



MIS HAWKS NEWSLETTER

January & February
2026



Building Strong Minds During Exam Season A Message on Mental Health

As midterm examinations approach, I would like to take a moment to speak about something just as important as revision schedules and study plans — mental wellbeing.

Exams are a natural part of academic life. They challenge us, help us measure progress, and encourage discipline. However, they can also bring stress, anxiety, and self-doubt — especially for young people who genuinely want to do well.

At Melaka International School, we believe that success is not measured solely by grades. It is measured by growth, resilience, and character. A healthy mind is the foundation upon which true achievement is built.

Stress, in small amounts, can motivate us. But unmanaged stress can affect sleep, focus, mood, and confidence. During this period, I would like our students to remember three simple principles:

First, it is okay not to be okay. Feeling nervous before an exam is normal. Acknowledging those feelings is the first step toward managing them.

Second, speaking up is a sign of strength, not weakness. If a subject feels overwhelming, reach out to a teacher, a friend, or a parent. Asking for help shows maturity and responsibility.

Third, you are never alone in this school community. At MIS, we look out for one another. Teachers, parents, and peers are here to support you.

To help manage exam pressure, here are a few simple techniques students can practise:

- Try the 4-4-4 breathing method: breathe in for 4 seconds, hold for 4 seconds, breathe out for 4 seconds. Repeat several times to calm your mind.

- Use the 45-10 rule: study for 45 minutes, then take a 10-minute break to stretch or hydrate.
- Prioritise sleep. A well-rested mind performs far better than an exhausted one
- Move your body. Even a short walk can improve focus and reduce anxiety.
- To our parents and guardians, your reassurance during this time makes a profound difference. Calm encouragement, balanced expectations, and open conversations create emotional stability at home.
- To our teachers, thank you for guiding our students not only academically but emotionally — reminding them that one examination does not define their worth or their future.

As we enter this examination period, let us focus not only on preparing minds — but protecting them as well. At MIS, we do not only educate students for exams. We prepare them for life — with resilience, composure, and confidence.

***Wishing all our students clarity, calm,
and courage in the weeks ahead.***

Warm regards,



***Mohamed Irfan Mohamed Ishak
Chief Executive Officer
Melaka International School***



LIGHTING THE WAY: OUR SHARED HOPE FOR A CLEANER TOMORROW

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

There are moments when the simple, beautiful rhythms of our school life make me think about our place in the wider world. Watching our students laugh and play on the field, I'm reminded of the fundamental things that light up a life: the glow of a lamp for evening reading, the comfort of a shared meal, the cool relief of a fan. These everyday wonders, powered by the flick of a switch, are things we often take for granted.

Yet, for too many members of our human family, and for our planet itself, this reality is fragile. Right now, over 600 million people live without access to electricity. Millions more, especially women and girls, breathe in toxic fumes from polluting cooking fuels just to prepare a meal. This is not just an energy crisis; it is a matter of human dignity and a profound strain on our natural world.

As we observed the International Day of Clean Energy on January 26th, with its theme of a "Just and Inclusive Transition," we must recognise that our planet's health is inseparable from our own. The energy we choose to use has a direct impact on the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the stability of our climate. Clean energy—the sun warming our skin and powering our devices, the wind rustling through the trees, the flow of our rivers—is Earth's gift to us. Our responsibility is to use it wisely.

The science is clear: to keep our planet cool and safe for future generations, we must urgently accelerate our shift towards renewables. This means tripling global renewable energy capacity by 2030. But here at Melaka International School, we know that this global shift is built on countless small, local actions. It's about cultivating a deep respect for our planet in our daily lives. It's the student who flicks the switch to save energy, the family choosing to walk or cycle, and it is heartening to see that some of our parents and staff have also converted to using electric cars, reducing their emissions with every journey. It's the community that plants trees to absorb carbon and nurture biodiversity. These choices, multiplied across our community, create real change.

I am filled with pride when I see our own school initiatives that put this respect into action. Our solar panels quietly soaking up the Malacca sun are more than just a source of clean power; they are a daily lesson in walking our talk. And just a short walk away, our very own organic farm offers another powerful example. There, we nurture the earth without harmful chemicals, teaching us about the delicate balance of nature and the importance of healthy food grown in a way that sustains, rather than depletes, our planet. Together, these projects are tangible symbols of our commitment to reducing our footprint and protecting the environment that surrounds us.

This transition to clean energy and sustainable living fills me with hope—not just for our children, but for the planet itself. Renewable energy is now the cheapest power source in most of the world, offering a path to economic opportunity through millions of "green jobs." More importantly, it offers a path to healing: cleaner air for our lungs, healthier forests, thriving wildlife, and a more stable climate for every creature we share this Earth with.

This journey cannot be left to governments or corporations alone. It is a deeply human journey, and it begins right here—in our hearts, our homes, and our school. It is a journey of compassion for those without power, and of deep care for the planet that powers and feeds us all. Let us walk it together with urgency, with hope, and with a steadfast commitment to ensure a brighter, cleaner future for everyone.

With warm regards and optimism for our shared home,

**Ms Shamsunnisa
Chairperson, Melaka International School**

MIS Academic Staff of the Month: Miss Thavasutha Kalimuthu

We are proud to recognise Miss Thavasutha Kalimuthu as our MIS Academic Staff of the Month. She joined MIS on 22nd January 2024 with a Bachelor's Degree (Hons) in Teaching English as a Second Language. She currently teaches English during school hours and conducts the Intensive English Programme (IEP) after school, where she is dedicated to strengthening students' language proficiency and building their confidence in communication.

What makes this recognition even more special is that MIS is Miss Thavasutha's very first workplace. After completing her teaching placement in Sungai Buloh, she experienced the challenges many fresh graduates face whilst seeking employment. Despite moments of discouragement, she remained determined. When MIS gave her the opportunity, she embraced it wholeheartedly. Moving from Perak to Malacca – a five-hour journey from her hometown – marked a significant turning point in her life. With the unwavering support of her parents and her own strong sense of independence, she courageously stepped into a new chapter away from home.

