



Chinese Dance after their SYF performance at NUS University Cultural Centre on 10 April 2023

#ICYMI

Singapore Youth Festival (SYF)

The Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) has long been a revered platform for **celebrating the vitality and talents** of our youths in the Arts. The SYF journey is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our Performing Arts CCAs. These passionate individuals devote countless hours to perfecting their craft, tirelessly rehearsing and refining their performances. From intricate dance routines to harmonious musical compositions and compelling theatrical productions, all members of these CCAs invest their heart and soul into their work. Our stand as a school has been and will always be to: focus on the process of learning and the values - teamwork, perseverance, confidence - and the outcome will always be worthwhile. Congratulations to all our Performing Arts CCAs for their achievements in the SYF AP 2023!

We ended the SYF season with SYF Arts Week to celebrate their achievements with members of the Xinmin Family. This showcase has always been important to us as the CCAs truly deserve the spotlight to perform for fellow schoolmates, staff and most importantly, their family. Thank you for sharing our pride and joy together with us for all matinee and night shows!

Until 2025!



Symphonic Band



Xinmin Chorale



English Drama



Guzheng Ensemble





Created 3D models using TinkerCad

XCUBE 1 - Create, Connect, Cultivate

We certainly ended Semester 1 with a bang with the inaugural and uniquely Xinmin programme called **XCUBE 1!**

The removal of mid-year examinations for all levels has indeed been a pivotal moment in education in Singapore. Schools have the autonomy to respond to this initiative in ways that best suit the needs of their students. In Xinmin, this shift meant that teachers could diversify their methods of teaching, to allow increased student agency and voice in their own learning. It also meant that we had to decide whether to replace the "extra" time with more classroom lessons or to design learning experiences that would not only be **memorable** to our students, but would **better prepare them for their future**. So that's where we went.

Through **XCUBE 1**, students **Xplored** their interests, **Xperienced** hands-on learning, and **Xcelled** in the activities they chose to partake in. Read more about this customised programme in "Voices of Xinmin", from the perspective of Ms Carol Chong, our HOD of Character and Citizenship Education!



Barista experience at The Straits Wine Company



Students exploring education & career booths



301 with their group facilitator at Sec 3 Camp



Floorball Competition at CCA Carnival

Xinmin Secondary School Student Council Investiture 2023

Brought to you by Xinmin Student Council

Leadership MATTERS!

Recognising commitment to leadership growth

Oh yes it does, particularly for our students, for we believe that **EVERY Xinmin student can be a leader**, and should develop himself or herself as one.

All students go through leadership training as part of the CCE curriculum when they first enter the school, and from there, a plethora of opportunities are presented to them as they explore their own leadership identities and aspirations. From formal appointments, such as the Student Council, to self-initiated platforms, such as leading the CCA Carnival, many students have benefited from such authentic experiences in their leadership growth. Fundamentally, through the design of the programme and the mentoring process by our teachers, we hope our students focus less on the glitz and glamour of holding a leadership position, and instead cherish the skills and dispositions they sharpen in carrying out their role as leaders which will put them in good stead in their education and life journeys.



Level 3 Training during March Holidays



Engaging the student body during Council EXCO Elections



Coaching a peer at CCA Carnival



Conquering high elements at Leadership Adventure Camp

“ A great leader's courage to fulfil his vision comes from passion, not position. ”
Leon Maxwell

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Vanessa Cheng to the Xinmin family as our third Vice-Principal. Mrs Cheng's teaching career started in Anderson Junior College (now Anderson Serangoon Junior College) where she taught Economics at A-Level and assumed the role of Subject Head/Economics. Prior to joining us at Xinmin Secondary School, she was the Vice-Principal at Singapore International School (Hong Kong). This was preceded by her other appointments as HOD/Economics, HOD/Humanities and Deputy Diploma Coordinator at the same school. Mrs Cheng was awarded the Outstanding Economics Teacher Award (finalist) in 2021 and the National Day Commendation Award in the same year.



As an educator, Mrs Cheng believes in equipping our students with the relevant 21st Century Competencies such as fostering critical thinking to be future-ready, and that character and values must come first in teaching of our students. She also believes that every student wants to learn and is capable of learning but need not be at the same pace. Each student is unique and our role as educators is to explore possible ways to facilitate the joy of learning.

VOICES OF XINMIN

Ms Carol Chong

*Ms Chong is a Chinese Language teacher and oversees the character and citizenship aspects of student development in Xinmin. Read on to discover her vision for our students as she shares her experience designing **XCUBE 1** last semester.*



Q: Hello Ms Chong! We heard you are the mastermind behind XCUBE 1 which took place in the last week of Semester 1. Tell us more about what inspired you to create such a rich programme, with different foci for each level, fitted with a diverse range of activities?

