High school students from various schools throughout Indonesia participated in two rounds on the university campus. In Round 1 students had to create a marketing plan for the Advan Digital Marketing Campaign. During Round 2 students were given 15 minutes to present their proposal of the Digital Marketing Campaign, which also included prototypes they had constructed for the plans.

Reflecting on their success, Brian testifies:

*"The Digimark competition was an experience I will never forget. The competition consists of two parts, writing the report and making a presentation, both of which were equally challenging. Being a team of two and having to deal with the pressure of school exams, over a few sleep-deprived nights we worked hard at finishing the report and presenting our best capabilities. The Digimark competition taught me an abundance of life lessons. I have a better understanding of the business world, from creating a marketing report to pitching ideas to professionals. I was able to grow in patience and self-determination because of challenges we had to overcome. I am thankful to everyone who encouraged us and gave guidance throughout the competition. Winning would have been impossible without them. Furthermore, I would like to thank my partner Matthew for doing the whole journey together with me through both hardships and success."*

We are grateful to God that Matthew and Brian successfully achieved first place! We also express thanks to Ibu Ezmieralda Kallista, the Grade 11 Business Teacher, for her tireless support.

## SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Eye Healthcare for Everyone

Eye health is an important part of our body's general well-being, yet many people do not give enough attention to it. This year, World Sight Day was held on October 11, 2018. This significant annual event is hosted by the World Health Organization (WHO) along with The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB). One of the global action plans for the WHO involves raising people's awareness regarding eye health, and making eye healthcare and eyewear available for all. To this end, World Sight Day aims to advocate for quality eye healthcare around the world.

At the beginning of this year, the Parent Advisory Group (PAG) held an eye clinic program for staff at SPH Lippo Village. The eye clinic did eye health check-ups for several staff and gave away free eye glasses according to their needs. This program was held to raise our community's awareness of the importance of eye health and to help the SPH LV staff who needed eye care.

Many staff acknowledged that this program was really helpful for them, especially those with eyesight problems. We thank God for our parents' servant-heart, that they were willing to serve the community in this way. This program has become a great blessing to many people.





SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Grade 10 MYP Personal Project Exhibition

As a Christian IB school, SPHLV educates students to be aware of important issues that are happening in the world around them. We encourage students to discover their interests and passions, thus leading them to find their life calling and to bring redemptive restoration in all that they do. A wonderful opportunity that SPH students have to grow is by participating in the Personal Project.

The Personal Project (PP), the capstone of the Middle Years Program (MYP), is completed in Grade 10 and culminates in the PP Exhibition. There students display their research projects in booths according to their personal interest and research foci over the previous nine months. Grade 10 students engage

in self-directed inquiry and demonstrate their ability to generate new insights and deeper understandings through in-depth investigation. The skills, attitudes, and knowledge required to complete this project over an extended period of time allows students from SPH LV to flourish as life-long learners.

The Personal Project focuses on 'learning how to learn', and develops skills such as communication, collaboration, organization, self-management, reflection, research, information and media literacy, creative and critical thinking, and the transfer of learning. It also fosters intercultural understanding and global engagement—essential qualities for young people today.

This year SPH Lippo Village had seventy-five students complete the Personal Project. There were many inspiring projects which covered a variety of topics, including suicide prevention, empowering disabled communities, healthy food planning, sustainable technology development, music therapy, an anti-body shaming campaign, and promotion of Indonesia's cultural diversity amongst others. One project that caught many people's attention was Justina Odellya Rudyan's design of a wind turbine made of recycled materials. Her goal was to create a functional wind turbine that can help financially struggling families ease the burden of expensive electricity bills, whilst promoting the use of clean renewable energy.





Teachers, other students, and parents all came to celebrate the students' success on February 22, 2019. They asked questions and gave personal assessments on the projects. Parents and teachers played an important role in the success of the Exhibition by supporting their children throughout the process. Many students acknowledged the support that their teacher mentors and parents gave to them.

This year's PP Exhibition was a great experience for the whole SPH community. We believe the Personal Project not only fulfills academic requirements; it provides life-changing experiences which have a lasting impact on students, shaping their actions in the future. We look forward to seeing more inspiring projects next year!



## SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Wife of Former US Ambassador Speaks about Major Trends in US Universities

Sofia Blake, the wife of a former US Ambassador to Indonesia, visited SPH Lippo Village on Thursday, December 6, 2018 to talk to senior students about higher education in the United States. She started by talking about the transformative power of education and how it can impact the world. Mrs. Blake also spoke about the need to build resilience before anyone can make a real impact in the world. She highlighted the importance of “stretching ourselves” by stepping out of our comfort zone to face the challenges we meet in life.

Mrs. Blake spent time explaining how to navigate the “complex waters” of studying in the USA.

She pointed out three significant current trends in American universities:

1. **Emphasis on experiential learning:** People learn best when they apply knowledge to real life problems. Learning should not just be focused on theoretical knowledge, but should link to practical engagement with the world as it is.
2. **Interdisciplinary studies:** Previously, people learned to be experts in a certain field. In today's interconnected world, one problem requires us to think beyond just one perspective or one branch of knowledge. We are moving toward a more holistic, multi-view perspective in dealing with real world problems.
3. **Emphasis on collaboration:** Research has found that working collaboratively with others produces better results, to understand the perspective hold by others, and to learn to accept criticism.

Her talk finished with a Q & A session. Most questions centered on parental concerns. Mrs. Blake encouraged students to respect those concerns and to choose their way of life wisely. *“Do not let your parents' fears become yours. Honor your own growth and don't be afraid to take imperfect actions,”* she said.

We hope that from Mrs. Blake's short but very meaningful visit, senior students are more prepared for their adult life. They will face success and failure, build friendships and experience disappointment! As they prepare for university, we pray they will mature and be guided to find the right path and pursue their God-given calling.





## SEKOLAH PELITA HARAPAN ART EXHIBITIONS

# 5 Benefits of Arts Education in Students' Lives

Art is an indispensable aspect of life, especially for students at Sekolah Pelita Harapan (SPH). As a Christian school we believe Art is God's gift to humankind to reflect his character as the creator of all things. We believe the arts are as important as other school subjects. Research has found at least five benefits that students receive from studying the arts at school.

### 1. It develops critical thinking and problem-solving skills

Art education develops problem-solving and critical-thinking skills. Students who study the arts have a higher ability to analyze information and solve complex problems, and are more likely to have patience and persistence.

### 2. It sparks students' creativity, imagination and innovation skills

By creating something from their own ideas, students learn to express themselves and take risks. This develops their sense of innovation which is important in their adult life.

### 3. It trains students to be more focused and to persevere longer

Doing an artwork requires a great deal of focus. You cannot finish an artwork if you are constantly distracted or unaware of small details. Students develop perseverance, working to complete what they have started, even though it may take a long time or be a difficult process.

### 4. It can increase students' academic performance

In a ten-year national study by Shirley Brice Heath of Stanford University, it was discovered that students who are involved for more than 4 years in art-based programs were likely to score higher on their Math and SAT test scores. Arts participation and SAT scores tend to increase linearly: the more arts classes, the higher the scores.

### 5. It engages students in school and motivates them to learn

The Arts Education Partnership has found that students who participate in arts integrated classes have higher attendance at school than those who do not.







### SPH Art Exhibitions

At SPH we encourage students to create and display their own artworks. These wonderful exhibitions allow the whole SPH community to enjoy the art made by the students. SPH Lippo Village holds an annual IB DP Art Exhibition as a part of the Diploma Program for Grade 12 students. This year, the IB DP Art Exhibition involved all 10 students who take Higher Level Art. Each student made several artworks that required many hours of extra work. In this they demonstrated perseverance and commitment by staying late after school to complete their masterpieces. At the exhibition we witnessed the inspiring outcome of their tireless efforts.

SPH Lippo Cikarang held a whole school art exhibition from March 18-22, 2019, in the school's gymnasium. This exhibition displayed artworks from students in Kindergarten to Grade 12, and from the simplest to the most complex works using mixed mediums. There were paintings with different styles such as realism and naturalism, abstract art, cubism, pop-art, impressionism, and many more.

Mrs. Helen Schleper, the Academic Principal of SPH Lippo Cikarang, commented on the exhibition:

*"At SPH Lippo Cikarang we truly believe in holistic education, therefore we provide arts, sports, and music from Kindy to Grade 12. This art exhibition is phenomenal because you can see work from 3 years-olds and from students who will soon graduate at the IB DP level. It is amazing that there is artwork from students who are not necessarily talented in art. We teach all students that God is our Almighty Creator Artist who enables them to be creative. I hope that all of the students and parents are proud of the fantastic artwork."*

Through art, students can express their deepest concerns, thoughts and ideas about world issues. For example, Yvette from SPH Lippo Village created a painting titled, "Inequality in Education", which portrays how education does not necessarily make the social gap smaller. Angela Nicolette created a piece around the

theme of phobia. Her masterpiece portrayed one of the worst phobias - Trypophobia - to provoke us to face our worst fears with courage.

At SPH Lippo Cikarang, Grade 12 student Brandon Russell made a painting about food waste and world hunger. His artwork conveyed an important message about how wealthy people consume food greedily and generate large amounts of food waste, while in other parts of the world poor people have difficulty accessing enough nutrition for their daily needs. An intriguing painting by Angela Chuang in Grade 11 tackled the issue of gender equality which made us ponder this issue at a deeper level.

From these exhibitions we learn that art is not only about self-expression, but also about communicating messages and creating awareness. We are grateful to God for giving many wonderful artistic talents to students in our community. It is our hope that their creativity will flourish and that they become creative leaders and innovators for the glory of God.



