



SUCCESS STORIES COMPILATION

LOYANG VIEW
SECONDARY SCHOOL

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**EMBRACE
DIVERSITY**

It was my second day of school and I was having my Secondary 1 orientation camp. I hoped it would be fun and that nothing would go wrong, unlike the first day of school. During one of the orientation activities, one of my classmates, Amirah, as I learned her name later, accidentally hit my glasses and cut me under my left eye before dropping off. I had to go to the general office to get some ice and was unable to continue the other orientation activities for the day. Luckily it was near to the end of school so I could rest.

The very next day, I came to school and found out that I was one of the last few students to arrive. Luckily for me, I did not get scolded or punished by anyone, but instead, my form teacher, Ms Cheng, approached me to ask me if my eye was okay. After that, we went back to class to have breakfast that the school provided us with. Half an hour later, we took an excursion bus to Southern Ridges for us to go trekking.

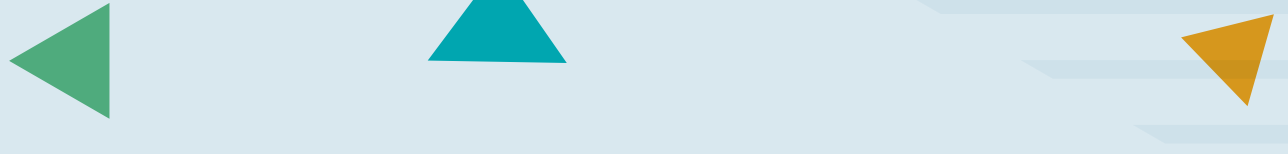
While we were trekking, it started to rain. We had no choice but to trek in the rain. Some of us had to share umbrellas, while some others had brought their own ponchos and raincoats. We went back to school after that to learn the school mass dance that we had to do for our campfire later that night. We were taught the mass dance by our Secondary 2 student councillors, and I had a very hard time learning the different steps to the dance.

Learning the school mass dance as a cohort was probably not a very good idea, so we went back to our class instead. Our Student Councilors split the boys and girls into 2 groups to learn the mass dance. Every time I glanced at the girls, I felt like giving up as they danced so well. We also had to come up with a cheer for our class which ended up to be quite catchy.

About 2 hours later, the campfire started. Our class performed our rehearsed dance and everyone applauded. We even won an award for being the most creative class.

The camp ended sooner than I expected but the memories will stay with me forever.

Xavier
Class 1E2



When I first arrived in this school, I was greeted by the student councillors and teachers. I marvelled at the sight of the decorations in the school hall. The principal, Mr Lee, gave us an introduction to the school. After that, the student councillors took us on a tour of the school to show us the school facilities. For the next few days, we participated in the orientation camp.

On the day of the camp, all the Secondary One students were geared up with the sleeping bags and other camp items, ready to have a good time. At camp, we learnt the school's mass dance and we had to think of a creative performance for the campfire as each class would be called up to perform. Ours was a huge success as we clinched the 'most creative class' award.

Sleeping in school for the first time was not as easy as I had anticipated even though we had had a long and tiring day. Many students were giggling excitedly and shining their torches everywhere. Eventually, we fell asleep as fatigue overcame us.

The Secondary One camp experience was a memorable one for me as I got to know many people from my class and enjoyed myself.

Liu Xixiang
Class 1E2

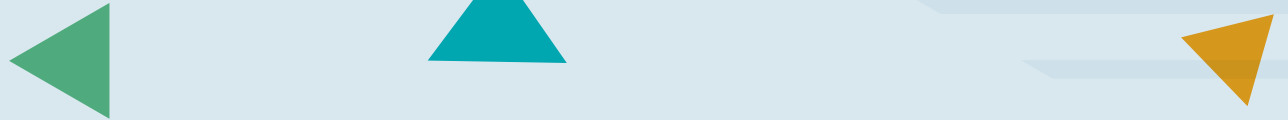
Everyone has his or her own success story. It can be joining a Co-Curricular Activity of your choice or something as simple as scoring an A grade in your spelling test. What is my success story you might ask? It all started six months ago when my secondary school life started.

Everyone had just entered a new phase in their lives – entering secondary school as a teenager. Everyone was a stranger to each another. Despite it being the school of my choice, I could not find anyone I was comfortable with and I was still feeling rather unsettled in the new school environment. I felt alienated in the seemingly hostile environment. I had only a small circle of close friends. There was a problem I faced back then. We would have our two day, one night level camp the following day and we were required to have a partner.

During the camp, I hid in a corner. I was hoping and waiting patiently for someone to ask me to be his or her partner. Luckily, Jane asked me to partner her. Although I did not feel at ease and was still feeling rather uncomfortable in the school environment, I was secretly elated to have someone who was actually willing to be friends with me.

One of the camp activities required us to work together as a pair in Hort Park and discuss what we had learnt at the different stations. That closed the gap between the two of us. However, what really strengthened our relationship was when we made our way back to school on the bus. We talked and got to know more about each other. Surprisingly, she knew most of the students in the class and introduced me to everyone. It was a really sweet gesture from Jane which I really appreciated from the bottom of my heart, even to this very day.

Throughout the orientation programme, I still had reservations towards the rest of my peers. I resisted for a while before I mustered up my courage to speak to one of the Student Councillors in charge of my class. I shared with him how I felt and was startled by what he told me. Only then, I discovered that I was not alone in how I felt towards everyone else.