Family is the foundation of Miss Thavasutha's strength. She treasures her parents deeply, shares a close bond with her elder brother and sister, and adores her four-month-old niece. Their love and encouragement continue to motivate her each day.

Outside the classroom, she enjoys reading fantasy and mystery novels, trying out new recipes, baking cakes, and taking peaceful walks to clear her mind. One of her most memorable experiences at MIS was serving as an emcee during the school's Sports Day, where she developed greater confidence and learned how to engage effectively with a large audience.

Guided by her father's advice, "Do everything with love and love everything that you do," Miss Thavasutha continues to inspire the MIS community with her dedication, resilience, and passion for education.



Faculty of the Month: Ms Nor Izzati Mustaffa



'If a parent chooses our school because of a conversation we had, then I've done my job.'

This simple yet powerful philosophy drives our Faculty of the Month, the ever-energetic Nor Izzati Mustaffa. Known to most of us simply as 'Izzati', she is the dynamic force serving as our Student Liaison cum Marketing Executive - a role that requires the patience of a counsellor and the creativity of a brand strategist. More often than not, she is also the very first face our visitors see, greeting everyone who walks through our doors with a warm, genuine smile that instantly puts families at ease.

Izzati's journey with MIS began on 12th February 2020, a date that placed her right at the precipice of a global shift in education. Armed with a Bachelor of Social Science (Communication Studies) from UNIMAS, she brought with her a unique blend of experience from the tourism industry, having previously served as the Marketing and Communication Officer at Taman Buaya & Rekreasi Melaka. While shifting from promoting recreation to promoting education might seem like a leap, Izzati explains it simply: 'At the end of the day, both jobs are about connection. Whether it's a park or a school, you're selling an experience and building trust.'

At home, Izzati is the calm in the centre of a bustling household. As a wife and mother of two daughters, she navigates the beautiful chaos of family life with the same grace she brings to the office. Being the third child among four siblings - with two elder sisters working in the hospital sector and a younger brother who is a teacher - she jokes that weekend family gatherings sound like a mix of a medical conference and a staff meeting. Her parents, now retired, instilled in her the value of service, which shines through in her work daily.

When she isn't juggling school inquiries or managing student welfare, you can find Izzati with her nose in a book or planning her next travel adventure. However, when she needs to simply switch off, she admits to being a devoted fan of Netflix, always ready to discuss the latest gripping series.

But what truly makes Izzati invaluable to MIS is her heart. When asked about her favourite memory here, she doesn't mention a campaign or an event. Instead, she recalls a quiet moment of validation: a parent who explicitly chose MIS because of the promptness and warmth of Izzati's response to their inquiry.

'That memory fuels me,' she shares. 'It reminds me that behind every inquiry form and every phone call is a family looking for a home. When parents acknowledge our efforts, it's not just appreciation—it's affirmation that we are building the right kind of community here.'

In a school full of educators shaping young minds, Nor Izzati Mustaffa shapes the bridge between those minds and the institution. She is the voice on the phone, the friendly smile that welcomes every visitor through our doors, and the reassuring presence telling parents, 'You are in the right place.' For that, we are thrilled to shine the spotlight on her this month.



Through the Lens: CCA Photography Club Focuses on Creativity and Skill



In an age where everyone has a camera in their pocket, the CCA Photography Club is teaching its members how to truly see. Under the dedicated guidance of teacher-in-charge Miss Umi Suhaina, the club is on a mission to nurture creative, confident, and observant young photographers who can express ideas, emotions, and stories through responsible and skilful mobile photography.

This vision is brought to life by their exceptional trainer, Siti Hajar Abd Aziz, known to the students as Madam Jaja. A Senior Lecturer in Mass Communication at Universiti Teknologi MARA Melaka, Madam Jaja brings over 25 years of experience in academia and journalism to the classroom. Her expertise isn't just in fundamentals; she also integrates cutting-edge fields like Generative AI, ensuring our students are future-ready graduates equipped for the evolving media landscape.

This semester, the club's 15 active members have been on an immersive journey through the art and science of photography. Their mission has been clear: to develop technical proficiency and nurture creative visual storytelling. They haven't just been taking pictures; they've been learning to make them.

The students have dived deep into the core fundamentals, moving beyond automatic settings to master the delicate interplay of light, understanding how it sculpts a subject and sets a mood. They have explored the building blocks of a great image through composition, applying classic techniques like the rule of thirds to create balanced and engaging frames. The syllabus has been incredibly comprehensive, covering specialised areas such as portrait photography, advanced camera and lens techniques, and the thrill of capturing motion and action. They have also explored how colour and mood work together to convey powerful messages, and have even begun experimenting with creative and advanced techniques to push their artistic boundaries. The ultimate goal is to build the students' confidence—not only in wielding their cameras in manual mode but also in presenting and explaining their work to an audience.

The Photography Club is more than just a technical workshop; it is a hub of creativity where personal perspectives are developed and visual stories come to life. Through themed projects, members are learning to apply visual direction techniques and use light creatively, turning ordinary moments into extraordinary captures.

Looking ahead, the club is part of an exciting lineup of opportunities for the school community next academic year. While the photographers continue to frame their world, new creative spaces will open, including a Bakery Class for budding chefs, a Barber Class for those interested in grooming and styling, and a Lego Class for creative builders. It promises to be a year of hands-on creativity for all.

For any student intrigued by the power of an image, the CCA Photography Club is the place to be. Keep your eyes on the noticeboards for information on how to join next academic year and start your journey behind the lens.

Frames of the Week



Week 1: The Magic Lens – Photograph by Sun Zhenhao
Beyond the veil of morning mist, a path unfolds into imagination itself. A solitary walker strides into the hush of dawn, where fog becomes a canvas for dreams.