## IN MEMORIAM

# Benjie Llorente

In this tribute article we commemorate the late Mr. Benjie Llorente, SPH Kemang Village Music Director, who passed away on April 11, 2019. Mr. Benjie joined the SPH KV family at the beginning of the 2013/2014 school year along with Mrs. Erna and their two daughters, Zarah (Grade 6) and Adriel (Grade 2). We are truly grateful for having had such a talented, passionate, and dedicated music director for the past 6 years. The SPH KV community shares these testimonies to honor Mr. Benjie.

*During his service at SPH KV, Mr. Benjie exemplified a Christ-like humility and grace that marked his interactions with students, parents, and peers. He was a mirror that reflected the light of Christ to those around him, not for his own glory but to point people to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, the Father of lights. Perhaps the greatest legacy a person can leave is that a community is perpetually better for them having been a part of it. Mr. Benjie certainly left this legacy.*

- Mark Thiessen, SPH KV Head of School

*Mr. Benjie was a man of smiles, laughter, and passion who put meaning into music for many people in our community, including me. Although I didn't have him as my teacher this year, whenever I bumped into Mr. Benjie in the hallways he would smile and talk to me as if we were old friends catching up. I think that is the reason why everyone loved him so much. He treated everyone with warmth and welcome, no matter what age they were or what title they had. I've never met a man so determined to play music and to make an impact on others. He was so driven to play and sing for the Lord.*

*He was an amazingly loving father, teacher, and friend. His loss struck deep because of how involved he was in our lives. The role he played in our KV family seems irreplaceable. Mr. Benjie is now at peace in his forever home. I hope and pray that we continue to make music and grow from Mr. Benjie's legacy, keeping his memory forever in our hearts.*

- Josephine Ellena, SPH KV Grade 9 Student







*I remember Mr. Benjie as a funny man. He always made me laugh whenever we met. He was an adoring husband, loving father, patient and kind person, and a humble and good friend. Everybody at KV loved him. He never failed to brighten my day with his genuinely big smile. I will miss him so much. Goodbye Mr. Benjie, my brother in Christ, until we meet again.*

**- Sundari Mahendra, SPH KV TU Supervisor**

*When Mr. Benjie asked if the KV moms could sing for Open Mic 3 years ago, I asked him if he was sure what he was asking us. Though we had limited time to practice and perform, he was totally sure. He believed that it would be great for the school community if parents could be part of the event. Under his guidance and mentorship over the past 3 years, we have performed at many SPH KV events. He was a patient teacher, guiding more than 25 moms with encouragement.*

*The Light Choir sang Via Dolorosa for the SPH KV Easter Assembly to fulfill his last request. We plan to keep singing at school events to continue his legacy. We miss you dearly Mr. Benjie. It was truly an honor to have you as our Conductor.*

**- Arlene Simatupang, SPH KV PAG President**

*Our beloved Mr. Benjie Llorente was a great part the SPH KV community.*

*He patiently taught our Moms Choir. He brought us together as the Amadeus team to sing hymns to raise money for kids in Papua. His life made an impact, touching many hearts, especially to my eldest child, Jordan. Jordan wouldn't have had the courage to play his guitar alone in public were it not for Mr. Benjie. He even accompanied Jordan on stage so he wouldn't be so nervous. Mr. Benjie was his music mentor and a mentor to many others. Though he had a very busy schedule, he made time to practice and jam together with Jordan in the Music room.*

*Mr. Benjie motivated my children to use their God given talents in music to serve others. His wife, Erna, and two beautiful daughters, are just as wonderful as he is. We are so blessed to have them in our lives. May God's unfailing love continue to comfort them throughout this sad time. We are still grieving, but we praise God for His faithfulness and abundant grace. We are at peace knowing Mr. Benjie has finished the race and is now eternally happy with our heavenly Father.*

**- Yunike Goliath Sasmito, SPH KV PAG Community Relation Committee**

*Mr. Benjie was an inspiration. He was a man of few words. The words he spoke were usually well timed and wise or funny. He was also a man of action. He was a leader with vision. He had a grand picture of what he wanted to achieve and it made you want to be part of it. He had a vision for each individual to reach their potential and he made you feel like a better musician every time you spent time with him. Benjie was passionate about music and about people. He worked tirelessly to help others grow and shine. He guided them because he believed in them. He believed in us. He made music fun.*

*He came early, stayed late, helping people at lunch and break. Any spare moment he would use to build others up. And he did it all with humility. During the parent – teacher- staff music night, it seemed Benjie was in every group. And yet not a single group or performance was about him. He was always on stage, but never center stage. It was about others and about God. He used his utterly amazing gifts and abilities to showcase others. To empower others. To improve others.*

*Benjie was also my friend - someone I talked with about our school, our students, and our families. We shared a similar passion to see our students become their best, whether in music, sports or something else. We were working together more than ever to prepare for next year and his excitement was infectious. I will do my best to carry his inspiration with me, now that he is gone. He was a great man who will be missed.*

**- Mike Burge, SPH KV**





IN MEMORIAM

# The Benjie Llorente Memorial Award

During his 6 years at SPH KV, Mr. Benjie used his God-given musical and relational gifts to participate in God's plan of redemptive restoration within our school and broader community. His dedicated service to our students, parents, and staff demonstrated the character of Christ and compelled others to do the same. This annual Senior School award honours these Christ-like characteristics for which Benjie was known and loved for:

- **Godly-character:** displays integrity and humility in interactions with others.
- **Community-building:** demonstrates a desire to bring others together, to build bridges within the classroom and / or school on a foundation of sincerity, encouragement, and sacrifice.
- **Commitment:** shows personal dedication to excellence and diligence in all areas of life.
- **Compassion:** shows the love of Christ to others through empathy, generosity, and care.

This award will be selected by the faculty and staff of SPH Kemang Village and presented at the annual Senior School awards assembly.





SPH KEMANG VILLAGE

# Movie Day Out with Child Cancer Patients



The World Health Organization (WHO) states that cancer is a leading cause of death for children, with more than 300,000 new cases diagnosed each year among children aged 0-19 years<sup>1</sup>. Childhood cancer patients in Indonesia are also increasing. Yayasan Kanker Anak Indonesia (YKAI), or the Indonesian Child Cancer Foundation, advises that the number of children diagnosed with cancer increases by seven percent every year, and many of these children come from underprivileged families<sup>2</sup>.

This year, God has given SPH Kemang Village Moms Fellowship the opportunity to collaborate with YKAI to help children who are fighting cancer. The founder of YKAI, Sallyana Sorongan (Ibu Sally), an SPH KV parent, made this collaboration possible.

On Monday February 25, 2019, SPH KV Moms Fellowship held a Movie Day Out at Lippo Mall, Kemang with child cancer patients from YKAI. The event started with breakfast and a magic show at the PappaRich restaurant. This was followed by the viewing of “Keluarga Cemara” at the XXI cinema. Most importantly, SPH KV Moms Fellowship raised a significant amount of money which was donated to YKAI’s for the cost of cancer treatment. One of the moms, Dian Purba, gave her testimony:

*“As a mother, having the opportunity to serve the children from YKAI was such an honor. I feel truly blessed to be given the chance to share with them in a fun day that was full of*

*laughter. I am also grateful to be a part of a loving and generous community in SPH KV. Without the support of parents, teachers, and staff, this outreach program with the YKAI children would not have happened. By the grace of our Lord Jesus we were able to collect a substantial donation to help provide medical treatment for these precious children. We may not be able to solve all of the problems these children face, but we are able to be one piece of the puzzle to show them the beautiful life I believe God has planned for them. I pray that the KV community will continue to serve others with the love of Christ and bring glory and honor to His name.”*

Indiana Burton-Menajang, a Grade 9 SPH KV student, also participated in this event:

*“My experience with Yayasan Kanker Anak Indonesia was eye-opening. During the short meet and greet with the kids I saw the heart-breaking reality of children who don’t have easy access to healthcare. I had a great time dancing and singing with them and, although it was only for a short time, I left knowing that I had put a smile on someone’s face. We might not change the world, but changing a person’s life does make a difference. Together we can all make a difference.”*

Besides moms and students, some teachers also joined this event. The late Mr. Benjie Llorente

(SPH KV Music Director) gave this testimony:

*“When I was asked to help out with the event our PAG had organized for the cancer patients, I did not realize how much of an impact my short interaction with them would have on me. I thought I would do it to have them see a part of my world and have them enjoy what I enjoy most - making music - and use it as a way to entertain and be entertained.*

*While the children did sing and dance and respond with gleeful hearts, I saw the power of music transcend pain and suffering. These children have days of unbearable pain (the kind I do not know of) but that day was a day where they benched pain and told pain “not today”.*

*I enjoyed my time with the kids from YKAI. They have shown me what it means to be resilient and how to live life in the moment. I am thankful for our PAG and our KV community for letting me be part of their ministry.”*

For more than seven years YKAI has helped many Indonesian families who experience childhood cancer. They also raise people’s awareness about this disease. We hope that through this collaboration, the SPH Kemang Village community can bless many childhood cancer patients so they can receive the treatment they need. If you would like to donate to YKAI, please visit: [www.yayasankankeranakindonesia.com](http://www.yayasankankeranakindonesia.com)

1. <https://www.who.int/cancer/childhood-cancer/en/> 2. <https://www.antarane.ws.com/berita/656487/ykai-penderita-kanker-anak-meningkat-tujuh-persen>



SPH KEMANG VILLAGE

# Senior Students Volunteer at Ronald McDonald House Charities



Last year some SPH Kemang Village senior students asked Ibu Sissy Ariandi (SPH KV Career Counselor) about how they could serve different groups outside the school community. They were enthusiastic about getting involved in social outreach. At the same time, Ibu Sissy received an email about Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) Indonesia, a non-profit organization which aims to improve the health of Indonesian children, especially those who come from less fortunate families.