The time came for us to practise our class cheer. The Student Councillors asked my class if we could have three volunteers to lead the class cheer. Two charming boys from my class volunteered instantaneously. Shayaan and Kaushal eyed everyone else, but everyone was looking down or away. When the Student Councillor whom I spoke to earlier looked at me earnestly, I was game, not wanting to disappoint anyone. My decision proved to be the turning point as I got to know everyone slightly better through fun and laughter. Gradually, bit by bit, my initial negative impression of the school, and my peers changed subconsciously.

During our performance, we sang our class cheer and danced wholeheartedly as a class. Although we did not win in any specific category, we were contented. We did our best!

Upon reflection, I started off my secondary school life with much negativity but I progressed to become one who really enjoyed life in school and forged meaningful relationships with everyone. I was never good at befriending other people, but ultimately, I made many friends, by the end of the orientation! This taught me how to be less judgemental and be more open and optimistic. I have truly learnt a lot as a teenager in Loyang View Secondary School.

Tan Si Yi Ashley
Class 1E4

Every year, our school holds a celebratory concert to usher in Chinese New Year. Last year, we had the best celebration of all. Apart from wearing our colourful ethnic costumes proudly, we shared their origins with our classmates. We also had a best costume design competition where one person from every class was required to dress up as the 'God of Fortune'.

To win, we had to come up with the best original design, through the use of recycled materials. Chinese New Year is celebrated in schools because this festival is the most important festival for the Chinese community. As a multi-racial society, all races of students come together and celebrate as one. We usually celebrate this festival in the school by organising a concert and decorating our class noticeboard to enter the best noticeboard competition.

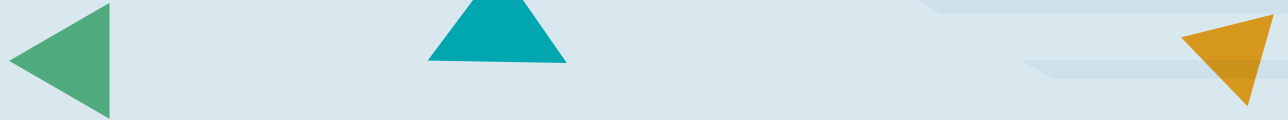
Regardless of faith and race, students and teachers work together to plan the concert and decorate the classrooms for the occasion. My form teacher nominated me as the one in-charge of the concert item. I worked with my classmates in identifying the one who should be the 'God of Fortune' and designed the costume that he had to wear using all the recycled materials that we could collect like newspapers, unused cloth and discarded shoes. Though the school gave us a budget to work on, the amount was negligible.

On the actual day of the celebration, while the decorated classrooms were being assessed by the principal and vice-principal, we went to the school hall for the concert. The highlight of the concert was the best dressed 'God of Fortune' competition. My classmate whom we had dressed as the 'God of Fortune' sashayed along the aisle and threw some 'gold coins' into the air, much to the delight of the audience who scrambled to catch as many as they could.

At the end of the concert, when the announcement was about to be made about the best dressed 'God of Fortune', the students listened quietly with bated breath. To my greatest delight, my class beat all the others to become the champion. Equally ecstatic, my teachers and classmates thanked me for coming up with the design. It was a joyful experience, and a moment to celebrate.

At the end of the day, every one was given an orange believed to be a sign of good luck and prosperity in the Chinese tradition.

Kiren Kumar
Class 2A2



My achievement may not really be a great one for others, but from my perspective, it is a great achievement. Last year, my attendance in school was very bad. I performed poorly in certain subjects, even though I am capable of doing those subjects well. This shows how attendance in school is very important as it affects many things in school life. I also missed many class bonding activities such as class excursions, school events and camps. However, I do not have enough close bonds between the teachers and me, and my friendships with my fellow classmates were also not strong.

Now that I have started coming to school more regularly, I have really improved in many things such as in my studies and have started understanding my teachers and friends better. They also have started to understand me. Since they understand the current situation I am in now, they provide me with a lot of confidence and motivation for me to stay strong to go through all struggles I am facing. I feel that I am really lucky to have them in my life even though I had no hope to move on further in my life. They made me feel that these kind of negative thoughts were not good to have as they would not help me to succeed in life.

I have started to think about everything positively to make my life better and to be more successful in life in order to have a better future. I see myself improving in some things which I wasn't very good in before this year. I have learnt in life that we should not give up no matter what as there is always a way out of the things we are struggling with. We should always persevere and move on from our past and not allow our past to take over our future life as a bad past could ruin the good future which awaits us. I have learnt many things through my life experiences. I am very happy that I have inspired a lot of people. This is my success story.

G. Dhanya Luxmi
Class 2A3

What have I achieved this year? Does my success story still remain the same? Have I made any improvements from last year?

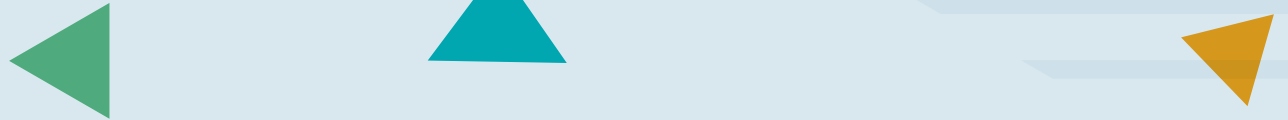
I never expected to be in a uniformed group co-curricular activity (CCA). I never really enjoyed uniformed groups as I am not the type who enjoys wearing thick uniforms and standing under the hot sun. But last year, I decided to get out of my comfort zone and chose NPCC as my first choice CCA. I didn't know how to feel after getting chosen to be in NPCC. However, being in NPCC has given me a lot of opportunities like participating in school events and being more physically and mentally active. Having spent a year in NPCC, I believe that success is more than achievements. It is about persevering and not giving up. It has taught me a lot of values along the way and I can apply these values on a daily basis.

