


VOL. VI ISSUE II
January—June 2018

Consul General
Paul Raymund Cortes
keynotes the
Foundation Day
of The Philippine School



TPS chairman leads the cake-cutting ceremony as the school celebrates 10 years! L-R School supporter Dulce Nazaret, TPS Managing Director Leticia Maniaul, Governing Council Officer Alex Carlos, Governing Council Officer Mila Buenaobra, TPS Chairman Ali Mahmood Abdhussain Ali, Lieutenant Hassan Mohamed Al Shamsi Photo by Edmir Capuno



 The Philippine School, Al Muhaisnah 2, Dubai



Unity, harmony mark the decade milestone

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The worrying state of students' mental health today

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DepEd awards gov't recognition to TPS Muhaisnah campus



DepEd Director Marilette Almayda (extreme right) discusses the process of ocular inspections to the school management and educational administration.

TPS achieves better quality in eleven major facets — KHDA report

By TPS Insights

A new report by the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) detailed eleven major points, where The Philippine School achieved better performances. KHDA carried-out inspections to TPS on December 11 - 14, 2017.

The new academic director, Benedict Ocon, incited major actions to ensure the school's quality, vision of excellence, community and inclusivity, community responsiveness, and innovation and internationalization.

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The Department of Education re-evaluated the government recognition of The Philippine School, for the reason that TPS transferred to Al Muhaisnah 2. After the ocular inspection, DepEd Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones signed a permanent permit to TPS on November 29, 2017.

Dr. Riza Gusano, DepEd supervising educational program specialist, wrote in her executive

summary that the DepEd team commended The Philippine School, for being able to deliver quality education to Filipino children, despite being in a foreign country.

Gusano added that the inspection team was one in decision that TPS Dubai had met and exceeded standards in delivering basic education program as prescribed by DepEd.



Representative of Crown Prince Court praises TPS Moral Ed Curriculum



Metrobank Outstanding Teacher: 'Now, kids are better than us'



Young Filipino public speakers rank 3rd overall among 87 int'l schools in UAE



Alumna graduates in animation course; says TPS - ICT classes introduce graphic design, digital arts to her

To assess the intellectual and behavioral aspects of the Moral Education Curriculum, Kevin Walis, the representative of the Crown Prince, made his second visit at The Philippine School in April. Walis said that TPS sustained strong organization and implementation of the program.

"Kids are like adults now. Kids are better than us. Give them the floor." This was the message of Metrobank Outstanding Teacher Emilia Banlaygas, when she conducted a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for teachers on January 15 at The Philippine School.

The Philippine School and the Filipino youth were well-represented at the 18th Inter-School Environmental Public Speaking Competition organized by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) this year.

Four years ago, Kristine Claire Jimenez was one of the silent students in the corner; however, her creative imagination was making an extraordinary blare. On March 8, 2018, Kristine graduated with the degree: Bachelor in Animation at SAE Institute.

NEWS

Representative of Crown Prince Court praises TPS Moral Ed Curriculum

By TPS Insights



ULTIMATE ROLE MODELS

Mr. Kevin Walis, representative of the Crown Prince Court, interviews parents. Parents' involvement in moral education program is a strong point of the school. Photo by Marites Rodriguez

According to the MEC Coordinator Arlene Sandoval, Mr. Walis praised the teaching - learning process in the classroom. After an observation made in the class of Ms. Violeta De Leon, MEC teacher, the inspector gave a feedback that the students knew their roles and content, while substantiating the subject of cultural heritage.

"Mr. Kevin said that the teacher had a very good execution because she maintained her role as a mere facilitator in the classroom," Sandoval relayed.

Sandoval also unveiled improvements based from the feedbacks of the inspector. In terms of assessment, the MEC tool was used to assess the level of competencies of students in TPS.

"Following a written assessment from MEC, a large percentage of students was categorized under advanced category," the coordinator added.

One more strong point of the school was the parents' involvement. Parents had a separate interview with Mr. Kevin Walis.

"Because of the MEC program, we are more sensitive to monitor the behavior of our children, and we don't simply depend on the efforts of the school," Mr. Ramon De Guzman, a grade 2 parent mentioned.

"We aim in MEC that we will not only equip intelligence to the minds of the students, but we will also value their hearts," Sandoval concluded.

TPS executes the program based from the four pillars of MEC such as character and morality; the individual and the community; cultural studies and civics studies.

"We aim in MEC that we will not only equip intelligence to the minds of the students, but we will also value their hearts."

- Arlene Sandoval, TPS MEC Coordinator



QUALITY EDUCATION IS KEY INTEREST

Upon the recommendation of the Crown Prince Court, Professor Richard Pring (2nd from right) from Oxford University—London had visited TPS, and inquired the development and implementation of moral education. Photo by Marites Rodriguez

TPS achieves better quality in eleven major facets — KHDA report



Photo by Edmir Capuno

... from frontpage

"These initiatives are only initial steps that the school is currently doing. These will never happen without the support of the senior leaders, particularly the Managing Director, and the middle management leaders," Ocon said.

This year's KHDA report bared the recent results after the TPS Academic Director's take-over.

With regard to the students' achievement in junior high school, the attainment of the 'Language of Instruction' was marked "GOOD" by the inspection body. On the same level, the attainment of mathematics turned "ACCEPTABLE." In senior high school, the progress of English advanced to "GOOD" performance.

TPS curriculum design and implementation also improved in junior high school and senior high school. This was after putting into practice the vertically and horizontally articulated curriculum organized this school year.

It promotes cross-curricular integration and articulation of skills and competencies. It likewise serves as an avenue to utilize the data gathered from licensed national and international assessments.

In terms of the protection, care, guidance and support of students, the school was "ACCEPTABLE" on all levels, from kindergarten to senior high school.

TPS leadership and management earned a "GOOD" mark in terms of its collaboration with the parents and the community. Management, staffing facilities, and resources also improved.

The students' personal and social development is still the strength of the school, which obtained "GOOD" mark in the kindergarten and elementary, while "VERY GOOD" in junior and senior high school.

Understanding of Islamic values, awareness of Emirati and world cultures, social responsibility and innovation skills are "GOOD" across all phases.



The students' personal and social development is still the strength of the school, which obtained "GOOD" mark in the kindergarten and elementary, while "VERY GOOD" in junior and senior high school.

Photo by Edmir Capuno



NEWS



TPS welcomes finalist of Global Teacher Prize 2018

Staff report



Vice-Principal for Academic Affairs Dinah Goc (right) presents a certificate of recognition to Jesus Insilada (extreme left) for his exemplary achievement as finalist in the Global Teacher Prize 2018.

Jesus is a proud member of the indigenous peoples of Panay Bukidnon community. From a poor farming family, he is the first family member to achieve professional qualifications. He is now a leader and a teacher of a school in the Philippines, in a community where over 90 percent of the students belong to indigenous peoples groups.

Jesus' approach to teaching is known as culture-based education (CBE), which he models in his school throughout the curriculum. It is his dream that throughout the Philippines will become truly inclusive and culture sensitive. With this approach, students become engaged in their education through traditional dances, songs, epics, local games and crafts that give context to their studies.

www.globalteacherprize.org

About the Global Teacher Prize

The Global Teacher Prize is US \$ 1 million award presented annually to an exceptional teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to their profession.