The information about RMHC came at just the right time. After a discussion with the leader of RMHC, they agreed to send three SPH KV students every Wednesday to serve at the Family Room in Rumah Sakit Cipto Mangunkusumo (Cipto

Mangunkusumo Hospital). The Ronald McDonald Family Room functions as a waiting room for sick child and their families. The room is decorated for children and filled with toys, games, and books so their sickness and hospital treatments become less stressful for them.

In their first two months of serving there, the KV students engaged in storytelling, arts and crafts, and singing with the children. They also distributed snacks and beverages. The most important aspect of the activities was to interact and bond with the children. The students really enjoyed their time at the Ronald McDonald Family Room. Ibu Sissy accompanied the students there and described their experience.

*"The KV students were amazed to see such a good vibe coming from all the children at the Family Room. It seems as if the children never ran out of spirit or energy as they aim to reach their goal of becoming cancer-free. The KV students learned to strengthen and lift each other up. They were also reminded to always be grateful and not take everything for granted."*

It is wonderful to see our students taking the initiative to reach out to communities outside of SPH. This kind of activity helps students develop social awareness, empathy, and kindness, all of which are aspects of our spiritual maturity that the Bible teaches us to grow in.

SPH LIPPO CIKARANG & PLUIT VILLAGE

## *Loving & Caring Week and Mother Appreciation Day*

February is known as the month of love as people around the globe celebrate Valentine's Day.

The SPH Lippo Cikarang and Pluit Village communities recently celebrated the love between parents and their children.

The annual one week long Loving and Caring Week is an SPH Lippo Cikarang tradition where students show their love and appreciation for others. Held from February 11-15, 2019, we used the theme of "What a Blessing to have Families". Junior School students were encouraged to

cherish the blessing of having parents. They did chores at home and performed a song for their parents in SPH LC's gym. They also showed their love by giving their parents snacks and handcrafted flowers.

On February 13-14, 2019, SPH Pluit Village held their Mother Appreciation Day for Kindy, Junior and Senior School students. Heart-shaped decorations along with photos of mothers with their children adorned the school. On the first day, Senior School students made cakes and cookies for their mothers. They also played games

together that required teamwork. The following day, Kindy and Junior students prepared a touching performance and, as an expression of appreciation, gave beautiful flowers and hand-written letters to their mothers.

It was heartwarming to see students show their love for their parents and not take them for granted! Our prayer is that parents and children will continue to grow in love for each other.





SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

# Breakthrough in Applied Science: *SPH Lippo Village Holds its First Science Academy Exhibition*



Last year, Sekolah Pelita Harapan Lippo Village initiated the first “Center of Excellence” as a new enrichment program outside of daily classes. The Applied Science Academy serves as an avenue for students from Grades 10 to 12 who are passionate about science to pursue more specialized and advanced scientific research. The Applied Science Academy aims to be at the forefront of empowering the young generation by providing authentic scientific research environments. Dr. Eden Steven, Ph.D., a prominent Indonesian scientist, is the Director of the Academy. He partners with mentor professors and lecturers from Universitas Pelita Harapan.

The first Applied Science Academy Exhibition was held on Monday, April 15, 2019. This exhibition marked the completion of eight months of research by students. Twenty projects were displayed in the Senior School Library, covering interdisciplinary sciences including biotechnology, robotics, artificial intelligence, computer science, pharmaceuticals, civil engineering and materials science. Since the academy is focused on applied science, the projects were applicable products that tackle real-world problems. A Biotechnology and Microbiology project by a Grade 12 student centered on how one component in a bacterium found in fermented food can be isolated to treat cardiovascular disease naturally.







The attendees at the exhibition included mentors from UPH, teachers, parents and honorable guests. Prof. Dr. Ismunandar, Indonesia's Director General of Learning and Students Affairs, praised the students' work and encouraged them to continue to be involved in the science field.

*"This is a great effort by SPH to expose science to the public. We hope this program will continue. Students who have an interest in doing scientific research can continue their careers in science later on. They can invite their friends to be interested in science, because science, like many other fields, is not as complicated as it might seem, as long as we are passionate about it."*

The exhibition displayed the incredible talents of these science students.

No-one was more proud than Dr. Eden Steven.

*"It is clear that Indonesian students are very talented and deeply passionate about solving problems through science. This is an era where we as a nation can make the quantum leap toward an advanced science and technology-based nation with a commitment to environmental responsibility, creating a humane society, and building strong education for future generations."*

Studying Applied Science and using advanced technology should begin at high school in order to prepare young scientists to bring about a better and brighter future for Indonesia, and even for the world.





📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS | KINDY CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION





📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS |  
PAG TEAM AT TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY



📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS |  
K1 & K2 MISSION SERVICE LEARNING



📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS |  
SOCCER CARNIVAL



📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS |  
BALLET CONCERT



📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS | PARENTS BRUNCH & APPRECIATION





📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS | SPH CUP SOCCER



📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS | SENIOR SCHOOL TWINS DAY



📍 LIPPO VILLAGE CAMPUS | GRADE 6 PYP EXHIBITION





9 SENTUL CITY CAMPUS | BREAKFAST WITH FATHERS



9 SENTUL CITY CAMPUS | BREAKFAST WITH FATHERS



9 SENTUL CITY CAMPUS | EASTER CELEBRATION



9 SENTUL CITY CAMPUS | SENIOR SCHOOL GUITAR & PIANO RECITAL





📍 **LIPPO CIKARANG CAMPUS** | CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WITH MR. PHILLIP NASH



📍 **LIPPO CIKARANG CAMPUS** |  
WHOLE SCHOOL EASTER CELEBRATION



📍 **LIPPO CIKARANG CAMPUS** | KINDY ART EXHIBITION





📍 KEMANG VILLAGE CAMPUS | PETER PAN MUSICAL DRAMA



📍 KEMANG VILLAGE CAMPUS |  
CHARITY CONCERT FOR RUMAH FAYE



📍 KEMANG VILLAGE CAMPUS | PETER PAN MUSICAL DRAMA



📍 KEMANG VILLAGE CAMPUS | SOCCER CARNIVAL







OLD  
FROM IT

# BETWEEN

# GENDERS

## Results

During this experiment, I found out that girls had better short-term memory as they were able to memorize more words in comparison to the boys. In the data a lot of the girls memorized 6 words and above. Whereas the majority of boys could at most memorize 7 out of 20 words. Whereas the girls, one of them managed to memorize 14 words whereas the boys could at the highest memorize only 13 words. In addition, when we view the boy's data, most of them could only memorize for around 6-8 words. In addition, I also asked the participants on how they memorized these words, a lot of them said that they chunked the information into pieces. Some of them made horizontal and vertical acronyms. Besides chunking the information, some of them also just memorized them by line.



the aim of this experiment  
which gender has the best  
memory. In this science project,  
for which gender can  
be through some experiments

X

BOYS

GIRLS

6	X	2	=	12
7	X	4	=	28
8	X	2	=	16
9	X	2	=	18
10	X	2	=	20
11	X	2	=	22
12	X		=	



2	X	1	=	2
6	X	4	=	24
7	X	5	=	35
8	X	2	=	16
10	X	1	=	10
11	X	1	=	
13	X	2	=	

average:  
+ 24 + 35 + 1





CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES











# THE EDUCATION *ENDGAME*

Did you join the rush to see Marvel's 'Endgame'? London Guardian film critic, Peter Bradshaw, described it as a “triumphant” finale to the other 21 films made by the Marvel Cinematic Universe, taking one billion dollars in its opening week. Does Christian education have an endgame?

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The answer to that question will depend on your universal view of life and of learning. If your view is only temporal, and life is about economics and labour markets, then learning will be seen as a means to find work and to gain wealth. If life is about pursuing success, learning might focus on achieving superior grades to enter prestigious universities. If life is about becoming a better person, learning will be valued for its power to form character, with the goal of producing good citizens who participate fully in society.

These three ends are not intrinsically wrong. To work is a biblical mandate. To love God with all our mind is a biblical command. To be a good citizen is a biblical expectation. However, the tendency to focus on gifts and not on the Giver; on human ability and achievement and not on God's power and glory, results in the education endgame removing God as the source and sum of true learning. This happens as an intellectually hubristic humanity becomes foolishly wise in their own eyes, relegating God to the support cast, or worse, assuming the role of Director to create a universe in our own image.



The goal of holistic Christian education is encapsulated in Paul's doxology in his letter to the Romans.

*'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)

This vision of holistic learning calls students away from narcissistic ambitions to the pursuit of God - the all wise author of the ages - in rich, deep, kingdom learning. Holistic learning encompasses 'all aspects of human, social, and cosmic life.' (Kärkkäinen)

*'Admit God, and you introduce among the subjects of your knowledge a fact encompassing, closing in upon, absorbing, and every other fact conceivable. How can we investigate any part of any order of knowledge, and stop short of that which enters into every order?'* (Newman)

How whole is your holism?

The truth of Jesus informs all knowledge and all experience in all cultures across all time. It is spiritual in nature and moral in effect. To seek God in whom the fullness of wisdom originates requires us to offer our learning back to God. Offering is at the heart of education because of Jesus' offering.

*'Then the end will come when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father...the Son will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so God may be all in all.'* (1 Cor 15:24-28)

The ultimate purpose of Jesus' redemption is for the whole world to be wholly offered to God. Saint Paul looked forward to that Endgame Day when, in the new creation, everything and everyone who belongs to God's kingdom is reunited and returned to the Father for his praise.