At the start of the year, I wasn't as sociable as I am now. Being in NPCC has made me a better person and I am able to give back to charity. I believe that success can come in many sorts of ways. Like what Jim Rohn once said "Successful people do what unsuccessful people are not willing to do. Don't wish it were easier; wish you were better." I believe that I can be successful in many ways. Not only in my grades but also in my CCA.

At the start of the year, my fellow cadets and I participated in the Area 9 Games Day. Throughout the years of Loyang View participating, we have never been at the top. We were scared as we wanted to make the school proud but was unsure whether we could make it. We participated in Soccer, Captain's ball, Badminton and a lot more. The games were intense and at one point, we did not any hope and we were on the verge of giving up. After the games, we all sat down awaiting the results. Sad to say but our badminton team did not make it to top 3 and same goes to our soccer team. It was up to the Captain Ball's team to win a medal. Our hearts pounded fast as they made the announcement.

"Third place goes to... Loyang View!"

We were all thrilled. No words could describe how we felt after coming in third. It was a success. Although we did not get first place, we were still proud that we made it to third place and we definitely made the school proud. Not only that, during the month of May, NPCC was chosen to do flag raising and be parade commander. I was one of the few people who got chosen to do flag raising during morning assembly. We were all given certain days to be on duty. It was my first time doing flag raising and I was nervous.



We were not given much training on how to raise the flag but we had to do it despite not knowing. The first time I raised the flag, it was better than expected although I felt pressured with the amount of people who was watching me raise the flag. Being able to help out in school programmes such as flag raising has boosted my confidence.

In late May, we had NPCC day. Similarly, we did not have much training as it was during exam week and we were all preparing for mid-year exams. We were only able to train after our papers and it was stressful. On NPCC day, we all marched gracefully following the rhythm of the drum. Although we could have done much better, I personally feel that with only two days training, we did amazing and I was proud of each and every one of us. In short, NPCC has made me a better person and, more confident and I am able to get along with my peers. Looking forward, I hope to continue making the school proud and embrace diversity with my peers. This is my success story for 2019.

Irfea Jasleena
Class 2A3

My definition of success has truly changed in the past year because last year, I was not open to different ideas of success and I had limited things to write as I had only joined the school for a few months. Achievements do not always mean getting As in exams or winning a competition. Success can be about the smallest things like helping out a friend in need or being a student with good moral values.

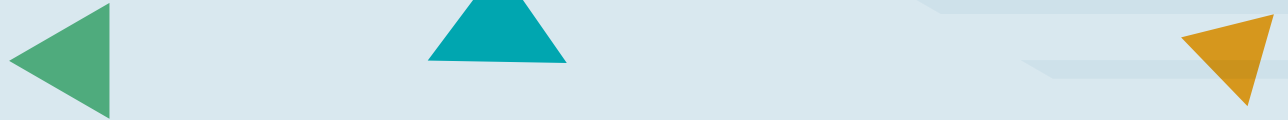
Having spent a year in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS), it has taught me that if you fail or did not succeed in that particular subject or topic, it is not the end of the world. You can always keep trying and, in the end, you would always succeed if you worked hard. My success story is about the Secondary 2 camp at the Labrador adventure camp. It was held on the last 2 days and the Saturday before the start of the March holidays. This camp was definitely a different experience and it was not what I had imagined. During the camp there were a lot of difficulties I faced and my success story is about how I overcame these challenges.

Some of the things we did to prepare for the camp was the LVSS mass dance, learning how to pack your bags on your own without your parents packing it for you. My parents warned me about our friends' change in personality due to the lack of sleep and being too tired by the end of the day. When we were in camp, my parents were right as my friends were sometimes really cranky by the end of the day or seemed to day dream a lot. Being me, I did not want to see them that way because we would not be able to have fun.

I tried to cheer them up and bring positive thoughts into their minds. Though it does not work all the time, it did seem to affect some of my friends. Personally, I learnt that everyone is different and not everyone seems to be the same as they are in school. This experience was really fun because I could bond with my friends and become even closer to them. This has made me a more wholesome individual in a way as I learnt to respect my friends and not to judge them which allowed me to embrace diversity.

My target in the future would be to explore, attend more camps and join more adventurous experiences. I hope LVSS would give me opportunities to organise more camps that allow us to bond more with my friends. This is my success story. I believe that everyone can be successful if they try.

Rezvana
Class 2A3



It all started after the March holiday break. I had just got home from the Secondary 2 camp at Labrador Park. I went straight to shower and went to sleep. I was clueless when I woke up from my four-hour nap and had no idea what was happening around me. But I overheard my parents' conversation that my cousin passed away as he had met with an accident. He was driving his motorbike at 2 am in the morning and a lorry hit him, and unfortunately, he took his last breath when the ambulance took him to the hospital. I was devastated as he was my favourite and closest cousin. That moment I really felt like parts of me were tearing apart.