The prize serves to underline the importance of educators and the fact that throughout the world, their efforts need to be recognized and celebrated. It seeks to acknowledge the impacts of the very best teachers—not only on their students but on the communities around them.

www.globalteacherprize.org

TPSian: second best in Toyota Dream Car contest

By Louaine Gicano



Out of 2000 entries from children across the UAE, Jilliane Denis Pascual Pilapil, a grade 2 student from The Philippine School Dubai, achieved second place in Category 1 of the Dream Car Arts' contest, hosted by Al Futtaim Motors Toyota on April 20, 2018.

Jillian showcased her artistic talents by illustrating the car of her dreams. She was invited to the exhibition and to the awarding ceremony, together with her parents in Dubai Festival City mall.

She had competed with numerous children aged 4-7, and passed the final qualifying rounds. The winner would have the chance to compete for the worldwide category to win a trip to Japan.

Singer Moira Dela Torre visits TPS

By TPS Insights



Moira Dela Torre and fiancé Jason Hernandez with grade 10-A students of The Philippine School
Photo taken from Jendrich Quaimbao's Facebook page

Promoting her concert in Dubai, Filipino Singer Moira De La Torre made a surprise visit to the students of The Philippine School Dubai on May 10, 2018.

Moira De La Torre, known for her hit songs, Malaya, Tagpuan and cover of Imago's Sundo, will perform at the Dubai World Trade Center on May 11, 2018.

NEWS

Metrobank Outstanding Teacher : ' Now, kids are better than us'

Education expert shares three decades of wisdom

Staff report



Metrobank Outstanding Teacher Emilia Banlaygas conducted a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for teachers in January.

"Kids are like adults now. Kids are better than us. Give them the floor."

This was the message of Metrobank Outstanding Teacher Emilia Banlaygas, when she conducted a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training for teachers on January 15 at The Philippine School.

With the theme of *21st Century Teaching*, Banlaygas advised the teachers to expose the students to real world and independent learning.

"Children are different now. In Japan, small kids ride the train alone," she exemplified. "The students of the 21st century are more critical and analytical. In teaching, present your content with problem-solving," she added.

The speaker shared her three decades of wisdom to TPSian educators and related her opinion on where are the best schools in the world. "All the things that I am going to deliver today are not from experts, but from my own experience. I don't teach things that I don't know. I had been to Finland and I noticed that teachers there don't teach what they are not expert at," she shared.

She encouraged the teachers to work collaboratively, and monitor the individual skills of the students. This is for the students to have every academic advantage, necessary to excel as productive members of the community," she added.

TPSians compete in Water Rocket Challenge

Group lands third place

By Jizeth Rose G. Ibarra

Five eleventh graders notched third place in the first ever *Water Rocket Challenge* hosted by Emirates Aviation University. The quintet was composed of Andrew San Juan, Kingsley Simeon, Januel Pitoy, Antonio Gapusan, and Gerard Lim.

More than 300 students from 22 schools across the country participated in the competition. Participants were tasked to design a rocket that can fly the longest distance when launched from a 45-degree angle. Each group was given an identical pack, consisting of materials that they have to use. They would have to work with these materials within a limited timeframe.

Andrew San Juan said, "Two weeks prior to the competition, we did some test flights with prototypes." The group was ecstatic upon landing a podium finish. Januel Pitoy stated, "Although it was unfortunate that we didn't achieve the first place, we truly know that we did our best and went back home with smiles on our faces."

"We were undecided if we should join the competition or not. We pushed through because we already had an experience with a rocket challenge competition among our batch last year. Being able to join a competition, hosted by a reputable institution such as EAU, was absolutely a fulfilled, unique and fulfilling experience," Andrew San Juan added.



NEWS



TPSians take wins at environmental speaking contest

Young Filipino public speakers rank 3rd overall among 87 int'l schools in UAE

By TPS Insights

The Philippine School and the Filipino youth were well-represented at the 18th Inter - School Environmental Public Speaking Competition, organized by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) this year.

Five TPSian sub-seniors were declared champion in substantiating the impact of wars on the environment. On the second day of the competition, five seniors also won second runner-up by enlightening the audience regarding the effects of fashion and make-up industry on the environment. Overall, TPS won second runner-up, with 87 participating schools across the country.

"I'm very grateful with EEG because I've got a feel of strong environmental issues this time. We are not doing the competition merely for a show; we really wanted to genuinely lead the value of the program," said grade 10 student Jendrich Quiambao.

Moreover, TPSians remained strong advocates, as the senior students Ysabella Manlangiit, Alliona Bacerdo, Karina Villa, Ziv Jordan, Januel Pitoy unveiled the lurking negative effects of fashion industry and make-ups.

EEG Chairperson Habiba Sultan Al Mara'ishi said that she was impressed with the quality of presentations, facts, data and statistics. She added that her team works to meet the maximum effect of the program. "The value of the environmental information should not only finish here; it should be the start of more significant actions for our personal lives," she emphasized.

The competition arms school students with confidence, critical thinking skills and sound knowledge on the existing sustainability issues.



Dubai Knowledge Village - Sub-seniors (13-15 years of age) were declared champion in the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) public speaking competition, with the theme: "Impact of wars on the environment." TPS advocates competed against 50 teams from different schools on April 23, 2018. Science teacher and mentor Juliet Balos (fourth from left) received the award.



April 24, 2018—TPS senior students were awarded second runner-up by unveiling the negative effects of fashion industry and make-ups. L-R Ysabella Manlangiit, Alliona Bacerdo, Karina Villa, Ziv Jordan, Januel Pitoy and event judge Enaam Ghazi Abusharkh, Chairperson Habiba Sultan Al Mara'ishi, Fatima Ali Alblooshi and Nancy Nouamieh



Sub-seniors : Champion team

Nella Rose Bermudo, Jendrich Aira Quiambao, Yana Abriel Bautista, Ace Bernabe, and Sean Matthew Sumagan fared well in introducing their topic through a dramatic slam poetry. This was an original composition, where they called for action and claimed that awareness does not equal to a solution. TPSians gained praise from some participating schools regarding their conviction and performances.



SHS student Alliona Bacerdo (right) with the students of Pristine Private School in Dubai



TPSians with students of GEMS Our Own Indian High School in Sharjah

Grade 9 student Jeremie Casanding proves poetic excellence

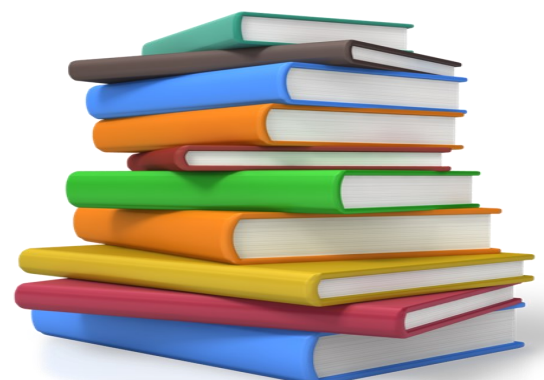
By Mariah Quisiah

Grade 9 student Jeremie Lei Casanding was treated like a Nobel laureate, after being chosen as one of the thirty winners of the Poetic Heart writing competition. She expressed her poetic piece entitled "Unity in Division," in front of distinguished poets on February 4, 2018. 265 students all over the UAE had submitted their poems.

While majority of the youth indulge in social media posts, Jeremie has other things in mind. She expresses her thoughts and consoles the readers through poetry. Casanding illustrated and addressed the dilemma of labels in modern society. It emphasized that presently, more and more categories are being made that could set humanity apart. According to her, this could blind them of the bigger picture. "Categories shouldn't set us apart; they're just words," she asserted.