This biblical vision of life and of learning is infinitely superior to the Enlightenment dream of human autonomy, and far more satisfying than the 21<sup>st</sup> century trance created by technological immediacy. Both of these endgames are *endumbering*. The first gives the illusion of human omnipotence – that there is nothing we cannot do! The second gives the illusion of human omniscience – that there is nothing we cannot know! Contrast these vain, futile goals with learning that does not merely involve testing scholastically or proving scientifically, but which equips students to approve spiritually.

*'Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God... Be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.'* (Romans 12:2)

Christian teachers offer themselves and their students to God. More than a prayer said or a devotion read in class, teachers must provide students with a method to assess, value, approve, and treasure truth. A student offered to God does not study only for academic attainment. They do not simply love to learn, they must learn to love God with a renewed capacity to assess knowledge truly; value wisdom accurately; approve truth inwardly; and treasure the Lord Jesus passionately.

*We assess knowledge by measuring truth claims against the message of Jesus.*(Col 2:3)

*We value wisdom accurately by its agreement with the mind of the Holy Spirit.* (1 Cor 2:15)

*We approve truth inwardly by our implicit and glad obedience to the will of Jesus.* (John 7:17)

*We treasure wisdom passionately by worshipping Jesus as the sum of truth.* (John 14:6)

The beautiful irony of the Christian education endgame is that it never ends.

As we offer all our learning to the eternal God in grateful praise and in glad service for the sake of the kingdom, ours will be the soul satisfying, never ending experience of deeper learning - knowing and being known by our Savior God. That's true living. That's real learning. Education is not a game that we play, but it does have an end – which is really just the beginning.

C. S. Lewis captures this wonderful reality in his seventh Narnia novel: 'The Last Battle'. The Pevensie children's adventures in Narnia are over. Their mission as kings and queens is complete. Now, in Aslan's land, *'they were beginning Chapter One of the Great Story... which goes on forever: in which every chapter is better than the one before.'*

More than life-long learners, Christians are whole God-real world - eternal life learners. This vision of God who is all-in-all is transformative for how and why we teach.

To what future end are you working today?

1. Bradshaw, P. (2019, April 23). *Avengers Endgame*. Retrieved from <http://www.guardian.com>
2. Kärkkäinen, V. M., (2013) *Christ and Reconciliation: Constructive Christian Theology for a Pluralistic World*, Eerdmans.

3. Lewis, C. S., (1956) *The Last Battle*, HarperCollins.
4. Newman: J. H., (1907) *The Idea of a University: Defined and Illustrated*, Longmans, Green & Co.

# BETTER TOGETHER

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 2018-2019 SPH school theme "**Better Together**" is based on the Mission statement "*to be engaging in the redemptive restoration of all things through holistic education*"



**DANIEL FENNELL**  
BIBLICAL  
FOUNDATIONS  
COORDINATOR





## 2019-2020 School Theme

BY DANIEL FENNELL

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Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going.

**Believe in the light while you have the light,  
so that you may become children of light.”**

John 12:35-36

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Each year SPH explores a theme that derives from our Vision, Mission, and Relational Context statement to direct our communities into biblical thinking and learning. Our aim is to create a ‘community mind’ (Sergiovanni) so that our corporate narrative remains ‘collective, interpretive and well disseminated.’ (Iselin) This is why we commit to ‘Thinking Themely’. The Vision, Mission, and Relational Context statement could sit static on school walls. Instead, they become dynamic stimulants to faith in Jesus and to transforming our culture as we embody our core beliefs and values. In the 2019-20 academic year we will explore our relational context statement which reads:

‘A Second Home for Your Children’. In 2012-13 we investigated what ‘Second Home’ means. Next year we focus on ‘Your Children’. In a school context ‘your children’ refers firstly to parents. ‘Your Children’ also has a rich biblical theology. Before human parenting is *the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name*. (Ephesians 3:14-15)

In one sense all people are God’s children by virtue of creation. *‘Thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!’* (Ps 107:31) Covenantally, being God’s child is a redemptive reality - *‘When Israel was a child, I loved him...out of Egypt I called my son’* (Hosea 11:1)

This is true of the Church through Jesus.

*‘All who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God...you have received the spirit of sonship...those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.’* (Rom 8:14-15, 29) *‘In Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.’* (Galatians 3:26)

**Of interest to SPH is one aspect of being God’s children: that of being light.**

Sekolah Pelita Harapan is part of an evangelical Reformed foundation whose



schools exist to support the development of Indonesia through the provision of quality education, and to equip students for a life of faithful obedience to Jesus. Pelita Harapan means **Light and Hope**. Our magazine is called **The Light**. It is timely to explore these titles in order to know what they mean and imply for us as God's children.

The Bible begins with the fiat: 'Let there be light!' (Genesis 1:3) The Old Testament hope was for Israel's Messiah to be 'a *light of revelation to the Gentiles*.' (Isaiah 9:2) 'God's word is 'a *light for our feet*.' (Ps 119:105) *Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.* (John 8:12)

Since the SPH schools are called to walk in the light of our Lord, **our new theme for the year 2019-20 is, 'Children of Light'.**

This theme derives from Jesus' words in John's Gospel.

*'Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you.  
The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going.  
Believe in the light while you have the light,  
so that you may become children of light.'*  
(John 12:35-36)

The theme logo was designed by Victoria Kelly from LV campus.

God's light must shine into our experience of life, faith, education, and morality. The salvation story of Sergius Paulus (Proconsul on the island of Cyprus) illustrates the illuminating power of the Light.

In Acts 13 Paul challenges a Jewish sorcerer called *Elymas* who served as the proconsul's mystic. Elymas resisted the gospel preached by Paul and turned Sergius away from its appeal. When Paul challenged this deception, Elymas was struck blind. *'Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun.'* (13:11) Sergius was stunned! *"The proconsul...an intelligent man...was amazed at the teaching about the Lord"* (13:7, 12) God shone into his heart 'the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.' (2 Cor 4:6) *His eyes were opened to 'the right ways of the Lord....and he believed.'* (13:10; 12)

Sergius Paulus is the first Gentile convert in Acts who represents the upper echelons of Roman society. He stands as a model of the saving and transforming power of the light of Jesus' word. Likewise, SPH schools educate Indonesia's upper echelon influencers. We seek to transform privileged people by the illuminating light of Jesus. We want the gospel to light the way for our community.

We are excited to have an eminently qualified teacher and theologian join us to launch our new school theme. Dr. Graham Stanton will minister to all five campuses beginning August 19th.



# DR. GRAHAM STANTON

Graham Stanton is exceptionally qualified and experienced in speaking to the issues of children and youth, both biblically and pedagogically. Trained as a Business Economist following High School, he was called to the ministry and completed a Bachelor of Theology and Diploma of Ministry at Moore Theological College, Sydney. Ordained in the Anglican Church in 1995, he served as Children's, Youth, and Families Minister from 1995 to 1999 and was founding Dean (later Principal) of Youthworks College, Sydney (member of the Australian College of Theology), from 2000 to 2013. He completed a Master of Education and Master of Theology and served as project officer for the Anglican Education Commission from 2014 to 2015. Graham took up his current role at Ridley College, Melbourne, in 2016. He lectures in Practical Theology and directs the Ridley Centre for Children's and Youth Ministry. He completed his PhD into the pedagogical implications for Bible engagement for teenage spiritual formation in 2017. Please pray for Graham as he prepares to join us and lead us in biblical learning.



According to this famous African proverb, an entire community of people must collaborate to provide a safe, supportive, and healthy environment for a child to grow up in and flourish. Each part of society has a role in influencing a child's life, including the school. School is where children spend much of their early years, so it is crucial that we choose the right school for our children.

Great schools focus on more than the curriculum and facilities. People and community life are their priority. Great schools develop structures where students have the opportunity to engage with their community and build meaningful connections with each other. Researchers identify "school connectedness" or "school engagement" as being central to life and learning. Good educators will prioritize strategies to enhance the developmental, emotional, behavioral and social factors that enhance student learning.

The National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments defines school engagement as strong relationships between students, teachers, families and the broader community. In a school that promotes school connectedness or engagement, students believe that adults and peers in the school truly care about their learning and also about them as individuals. The whole school community, including teachers, leaders, counselors, staff, and parents, have a crucial role to play in impacting students' lives in a positive way.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that young people who feel connected to school are more likely to succeed academically and make healthy choices. Studies reveal a connection between non-cognitive factors (e.g. motivation, social environment, and attitude) with cognitive or academic results. Students perform better when they are surrounded by a supportive community.

Sekolah Pelita Harapan continues to promote and create an environment where everyone is connected. This arises from our Christian belief that we are one in Christ. In Christ we work together towards a greater goal and are bonded by one vision. Everyone in our school is equally important. No one should be excluded or overlooked. Moreover, as a holistic school, we aim to create an environment where students feel that people care about their growth as people, not just about their intelligence. Let's take a deeper look at how SPH promotes school connectedness in different ways.

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## Student Council

The Student Council is run by students for students. This organization promotes programs and events to increase student engagement in school life and to unite and connect teachers to students, students to students, and students and teachers to the wider community.

Members of the Student Council hold meetings, plan events, complete tasks and solve problems together. The Student Council has a president and a vice president, alongside several sub-committees. SPH Lippo Village Senior School Student Council has nine committees, each with different functions and roles. Those committees are: Deeper (Spiritual Development), Artsac (Arts and Academic), Social Outreach, Motley, Media, Yearbook, Fund Raising, Sports and Support. SPH LV's Student Council also hosts an annual TEDx Youth @SPH event.

By joining the Student Council, students develop important 21st century skills such as leadership, communication, collaboration, problem solving, and negotiation. They choose a committee based on their interests or passions which may develop into a long-term career goal.