I didn't really have the mood to have fun or enjoy the March holidays as his passing really affected me. When I got back to school, I thought that my friends would make things easier for me and cheer me up. But not all expectations come to reality. Instead, their presence made me more sad and dejected. I became closer to my classmates and didn't really spend time with my other friends. They complained about me not putting enough effort into our friendship. However, I was not in the mood to accommodate them, as they could be really offensive.

As the days went by, I really thought about my actions and behaviour. I was really sad about the passing of my favourite cousin but friends were supposed to be there to cheer you up. We had a massive conflict until I started to confront Alyssya. Alyssya is a girl who had a big ego and was very stubborn. Since I started being friends with her, I didn't really like her attitude as she could be really self-centred and egotistical. I was not ready to accept her for who she was but I could cherish the memories of the times we spent together. It was really hard for her to believe what I had explained. To her, I was just making up excuses. It was a tough play confronting her. The reason why I did not confront Jacey and Claire was because I was not ready and was scared that confronting them could lead to a bigger misunderstanding. As Alyssya and I talked it out, I told her that she needed to be more mature handling conflicts. She finally understood my troubles and apologized for being too self-centred and not thinking of others.

From then, Alyssya supported me and I solved the problem I had with Jacey and Claire. After all, we were all friends but what's different now is that there is a dark history between us that I cannot possibly forget easily as they were the ones who made things more complicated when I was already suffering. As the years passed, Alyssya became mature and more understanding towards people's feelings. After 2 years of knowing her, I have finally accepted her for who she is.

Nur'Syahirah Binte Mohammad Husaini
Class 2E1

What is success? Success, in my eyes, is accomplishing an aim or a purpose. Going by that definition, I have never been successful in my life.

I have always viewed myself as a failure. However, I remembered my parents once telling me this, “Failure is not the alternative to success. It’s something to be avoided, but it’s also only a temporary setback on a bigger, more significant course. Everybody encounters failure at one point or another. What truly matters is how you react to and learn from that failure”. While I understood what my parents meant, trying to change my thinking and my perception of my life so far was not that easy.

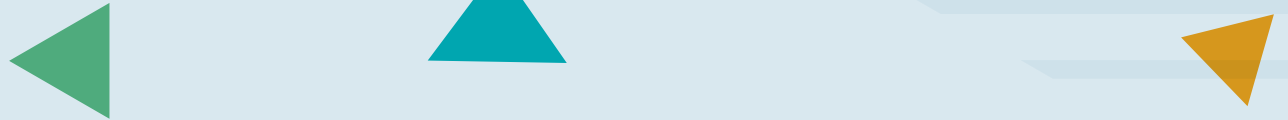
I have always been failing Mathematics from primary four to primary six before I eventually passed the subject. I kept causing problems in my primary school by being rude to teachers, bullying fellow students and using profanities. To top it off, I performed badly in my Primary School Leaving Examination. Problem after problem, these setbacks I experienced in primary school truly defined the person I was.

The turning point was when I became the squad leader in the Boys’ Brigade in secondary school. It was never easy to be a role model as I was never the type of leader who would want to know my boys better and see their true potential. I was more of a highly competitive leader who always wanted to win, and complete the objective at all costs. However, my officers saw something else in me.

Unlike some of my peers, I would never sacrifice my Saturdays for anything else as that was the time I bonded and forged ties with my peers in the Boys’ Brigade. The Boys’ Brigade reached out to me and nurtured me while equipping me with vital life skills. I was very receptive to what was being taught and put in my utmost to learn. I had never envisioned myself to be a leader in the Boys’ Brigade, but along the way, it groomed me to become a gentleman, a leader and an able senior, well versed in the repertoire of skills required in the Boys’ Brigade.

Whenever I don my Boys’ Brigade uniform, I cannot help but feel a sense of pride welling within me. I will go on to greater heights in the Boys’ Brigade. It has transformed me to be a better person than I was before. I await to see the person I will become when I leave Loyang View Secondary School in two years, upon completion of my GCE O Level examinations. I believe I will be very proud of my transformation and growth. I credit the Boys’ Brigade for nurturing my moral and holistic development in the vital developmental stage of my life.

Matthew Soh Zheng Hao
Class 2E2



When people talk about success, they probably think of something much more significant that may be the result of blood, sweat, tears and hard work. Success in the eyes of people can be as great as an unprecedented invention or as trivial as achieving an A grade in a test or examination. My success is rather unconventional. It relates to leaving my home country, China, and coming over to Singapore to study here as an unaccompanied foreign student. To a fifteen-year old, that is probably the biggest life-changing decision I have ever made in my life to date.

There were a few reasons why I moved over to Singapore. My parents felt that I needed a new environment to grow up in, to be more independent and appreciative of what I have in life. The seemingly rash decision of my parents was vehemently contested by me. However, after a heart to heart talk with them and much pondering, I started to see some advantages of their highly unconventional proposal. Despite having to forsake my friends back in China and to leave my familiar surroundings for a foreign country, I knew that Singapore and China had minimal differences. It comforted me that Mandarin is used in both countries. Differences if any, were probably related to accent, which could easily be surmounted with greater exposure to Singapore's variation of Mandarin. As the Chinese form the largest proportion of citizens in Singapore, I knew adapting to the Chinese culture would be easy, without being alienated in a foreign land.