"When trying to expose your works to the world, or at least the local community, start small. You can start shedding light and gaining attention by simply joining contests that welcome writers. Remember that if you don't succeed for the first time, you can always give it another shot. Don't lose hope," she advised.

Poetic Heart is an event where selected students from across UAE unite under a poetry symposium. Students create and recite poems about peace and harmony. They connect and share their expressions with the local community. "In today's obdurately self-centric existence, this event is a gentle reminder to keep the poet within alive – nurturing values of righteousness, courage, altruism and optimism," said Dr. Akash Keiji Ouchi, the SGI representative for South Asia and the Middle East.



NOBEL LAUREATE TREATMENT Supported by family, Jeremie Lei Casanding prepares to deliver poetic piece at Emirates Institute of Banking and Financial Services, Dubai. Jeremie was the fourth TPSian chosen by the Poetic Heart organization for the past three years.



TPS promotes on-the-job training for Senior High

Students experience Dolphinarium jobs
By Isabella Manlangit

Grade 12 students prove that getting on at school is not the same as getting on at life. While it can be scary, there are many ways to prepare students for reality. One of the most memorable methods is the *On-the-Job Training* or OJT. This twice-a-week training put the students into the actual work environment to help them experience industry processes.

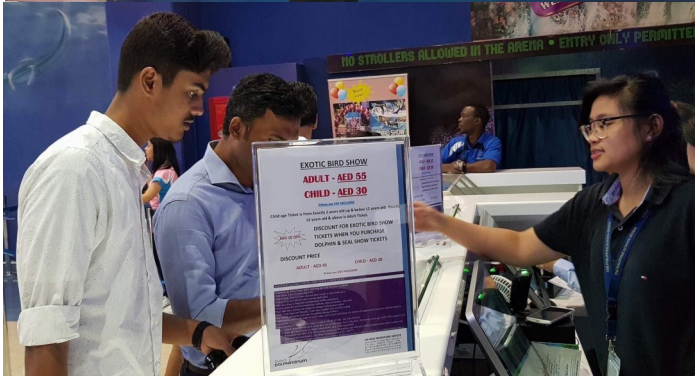
Their day starts by leaving the school around 8:20 in the morning to make their way to the Dubai Dolphinarium.

The Accountancy, Business and Management (ABM) students handled the money and created financial documents using Microsoft Excel. The Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS) students worked as cashiers at first, then assisted Dolphinarium supervisors with their tasks. The Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) students helped the supervisors and assisted them with other financial tasks.

Once their training is done, they head back to the school at 1 pm to catch the last subject. Despite having to juggle both schoolwork and training, the seniors all agree that OJT is worth it.

“Working at the Dubai Dolphinarium is a great experience as an SHS student,” said ABM student Polo Ferrer. According to him, it exposes them to a working environment which can prepare them for the future.

Students also learn practical skills related to their strands like handling finances and file documents. “This opportunity will help me enrich my competencies,” Ferrer said.



TPS is Grand Prize winner in multi-cultural showcase

Teachers unveil Filipino culture in Fashunity



Photo by Romeo Ancheta

By Jizeth Ibarra

Mamzar, Dubai - The Fashunity exhibition displayed the diversity of every country's culture, through its clothing style and products. Thirty-nine international schools in the UAE wouldn't like to miss that chance and showcased their cultural heritage.

The Philippine School can't differ. TPS won the grand prize, and the *Best and Most Visited Booth*.

The Philippine School-Dubai represented the country, Philippines. The school's objective was to showcase and promote the fashion, artistry, craftsmanship, and ingenuity of Filipinos to regional and international platforms.

The Philippine booth achieved these objectives through showcasing the different costumes found in the Philippines. Some were displayed in a form of daily used products such as the famous Abacca, bamboo, pinya, and rattan.



March 24, 2018—Mr. Romeo Ancheta (2nd from left) accepts the award from The Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities Department.

Manlangit, Consunji become police officers for a day

By Beaux Consunji



TPSians Lukas Manlangit and Beaux Consunji took part in the Dubai Police One Day Officer initiative by the Dubai Police held at the Dubai Police Headquarters on April 26, 2018.

The students were able to meet the Dubai Chief of Police - Major General Abdullah Khalifa Al Merri. They visited the Dubai Police Museum, and also the Mounted Police Department, where they rode police horses around the vicinity.



"I particularly enjoyed the time when we were in the operations room," said Consunji. "We could see all the police officers busy pounding away at their keyboards, and answering the waves of calls at astonishing speeds," she narrated.

Lukas Manlangit recalled that the most memorable part for him was the trip to the Dubai Police Museum, where they

got to see the foundations and the rich past of the Dubai Police.

The Museum Supervisor Lieutenant-Colonel Maryam Saeed Al Shamsi showed the students around and told them about the history of the Dubai Police.

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NEWS

Alumna advises soon-to-be graduates

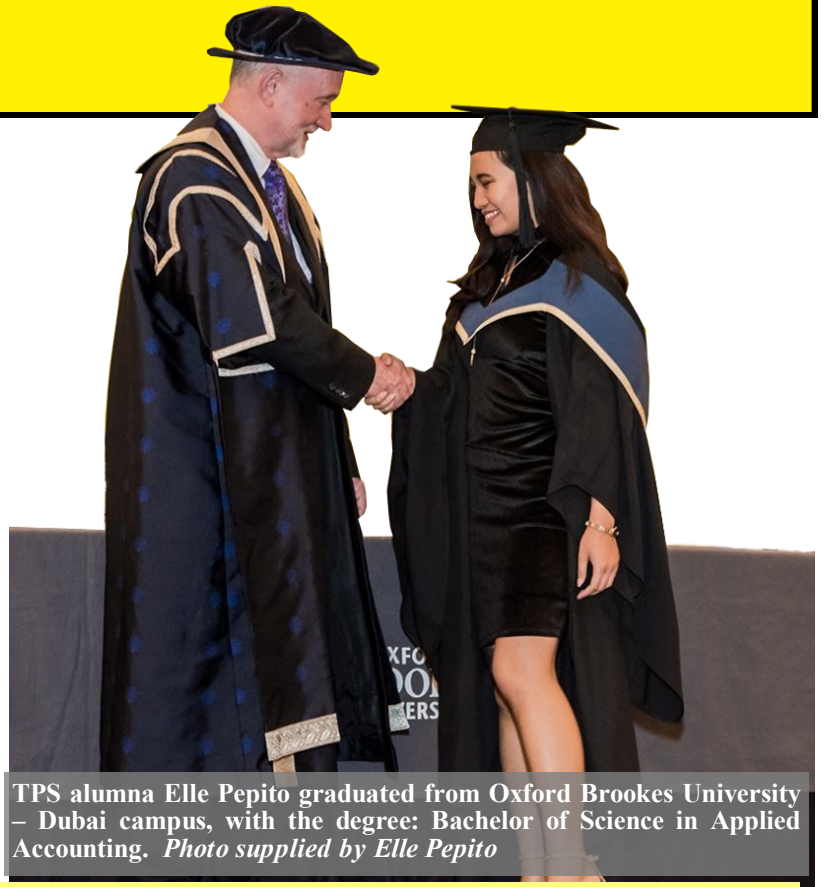
By TPS Insights

On February 24, 2018, TPS alumna Elle Pepito graduated from Oxford Brookes University – Dubai campus, and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Applied Accounting degree.

