News @Ascend

A monthly newsletter to help you stay in touch with activities at Ascend

Celebrating our diversity......................................................

A ‘melting pot’ is where different materials are mixed and blended together to create something better.

At ‘Ascend’ students and teachers from a variety of backgrounds and cultures come together to create a great learning experience!

This month we would like to celebrate our diversity ..........So come along and share your customs, traditions, food and culture with us.

'Melting pot' lunch
Date: Friday, 8th March
Time: 12.30pm - 2pm
Venue: 5th floor

Dress in clothes representing your country

Bring along a dish from your country.

Cross cultural evening
On -Tuesday, 19th March

Community care ECA
On -Wednesday, 27th March
A visit to the Singapore Art Museum

On the day after the module 2 exam, a bunch of students from different levels visited the Singapore Art Museum (SAM).

The museum was hosting the Innovation in Art exhibition and the students were able to see and appreciate contemporary artworks from all over Asia.

I think it’s a great idea——a lone skeleton surrounded by a sea of chalk.

I really liked this piece called “A collected history”. It is very big and has many pictures about Australia, especially the aborigines. I learnt from this picture the huge power that the aborigines have!

Tsuyoshi Abe: Upper-Int

I think this was very different. It was made from industrial scrap material.

I loved the way ‘Buddha’ was adorned with stickers signifying people’s desires.

TEACHER FACT FILE

Name: David Town
Nationality: New Zealander
Born: 24th April
Favorite food: Malaysian chicken curry———I love spicy dishes!!

I have taught English in: Beijing, Moscow, Auckland & Singapore.

Special skills: Juggling & Solving the Rubik’s cube (Tho’ not at the same time!)

I miss: Watching cricket, driving, meat pies & Auckland’s waterfront.

My dream job (Other than teaching of course!): To be a travel writer.

My biggest classroom challenge: drawing things to explain vocabulary, because I draw like a 5 year old

Secret confession: I am a movie addict – I have probably watched 100 movies every year since I was 16

David Town...
On the 28th of February 2013, Pre-Intermediate class held a class barbecue at Downtown East Costa Sands Resort. It was a post exam celebration and apart from the Pre-intermediate class, students from other classes were invited as well. All in all, there were around 20 students!

The students went shopping for barbecue supplies after the exams and by 5pm, the pit was fired up. It did rain at the beginning but the weather got better and the barbecue went full swing. There were scallops, salmon, prawns, chicken, beef, pork, corn, marshmallows and many kinds of vegetables. Yes, there was lots of food! I don’t think we stopped eating for 5 hours! We even had an in-house Japanese chef- our Pre-In student, Rocky, who was whipping up Japanese style barbecue. It reminded me of Yakitori and it was delicious!

When the food was almost gone, we went swimming and oh there was a lot of jumping and pushing each other in the water and of course, lots of laughter! The students did have a lot of fun as pictures show.

We all had a great time! We definitely hope we can do it again.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE LIBRARY??!

Read here or take away!

Sit down, relax and read in the library or........... take a book home to read ☺

Magazines:
Current Affairs, Politics and Global issues, Travel and culture:
Check out the latest Time and National Geographic magazines.

Local Singapore food, music, fitness, travel, culture, the Arts
Keep up with the latest trends and events in Singapore with Inside Singapore weekly magazine.
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**March 2013**

**Birthday List**

- 16th March – Lea (Pre-Int)
- 18th March – Tim Green
- 27th March – Neo (Upp-Int)
- 30th March – Wu Xing Ping (Elem)

**Important dates...**

- 8th March – Melting pot lunch
- 14th March – Take 5 film eve
- 15th March – St Patrick's Day
- 19th March – Cross cultural eve
- 26th March – Module 3 exam
- 27th March – Community care ECA
- 28th March – Graduation
- 29th March – Public Holiday

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### Intercultural awareness

How well do you know your host country? Try this quiz!

**What are Singapore's four official languages?**

- a. English, Malay, Tamil & Mandarin
- b. English, Malay, Tamil & Cantonese
- c. English, Malay, Mandarin & Hindi

**Teh-Cino, Milo Dinosaur and Kopi-O are...**

- a. Local dishes
- b. Local beverages
- c. Local brands

**Singapore is derived from "Singapura". What does this mean?**

- a. The legend city
- b. The lion city
- c. The lion country

**Which of these festivals are all celebrated in Singapore?**

- a. Chinese New Year, Deepavali & Holi
- b. Hari Raya, Thaipusam & Chinese New Year
- c. Chinese New Year, Thaipusam & Songkran

**What is the most common method of reserving seats in a hawker centre?**

- a. First come, first served
- b. Asking others to reserve them
- c. Keep a tissue on the seat.

**In Singapore, 'Kiasu' is a**

- a. Drink
- b. Food
- c. Slang