However, to put everything I have known all my life behind me was an immense challenge though I have assimilated to some extent to the Singaporean way of life. It has been a few months now, and my peers see me as one of them. My teachers welcome me and treat me like any other student. I am able to navigate around Singapore relatively easily. I have made the transition faster than I had anticipated. Do I need to reiterate that I am only a fifteen year old? If I could manage such drastic changes at such a tender age, I am confident I am capable of juggling far more complex tasks in the future. Meanwhile, I go to school each day and open my eyes to possibilities. Whereas some people see challenges and obstacles, I see endless possibilities.

My new home, Singapore, is a place where I shall thrive.

Wang Yi Yuan
Class 2E2

My class used to be divided into various cliques from the start. My classmates were not close to one another. When we had to make decisions as a class, we often could not agree and there would always be some people who would be upset.

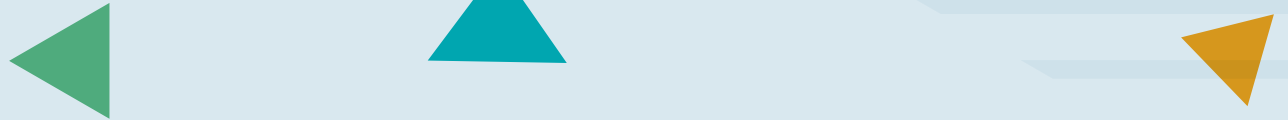
When we found out that we had to put up a farmers' market this term, we began planning and thinking of what we could do. As usual, people had different opinions and suggestions, and could not agree. After many, many discussions, we went along with the suggestion which had the most supporter, much to the dismay of some. When it came to the distribution of duties, again people were getting picky about who to do what, and kept asking our teacher to reassign their duties. It took a long time before everyone was happy with their designated chores.

We decided to have a game stall and three ice-cream stalls. My group was one of the three in charge of the ice-cream stalls. Even the decision on what flavours of ice-cream to sell and who to sell what was not an easy one to make. When everything was finally decided, my group proceeded with making the poster for our stall. Thankfully, my members and I worked well together and we finished the poster in no time.

On the day of the farmers' market, my classmates surprisingly did our parts without any disagreements. We all helped one another to hawk our products and worked hard to attract the crowd to drop by our stalls. We even managed to get the principal to visit us! In the end, we managed to sell all of our products!

After this experience, I realise that my class has finally learnt to work together. My classmates and I have definitely become closer after this activity.

Yasmine Mary Aujla
Class 2E3



“What? You want me to be the group leader for this dramatisation?” I exclaimed in total disbelief when my teacher appointed me to be one.

I had never been a group leader. However, when this opportunity arose, I seized it and more than anything else, I wanted to prove to myself that I was capable of taking the lead. Only then, I could prove to others my capability.

Though the group members were assigned to me by the teacher, which was obviously not my choice, I learned to work with them harmoniously. I gathered them and we quickly chose a story that we wanted to dramatise. After much brainstorming, we chose ‘Goldilocks and the Three Bears’. I assigned my members their roles and I put myself down as ‘Papa Bear’.

As if that was not enough, I wrote a simplified script of the story so that all my members could remember their lines easily. I also appointed one of them to be the narrator. We spent a fair bit of lesson time in the dance studio where we rehearsed our lines and acted out the scenes.

I also urged my members to bring some props like paper cups, bowls and spoons to make our dramatisation look real. As for the other props, we used the classroom tables as ‘beds’ and we toppled them over to show that these ‘beds’ had turned topsy-turvy.

It was a lot of hard work but we persevered. There were times when things were trying. Some members got upset when others refused to work together. Others were just as playful and not take these sessions seriously. As the group leader, I had to maintain my cool and impress upon them that this was a worthy cause of action.

When the day and time came for us to dramatise our story, all my group members gave their all. They were serious and they delivered their lines clearly. They also acted out their roles greatly. At the end of the dramatisation, we were given a thunderous round of applause by both the teachers and our classmates.

I felt so proud of them. They made my day. It was with their support and hard work that we made it. As the group leader, I only facilitated the whole thing. I was glad that I had proven to myself what I wanted to all this while. In my own quiet way, as I grinned from ear to ear, I felt a sense of accomplishment, in having led the team successfully.

Muhammad Danyal Bin Amirul Rahmin
Class 2T1



To me success is achieved when a goal is realized through planning and hard work. When you are able to implement the plan in spite of challenges and finally achieve the goal, it becomes a learning journey that you will treasure. In order to be successful, we need to have a goal to work towards.

My team and I just ended zonal matches a few weeks ago. It was disappointing that our season had ended but I still remember when we played with Paya Lebar Methodist Girls School (PLMGS). My team and I topped the table and made history for the school. We were so proud that we cried tears of joy!

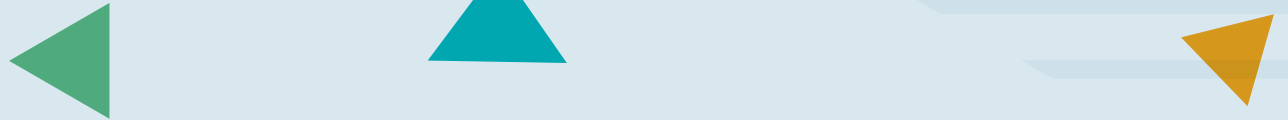
Playing against PLMGS was a different challenge as they are known to have a great history in netball. We did not let that stop us from achieving what we wanted. My team knew that it was going to be a tough fight as PLMGS had been winning all their games

During the game, I only played three quarters but it was a good game as we fought all the way without giving up. It was hard as the score was always up by two or three to PLMGS. When it was the last quarter, none of the teams could shoot the ball into the net. It was like a ping pong ball going back and forth but two minutes into the game PLMGS scored. All of our teammates by the side and our seniors were shouting and cheering us all the way!!