Elle shared her pieces of advice and experiences to TPSians, many of whom will graduate this June.

“Keep dreaming and striving until those dreams become a reality. There’s no such thing as a big dream, and there are no limits to what you can achieve in life. Just as how Rome was not built in a day, success too cannot be achieved with-out perseverance, determination, passion and love of what you’re doing,” she said.

She added, “As a student, our vision should not be of the mere present but of future development through education. You are all capable of greater things - things that the next generation would look upon. Move forward with excellence while keeping your feet humbled to the ground. Never cease to cast your worries and doubts to the Lord, as His glory would guide your path to genuine success.”



TPS alumna Elle Pepito graduated from Oxford Brookes University – Dubai campus, with the degree: Bachelor of Science in Applied Accounting. Photo supplied by Elle Pepito

“You are all capable of greater things - things that the next generation would look upon. Move forward with excellence while keeping your feet humbled to the ground.” - Elle Pepito

TPS alumna graduates in animation course; says TPS-ICT classes introduce graphic design, digital arts to her

By TPS Insights

Photo by Mirasol Jimenez



On March 8, 2018, Kristine Jimenez (extreme right) graduated with the degree: Bachelor in Animation. She finished her course at SAE Institute, the world’s leading educator in creative media.

Four years ago, Kristine Claire Jimenez was one of the silent students in the corner; however, her creative imagination makes an extraordinary blare. On March 8, 2018, Kristine graduated with the degree: Bachelor in Animation at SAE Institute. She said that high school ICT classes had introduced to her the concept of Graphic Design and Digital Arts.

“I did more research on possible directions that I could take. It eventually led me to animation, and I fell in love with the idea of creating things beyond the limits of reality. In high school, I felt most comfortable during Art classes, so I joined the Art’s club. I drew and sketched a lot during free time on campus, and I enjoyed doing crafts. During those years, I already knew that I wanted to take an art-related course,” she said.

Jimenez mentioned that the biggest challenge she had to face in college was the amount of work. “Studying animation was fun, but along with it came late nights in campus, to use facilities and to stay until early morning to meet deadlines. Our work required a lot of waiting for computers to render or to complete at the end of every project, and despite the anxiety in waiting, it also helped us to develop patience,” she added.

She shared practical ways to handle the stressful processes of the course, like adjusting schedules to finish earlier, which leaves more time in case something needs to be fixed.

“When there are too much to handle, praying to God and talking to people significantly helps. At the end of all restlessness, the results of our hard work always gave us a feeling of satisfaction and pride,” Jimenez concluded.

TPSian pursues Aeronautical Engineering in EAU

Staff report

Congratulations to TPS Senior High School (SHS) student John Darwin De Guzman for passing the entrance examination of Emirates Aviation University on January 10, 2018.

Darwin will pursue the course: Certificate 4 for Aeronautical Engineering.

The Certificate 4 in Aeronautical Engineering program provides students with the fundamental knowledge, understanding, and skills needed to prepare them for employment as aircraft technicians or to pursue further studies in Engineering, offering them a pathway into aerospace industry.



TPS alumnus John Darwin De Guzman at Emirates Aviation University

NEWS



TPSians attend space-themed workshop

By Beaux Consunji

TPSians attended the Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) Science event which was held at the Etihad Museum, Dubai on October 21, 2017.

MBRSC is an effort, under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid, to inspire UAE's youth with the wonders of Space Science, and to serve as a guide to those who seek a future in the field.

Students got to learn various topics related to Space Science. Taught by Mohammad Al Abbar, TPSians got a glimpse on how to build a satellite. They interacted with the real innards of a satellite, and learned about the MBRSC's plans on launching a satellite (called Khalifasat) in the first half of 2018.

Alumna: fresh grad from De La Salle expresses gratitude, advice to TPSians

By TPS Insights

TPS alumna Elyzza Gail Endaya is a fresh graduate from De La Salle Lipa in Batangas, where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Multimedia Arts on June 8, 2018. She thanked her friends and mentors in TPS, who somehow helped her to start anew. Elyzza also recommended courses in arts to the new high school graduates.

"I wanted to thank my teachers, who watched out for me, and to my friends, whom I shared bond with," Elyzza said in an interview.

"To this year's batch, congratulations for finishing high school! Next, college is a great time to show more of what you're capable of. Brace yourself because there are a lot of challenges in college," she added.

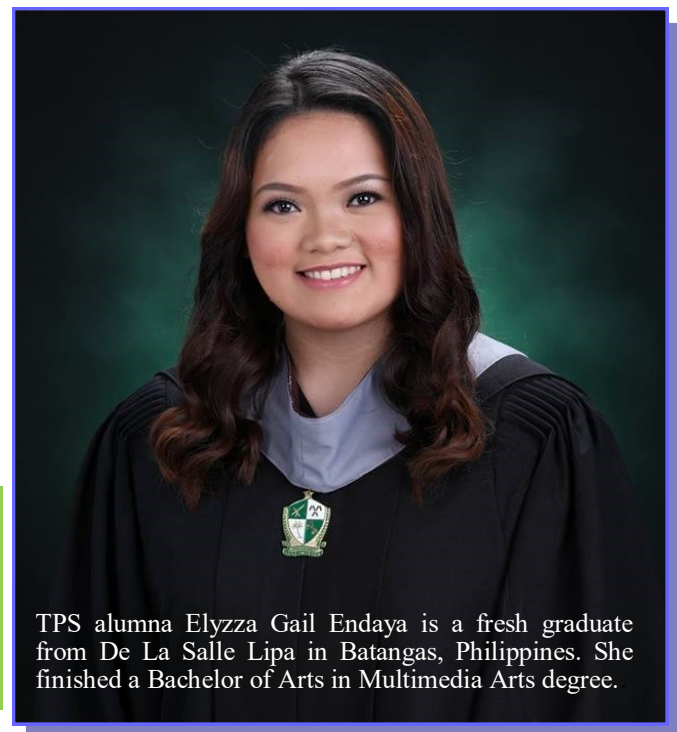
She related that the most memorable episode that happened in her college life was when people began to notice how she grew as a person. In the past, she claimed that she was a girl who had stayed in the shadows, then turned to be a kind of person who looks up high, speaks up, and even acts as a student leader.

"That was the moment I realized that there's so much more in me, and that I'm glad to have stepped out from the shadows," Elyzza recalled.

This semester, she was nominated for the St. John Baptist De La Salle Award and leadership award.

Endaya was a Dean's Lister since 2016, and currently the president of the professional organization of her course, Interactive Artists of Multimedia Design.

"College is a great time to show more of what you're capable of." - Elyzza Gail



TPS alumna Elyzza Gail Endaya is a fresh graduate from De La Salle Lipa in Batangas, Philippines. She finished a Bachelor of Arts in Multimedia Arts degree.

Education secretary Leonor Briones visits Dubai

Article and photo source: The Filipino Times March 30, 2018



Education Secretary Leonor Briones recently met with officials of the Philippine Consulate General in Dubai and administrators of the Philippine Schools of Dubai and Sharjah at the Philippine Consulate General. The Cabinet official discussed the current challenges in the education system in the Philippines and the role that teachers play in molding the minds of the next generation and preparing them for the 21st century.

Psych society conducts anti-bullying seminar

A Governing Council initiative

Staff report

Dr. Rommel Pilapil Sergio, a professor of Canadian University, and the team from the Psychological Society (Phil - Dubai chapter) conducted *Anti-Bullying* workshop in May for the students and parents.