SEKOLAH PELITA HARAPAN

# CONNECTING COMMUNITY

“It takes  
a village  
to raise  
a child”

– African Proverb



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# Parenting Program

The Parenting Program is a strong aspect of our school. Since parents are the primary partner in education, SPH has established a Parenting Program to equip and empower parents to educate and train up a child in the way of the Lord (Prov. 22:6).

The first parent seminar was held in 2001. These seminars have continued to bless many SPH parents, and parents from outside the SPH community. Five years later, the Parenting Program added the first Fathers Gathering to its program to equip Christian fathers.

Ibu Soekarmini was appointed as Parenting Program Coordinator in January 2016. She has added more programs including the Parent-Teen Retreat, Teen-Parent Talk, Kindy-Parent Talk, and Moms Small Group. The Parenting Program extends into all other SPH campuses.

Being a parent is not easy. Education begins at home. Through our Parenting Program, parents are not only equipped to parent their children by connecting with other parents to share their struggles and burdens. With God as our helper, and the support of other parents, SPH parents keep growing at being the parents God wants us to be.



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# Career Counseling Program

The Career Counseling Program at SPH is designed to ensure the successful integration of students into their school and peer group so that they can reach their fullest potential. It also aims to help students be well informed as they plan for their post-secondary life. This preparation starts as early as Grade 9 until graduation in Grade 12. School Counselors play an important role in helping students choose and apply to specific universities that best fit their capacity, academic profile, and God's call on their life.

Through this program we help students plan for their future. The counselors assist students to send out university applications and they guide students to see purpose in what they are doing now, even as they look to the future. The program also helps students navigate the challenging university application processes.







# Parent Advisory Group (PAG)

The SPH Parent Advisory Group (PAG) is a unique feature of our schools. The first PAG was established at Lippo Village in 2005 by a group of parents who represented each grade level. There is now a PAG at all five SPH campuses. The main goal of PAG is to develop strong partnerships between parents and the SPH LV Team Leaders.

PAG has four main purposes:

1. Bridging and building communication and trust between parents, teachers and school.
2. Being a platform for parents to provide constructive and positive advice and input.
3. Communicating school policies and programs to parents and to hear their views.
4. Creating community for children and teachers in line with SPH's Vision and Mission.

The PAG consists of several bodies. The first is the Executive PAG Members, or PAG Exco, which consists of the PAG President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The second body is the Class Parent Representatives (CPR) which consists of appointed persons who represent each class at every grade level. The third body is the Ex Officio Past President and other past PAG Presidents who serve as advisors.

PAG holds a variety of meetings and events. Last year was an important milestone with the first joint meeting of PAG members from each of the five campuses. The PAG also seeks to bless others by collaborating with non-profit organizations and giving donations to charity through school events. Yayasan Pendidikan Harapan Papua (YPHP), Yayasan Kanker Anak Indonesia (YKAI), and Rumah Faye are some of the organizations PAG has assisted.

Through PAG we see the importance of parent involvement in school. The dedicated parents at each SPH campus are a great blessing to our community and to communities outside of SPH.

SPH also builds community through its whole-school events, including the annual School Theme Launch, Christmas and Easter celebrations, Soccer Carnival, Athletics Day, Bulan Bahasa and the Christmas Bazaar, to name but a few. Teachers benefit from campus wide Professional Development gatherings and Thinking Themely reading groups, to connect them as a team.

We believe that being “Better Together” has been a key component of our school community for many years. We are confident that the spirit of “Better Together” will remain in our schools for many years to come.

- 1 <https://www.edglossary.org/student-engagement/>
- 2 <https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/topic-research/engagement>
- 3 [https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/protective/pdf/connectedness\\_teachers.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/protective/pdf/connectedness_teachers.pdf)
- 4 [https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/protective/pdf/connectedness\\_administrators.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/protective/pdf/connectedness_administrators.pdf)
- 5 <https://www.edglossary.org/student-engagement/>





Ariel

*“I want to leave these words with you. The vision and mission of SPH is unique and important. You need to live it out, not just talk it out.”*

– PHILLIP NASH









This important message was spoken by Mr. Phillip Nash at last year's Professional Development Day, a day that marked the last PD Day for our beloved Head of School and SPH Schools Coordinator. After seven years, Mr. Phillip concludes his service with us this academic year. His last PD message will remain in our hearts for many years to come.

Mr. Phillip was born into a missionary family in the Solomon Islands on December 27, 1958. The Solomon Islands are a beautiful archipelago of six major islands located in Oceania, to the east of Papua New Guinea and northwest of Vanuatu. He spent more years living in Australia and in New Zealand where he received his Teachers College Diploma in Christchurch and a Bachelor of Arts from Canterbury University in 1984.

In the years that followed, Mr. Phillip was a teacher of English, History, and Social Studies for Grade 11 students. He was later appointed to be a deputy principal and then a school principal until 2010, eventually becoming Assistant Executive Director and General Manager of the Christian Education Trust, whose mission it is to provide quality biblical, Christ-centered education for students.

In 2014, he pursued further study at Morling College, earning a Master of Education Leadership degree. He has travelled the world – from Austria to Belgium, Kenya to Zambia, and from Hong Kong to Japan – to attend and speak at educational conferences and retreats.

Along with his outstanding portfolio in Christian education, Mr. Phillip is widely regarded as a humble family man who cherishes life, including sports and music. He has been married to Raema for 35 years. Mr. Phillip never fails to display his care and love towards his wife, 3 children, and 2 grandchildren.

Mr. Phillip is passionate about enhancing Christian education. He has set a great example for us through his dedication to providing the best education possible at SPH. His dedication goes hand-in-hand with his deep commitment to Jesus, and his desire to make God's love and word known to the next generation.

This is clearly evident from these testimonies of his SPH colleagues.





*“...the foundation of Phil’s leadership is certainly his strong faith and commitment to honoring the Lord Jesus in all he does.”*

– **MATTHEW MANN**

*Newly Appointed SPH Lippo Village, Head of School  
& All Sekolah Pelita Harapan Coordinator*



SPH has been tremendously blessed over the past seven years by our Coordinator, Phillip Nash.

When I first met Phillip in Canada, he invited me to spend a whole day with him. I knew within minutes of meeting him that I wanted to pursue a career with SPH. Certainly one of the best things about working at SPH for the past three years has been the privilege of working under Phillip, alongside a team of leaders. We have truly been better together, and I attribute that in large part to Phil’s strength of leadership.

I have always admired his commitment to excellence in education, believing that Christians should always pursue the highest standards. He is insightful and contemplative. He is always reading and learning. I have also been blessed by his wisdom. Leaders must often make difficult decisions. It has been a wonderful learning experience to consult and look to him for guidance.

I will always remember Phillip’s sense of humor. Teams that laugh a lot while they work together are the best kind of teams. The foundation of Phil’s leadership is certainly comprised of his strong faith and commitment to honoring the Lord Jesus in all he does.

My prayer for Mr. Phillip and Mrs. Raema is that our good Father would reward them for their compassionate, generous, and faithful service. Both have contributed immeasurably to our schools, to the community, and to the needy. May the Lord bless them, watch over them, and lead them as they continue to serve in His kingdom.



*“I had never heard him complain nor seen him work grudgingly in carrying out his many roles.”*

– **DAISY HUDONO**

SPH Kemang Village, Administrative Principal



Mr Phillip lives by this motto: Leading from a sanctified heart in which God dwells and from which He leads, guides, and nurtures His children to do His will “on earth as it is done in heaven”. He exemplifies a genuine servant heart, reflected in St. Paul’s words: “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the LORD, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the LORD as a reward. It is the LORD Christ you are serving.” (Colossians 3:23-24)

I will always remember Mr. Phillip as a ‘Fill the Gap’ Servant Leader. In the 2014-2015 academic year, he filled the position of SPH Kemang Village Head of School while maintaining his role as the SPH Lippo Village Head of School & SPH Coordinator. During his time at SPH KV, he visited the campus twice a week despite his busyness and the long traveling time back and forth from Lippo Village. Undoubtedly, he did his best to support SPH KV in the absence of a full time Head of School. Mr. Phillip made sure he was available to provide direction and give wise counsel as was needed by the KV Leadership Team and the PAG (Parent Advisory Group). He has shown us how to lead wholeheartedly, joyfully, and faithfully with enthusiasm, sincerity, and patience.

In addition to these major roles he also filled leadership gaps at SPH Lippo Cikarang in the absence of an Academic Principal, and also at SPH Sentul City in the absence of a Head of School. I never once heard him complain nor saw him work grudgingly in carrying out his many roles. He has always remained accessible whenever I have needed to talk to him.

Thank you, Mr. Phillip, for exemplifying a servant’s heart!  
I truly appreciate your hard work and ongoing support for SPH KV.





*“A good educational leader is constantly learning... learning alongside the people you are leading requires humility.”*

– **MICHAEL HUIZENGA**

*SPH Lippo Village, Junior School Academic Principal*



Sekolah Pelita Harapan Lippo Village has been blessed under the leadership of Mr. Phillip Nash. Throughout his seven years of service, he has consistently reminded us about the importance of understanding and implementing the school's vision and mission. An effective leader leads by example. Phillip has lived out our vision of True Knowledge - Faith in Christ - Godly Character.

Mr. Phillip exemplifies true knowledge and wisdom as a Christian leader. He speaks with authority and understanding on theological and educational topics and shares this learning with our community. As a regular reader of professional and biblically-related texts, his knowledge continues to grow. He promotes a deeper understanding of scripture and how teachers can lead their students into a deeper understanding of God's Word. It has been comforting to know that we have had such a knowledgeable and capable leader at SPH LV.