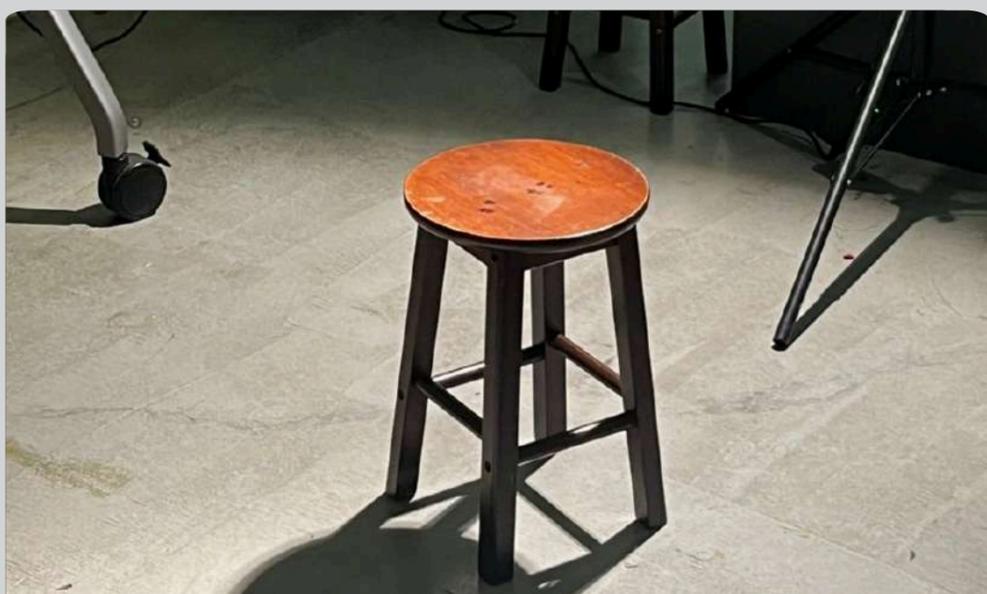
Week 2: The Secret of The Leading Lines – Photograph by Jaycee
The floor stretches like a spine of light, every line pulling the eye toward a horizon of potential. Standing at the centre of all paths, geometry meets destiny.



Week 3: What is Photography? – Photograph by Aini
A single droplet clings to a petal's edge, holding an entire garden within its crystal sphere. Photography's truest gift is finding eternity in a moment small enough to miss.



Week 4: What is Composition? – Photograph by Manas
Geometry dances with nature as a corridor of trees frames a pathway carpeted in golden light. Every element sings in harmony, inviting you to step into autumn's quiet order.



Week 5: What is Light? – Photograph by Sofea
Golden hour descends like honey over a quiet lane, transforming ordinary walls into canvases. This is light at its most generous, reminding us that magic happens twice daily.



Week 6: What are Portraits? – Photograph by Damia Zara
Bathed in shadow and soft luminance, a figure turns away—personality speaking without words. Sometimes presence alone, caught in chiaroscuro, tells the deepest truth.

Bacaoco Secures Bronze

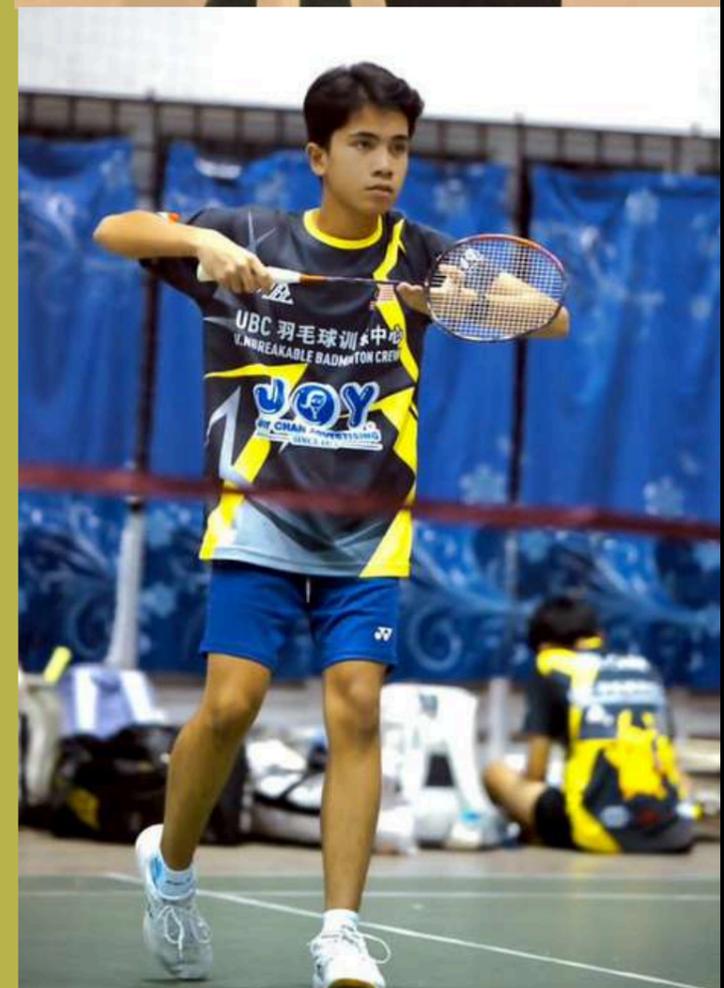
in Nail-Biting ARC Premier Championship

Year 9's Hugh Godfrey Bacaoco had kicked off the holiday period in style, clinching a bronze medal in the Under-14 Men's Doubles at the prestigious ARC Premier Championship. The tournament, held on the 21st of December 2025 at the Merdeka Permai Sports Centre, saw Hugh and his partner demonstrate exceptional skill and nerve in a fiercely contested category.

The path to the podium was a dramatic one, defined by an intensely close opening match. Hugh and his doubles partner were pushed to the absolute limit, securing a heart-stopping victory with a 30-29 scoreline in the first set. The match, a gruelling 25-minute affair, was decided on the very last point - a highlight Hugh cites as the defining moment of his competition. "We secured a narrow 30-29 victory in the first match, decided on the last point. The focus and teamwork required were immense," he recounted. Despite a valiant effort in their following match, which they lost 24-30 in 23 minutes, their earlier performance was enough to secure the bronze medal position.