“In this digital and tech savvy generation, the over all welfare of the students is a collaborative responsibility between the parents at home and the school,” TPS Governing Council Chairman Ben Lebig posted on his Facebook page.

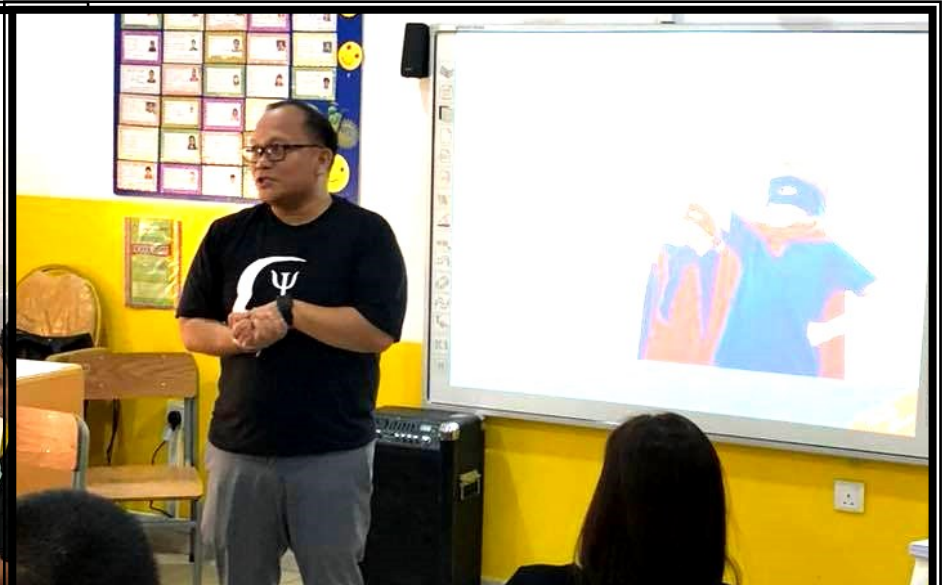
On behalf of The Philippine School and the TPS Governing Council, Lebig extended gratitude for the facilitators of the Anti-Bullying workshop.



TPS Governing Council Chairman Ben Lebig pushes initiatives for the school.



FOR GOOD NURTURE
PTA President John Doringo explains child-rearing to parents.



Dr. Rommel P. Sergio, a human resource management program chair and associate professor of Canadian University, Dubai, is one of the facilitators of the seminar.

Teachers attend seminar with 2021 UAE National Agenda aims

By Asheneth Macatangay



Dusit, Thani Hotel Dubai - TPS teachers collaborate with some of the most experienced teaching professionals. They aim to develop innovative 21st century learning methods, to integrate the latest technologies in teaching methods and to achieve higher standards of education.

The Philippine School Dubai teachers attended the Education Experts, a teachers' training to develop world-class education system within the Emirates. This was held at Dusit Thani Hotel, Dubai, UAE on March 5-6, 2018.

The teachers collaborated with other school leaders and educators from different parts of the UAE.

Ms. Violeta Frias, subject area coordinator of Mathematics department in TPS said, "I was proud because I was able to attend the seminar. I was also excited to learn more about the modern trends in education, and many more things we haven't heard about yet."

There were panel discussions led by school directors and other school leaders. In relation to this, there were also round-table discussions about Internal Assessments such as the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT 4) data.

Search, Research defined

By Polo Ferrer



Dr. Jatin Tekriwal, an ISO assessor of Newstead QA in UK, conducted a workshop clarifying the definitions of academic research. Grade 12 students participated in the activity at The Philippine School, Dubai on May 22, 2018.

The workshop is mainly focused on differentiating between *Search* and *Research*.

Tekriwal described the word 'Search' as an act of finding something, which has lost before or missing, while 'Research' is a systematic act of examining or questioning into a subject for improved facts, theories or applications.

He also emphasized that *Search* is like a square shape because it has a limited cycle, while *Research* is a circle that goes into a repetitive cycle in verifying new or existing knowledge.



Synergy University

By Bonijen Santos, SHS student

On April 22, 2018, the grade 12 students attended a school orientation at Synergy University, located in Platinum Tower, Jumeirah Lakes Towers.

The faculty members presented their brief history, accreditations, and other features of the university.

They explained why their location is situated at Jumeirah Lakes Towers rather than in a university zone. They wanted their students to be exposed to a variety of working environment that offers training, internships, and employment.

The university also has a career center exclusively for its students. They assisted the students with curriculum vitae writing, job interview, and job placement. They claimed that their undergraduate programs are aligned to what jobs are in demand presently.

These courses are Hotel and Restaurant Management, Global Economy, Information Systems and Technologies, and Entrepreneurship.

Two activities were carried-out where the students used a mobile application called Kahoot, where they took a quiz about *Consumer Behavior*.

In the next activity, the students had been grouped and tasked to make an advertisement pertaining to Consumer Behavior, with the use of paper, markers, magazines, and scissors.

At the end of the orientation, the students of The Philippine School were given a 50% scholarship grant certificate to Synergy University for the whole duration of their chosen course.



TPSians make an advertisement pertaining to Consumer Behavior.

City University College of Ajman (CUCA)



By Polo Ferrer, SHS student

The Guidance Office organized a campus trip for the senior high school students at the City University College of Ajman (CUCA) on April 8, 2018.

Mr. Ericson Javillo, the international student coordinator and career enhancement center (CEC) coordinator of CUCA, conducted the orientation. He gave emphasis about the CEC offerings at CUCA, where a number of Filipinos are enrolled between 2 programs, mainly Association of Chartered Certified Accounts (ACCA) and Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC).

He mentioned that the top performing students in those programs were from The Philippine School.

TPSians were able to inquire scholarships, student visa payment, transportation, and new courses.

The new campus of CUCA is located at Sheikh Ammar Road, Ajman, near to Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed road.

'Top performing students in ACCA and BTEC are from TPS'

- Coordinator and Career Enhancement Center (CEC) Coordinator Ericson Javillo

Amity University

By Bonijen Santos, SHS student



The Senior High School students made a visit to Amity University at Dubai International Academic City on April 15, 2018.

Amity is one of India's leading education groups. Amity is home to over 125,000 students pursuing 300 programs in 60 diverse disciplines across pre-school to Ph.D.

"Amity University has many laboratories specified for different courses. This means that there are two laboratories in each classroom. As a STEM student, these facilities can really be very instrumental in my learning," SHS student Polo Ferrer said.

Market Day tests students in sales, entrepreneurship

By Yana Bautista

The Philippine School showcased students' entrepreneurship skills through the Food and Craft Fair 2018, with the theme: "Wellness... Soundness... Fitness... Fostering, Healthy Community Through Innovative Marketing Strategies." The event was held at the Muhaisnah campus on February 28, 2018.

Mohammed Al Suwaidi, KHDA director of customer happiness experiences, had the honor of cutting the ribbon and formally opening the Market Day.

TPSians from grades 7-12 competed in selling variety of products, ranging specifically foods and novelty items. *La Liza Sangre* (8-A) was declared as champion for the Food and Craft Fair 2018. *Manong John Paul* of (8B) won as the first runner up, and *Jessie De Letche* (9B) ranked as the second-runner up. *Askenita* (10-A) also bagged the "Best in Business Booth Design."