Mr. Phillip's faith in Christ is evident to all. This is reflected in how he confidently shares his faith based on the hope which guides his life. Modeling reliance on Christ, he continually encouraged us to be dependent on Christ in all things. Even through challenging times, Mr. Phillip placed his hope and trust in Jesus. His life story, from growing up in the Solomon Islands to his leadership roles in Christian education, is one of humble obedience and faithful service.

Godly character in a Christian leader includes hard-work and humility. Mr. Phillip certainly displays these qualities. He faithfully fulfilled many responsibilities during his seven years of work at SPH. In addition to leading heads of schools at SPH campuses, he also returned to classroom teaching. A good educational leader is constantly learning and taking the opportunity to put theory into practice. Learning alongside the people you are leading requires humility.

I will always remember Mr. Phillip as a knowledgeable, faithful and godly Christian leader. My prayer for him is that he will continue to grow in these areas and will apply these qualities in his new leadership position in Australia. I hope that our partnership in Christian education continues in the coming years despite the distance between us.









*“He genuinely cares for us and is concerned for us as colleagues and coworkers, and also as brothers and sisters in Christ.”*

– **ELIZABETH APRILIA KONANIAH**  
SPH Lippo Village,  
Senior School Administrative Principal



From the first time I met Mr. Phillip he has always been warm and approachable. His door has been open whenever I have needed to talk to him. He is easy to talk to and I appreciate his friendship. He genuinely cares and is concerned for us as colleagues and coworkers, and as brothers and sisters in Christ. I will always remember how he would stop by my office each morning to say hello and ask if everything was well with me. I will miss that.

I have learned much from him, especially while working together when the Senior School Academic Principal role was vacant. He was efficient and effective in identifying and solving problems. The way he deals with issues and follows up on them are skills that I wish to emulate.

It has been a privilege working alongside Mr. Phillip for the past seven years, including partnering with him for two years in the Senior School. What a blessing it has been to have him as our leader and teacher! I know God will use him mightily wherever he goes. We will all miss him, but we know that “friends are friends forever if the Lord’s the Lord of them.” I am praying for God’s abundant blessings in the next chapter of Mr. Phillip’s life.





*“He has a way of communicating that makes people feel appreciated.”*



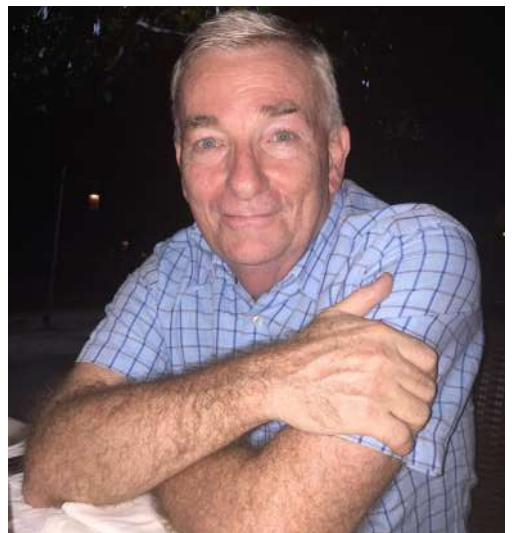
**– HANA TJONG**

SPH Lippo Village,  
Junior School Administrative Principal

Mr. Phillip is a real example of a good mentor and leader. I will always remember his sense of humor and how he makes people feel appreciated. He makes time to meet with people who request it. He has an admirable way of communicating with others. Moreover, he is a godly man whose words are reflected in his actions. My prayer for Mr. Phillip is - “The Lord bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace” (Numbers 6:24-26).









# HOW DEBATE



Prepares Students to **Thrive** in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Former US Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, proposed that participating in debate clubs is one of the best ways of developing dynamic youth who are proficient in the 5 “Cs” of 21st Century skills:

- ⊕ **Critical Thinking**
- ⊕ **Communication**
- ⊕ **Collaboration**
- ⊕ **Creativity**
- ⊕ **Civic Awareness**



In his speech for the National Association of Urban Debate Leagues (2012), Duncan stated:

*“To be very clear, the experience of competing on an urban debate team boosts your college readiness—and your chance to succeed in life.”*

Debating is a process that involves formal discussion on a particular topic. It usually consists of two opposing ideas that can be argued from opposite points of view. Participants must speak strategically and in a convincing manner. Logical consistency, factual accuracy, and some degree of emotional appeal to the audience are some of the important elements in debating.

The root of debating can be traced back to the dawn of political and philosophical debate in Ancient Greece. In the Medieval Era, the first formal debate occurred at the establishment of the first English Parliament. The word ‘Parliament’ derives from the French ‘parler’ - ‘to speak’. The British Parliament is the oldest parliament in the world. Their role includes making laws (legislation), checking the work of the government (scrutiny), and debating current issues. This is where the term “Parliamentary Debate” comes from. In a parliamentary debate a motion – the main topic of the debate that usually deals with a recent social, political, economic or philosophical issue – is proposed.

There are two sides to a motion:

1. The Government (affirms the motion)
2. The Opposition (argues against the motion)

After the debating process ends, there is a resolution, which is the final statement of policy. For example, if the motion is about the legalization of marijuana, then the resolution will be: “Be it resolved, that the government should not legalize marijuana”. This procedure is the foundation of modern-day competitive debating. There are several parliamentary debate styles, such as British Parliamentary Debate and Asian Parliamentary Debate, amongst others.

## **SPH Students’ Achievements in Debating Competitions**

SPH schools have several debate clubs who join regional, national and international competitions. SPH has a well-known reputation in debating and receives many debate invitations from different schools or institutions. By joining the Debate Club and participating in debate competitions, students get the chance to develop their communication, research, and critical thinking skills.

Mr. Sydney Muganzi, the SPH LV Debate Club Advisor, emphasized how important and applicable these life skills:

*“In a debate, you have to learn how to be a good listener, how to analyze your opponent’s argument, how to organize your own thoughts and articulate your argument in a clear way, and how to practice good self-expression. All of these life-skills are applicable beyond school – whether at university, in the workplace, and in relationships.”*

Some students from the SPH LV Debate Club joined several competitions this academic year. Erica, Belinda and Judah joined the Young Thinker’s Trophy, an English debate competition aimed at high school students. They earned 1st place. The SPH KV team comprising Karen, Tiffany, Cassia, and Hans, achieved 2nd place. Two KV students shared about their participation in the Young Thinker’s Trophy:

*“The competition was very useful in that it helped me grow and better my skills as a debater. It also opened my mind to topics that I had not previously thought about and made me want to start more conversations about world issues.”*

**- Tiffany Sarana**

*“Joining a debate competition for the first time was nerve-racking. I didn’t know what to expect from my opponents or what topics we were going to debate. However, the moment the competition started, we were all forced to get into battle mode and be ready to work. Debating is really so much more than making speeches!”*

**- Hans Gerard Fajardo**





SPH LIPPO VILLAGE DEBATE CLUB



SPH KEMANG VILLAGE DEBATE CLUB

# STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS TIMELINE



17-27 July 2018

**World Schools Debate Competition in Zagreb, Croatia**  
Cassia Tandiono (SPH KV) alongside students from other schools represented Indonesia.



29 September 2018

**Young Thinker's Trophy**  
1st Place (SPH LV Team: Erica Chan, Belinda Larasati & Judah Purwanto)  
2nd Place (SPH KV Team: Karen Wiguna, Tiffany Sarana, Cassia Tandiono & Hans Fajardo)



4-11 November 2018

**Regina Pacis Debate Competition**  
1st Place (SPH LV Team: Erica Chan, Belinda Larasati & Judah Purwanto)



One of the biggest challenges in debate competitions is the time restriction. The motions are given just before the competition starts. At the Canisius College English Debate Competition, the moderator gave the motions 45 minutes before the competition began, thus students had to think fast and be very knowledgeable about a wide range of topics. Each of the four rounds in that competition were set up in an Asian Parliamentary Debate style. Debate topics included feminism, criminal justice, and moral values.

At the end of 2018, Grade 11 SPH KV students Abigail, Andrea, and Cassia, participated in a challenging debate co-sponsored by the Indonesian Ministry of Finance and the Australian Government. This competition was held at the Ministry of Finance's office with the theme: "Bridging Policymakers with Debate: Indonesian Fiscal Policy Challenge". Each of the debate rounds had its own degree of difficulty. SPH students had to master several weighty fiscal and economic issues. One of the main ideas was to highlight the need for Indonesia to prioritize environmental sustainability over economic growth.

Judah Purwanto, who won 1st place for the Best Speaker category in the Canisius College debate competition, acknowledged the aspects of school life which have prepared him to be a good debater:

*"SPH has given me a platform to go in depth, do a lot of self-research, learn independently, and this has propelled me to do better at school. What I learn in the IBDP and MYP gives me specific, niche skills. I am being trained to explain things coherently so that others can understand. Another factor that has helped me as a debater is that the SPH community is so socialized and interconnected. Because of this, public speaking has become something I developed naturally."*

SPH students thrive in debating. Our rigorous IB curriculum and holistic approach to education inspires them to join debate clubs and excel in debate competitions, equipped by the skills they learn at school.