This achievement is no accident, but the result of dedicated training and expert guidance. Hugh hones his craft at both the Unbreakable Badminton Club and the TCZ Badminton Academy, committing to three rigorous sessions per week under the watchful eyes of Coach Eugene and Coach Tai. This structured regime has clearly paid dividends, developing the technical prowess and mental resilience required for high-level competition.

Reflecting on his success, Hugh is already looking ahead. "I hope to compete at a higher level and continue developing as a badminton player," he stated, his ambition clear. This bronze medal at the ARC Premier Championship is a significant milestone on that journey, marking Hugh Godfrey Bacaoco as a name to watch in school badminton. The entire school community congratulates him on this splendid achievement.





Academic Triumph for Asher Siaw Wei Hong

We are delighted to celebrate the outstanding achievements of Year 6's Asher Siaw Wei Hong this term, who has demonstrated exceptional talent across both the arts and academia.

Asher recently undertook two challenging Grade 2 examinations set by Trinity College London, a prestigious provider of internationally recognised qualifications. He successfully sat assessments in both Communication Skills and Speech and Drama at the Blubricks Melaka Centre in Bukit Baru. These exams, conducted face-to-face by UK-based examiner Miss Lucy Tear, focused on developing vital 21st-century competencies. The Speech and Drama component honed his performance, vocal, and physical skills using poetry and prose, while the Communication Skills test emphasised public speaking and presentation abilities. These assessments are designed to foster self-confidence, critical thinking, and organisational skills. Asher was among approximately 100 participants from Malacca and Johor, making his accomplishment particularly commendable.

Not content with excelling in oracy, Asher also showcased his analytical prowess in the Junior Maths Mastery Challenge (JMMC), where he secured a Bronze Medal in Paper D. This 90-minute international competition, held locally in Malacca, is inspired by the renowned Singapore Math approach. Its key rationale is to promote mastery of the primary school syllabus rather than testing knowledge beyond it, allowing students to shine within their curriculum. The JMMC aims to identify talent, create excitement for mathematics, and provide a prestigious achievement for students' portfolios—a goal Asher has certainly met.

Looking ahead, Asher's busy schedule continues as he prepares to represent the school at the Singapore Performing Arts Festival on the 18th of April. We have every confidence he will continue to make us proud.

The entire school community congratulates Asher on his dedication and success. His commitment to developing such a diverse range of skills is truly inspirational.

Well done, Asher!

New Belts: Taekwondo Grading Test



There was a definite buzz in Dr Ishak Hall — part concentration and part excitement — as our pupils took to the mats for their Taekwondo grading. Shoes off, doboks on, and after weeks of training during their CCA, it was finally time to show the master examiner what they could do.

We're absolutely delighted to share that every single student passed. Not a single wobble, not a single white belt left behind. Watching them stand a little taller as they received their new belts was one of those moments that makes you proud to be part of this school.

For anyone who hasn't watched a grading before, it's so much more than a physical workout. Our students had to demonstrate their poomsae — those precise, almost dance-like patterns of movement against an imaginary opponent. They also showed their sparring techniques, which is really about control and respect, not just speed.

But here's the thing about Taekwondo: the physical stuff is only half the story. The grading process is really a test of character. The five tenets — courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control, and indomitable spirit — aren't just words on a wall. We saw them in action. Students encouraged each other. No one gave up. They bowed, they listened, they tried again. That's the kind of thing you can't teach from a textbook.

For this, much appreciation goes to their Master Coach, Madam Yew Fong Meng from Kelab Taekwondo MT (WTF), for her dedication and for helping to instil such discipline in our students. Her guidance has been instrumental in their progress.

A special well done to the following students, who have officially earned their new belts:

- Misora Matsumura – 8th Grade
- Chloe Pierre Chan – 8th Grade
- Tan Chien Long – 8th Grade
- Venus Goh Sze Yin – 7th Grade
- Afnan Adam Abdelkarim Abdalla – 7th Grade
- Louie Dazo Defensor – 7th Grade
- Airin Dazo Defensor – 7th Grade
- Mifzal bin Ismail – 7th Grade
- Au Yong Pin Cheng – 7th Grade
- Inara Safiyya binti Ahmad Syahir – 6th Grade
- Badrus Sharifah – 6th Grade
- Anastasia Quah Anh Khue – 5th Grade

Well done, all of you. Hard work and a positive attitude really does pay off. We can't wait to see where your black belt journey takes you next, and we will be cheering you on every step of the way, especially when you're tying on that new belt for the first time.

An Enriching University Talk for Our Secondary Students

On 7th January 2026, students from Year 7 to Year 11 attended an informative university talk held in the school auditorium from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. The session was designed to expose students to higher education pathways and help them make informed decisions about their academic futures.

During the session, Mr Gary delivered an engaging presentation on Northumbria University, providing insights into its academic programmes, campus life, and global opportunities available to students. This was followed by Mr Adrian, who spoke about foundation programmes and gave an introduction to GES, helping students better understand preparatory pathways before progressing to university.

The talk was both informative and inspiring, encouraging students to begin thinking seriously about their future academic goals and university options. Overall, it was a valuable and enriching experience for our secondary students.



The House Cup Glory:

MIS Sports Day 2026

Let's be honest, for two days at the end of January, our field wasn't just a sports ground. It was a cauldron of pure, unadulterated chaos – the very best kind. From the 12th through to the main event on the 31st January, our 28th Melaka International School Annual Sports Day transformed into our very own junior Olympics, a whirlwind of speed, strength, and spectacular house spirit, all under the magical theme of "Houses inspired by Harry Potter."

The atmosphere was absolutely electric. With students from Under 6 all the way to Under 18, plus teachers, staff, and a sea of supportive families, it felt like a full-blown festival of athletics. Every single student was a part of the action, with most taking part in three or four events, from the heart-stopping sprints to the tactical precision of the field events. The little ones in Under 6-8 were absolutely brilliant in their Pyramids, Sponge Relays, and even a Colouring Contest, while our senior athletes in Under 14 and 18 pushed themselves to the limit in the 1500m and the fiercely competitive relays. The Open Category events, especially the Tug of War, brought a different kind of roar from the crowd.