We saw the score and it was 22 to 23 in favour of PLMGS. My team and I defended the ball to get it shot by us. PLMGS was having trouble getting possession of the ball. The last two minutes we scored three points. As the whistle was blown by the umpire, we knew that we had won. We were breathless and my teammates by hugged each other with joy. We cried tears of joy as we had managed to beat PLMGS.

My team and I felt satisfied as we brought pride and glory to our school and supporters. My learning on and off court as a netball player has been invaluable. That was success as we had a goal and we achieved what we wanted as a team through our hard work and strategic effort.

Nurul Sabrina
Class 3A1



“Stop,” Mr. Ong, the conductor sighed

The room became voiceless. It was so silent that if a pin were to drop on the floor, everyone could hear it. Everybody lowered their instruments from their mouths and adjusted their heads to face the conductor as he started to point out the mistakes that we made before amending them.

“Trumpets - you are out of tune.”

The trumpeters quickly clipped on their tuners to their bells and tuned.

“Saxophones - stop playing the wrong rhythm.”

The saxophonist nodded and swiftly took out their pencils to circle that part.

“Tutti,” Mr. Ong instructed.

Waking up from my daze, I picked up my tuba. Gradually, the rest picked up their instruments, too. We then patiently waited for the baton to fall, and when it did the band started to speak.

The last note was then played and smiles could be seen on everyone’s faces. We finally completed a perfect run of the piece.

I began to look around and think how this happiness could have happened if we didn’t work together. We, who came from different backgrounds. Some were international students who were not fluent in English, some who came all the way from Woodlands and some who shouldn’t even be here because they are sick.

This successfully showed me that people from different backgrounds could all work together no matter their circumstances if they had their minds set on the same end route.

Muhammad Idhar Azhari
Class 3E2

My success story is based on the Values-in-Action programme I participated in last year. We hosted the SMK Air Putih students from Kuantan. We were asked to guide and show them around the school. I consider this my success story as I faced and overcame many challenges during this programme.

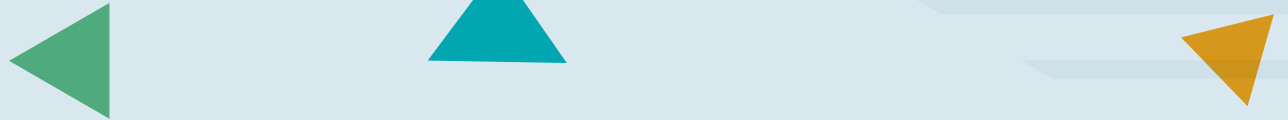
When I first heard that I was chosen to participate in this programme, I was lost for words. I did not know how to react as I'm not usually chosen to be in this type of programme. I was extremely nervous because I have always been a shy student. I always had trouble introducing myself to new people as I'm an introvert and also socially awkward.

When it was the day of the programme I had butterflies in my stomach the whole morning. I am lucky to have friends who care about me and tried to calm me down. I was still anxious. After a few hours, which felt like days, the Kuantan students made an appearance.

The students were friendly and outgoing. We sat with the students in a circle and introduced ourselves one by one. When it was my turn I took a deep breath and introduced myself with a warm smile. I was proud of myself but that was just the start of the programme. Slightly later, it was time to act like a tour guide and show the students around our school. It was hard at first as I did not know how to strike up a conversation and what to talk about. But slowly as time went by I became more confident and comfortable and could have a conversation with them smoothly.

Through the program I learned how to be more calm and confident. I consider this as my success as I managed to overcome my fear of leading and speaking confidently to new people. With this success, I also learned that no matter how scared or reluctant you are to overcome your fears you still need to give it your best shot, as if you never try you'll never know what might happen. Although sometimes the result might not be the way you want it to be, you will not have the regret of not trying.

Sofia Latisha D/O Mohammad Shameer Ali
Class 3E2



I am a selectively social girl when it comes to meeting people. A selectively social person is someone who intentionally keeps his or her social circle of friends small. I will only feel comfortable when I am around people I am close to such as my best friends and family members but I am rather shy with people I am not close to and strangers. It is difficult for me to start a conversation with someone I just got to know.

Surprisingly, last year in September, I was one of the few chosen by our Mother Tongue teacher to host students from Kuantan. Even though it wasn't my first time hosting students from other countries, I was nervous and scared as I was still not ready to step out of my comfort zone. I kept thinking that I would mess up and will end up being awkward as it happened many times before and because of that I felt less confident in myself.

Thankfully, our Mother Tongue teacher gave us a briefing and also a short training session about what to expect during the hosting. She also gave me a few pieces of advice after I told her how nervous I was. She told me to just be myself and that she believed that I could do it. Her advice really gave me some courage.

On the day itself, I was assigned to two girls. Both of them were a year older than me which made me feel quite nervous but I was still feeling confident in myself after my teacher's encouraging words. When I met the two girls, it was awkward at first, so I decided to step out of my bubble and introduce myself to them to start the conversation. I could say I was proud of myself for doing that. I also brought them around the school and told them more about our school. We also played ice-breaker games with the rest of the students. We had so much fun! I even managed to get to know the other Kuantan students who were there.