1 <http://www.americandebateleague.org/benefits-of-debate.html>

2 <https://www.cus.org/members/debating/what-debating>

3 <https://sites.google.com/a/westlakeacademy.org/wa-debate-club/home/debating-overview/history-of-debating>

4 <https://www.parliament.uk/about/how/role/system/>



**9-10 December 2018**

**Fiscal Debate at Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia**  
Best High School Category (SPH KV Team: Abigail, Andrea & Cassia)

**Canisius College**

**10-15 December 2018**

**Canisius College Debate Competition**  
1st Place (SPH LV Team A: Gissela Kontaria, Jessica Tjandra & Judah Purwanto)  
4th Place (SPH LV Team B: Bara Salim, Nadelin Setiawa & Jonathan Sudarpo)  
1st Place for Best Speaker Category (Judah Purwanto)  
3rd Place for Best Speaker Category (Gissela Kontaria)



**17-27 July 2018**

**Debate Competition for Grade 9-12 Students at SPH LV**  
1st Place (SPH LV Team: Nathania, Alice & Erica)



# From LV Student to PV Parent



**My name is Kartika Limaho and I am an SPH alumni. I attended SPH Lippo Village beginning in K3 in 1993 and continuing until my Grade 12 graduation. I am married to Denny Makmur and we are blessed with three children. Our eldest is Natalie Denika Makmur, who is currently a second grader at SPH PV.**

**As an SPH alumni, what was your most memorable experiences when you were at school?**

SPH has played a great role in shaping who I am today. Some of my memorable experiences include the relationships built with friends, teachers and staff. Enrolling in the IBO Diploma Program meant that we needed to spend a lot of time doing group projects. Times spent doing projects together in the library, the computer lab, and Group 4 Science Projects were most memorable. These friendships have lasted beyond high school. Moreover, my teachers did not just teach us academics. They taught us about life in the world beyond SPH's red brick walls. Teachers were willing to go the extra mile to bring us out of our comfort zone and show us new cultures and experiences. I took part in a choir trip to Europe. The time spent on tour with friends and teachers performing and sharing Indonesia's culture was wonderful. The SPHLV staff were also very approachable and always ready to help. Living far from school, I was often late to

school. The TU staff will remember me well because they constantly gave me hall passes (and detention slips) for being late. Detention was not enjoyable, but the memories are still treasured.

After graduating from SPH, I continued my studies in the UK. I am very fortunate to have gone through the IB program because it saved me one year of college. I went straight into university and graduated in three years. Additionally, the IB program helped prepare me for university. It aided me with important skills such as critical thinking, public speaking, essay writing, and self-discipline. I am blessed to have graduated from SPH and I am thankful that my parents encouraged me to study there. The support of a strong community and of my parents helped me transition from teenager into adulthood.

**What drives you to come back and enroll your children at SPH?**

When the time came to find a school for our child, SPH was my first choice. At the SPH Open House I was reminded of SPH's strengths.

First, SPH lives out its Christian values. Being academically superior is not the main purpose of education. Knowing God our Savior is the most important thing our children must learn: knowing that we are created in the image of God, and that we are placed on this earth to glorify Him and make Him known. With this fundamental





understanding, children at SPH are taught from a young age to love God and love others.

Second, SPH delivers a rigorous academic program that equips my children with knowledge and with the ability to be critical thinkers. The Cambridge program at Pluit Village is challenging, however SPH understands that each child is unique and has different strengths. At SPH each student can achieve to the very best of their ability.

#### **What do you see is the importance of enrolling your children in a Christian school?**

As Christian parents, enrolling our children in a Christian school is a priority. The Bible teaches us to constantly remind our children, wherever we are, in whatever we are doing, to love God (Deut. 6:4-9). For us, this includes the daily education that they receive at school. I think Christian parenting is very important for raising a godly generation. Times have changed and technology is advancing rapidly. Though technology brings much ease to our lives, it has also brought moral and social challenges. We need to equip our children with a solid knowledge and understanding of God to make sure they know that He loves them amidst this broken world, and that Jesus is always the answer. Knowing Jesus, our children will know who to run to in whatever season of their life. Of course there will come a time

when they will have to walk on their own. When that time comes, we hope that we have done our best in teaching them that they are never alone, because God is always with them.

SPH views parents as partners in raising children. With this mindset, SPH has improved its parenting programs. I have been so blessed by these seminars. The seminars have kept me updated and aware of the challenges my children are or will face in the future. The speakers give insights into how to face the life challenges from a Biblical point of view.

These seminars also remind me that I need to keep evaluating myself. I am a parent with many weaknesses and mistakes. SPH's parenting program has led me to understand more about Christian parenting and has encouraged me to become a better parent to my children. It is my prayer that my children become the light and salt of this world. To do this, I need to take the first steps to learning to become a better parent, so that they, in turn, will become a blessing to their generation.



**KARTIKA LIMAHO** (SPH LV ALUMNI, SPH PV PARENT)





# A Diverse Life at SPH Lippo Cikarang

## Tell us a bit about your family background how long you have been at SPH Lippo Cikarang (SPH LC).

My name is Hyun Gu. I am the current Student Council President at SPH LC. I was born into a Korean-Indonesian family: my father is Korean and my mother is Indonesian. I have a sibling who is one-and-a-half years younger than me. I have been at SPH for eight years, commencing in the second semester of K3 and staying until the end of my primary years. My middle school years were spent outside of SPH. After graduating from middle school, I returned to SPH and I am currently in Grade 11.

## Do you join in any non-academic activities?

Despite the importance of academic study, I also engage in a number of non-academic activities outside of school. Being a strong believer in Christ, I spend most of my weekends at my church youth group as part of the service management team. Service management is a group that looks after every service held. It is also the division responsible for other events held by the church. A more familiar term for this division is 'Event Organizer'. Recently, I have been involved in a social service that provides services for the needy. This year we offered free medical check-ups for the less fortunate. Despite the struggles of working as a volunteer, it brings me great joy to give others a helping hand. As for my own personal health and growth, I practice several sports and instruments in the hope of developing my non-academic life. I play basketball and badminton and also practice my guitar and bass.

## As an IB Diploma Program student, do you have any advice/encouragement for your juniors?

As I work through my second semester of IBDP, I realize that those who have certain attributes and skills are more likely to

survive IBDP without significant problems. Time management is crucial. IB gives you a plethora of work and decreases your time to rest. With good time management it is possible to cope with the workload and have some spare time. Building the habit of prioritizing important matters and managing time well is a very useful skill for IBDP, and for the future.

## What makes the SPH LC community special to you?

SPH LC is unique compared with other school communities. There is diversity in the people we meet and interact with here and the school gives us the opportunity to be involved nationally and internationally. We see the world from multiple perspectives. Due to its diversity, I have become a more open-minded and socially-aware person. SPH LC also lives up to the claim of being a second home. Only at SPH LC do I truly feel like friends and teachers are family. SPH LC allows me to bond with students across other grades. Students build constructive relationships between juniors and seniors, whilst respecting each other's position. Participating in "house" activities every Friday also gives us the chance to build teamwork and social skills with other people.

## What values have you learned during your experiences at SPH LC?

Throughout my years at SPH LC, I have learned many valuable lessons. I have had the opportunity to grow as a person through holistic education. One value I recently learned in SPH is the power of experience. Education is important, and experience is also necessary for personal growth and maturity. The CAS program (implemented for the last two years of high school), fieldtrips and excursions, service and non-academic activities are offered to give us rich experiences to ripen the fruit that we have and to nurture the talent that we hold within.



HYUN GU (CLASS OF 2020 - SPH LC)





# A Welcoming Community



**ERIK DENNIS FRY**  
SPORTS PROGRAM COORDINATOR,  
SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

One of the hardest aspects of moving to a new place is unplugging from the community you are a part of and connecting to an unfamiliar setting. God designed His body, the church, in such a way that we need each other. He planted in us a desire for fellowship. When God called our family halfway around the world, it was nerve-racking not knowing what our new community would be like or how we would fit into it.

My wife Amanda and I have served at two different SPH campuses. In 2011 we moved from the USA to SPH Kemang Village as a newly married couple. SPH KV was in its second year of existence. There we had the unique opportunity of helping build that community. We were amazed at the way God brought people from all over the world to live in harmony and teach together. The small KV community was tight-knit. With everyone working and studying together in one high-rise building, this meant you might step into the elevator with a group of Kindy or Senior School students, admissions staff, a teacher from another department – or even the Head of School! The closeness of that community was something we enjoyed greatly.

After three years living in Kemang, God called us back to the U.S.A. We were sad to leave but sensed God might bring us back to Indonesia one day. That day came sooner than we imagined. In February, 2018, God began opening doors to bring our family back - this time to Lippo Village. We had grown from a couple to a family of five. God knew that SPH LV would be perfect for our family.

Even before we moved, the SPH LV community began reaching out to us. Many people were willing to answer our questions, give advice, and provide us with peace of

mind as we uprooted our family and moved across the world. From the moment we arrived in Jakarta in October 2018, we were welcomed with open arms. Community members invited us for meals, offered to watch our kids, and helped us get set up in our new home.

We have enjoyed how open the Lippo Village campus and neighborhood is. Our children can run around and play freely which has allowed them to adjust well to their new environment. As the largest and longest-standing SPH campus, Lippo Village has a bigger and more established feel to it. Having teachers who have been here for 20+ years and who have “been through it all before” has

proven very helpful, especially with raising our children cross culturally.

SPH is a special community filled with incredible people. Having served at two campuses, I can safely say that SPH is a great place to do life with other believers. SPH Kemang Village still holds a very special place in our hearts. It is fun to still have friends there from our first time in Indonesia and we always look forward to catching up with them each time our paths cross.

SPH is a truly a great place to connect and serve together with other Christ-followers.





# The Road to SPH



**RACQUEL ARTIOLA ANADA**  
GRADE 5 TEACHER,  
SPH LIPPO VILLAGE

I first learned about SPH when I was working as a director in a small local private school in the Philippines. When I googled “Top Christian International School in Indonesia” SPH was on the list. Since then I couldn’t take the desire to be a part of the mission of SPH out of my head. My first application to SPH in 2017 was denied because of SPH’s family policy. Although disappointed, I took it as God’s will. I have always believed that there is a time for everything.