And what's a mini Olympics without a little something for the spectators? This year, we were thrilled to have an array of fantastic food trucks on-site to keep everyone's energy up. Huge thanks to Ayam Gunting, Coconut Shake, Farm Fresh Milk, the team serving up Popcorn & Ice-cream, and the ever-popular Churros & Takoyaki for adding to the brilliant festival vibe.

A massive part of this event's magic was down to the incredible support from our community. This year's games were powered by the generosity of our sponsors, to whom we are eternally grateful. A special round of applause for:

- ***Mr Chong Chee Hong & Ms Lim Siow Fen (parents of Elvin Y11)***
- ***Mr Mohd Fariz bin Mohd Ali & Ms. Noorfazlinda binti Tambi Chek (parents of Carl Y9)***
- ***Mr Mohd Amirul bin Ab Satar & Ms Radyidah binti Ishak (parents of Karl Y1 & Alesha Zara Y2)***
- ***Mr Zee Noor & Ms. Karen Chan Siew Fong (parents of Aren Y4)***
- ***Mr. Shaji a/l Kumaran & Ms. Thonanickal Raju Veenamol (parents of Karla Y3)***

Your support helped make this possible, and we can't thank you enough. To keep the element of surprise and excitement going throughout the day, we also held numerous lucky draws, with fantastic prizes generously sponsored by our wonderful community. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making those moments of unexpected joy possible for our students and families.



The four houses - Ruby, Emerald, Citrine, and Sapphire - were led with passion and determination by their captains and vice-captains, all under the watchful eyes of their housemistresses. The competition was fierce from the very first event. Sapphire House set the tone early by storming to victory in the Marching competition, with Emerald a close second. But Emerald fought back brilliantly, claiming the top spot for Best Decorated House, proving their creativity was a force to be reckoned with.

Over the two days, we witnessed some absolutely stunning individual performances. The title of Best Athlete in each category was hard-fought, with special mentions going to our youngest stars like Desree (U6 Girls) and Owen (U6 Boys), right through to our senior champions. The atmosphere reached fever pitch as we crowned our Sports Girl of the Year, Misora, and Sports Boy of the Year, Uwais, who were both simply phenomenal.

When the final points were tallied and the dust had settled, the results were as thrilling as any photo finish. After two days of incredible effort:

- 3rd Runner-Up: Emerald, with a fantastic 545 points
- 2nd Runner-Up: Ruby, with a spirited 496 points
- 1st Runner-Up: Citrine, narrowly missing the top spot with 505 points

But there could only be one champion. With a colossal and well-deserved 566 points, the roar that went up could only mean one thing: Sapphire House were crowned the Overall Champions of MIS Sports Day 2026! Congratulations!

None of this would have been possible without the contribution of so many. A huge thank you to the teams from SMJK Tinggi Cina, SMK St Francis, SJKC Chung Kuo, SK Kampung Tun Razak, and SK Tengker 2 for joining our invitational 4x100m relay. The event had a truly grand scale, thanks to the Franciscan Military Band leading our magnificent march, and the incredible energy brought by the

Taylor's Python Cheerleading team. We were deeply honoured to have Malacca ASP Hasmizan bin Arifin, as our VIP guest to witness the spectacle.

But beyond the medals, the points, and the records - and honestly, we saw over 30 MIS and Malacca State records shattered this year - it was about something more. It was about the fact that everyone - every single student, teacher, and supporter braved a scorching heatwave, with temperatures hitting 38°C and humidity at 82% from 8:00 am right through to 2:30 pm, and still gave it their all. It was about the Year 11 student who missed out on a medal but was the first to cheer the winner. It was about the look of pure joy on an Under 6's face as they crossed the finish line under that relentless tropical sun.

As with any event we hold, our students' well-being and care remain one of our top priorities. We are therefore incredibly grateful to Putra Hospital Malacca for being on-site throughout the two days, providing free medical aid and ambulance service. Their professional presence ensured that amidst all the excitement and despite the challenging weather, everyone was safe and well-cared for, allowing us all to focus on the fun and competition.

It was about resilience, teamwork, and a ridiculous amount of school spirit. Watching our students push their limits while cheering on their rivals, all while enduring conditions that would wilt most adults, is the kind of brilliant, heartwarming chaos we could all do with a little more of. And when you looked past the scores, the podium finishes, and the sweat-drenched brows, one thing was undeniably clear: Every student truly was a success story.

Here's to next year.



Division of Events

- Under 6 – 8: 50m, 80m, Pyramid Run, Sponge Relay, Standing Long Jump, Shot Put, Javelin, Colouring Contest
- Under 11: 100m, 200m, 4x100m Relay, Long Jump, Shot Put, Javelin. Under 14: 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m, 4x400m, 800m, 1500m, Long Jump, Shot Put, Javelin
- Under 18: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, Relays, Field Events
- Open Category: 100m Sprint, 4x50m Relay, Tug of War

Sports Houses & Leadership

Ruby House

Housemistress: Ms. Amira Diyana binti Hidzir

Captain: Cheong Zhi Shen

Vice Captains: Kenza Camille Zanchi & Adam bin Azahari

Emerald House

Housemistress: Miss Nik Fatin Zulaikha binti Mohd Fauzhi

Captain: Ananya Raghav.