"Without the help of everyone and without the willingness of each other to contribute, we couldn't have done anything," Asheneth Macatangay, the president of grade 8-A said.



Mohammed Al Suwaidi (center), KHDA director of customer happiness experiences, is a special guest at the Market Day.



La Liza Sangre (8-A) was declared as champion for the Food and Craft Fair 2018.

from page... 7

Manlangit, Consunji become police officers for a day

Captain Dhahi Salem Ali Almheiri, an equestrian expert, believes that despite the increased use of cars, horses are still useful to the police in surveying important events, patrolling areas where its difficult for cars to enter, and also in participating in the equestrian sport.

Consunji said, "I'm truly grateful to the Dubai Police for giving us this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It is not only packed with fun-filled activities, but also served as a wonderful learning experience. This is where we got to learn the inner clockworks of the Dubai Police while meeting great people along the way."

The **One Day Officer** activity was launched as a welcome gesture of the Dubai Police to the expatriates of the UAE.

By providing this opportunity to non-Arab students, they wanted to show that whether you are a local or an expat, you can enjoy the same privileges.



Lukas Manlangit

TPSians raise awareness of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan

By Dorothy Enzel Yao

The Zayed painting competition aims to educate and create greater awareness to the students on the life, legacy and values of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

The competition was held at The Philippine School, Dubai on February 21, 2018.



The event showcased the leader's impact to the students, so that they will be able to open their minds and embrace the differences of the culture and tradition, in a creative and meaningful way. The event allowed the students to promote values that he displayed throughout his life.



Puttin' on the glitz

Junior High School Ball
Hyatt Regency, Dubai
March 1, 2018



FEATURES

Unity, harmony mark the decade milestone

... from front-page

By Louaine Gicano

Viva! Mabuhay! Ni Hao! Annyeonghaseyo! These were the cheers that we could hear, as proud TPSians paraded around the school ground, with their chins up representing their respective countries. From flower necklaces to fedoras and shields, the students flaunted their colorful get-ups with high spirits.

With the theme: "Landscape of Unity through Harmony in Diversity," this year's mass demonstration allowed us to look through a kaleidoscope of different cultures, music, languages, and even histories.

The Mass Dance was categorized into four divisions: kindergarten level, primary level, intermediate level, and junior—senior high school level.



The primary level featured European classical dances. France, being the champion, took home four special awards. They gave an aesthetic presentation from the 1840s through the wave-like movement of their red, yellow, and blue linear patterned dresses. Different from other performances, France merely focused on one classical dance and music. They used Offenbach's Can Can piece, which greatly amused the crowd. This music was typically used as a comedic background music. The dance also included high kicks, vigorous footwork, and splits which prove that they truly are energetic children.

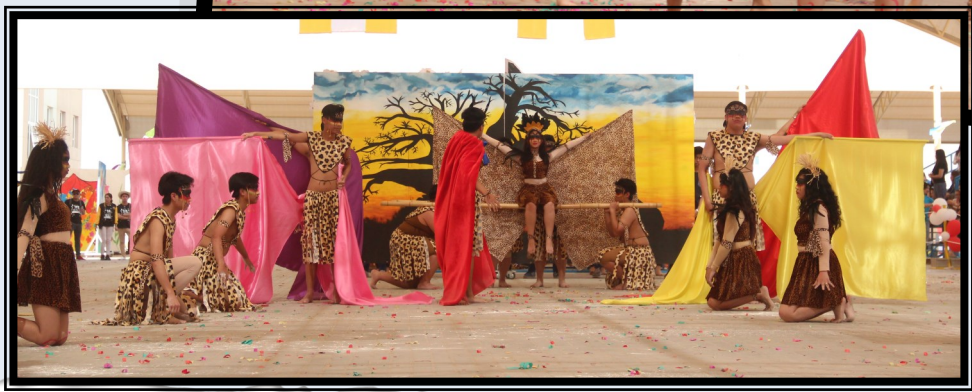
The juniors and seniors enchanted through their Latin and African dances. Spain lit up the dance floor through their striking red and black motif. Señoras majestically twirled and swung their skirts, which demonstrated a fire like display. The girls also daringly wore heels but this didn't stop them from pulling - off a spectacle of a performance.

Each country may be different in their own way; however, unity transpired through music which is the universal language, and through dance which connects our diverse emotions.



France wins the title in primary level.

Africa wins the competition in high school level. They danced to the beats of their own, created by the stomping of their feet and clapping of their hands.



MAKE GOOD CITIZENS

Consul General Paul Raymund Cortes addressed the parents and teachers to ensure that children grow up to be wonderful citizens of the Philippines and all over the world.





Photo by Edmir Capuno

SSG caps accomplishments

By Eunice Mendoza, SSG President



The Supreme Student Government

The Supreme Student Government has been a fundamental element in raising the issues of the students to the school authority.

On October 19, 2017, the newly elected student government swore an oath to be the voice of the student body.

The aim of the student council is to raise any significant issues to the school authorities, and to listen to the needs of the students in a clear cut and comprehensive manner.

The student government works together in bringing ideas to plan that suits the best interests of the students.

Since October 2017, the SSG created projects that centers on the well-being of the students.

To promote a healthy lifestyle, SSG officers joined the TPS family and the crowd for Fun Run at Zabeel park on October 27, 2017.

“Sweat, smile, and repeat.” Motivated to stay active, fit, and involved, a form of exercise called Zumba is inserted every morning in the flag ceremony.



SSG led the tree-planting in the school. More than forty trees were planted around the campus.

Projects were also made to create an eco-friendly environment. The collaboration between The elementary and senior high school, led by the TLE department carried-out the construction of the *Green House*.

Situated near the bus parking area, the *Green House* is a covered structure that protects the plants from extensive external climate conditions and diseases.

It creates optimal growth micro-environment, and offers a flexible solution for sustainable and efficient year-round cultivation.

The management of the *Green House* is distributed to every level that provides an experience to enhance a person’s sense of responsibility and care. The SSG and TPS family also initiated the tree planting program.



To enhance the student’s specialized skills, additional clubs such as the Sui Generis, Vernacular’s club, and Basic Gymnastic club were created.

Clubs help boost the children’s self-confidence. The SSG also brought importance in providing a healthy and educational environment for people with determination.

The SSG provided campaigns to raise awareness in hopes to lessen the gap about people’s prejudice against those with determination.

All of this were not made possible without the cooperation between the SSG and TPS family. Unity is a strength that made the goals a success.



On October 19, 2017, the newly elected student government swore an oath to be the voice of the student body.

TPSians visit Louvre Abu Dhabi

By Eunice Mendoza

UAE is opening its doors to cultures all around the world, targeting international tourism. Louvre Abu Dhabi represents the major step. Launched on November 11, 2017 Louvre Abu Dhabi was internationally recognized for art, education, and culture. It dawned the post-oil age and developed tourism, education, and services. This a result of an initiative between two partnerships that became the foundation of cultural collaboration between two countries. The intergovernmental agreement signed on March 6, 2007 between the United Arab Emirates and France produced the first universal museum in the Arab world.

On December 22, 2017, selected students of TPS made a trip to Louvre Museum in Abu Dhabi to gain experience of ancient and modern pieces of historic, cultural, and sociological interest around the world. The expenses of the trip had been covered by the government through Ms. Wafa Qasimieh, the senior advisor in the Islamic affairs and charitable activities department of the government of Dubai.