Unfortunately, the Kuantan students were only here for a day. We were all very sad that we had to say our goodbyes. Although it was only a day, I could really feel a bond between all of us. I really wished that they could come back for another day. After the Kuantan students left, our teacher told us that the students left us some feedback. They talked about how friendly we were and how they really enjoyed themselves thanks to us.

Upon hearing that, I was touched and I felt really proud of myself. I did not expect to step out of my comfort zone because I knew that I was a socially awkward person and I had zero confidence. Although I am still a shy girl, I learned to be more confident.

Sufia Namirah Binte Shamsuri
Class 3E2

‘Cher, Izz would make the best ‘God of Fortune’ cos he’s tall and big-sized,” chuckled my classmates as we were frantically searching for someone in my class who could dress as one in order to take part in our yearly Chinese New Year concert and be crowned the best dressed ‘God of Fortune’.

Initially, I was hesitant as I was a Malay boy. However, coming from a class which was made up of different races like the Chinese, Malays and Indians, motivated me to take on the challenge and prove to myself that in Loyang View Secondary School we embrace and celebrate diversity, taking pride in who we are. I achieved personal victory and success dressing as a ‘God of Fortune’.

So, there I was waiting together with my classmates, with bated breath for the results to be announced. “The class that wins the best dressed costume goes to... Sec 3T1”. There was a thunderous applause from the audience as I walked to the centre of the stage to receive the trophy on behalf of the class.

We respected each other though we were of different faiths and races. These differences did not deter us from interacting with each other. In fact, we celebrated our differences. We had nothing but pride to share our beliefs and cultural practices.

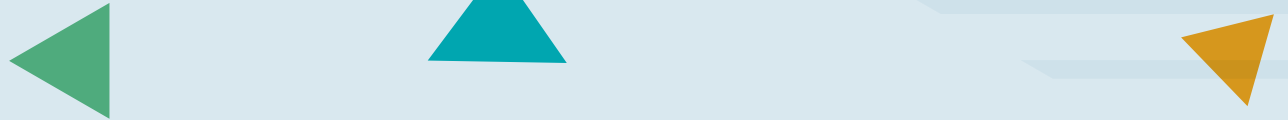
In class, when we had to work in groups, we deliberately chose classmates who were of different faiths and races because we could work together as a team. It taught us to overcome all the odds and accept each other.

As the saying goes, ‘Two heads are better than one’, we stayed together, worked together and achieved success together. Even when we had different ideas and thoughts, we were able to come to a common agreement, forged as one.

Our patience and strong class camaraderie brought about success, coupled with the help and support we got from both our form teachers, one Malay and the other Chinese. The racial mix turned out to be our pillar of strength.

As I walked off the stage, I was overcome with a special feeling. I felt that I had succeeded in being an ambassador of diversity.

Mohammad Izz Syamir Bin Mohammad Ali
Class 3T1



Success to me is achieving my goals and learning something new. My success story happened during my Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp in November last year. OBS is a five-day, four-night camp and through the camp I learnt to embrace diversity, and work together with my group mates to achieve our team's goals.

In the beginning, it was hard to work together as we didn't know one another very well because we were from different schools. I only knew one person in my group and we weren't very close. When we first met, we were very quiet and awkward with one another.

On the third day, we were supposed to go for our sea expedition and our instructors needed some of us to volunteer to lead the four groups as we had to lead the 40 of us to kayak to our destination. I ended up volunteering because no one would go up and I was very tired as we just had a long day. I was very nervous about it as I don't normally volunteer to lead people. I was worried that I would do something wrong and get us lost or very delayed.

There were many challenges and the weather was not in our favour. It was raining a lot and the time we were supposed to leave was delayed due to the weather. As a result, we had to change our course to a slightly shorter one.

Fortunately, we were able to finish our 17km journey without many problems and we were able to reach our destination more or less on time. When we arrived, we all just wanted to rest after kayaking for a long time but we had to unload all our things and set up our tents. Fortunately, we were able to finish quickly and eat before the storm started. Some of the other groups were unable to eat before the rain and during the night there was a downpour worse than the one before. Everything was wet from our bags to our clothes and we still had to track all the way back to our first camp with our wet heavy bags.

During this I learned to embrace diversity as we had to encourage people not only from our own teams as well as from the other teams to keep going and then we would arrive soon. As one of the leaders, I also had a say on when we could take breaks and when we had to work together. As a leader, my challenge was to get everybody moving without stopping and taking a break.

In the end, after the 5 days, I had a great experience! There were hardships but overall it was fun and I learnt to be more sociable and outgoing and this helped me make new friends and learn new skills. I learnt how to cook outdoors and how to rescue people in the middle of the ocean if the boat capsized. I also had to face my fear of heights during the camp as we had to do a flying fox.

Milao Nery Bezerra De Sa Larissa
Class 4E3

In life, success is one of the many things we need to motivate ourselves into achieving more of. The sense of accomplishment we get when we finally fulfill our dreams is just indescribable. There are a few key aspects that we need for a successful future, such as embracing diversity, being socially confident, being public spirited, having passion for learning and an innovative spirit. Personally, I've been through only a few, and embracing diversity is the one I remember most.