Vice Captains: Carson Sit & Eryna Kaisara

Citrine House

Housemistress: Miss Nurul Izzatie binti Zaidin

Captain: Kamaludeen Mohammed Uwais

Vice Captains: Chloe Pierre Chan & Asher Siaw Wei Hong

Sapphire House

Housemistress: Miss Shivaani a/p T Muthaiah

Captain: Gordon Goh Jun Han

Vice Captains: Bacaoco Hugh Godfrey Canuto & Ranson Sit

House Awards

Marching

1st - Sapphire

2nd - Emerald

3rd - Ruby

4th - Citrine

Tent Decoration

1st - Emerald

2nd - Citrine

3rd - Ruby

4th - Sapphire

Best Athletes by Category

- Under 6 Girls: Desree Ee Dae Thoong (Ruby)
- Under 6 Boys: Owen Zheng Yuechen (Sapphire)
- Under 8 Girls: Jiang Linxi (Citrine)
- Under 8 Boys: Aren Zee (Ruby)
- Under 11 Girls: Eryna Kaisara (Emerald)
- Under 11 Boys: Ranson Sit (Sapphire)
- Under 14 Girls: Yosr Osman (Sapphire)
- Under 14 Boys: Michael Zheng Yuheng (Ruby)
- Under 18 Girls: Misora Matsumura (Sapphire)
- Under 18 Boys: Kamaludeen Mohammad Uwais (Citrine)

Special Titles

- Sports Girl of the Year: Misora Matsumura (Sapphire)
- Sports Boy of the Year: Kamaludeen Mohammad Uwais (Citrine)

Overall Results

House Champions - Sapphire

1st Runner-Up - Citrine

2nd Runner-Up - Ruby

3rd Runner-Up - Emerald





SHAH ALAM THROW CHALLENGE & MIDDLE DISTANCE COMPETITION

Sunday, 8th February, proved to be a day of tremendous pride for Melaka International School, as our students showcased exceptional talent and determination at two prestigious sporting events. Their courage, commitment, and outstanding performances have truly honoured our school community.

The spotlight shone brightly at the Shah Alam Throwing Challenge, a premier event attracting the finest throwers from across Malaysia. Our young athletes rose to the occasion magnificently, returning with a splendid haul of medals and personal achievements.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to: Alesha Zahra (Year 2) for securing bronze in both Shot Put Girls U10 and Javelin Throw Girls U8; Jasper (Year 3) for his bronze in Javelin Throw Boys U8; and Aren Zee (Year 4) for winning dual bronze medals in the U10 Shot Put and Javelin. Harold Yow (Year 5) impressed with a silver in Shot Put U10 and a bronze in Javelin U10, while Adam Saiful (Year 9) earned a bronze in Shot Put Boys U16.

Special accolades are due for two remarkable record-breakers. Yosr Osman (Year 7) achieved a fantastic 6th place in the Javelin and, in doing so, set a brilliant new MIS School Record with a throw of 20.78 metres. Renee (Year 10), placing 6th in both Shot Put and Javelin Girls U16, shattered her own personal best, demonstrating incredible progress and dedication.

On the track, our students delivered an equally outstanding performance at the Shah Alam Middle Distance Competition. Sakura (Year 8) sprinted to a magnificent Gold Medal in the Girls U14 1200m, and Takumi (Year 6) displayed great fortitude to secure the Bronze Medal in the Girls U12 1200m. Well done to both for their discipline, fighting spirit, and superb results.

Every one of our athletes represented MIS with immense pride, determination, and exemplary sportsmanship.

A huge thank you to Mr. Zul and Mr. Daniel for chaperoning our students to and from Shah Alam. Mr. Zul's brilliant coaching and dedication have clearly helped them reach further and achieve those fantastic personal bests. Your hard work makes all the difference.

Finally, thank you to all parents for your unwavering support; this success truly belongs to the whole MIS family. As always, MIS remains committed to nurturing talent and celebrating the continuing success stories of our students.



TECH-TASTIC

SWITCH Flips the Script at MIS!



Our usual auditorium buzz was amplified to eleven when the brilliant crew from SWITCH @ Mahkota Parade (CG Computers Sdn Bhd) dropped by. They didn't just visit; they totally leveled up our learning experience with a mega-interactive iPad session that was pure magic.

For two glorious hours, the students of MIS were completely immersed in a digital wonderland. It wasn't just about staring at screens; it was about getting hands-on, from discovering slick iPad features to unleashing creativity with the Apple Pencil. The ice-breaking games kicked things off with a bang, setting the tone for a session packed with laughter and nonstop engagement. The energy in the room? Absolutely electric.

A massive shoutout has to go to the SWITCH facilitators from the Malacca crew. They were the ultimate tech wizards—friendly, energetic, and so approachable that learning felt less like a lesson and more like an adventure. They effortlessly guided our students through a world of possibilities, proving that the best kind of education feels like play.

The highlights were undoubtedly the Fun Math session, where pupils solved problems directly on the iPad with impressive speed, and the "Draw Your Dream School" activity. Watching our students proudly present their wildest, most creative visions on the screen was a heartwarming reminder of how powerful hands-on learning can be. It's in those moments that you realise technology is so much more than just devices; it's a gateway to making learning more engaging, creative, and accessible for everyone.

And just when we thought the excitement couldn't get any higher, the students received awesome goodie bags, putting a perfect, smiley-face sticker on a truly memorable day.

We're incredibly grateful to grow together with our community, and a huge thank you to the SWITCH team for an unforgettable session that inspired our students and filled our campus with positive, techie vibes. You've officially made the iPad the coolest tool in the shed!



Melaka Tengah Interschool Cross Country Competition 2026

On Wednesday, 11th February 2026, sixteen MIS students set off bright and early for the Melaka Tengah Interschool Cross Country Competition, held at SK Krubong 2, Malacca. From 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the grounds were alive with anticipation, determination and the steady rhythm of runners giving their very best. Under the scorching 32°C heat and 81% humidity, every participant showed remarkable perseverance and resilience throughout the day. Our athletes competed across a range of categories, representing MIS with courage and pride.

In the Boys U12 (4km) event, Ranson Sit (Year 5) and Adam bin Azahari (Year 5) ran with admirable resilience.

The Girls U12 (4km) race saw Takumi Matsumura (Year 6) and Eryna Kaisara binti Ahmad Zarif (Year 6) demonstrate both focus and spirit.

In the demanding Boys U15 (6km) category, Dayyan Zakwan bin Safwan Zakwan (Year 9), Hugh Godfrey Bacaoco (Year 9), Muhammad Carl Rizq bin Mohd Fariz (Year 9) and Dang Thien Minh (Year 7) rose to the challenge with determination.

The Girls U15 (6km) team — Sakura Matsumura (Year 8), Misora Matsumura (Year 9) and Yosr Osman Ahmed Elhassan (Year 7) — showed tremendous grit throughout their race.