TPSians were able to socialize with the local community and enhance their knowledge of Islamic culture. The impression of the Louvre Museum Abu Dhabi left an impact to the students.

“The structure of Louvre Abu Dhabi was really colossal, inside and outside. Even from the first entrance, it showed that the museum was really massive and had many things prepared for the tourists,” said Daphnee Cureg of grade 8A.



TPSians at the entrance of Louvre Abu Dhabi

Sitting in the calm waters of Sadiyaat Island, the Louvre Abu Dhabi “Museum City” covers nearly 64,000 m², with 6,000 m² devoted to the permanent collection and 2,000 m² for temporary exhibitions. It’s shape is not bound by any literal inspiration: resting on four points of contact and slightly low-slung, it is the embodiment of a completely contemporary style. Pierced with openings to look like interwoven palm leaves, a traditional roofing material in the Emirates, the dome resembles silver lace. Geometric template of stars repeated in different sizes and at different angles in a complex arrangement forms eight distinct layers. Sun filters through the dome like a delicate, protective rain of light reflecting the constant interplay of light and shadow in the country. Jean Nouvel’s design may be of complex but it’s harmonious proportions were embraced by the sea.

“The display exhibits the shared human experience and influence beyond any geographical, historical, or cultural boundaries,” said one of the tour guides.

Credits to Louvre Abu Dhabi official site for factual details

The tour was carried-out in a chronological manner transitioning from different civilizations to another.

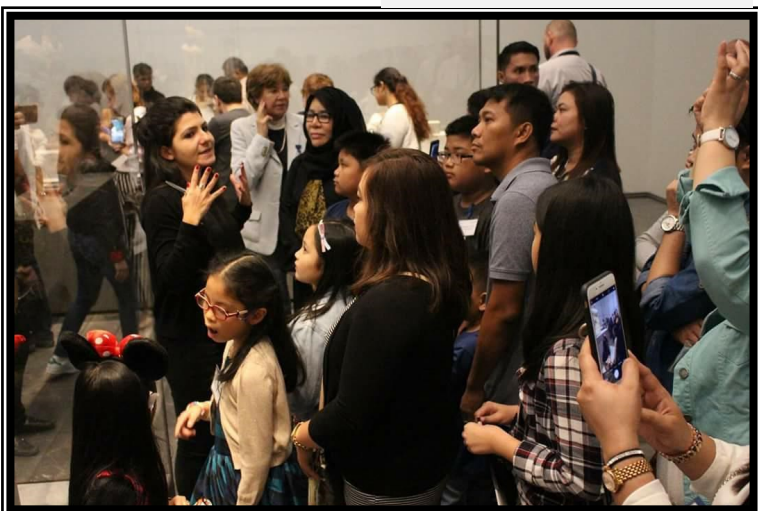
“I learned the interactions of civilizations and how it prospered the foundation of cultures, which were borrowed and applied. One can see and learn that every culture is connected with one another. This connections enhanced not only culture and heritage but also trade routes that continued to build relations that led us to where we are now,” said Eunice Mendoza of grade 10A.

Displays of unique art works were found. What caught the attention of most TPSians was the Fountain of Light.

TPSians also witnessed famous art works such as Leonardo Da Vinci’s “La Belle Ferroniere,” the statue of Ramses II Pharaoh of Egypt, Latin translation of Kitab al Manazir (Treatise on Optics), Jacques- Louis David’s “Napoleon crossing the Alps.”

The Louvre Museum in Abu Dhabi fostered a dialogue between the East and the West. It was a cross road of civilizations.

“The experience provided by the Louvre museum gave attention to the details of how our modern world came to be. The place is a great spot for families, friends, and anyone who is interested to learn history,” Eunice Mendoza of added.



Focus and face real world challenges; United Airlines flight attendant, TPS alumna shares

By TPS Insights



Darcy Eljae Anne Agustin

TPS Batch 2014 Darcy Eljae Anne Agustin is now a licensed member of the Federal Aviation in USA. She is currently employed as a flight attendant at United Airlines in Texas, USA. The alumna recently shared how to fly with the plane and how to fly in life.

“I learned to respond quickly in all sorts of emergency. One must also train herself in communication and interpersonal skills,” she said.

“I would advise my fellow TPSians to focus and to take the opportunities in learning all you can from our your mentors. These can add value to your selves,” Darcy added.

Agustin also advised those who dream to become flight attendants to face the real world challenges, with strong mental attitude and self confidence.

EDITORIAL



DESERT PEN

Isabella Y. Manlangit
Editor in chief
A.Y. 2017-2018

‘Silent tears’

The worrying state of the mental health of students today

Upon stepping into a classroom, there is a chance that one may hear the complaints of students about personal stress, laborious assignments, and family problems. These seem to be natural tendencies so it is easy to brush them off as a playful whining; however, underneath that possible false display, whining can be one’s silent tears. Simplistic as we thought, these can be a high level mental health issue. It’s time to internalize this, on high level understanding and on high level concerns.

Two students from a Filipino school killed themselves a day apart on April 24 as reported by Gulf News. The article continued to discuss the potential link between the deaths and the infamous suicide game, the Blue Whale.

It seems impossible to imagine that two well-liked and cheerful students could ever do something like this without some sort of wicked outside force.

While we cannot dismiss the possibility of the Blue Whale being involved, it is important to remember that mental health issues can strike even those with the brightest smiles. In many cases, there is no wicked force to blame, just a depressing lack of awareness and support of mental health issues that force students to bear them in silence.

These recent events beg the question, why are more students suffering from mental health issues nowadays.

One obvious reason is technology. With the rise of social media, it has become harder for students to escape the pressures of society. They are often exposing themselves to a world that does not often hold its tongue. A study by Researchgate found that social media usage indirectly affects a teen’s self-esteem.

The disconnection between the perfect self-image that society has taught us to pursue and the naturally flawed person that we are can cause anxiety and self-loathing.

If you combine all of that with having to juggle a social life, schoolwork and raging hormones, it will no longer be a surprise as to why many students suffer from mental health issues.

In a study funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the risk of depression sharply rises as children transition into adolescence.



Additionally, students are not educated on how to practice emotional first aid, and how to care for their emotional wounds. Often, they are told to “suck it up” and deal with their problems alone, which may end up resorting to unhealthy coping mechanisms.

A study published in the journal of Nature Biotechnology found that half of the students interviewed with depression or anxiety said that they did not receive enough support from their mentors.

With all of these, the big question for the students of today is “What can we do to prevent another tragedy like this?”

One is by encouraging students to have a “log-off” day so that they can relax completely and free from their untold thoughts.

It is the duty of the parents, school, and even fellow students to educate themselves on healthier emotional habits so that those at risk do not fall into destructive patterns. Students can also utilize the freedom box here in school as a way to talk about their problems without fear of being exposed.

There are accommodating and qualified counselors in the guidance office and we should take advantage of their careful and mindful pieces of advice.

The simplest solution is to offer a listening ear. Do not judge, do not scold, but simply listen. Often, students just want someone to hear them out. By letting them speak up about their worries and issues without turning it into a lecture, they will no longer have to bear these problems by themselves.

Mental health issues are something that should not be ignored. They have claimed millions of lives each year and might continue if we don’t do something soon. Speak up and reach out; you could save another innocent life and help them in wiping their silent tears away.

A child's mental health is just as important as their physical health and deserves the same quality of support.

— Kate Middleton

Extra mile

Former TPS Supreme Student Government President Alyssa Almayda remains a strong leader and inspiration to students.