December 2017 came and I received God’s answer to my question. My husband was diagnosed with liver cancer and had I been hired by SPH, I would not have been able to give him the support that he needed from me and my girls. He died in March 2018, less than three months after his diagnosis.

It was a very traumatic stage in my daughter’s lives. I was left with debts from his medication and I had two girls to graduate and to feed. My work as a school principal in the heart of Makati in downtown Manila was my dream mission. I knew in my heart that my calling is to lead and motivate educators for the teaching ministry. In spite of my love for my work as a school leader, I knew that it would not help me provide for my daughters’ needs and pay my debts. So, I prayed and asked God for His guidance.

A week after my heart-to-heart talk with God, and after careful consideration of my daughters’ needs, I uttered these words, “Lord, not my will but Yours alone. If it is Your will for me to step down from my position as a leader of this school, lead me to the school where my daughters and I can have a brand new start and a school that will help me support my daughters and pay for my debts.”

I handed in my resignation after the closing of the academic year and started

training my replacement.

I also contacted Ibu Nancy to inform her that I would apply once again for a teaching position at SPH. Praise the Lord! He is indeed faithful. A week after I emailed her, I received a positive reply. After two weeks, I was interviewed by Mr. Michael and Ibu Hana from the Junior School. I got the job and I told my kids that we will be leaving for SPH.

They were both excited and sad at the same time. Excited because they will be able to study in one of the best International Christian schools in Indonesia, and sad because leaving their friends behind meant it would be a big adjustment for them. I also felt sad since my work as a leader has been my comfort zone.

It came to a point where I contemplated leaving my older daughter behind because she was supposed to graduate from Grade 12 in the Philippines, but the Lord knows our heart’s desire, and she agreed to come with me and repeat Grade 11. She is now enjoying every bit of the challenge in Senior School. My youngest daughter has also found a friend she can relate to. As for me, I found a new family in the Grade Five team who I am blessed to work with. I realize how much God loves me and that His grace is more than enough.

Working at SPH, I am slowly able to pay my debts, give my daughters a world class education, and make them see how great our God is, believing that He alone gives the best to His children who trust His will. I have come to love my mission more, not just mentoring educators, but mentoring future world leaders in the Grade Five group. I have gained more wisdom in dealing with people and have acquired more skills as a 21st century Christian educator.

I am thankful that in spite of the death of my husband, which Satan used to rattle my faith, the Lord has made it to my favor. Just like the line in one of my favorite songs, “You know better than I” in the movie ‘Joseph King of Dreams’ says, “I’ve let go the need to know why, for You know better than I.” As I look back over all the challenges I have faced, I see how they have prepared me for His great plan. Through this I have grown more faithful, knowing that our lives are in His hands.

Thank you SPH for being our family in Indonesia! It is an honor serving the Lord with you.





## When Christ is in the Family

“For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”

- Matthew 18:20



**SOEKARMINI**  
PARENTING PROGRAM  
COORDINATOR

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).

The ideal Christian family is one where God is present and fully in charge of family life. There is a divine order to life: God – Father – Mother – Children. God's ideal is not always the real experience of families – even Christian families. In a fallen world, families break up and break down for many reasons. Still, God's ideal remains. This encourages all parents to seek for his blessing.

The biblical father has a priestly role, teaching his family by to know God and to live as God's people. Fathers are called to be godly, to intercede for their children, and seek His kingdom priorities and values. Fathers are fully responsible to God.

There is a mutual submitting and honoring that must first take place between husbands and wives. Husbands are to love their wives sacrificially, as Jesus loves. Who would not want to be loved like that? Wives are called to submit (honor his headship) as the receiver of God's vision and the partner with her husband for its fulfilment. This means helping and praying so that her children walk with the Lord.

Children are to respect and obey their parents and profess their own faith in God. Children are to see their parents loving God wholeheartedly. God's Word will be the lamp for every deed and the light to direct the whole family. The Holy Spirit shapes the minds of children through His Word and the godly example of their parents.

**Parents have to keep growing in their knowledge of God and their love for Him.** This is the core business of fathers and mothers in the bringing up of their children.

Loving God means living according to His commands (John 14:15, 21). Do children see fathers loving mothers? Mothers respecting fathers? Fathers living honestly in their workplace? Parents using their money responsibly and giving to God, and managing their time wisely and seeking for God's guidance in making decisions? Do the children see Christ in their parents as they respond to the issues of family life?

The ideal family is one where Christ is at the centre and where each member of the family devotes their life to doing God's will. A Christian family does not just go to church on Sunday, participate in religious routines, and do daily family devotions – though these are important. Whatever is done in the Christian family must be from Him, through Him, and for his glory. As a family lifts up God's name, He inclines His loving heart towards them and blesses them.

A family becomes a sacred enterprise when Christ is present. Parents partner with God to raise godly children whom He will use for His glory. When Christ is present there is power for every member of the family to become God's children. No matter whether your family is ideal, or less than ideal, God can help! He gives great strength, wisdom, and peace as we journey through life's challenges and changes.





## Parenting Program Testimonies



I am Yunike Sasmito, and my husband is Aditya Sasmito. We are blessed with three children who all attend SPH Kemang Village: Jordan (Grade 7), Janessa (Grade 5) and Jaziel (K3). Before deciding to enroll our children at SPH, we looked for good Christian schools but did not find any. My husband's family told us about SPH. Many of them are SPH alumni. We finally came to SPH Kemang Village, which is near to our home, and we were impressed by its vision and mission and its strong emphasis on Christian values.

At first I was not really involved in the school, just helping with PAG events occasionally. When Jordan was in Grade 4, Ibu Daisy called to invite me to join the CPR team. I was not expecting this invitation, but decided I should try. Three years ago I was appointed one of the members of PAG, specifically in the Community Relations committee. Since joining the PAG, God has been teaching me a lot about how to serve others and to deal with many different people.

Most importantly, God is shaping me through SPH's parenting programs. These programs are one of SPH's strong points. Some of my friends are curious about these parenting seminars, since they do not have anything similar in their schools.

The parenting seminars help us to deal with our children. I take the biblical principles, lessons, and great advice from those seminars and apply them to my kids at home. I also joined the Moms Small Group with Ibu Soekarmini. Although sometimes she is a bit "tough" on us, we know deep down that her teaching is true and it is for our own good.

Every Sunday we attend church and hear the word of God preached by our pastor. But attending the parenting seminars has really helped us practically apply what we learn each Sunday for our parenting journey.

At SPH KV, attendance at the parenting seminars has grown from 6-7 people to more than 20 people. We thank God for this growth and look forward to more parents attending in the future. Christian parenting is a big responsibility and a hard process; but with God, his Word, and a supportive community, it is not impossible.



My name is Sherly Sharani and my husband is Bhakti Widjaja. We have been blessed with two children, Jonathan Widjaja (Grade 11 – Class of 2020) and Jocelyn Kyra Widjaja (Grade 9 – Class of 2022), both of whom are studying at SPH Sentul City.

I initially chose SPH for its stellar academics, values-based approach to teaching, world-class facilities, and its caring and highly qualified teachers. However, in the months following my children's first day of school here, I realized that what made SPH stand out from all other schools was its unique culture. SPH continually strives to create a student culture of collaboration, integrity, and excellence at a scale rarely seen in most institutions. I am grateful that SPH holds such strong Christian values as its fundamental cornerstone. As a parent I believe it is important to instill Christian values into my children from an early age.

The parenting programs at SPH Sentul are second to none. They are filled with like-minded parents who want the very best for their sons and daughters. Parenting seminars are informational and extremely applicable in my home. I am also currently participating in the MSG (Mom's Small Group). This group encourages us as wives and mothers to place our priorities for our children's growth - physically, mentally, and spiritually - all for the glory of God. Furthermore, I am grateful that I am able to be a Class Parent Representative (CPR) as well as a member of a weekly morning prayer and Bible study group, where we pray for the school members - students, teachers and staff.

SPH Sentul City is a perfect fit for my children. My experience is that I am surrounded by a loving and supporting environment that provides holistic education.



# Reconnect to Reality

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We live in a technologically driven world. It is estimated a person touches their smart phone 2617 times a day. Technology is pervasive, but does it make us fully human- or fully present? Or, in the words of the poet T. S. Elliot:

‘Distracted from distraction by distraction  
Filled with fancies and empty of meaning  
Tumid apathy with no concentration.’

Philosopher Alan Kirby from Oxford describes the true state of our world as the technological trance in which technological immediacy is glorified. This trance “takes the world away...you click...you are the text, there is no-one else, no ‘author’; there is nowhere else, no other time or place.” The result of this obsession with technology he says, is the creation of a ‘cultural desert...triteness and a shallowness dominates all.’ (Kirby, Philosophy Now)

The Bible calls us to a vision of God and of life that is worthy of our allegiance. The connected person is tuned into God’s promise of the fullness of life and hope that are found in Jesus Christ; life that is not narcissistic or selfish.

The technology trance leads us to being obsessed with ourselves. Socrates said: ‘Know Yourself!’ Oscar Wilde said, ‘Be Yourself!’ The 21st century technology trance slogan is, ‘Be Your Selfie’.

This digital age ‘reality’ can be the worst game to play because there is no reset button and no way of becoming a different character. We can filter how we appear to look on the outside, but not who we really are beneath our skin.

The Bible bridges this void of shallow disconnectedness by reconnecting humans to a bigger story and to a better God – to Jesus – who defeats all our attempts to create ourselves by isolating ourselves to a screen. In Jesus we are ‘renewed in knowledge in the image of our Creator.’

Colossians 3: 10

It’s OK to stare - at Jesus.

We are transformed by ‘fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.’ Hebrews 12:2





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