Competing in the longer distances, our Boys U18 (8km) runners — Gordon Goh Jun Han (Year 10), Cheong Zhi Shen (Year 11) and Carson Sit (Year 9) — displayed endurance and mental strength. In the Girls U18 (6km) category, Ananya Raghav (Year 11) and Iris Alanna (Year 10) delivered exceptional performances.

We are especially proud to celebrate our individual medallists. Iris Alanna (Year 10) surged ahead to claim Gold in the Girls U18 (6km), while Ananya Raghav (Year 11) secured a well-earned Bronze in the same category. In the Girls U15 (6km), Sakura Matsumura (Year 8) fought valiantly to bring home a Bronze medal. Their achievements reflect not only talent, but perseverance and quiet determination — particularly in such challenging weather conditions.

Beyond the podium, every MIS runner has a story to be proud of. Many achieved impressive rankings and, most importantly, surpassed their personal best times. Battling the intense heat and humidity, each athlete demonstrated outstanding mental strength and resolve. These milestones speak volumes about their discipline, commitment to training and willingness to push beyond their limits.

Our sincere thanks go to Mr Zulhairi and Mr Daniel for their guidance and encouragement, and to our parents and teachers for their unwavering support. Success such as this is always a shared effort.

With each race, Melaka International School continues to nurture resilience, sportsmanship and excellence — and this is only the beginning of many more inspiring journeys ahead.



Colours, Culture and Celebration:

Welcoming the Lunar New Year 2026

On Friday, 13th February 2026, our school joyfully celebrated Chinese New Year at Dr Ishak Hall and the school canteen. The hall was beautifully decorated, and students, teachers, and staff arrived dressed in vibrant traditional Chinese attire, adding colour and festive spirit to the occasion.

The celebration began with an introduction speech by Ms Jean, who shared the significance of the Chinese New Year as a time of reunion, gratitude, prosperity, and new beginnings. Her speech set a meaningful and reflective tone for the day's festivities.

The morning continued with a series of captivating stage performances that showcased the talents of our students. Students from Years 7, 8, and 9 mesmerised the audience with a graceful Ribbon Fan Dance. Year 4 energised the hall with their lively live band performance of "Gong Xi Gong Xi." The audience was further treated to a beautiful violin duet by Aini (Y7) and Enzo (Y8), followed by a delightful piano duo performance by Adelle and Zoey (Y8). Maryam (Y3) also impressed the crowd with a confident and charming solo dance performance.

After the performances, students participated enthusiastically in traditional Chinese competitions, including Calligraphy, Paper Cutting, and Chinese New Year Dedication Card design. These activities allowed students to appreciate the artistic and cultural heritage associated with the celebration.

The excitement continued with a vibrant lion dance performance that toured around the school, symbolising good fortune and prosperity for the year ahead. The school community then gathered for a joyful potluck reunion lunch, strengthening bonds and celebrating together as one family.

In the afternoon, students eagerly participated in the Ang Pao Hunting activity before assembling for the much-anticipated prize-giving ceremony. The winners of the competitions were announced as follows:

Chinese New Year Dedication Card Competition:

- 1st : Alesha (Y2)
- 2nd : Erfan (Y2)
- 3rd : Muntaha (Y2)
- 4th : Jim (Y2)

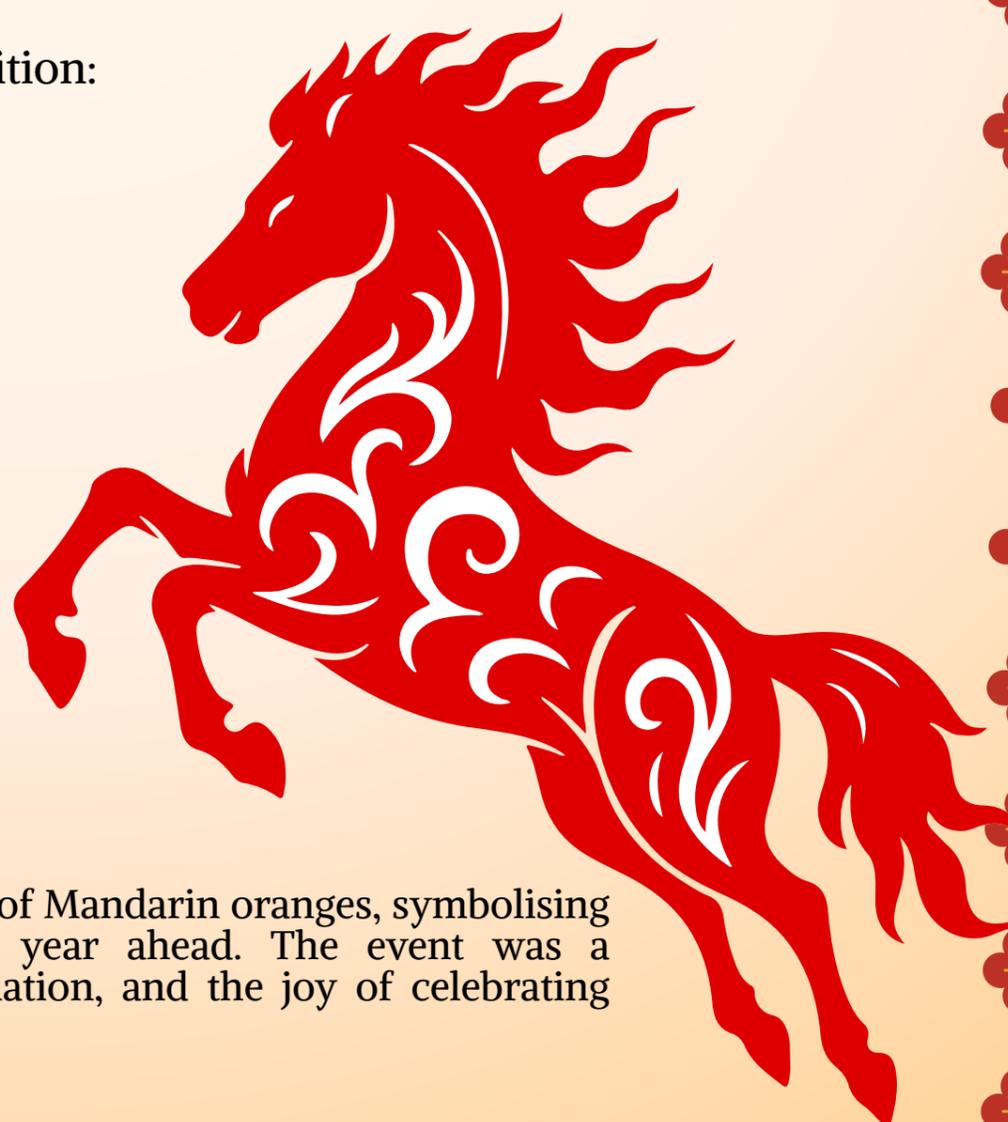
Paper Cutting Competition:

- 1st : Asher (Y6)
- 2nd : Michael (Y6)
- 3rd : Airin (Y7)
- 4th : Inara (Y4)

Calligraphy Competition:

- 1st : Billy (Y11)
- 2nd : Aishu & We Nie (Y8)
- 3rd : Qisya & Brezi (Y8)
- 4th : Ilma, Jessie & Chloe (Y9)

The celebration concluded with the distribution of Mandarin oranges, symbolising blessings, happiness, and prosperity for the year ahead. The event was a meaningful reminder of unity, cultural appreciation, and the joy of celebrating together as one school community.



Chinese New Year Celebration Gallery



Gong Xi Fa Cai!



OUTREACH PROGRAMME 2026: A Call for Kindness

Dear Parents, Carers, and Students,

Sometimes, the smallest acts of kindness can ripple outwards in ways we never expect. This March, we have a beautiful opportunity to teach our children that principle firsthand –by wrapping our arms, even from a distance, around a community that needs us.

We are delighted to launch our Outreach Programme 2026, a fundraising and donation drive to support the children of Malacca. At the heart of this effort is Ms. Jean's Year 10 class, who are leading the charge with enthusiasm and a lovely dose of homemade goodness. They will be holding a cookie sale here at school, so please do bring some change along and support their baking endeavours!

For those who wish to contribute more directly, we are collecting three simple things that can mean the world to a child:

- *Gently used clothes for children (the kind that still have plenty of adventures left in them)*
- *Books (stories to spark imagination and comfort)*
- *Non-perishable food items (a little security in a cupboard)*

A large donation box is waiting in the administrative office to receive your generosity. Please pop your contributions in by Friday, 14th March.

Every single item will be lovingly passed on to Pusat Jagaan Kasih Sayang Angel Home – an orphanage that holds a special place in our school's memory, having received our support during our last outreach in 2025. We know the warmth that arrived with our gifts then, and we have a chance to send that warmth again.

Please know that no gift is too small. A single book, a warm jumper, a pack of biscuits – each one is a message to a child that says, "You are seen. You are loved. You are not forgotten."

Together, we can bring not just donations, but genuine smiles, hope, and comfort to those who need it most.

Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for your support.

**With gratitude,
Mr. Paulo**





Building Bonds: *Our Iftar Jama'ie Gathering*

As the holy month of Ramadan gently unfolds, we find ourselves in a season of reflection, gratitude, and community. It is a time when Muslims around the world fast from dawn to dusk—not merely abstaining from food and drink, but striving for spiritual growth, self-discipline, and a deeper empathy for those less fortunate.

In this spirit of togetherness, we are delighted to invite you to a very special evening: our annual Iftar Jama'ie.

For those unfamiliar with the term, "Iftar" refers to the meal shared after sunset to break the day's fast, while "Jama'ie" denotes a gathering or congregation. Together, Iftar Jama'ie represents the beautiful tradition of breaking bread as one community.

This year, we will be gathering on Friday, 6th March 2026 (16 Ramadan 1447H) in the Dr. Ishak Hall and Canteen. Please mark your calendars from 6.15 pm to 8.30 pm for what promises to be a truly heartfelt evening.

Our programme will begin with the arrival of guests, followed by a soothing recital of Yassin at 6.45 pm – a chapter of the Quran often recited for peace and blessings. Then, precisely at sunset, we will observe the moment of Iftar and perform the Maghrib prayers together.

Whether you are observing the fast or simply wish to support your colleagues, your presence would truly make this gathering more meaningful. It is a wonderful opportunity to sit together, share a meal, and celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures and faiths that strengthen our school community.

We look forward to sharing this special evening with you. Let us come together not just as colleagues, but as one family.



GETTING READY FOR THE MARCH 2026 MID-YEAR ASSESSMENTS & IGCSE TRIAL EXAMS

As we move through the term, the Mid-Year Assessment timetable for March 2026 has been finalised and distributed.

This period is a valuable opportunity for your child to pause and demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have built up so far this year. Rather than a cause for stress, we like to view it as a chance to celebrate their learning.

You can support your child best by sitting down with them to look at the timetable and map out a sensible, balanced study plan. A little structure now can make a world of difference later.

When it comes to effective preparation, we encourage you to promote "little and often." Short, focused revision sessions are far more effective than last-minute cramming. Please ask your child to organise their notes and encourage them to speak up about any topics they find tricky - it's always best to clarify things early.

Please also remind them of the practical arrangements- All candidates must be in their assigned assessment zone at least ten minutes before the scheduled start time. This ensures a calm and settled beginning for everyone. A gentle reminder, too, that students must come equipped with all the necessary materials, as borrowing between pupils is not permitted during the assessments. Most importantly, please ensure they get plenty of rest, particularly the night before an assessment, so they can approach the morning with a clear head and a positive attitude.

Regarding Absences:

If your child is genuinely unwell or faces a family emergency, please provide a medical certificate or a formal written explanation upon their return. Please note that absences due to family holidays taken during this period is not a valid excuse and will regrettably result in a mark of zero for any missed paper.

Thank you for your calm support at home.