Alyssa Nicole Almayda

Time flies. Time flies faster every year. The four years I had spent in TPS, and another four years in my university were exactly like this quote.

I and my classmates had put a great deal of painstaking effort into our studies.

Then this year 2018, we also placed all our energies into the unforgettable events in my university. I am graduating this June in UST. Now, I am grateful that I have good experiences to share to young TPSians: the people close to my heart.

According to Anthony D’Angelo, wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your sunshine.

After graduating from TPS, I decided to study in the Philippines. I took a nursing course.

I entered the college with uncertainty. I really didn’t like my course at the beginning; however, through the years, I was able to learn to love it.

I had to go through a lot of obstacles along my journey. I had a cut-off grade of 2 to be able to go to my second year. I had tons of paper works from different subjects. We had quizzes almost every week. We did laborious presentations, thesis, and 2,346 duty hours, dealing with various cases and patients.

There will be moments of joy where you were able to pass a very hard subject, which you thought you wouldn’t be able to.

There will be a lot of moments that you would suddenly breakdown due to the overwhelming load of work you have to do.

I cried a lot during my college life, but I was able to make it through those hardships. All the effort you put in will be worth it at the end.

Make sure to be able to explore and experience new things, meet new people and make a lot of memories.

It’s all right to focus on the academic aspect but don’t forget to also learn outside the four walls of your classroom. Just make sure to balance everything.

When I was in TPS, I enjoyed playing sports. What I did in the past created a ripple effect. In UST, I was this year’s women’s nursing basketball team captain.

Welcome to the next chapter of your lives. Make the most out of it. You have to be strong and never give up.



Alyssa Nicole Almayda, a TPS alumna, graduated from the University of Santo Tomas (UST) in Manila, Philippines, where she obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. She is the former TPS SSG President from 2013-2014. Photo supplied by Alyssa Almayda



TPS Insights
Editorial Staff 2017-2018

TPS Insights is the official newspaper publication of The Philippine School. We welcome article contributions. Send us at insights@thephilippineschooldubai.com.

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SCIENCE PAGE



Printer Kiosk

By Danielle Ronquillo, contributor

Essays and reports are normally given to students. Due to the expanding technology, we usually involve it in our daily lives to make it a lot more comfortable, easier, and better.

Various word processing programs were invented for this matter. Printers play a vital role when making assignments because it transfers our creation into an important piece of information, that we could use in school or even at work; however, not all students own one.

With our latest project, the “Printer Kiosk,” our fellow TPSians will never have to face hustles in printing again.



We created a machine that could help in our studies. The main purpose of this project is to make printing, easier and faster for them. Additionally, it will not just help the students, but also the teachers, the faculty staff and the Mother Nature!

While doing this project, we did not only solve the problems of the students, but we also help in taking care of the environment. We applied the 5R’s which are: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle, Recover and Repair. Your money and time could also be saved and conserved.

To start with, we gathered some items needed for this kiosk.

We prepared and recovered some of the parts to come up with this result. We took old and new technology—namely: a monitor, a CPU, a printer and a mouse—and we salvaged it to turn it into a machine that will help our colleagues and the others.

We also gathered opinions from our dear companions on what they think about having a printer or a “Printing Kiosk” in the school. Their opinions were highly appreciated and were the foundation of our project. The members that made this kiosk or project were very collaborative and were nice to work with. This project is an example on how we could help the environment around us. By just getting E-Waste, you could make something useful, innovative and effective.

AQUADRIP

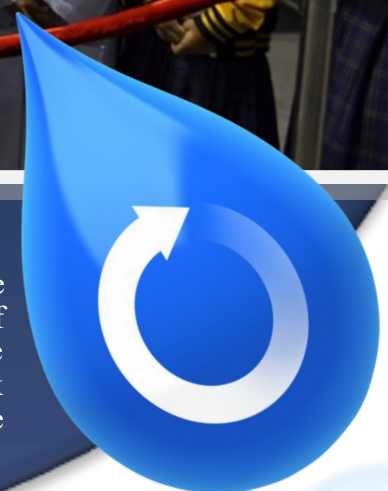
By Aeon Constantino, contributor

Have you ever observed how an ecosystem works? If so, you may have noticed that Mother Earth has somehow found a way to perfectly calibrate every single factor.

All of nature’s components harmonize to create a seamless system of giving and taking to sustain life. Although as time goes by, human beings have been slowly killing these systems. As Albert Einstein quoted, “I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction.” We must now use all our assets accordingly to bring back what nature once was. We have built this prototype to show everyone the importance of taking care of the environment.



In addition, we wanted to prove that giving back to nature isn’t a duty we should neglect. The students of TPS present the AquaDrip irrigation system. We have utilized a fish tank as a source of water. The fishes provide a natural fertilizer for the plants. The aquarium water is pumped up to the plants above the tank and water drips through the holes in the tubing. Excess water is directed back into the water source. Our humble invention will hopefully be a reminder to the whole world to take care of our beloved planet.



This is a Science Department initiative.

First time! Varsity faces alumni in hard-court

By Isabelle Maat

For the first time in TPS sports' history, the varsity and alumni faced-off in a friendly basketball match, as part of TPS 10th-year anniversary. TPS Alumni bowed to TPS Varsity 56-42.

Initially, TPS Varsity Jess Gabriel made two free-throws and another two points, which made quick four points. The alumni started to make their move with Dominique Castillo, shooting a two-pointer.

TPS Alumni then made a comeback, shooting two consecutive two pointers. TPS Varsity then countered with a three-pointer from Lawrence Lomibao, followed up by Banaticla, shooting a two-pointer.

The game then proceeds with consecutively failed free throws made by both teams. When TPS Alumni Cark Cabalquinto finally takes one point for the team, he was quickly countered by Lomibao. The first quarter ended with 13-7, in favor of TPS Varsity.

The second salvo started with failed free throws on both teams. TPS alumnus Castillo finally took one point for the team. They were then countered by TPS Varsity Regz Regala, who succeeded shooting the second three-pointer in the game.

Both teams earned two points each, with shots from TPS Alumni Alex Hije and TPS Varsity Daryl Evangelista. TPS Alumni made a comeback with consecutive three-pointers made by Maghirang.

With the TPS Alumni quickly catching up, Banaticla shot a two-pointer which was countered once again by Maghirang. Maghirang scored another three-pointer in the last few seconds. The second quarter ended with both teams tied with the scores of 20 -20.

In the third frame, TPS Varsity shot four consecutive two pointers, not letting the other team even get a hand on the ball; however, a chance finally went to the other team with Rolly Asuncion, who succeeded one free throw. On the last few minutes of the third quarter, TPS Varsity scored two consecutive two-pointers, made by Lawrence Lomibao and Sean Mariano respectively. The chance quickly went back to the other team as Francis Serrano from TPS Alumni scored two consecutive three-pointers. TPS Varsity grabbed the lead back with 34-29.

In the final quarter, TPS Varsity Kurt Paras quickly furthered the score gap by scoring two pointers. They were then countered by Cabalquinto and Maghirang, who scored a two and a three-pointer respectively. They quickly catch-up with TPS Varsity, on another deadlock 37-37.



SPORTS



TPS Alumni then faced a crushing defeat and no single player was able to take the ball away from the aggressive TPS varsity players, finally ending the game, 56-42 in favor of TPS Varsity.



Academic Year 2018-2019 starts on September 2, 2018.

Photo by Edmir Capuno