A: Hello! I hope everyone enjoyed the XCUBE activities! With the removal of mid-year examination, I hope that students will enjoy various opportunities to discover their interests and strengths through meaningful and fun activities. During my own secondary school days, I was blessed with many opportunities such as learning journeys and workshops, to develop soft skills and to acquire a deeper understanding of the world! Hence, I hope to create such meaningful opportunities for our Xinmin students too! The foci for each level were planned based on the learning needs of the students. For example, being new to our school, our Sec 1s went through a team bonding workshop and Academy of Diplomats (Singapore Discovery Centre) programme to acquire soft skills to be a confident leader. For our graduating batch, they participated in the Education and Career Guidance Fair to understand more about post-secondary options and the admission criteria of various institutions. In addition, more than half of our graduating cohort went out for the Job Shadowing programme to learn more about various industries in Singapore!

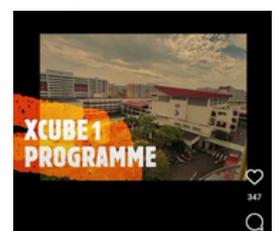
Q: Wow, a lot of thought and hard work was put into the planning alone. Now that the programme has taken place, can you share with us some “aha” moments for you as an educator?

A: I was deeply touched and was very impressed by a group of students who did job shadowing in a seafood restaurant! Besides understanding more about the F&B business and work processes from the experts, our students also got to wash the ingredients and did some packing in their freezer. Initially, I was concerned that they might find the job mundane and tiring, but when I realized that they did their work seriously and even initiated to report earlier the next day, I was extremely proud of them! It was then I realised our Xinmin students do treasure and benefit from such learning opportunities. Proud of you guys!

Q: That story is indeed inspiring. Thank you for sharing that anecdote with us. Finally, as HOD of Character and Citizenship Education in Xinmin, what would be some hopes you have for our beloved Xinmin students?

A: Gratitude. To be a person who expresses his or her heartfelt appreciation to others and to always appreciate the good of others. I hope that all Xinmin students will remember our humble beginnings, to role model our school values in our society and to continue the Xinmin legacy built by our founding father Mr Yap Fun Hong and alumni!

link to XCUBE 1 video!



COMING UP!

JUNE 29 ■	AUGUST 3 ■ ■
HARI RAYA HAJI HOLIDAY	AUSTRALIAN MATH COMPETITION (SELECTED STUDENTS)
JULY 1 ■	AUGUST 8 ■
HOMECOMING DAY	NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION (1030 DISMISSAL)
JULY 3 ■	AUGUST 9-10 ■
SCHOOL HOLIDAY - YOUTH DAY	NATIONAL DAY HOLIDAY
JULY 4 ■	AUGUST 11-17 ■
O LEVEL MTL LISTENING COMPREHENSION	SEC 4E5N PRACTICAL PRELIM EXAM
JULY 5 - AUGUST 30 ■	AUGUST 18-30 ■
STRUCTURED INTERVENTION PROGRAMME	SEC 4E5N PRELIM EXAM
JULY 5 ■	AUGUST 31 ■
SEMESTERLY TEMPERATURE TAKING	ALL STAFF DAY CELEBRATION (1030 DISMISSAL)
JULY 7-17 ■	SEPTEMBER 1 ■
O LEVEL MTL ORAL EXAMS	SCHOOL HOLIDAY - TEACHERS' DAY
JULY 11-17 ■	SEPTEMBER 2 - 10 ■
N LEVEL EL ORAL EXAMS	SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS
JULY 24 - AUGUST 2 ■	SEPTEMBER 2-5 ■
SEC 4N PRELIM EXAMS	ODAC KOTA TINGGI TRIP
JULY 25-27 ■	SEPTEMBER 4 ■
N LEVEL MTL ORAL EXAMS	LEVEL 4 STUDENT LEADERS' TRAINING
JULY 25 - AUGUST 3 ■	
O LEVEL EL ORAL EXAMS	
JULY 28 - AUGUST 3 ■	
O LEVEL HMT ORAL EXAMS	

■ Sec 1

■ Sec 2

■ Sec 3

■ Sec 4/5

■ All Levels

FOR COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR, CLICK ON THE LINK!

[Calendar here!](#)

#TIPS

3 Effective Study Methods and Tips

Feynman Technique

Learn a concept quickly by explaining it in plain and simple terms.

SQ3R

Survey, question, read, recite and review reading materials to identify important points.

Colour Coded Notes

Organise your notes in colour to improve memory performance.