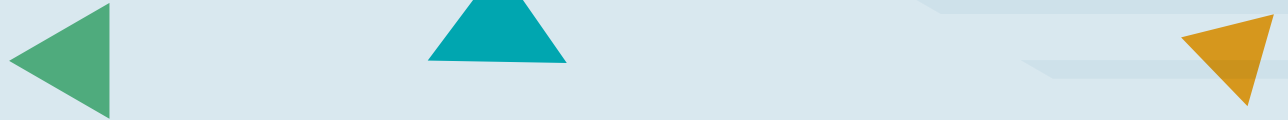
It was an exciting day for some, and a dreadful one for others. Many of us had goals to get through Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp and meet new friends along the way. I, however, did not have much of a burning passion for this camp, where we would meet new people from other schools which in this case, was Temasek Junior College. All I was looking forward to was getting home as soon as possible and sleeping in the embrace of my soft bed. Unfortunately, that was not happening until I simply go through it and just deal with being with strangers for the next five days.

Luckily for me, a fellow band member and an old classmate were in my group. Of course, being the introvert I am, I stuck to my band mate, Jane, when we had to play a game to break the ice and get to know one another. I did not speak much to anyone, as I was feeling very awkward. Ultimately, it was my turn to introduce myself to the group. I talked about what some of my hobbies were and my CCA. Finally, after a solid torturing 30 minutes, we boarded the boat to Pulau Ubin.

As soon as we got to the island, our instructor introduced himself to us, and we started our first activity, kayaking capsized drills. I partnered up with Jane, as expected, and started paddling towards our instructor. It went very well. We learnt about flipping the boat back on the surface and getting back onto it.

Soon after, it started pouring and we had to hide under a shelter where pitching tents was introduced to us. Since we were starving, our instructor decided to run in the rain to get the equipment and ingredients we needed to make dinner. Unexpectedly, a boy named Joshua came up to me and introduced himself. We got along very well, and obviously had great chemistry with each other. That was the first time I really socialised with someone from Temasek Junior College, and I really enjoyed it.

On the third day, we proceeded on to the sea expedition where we had to kayak for seven hours around Pulau Ubin. It was a really tiring experience for everyone except those athletic ones who were leading us. They wanted to get to the campsite earlier so that we could slack more, but that was not working out for us. The rest of the group was exhausted and could not keep up.



Jane and I were also struggling to paddle, but it seemed as if it was only me who was paddling. Jane seemed to be just slacking and not putting in any strength. I kept stopping to rest every ten minutes as my stamina was not enough to carry the both of us through the remaining three kilometres.

“What are you doing?” demanded Jane for the fifth time when I stopped for a rest while admiring a large orange jellyfish floating near the surface of the water.

“I’m just tired. Maybe you should put in some strength too.”

My reply got her so fed up that she she stood up spontaneously, causing the boat to flip over vertically. Fortunately, I had my life jacket on and it was not hard for me to float in the water.

“Are you okay?” I asked Jane, who was frantically flapping her hands around trying to stay afloat.

“My life jacket is too loose! Help!” Jane tried her best to not swallow more sea water while she screamed for help.

I immediately swam over to her and gave her my life jacket, since I was the stronger swimmer. Joshua’s boat paddled over to help us flip the boat back to its normal state and finally got Jane to calm down after a solid five minutes of her panicking about how the water was deep. As she could not get back into the boat after losing most of her energy struggling to stay afloat, I stayed in the water and helped her onto the boat.

Just as I thought it was all going to be alright, a sharp pain shot through my body from my right calf. I screamed in shock and pain while trying to kick away anything that was below me, only to realise that my leg was numb and I could not move an inch. I looked down and saw a dozen jellyfish tentacles wrapped around my calf. At this point, my boat had already floated quite far away from me and no one was near me anymore.

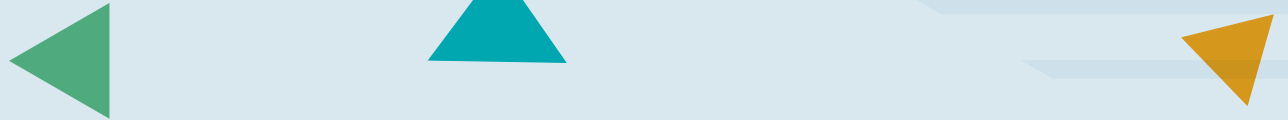
I felt myself losing consciousness as though the jellyfish was sucking my energy. My body began to sink while my hands desperately tried to claw at the invisible refuge above me, which of course, had no effect. Suddenly, someone grabbed my hand and pulled me out of the water onto a blurry white floor. I gasped loudly for air while they tried to empty the water out from my lungs by giving me chest compressions. Finally, the water willingly exited my body, letting me take in a gush of fresh air, as if I was sucking in life from someone else.

The blurred figures in front of me turned out to be Joshua, who pulled me out of the water and gave me chest compressions, and my instructor, who drove the motor boat towards me and Jane, who informed the other two about what happened. Joshua wrapped a towel around me and tried to warm my trembling body with his body heat as I tried to stabilise my breathing, and process what had just happened.

Eventually, five days had gone by like a flash and the camp had come to an end. Though we were from different schools, I tried my best to keep in touch with Joshua and the rest of the group, who tried their best to comfort and take care of me after the incident that happened. This experience had shown me that no matter what happens, friends will always be there for you. Whether they are old or new friends, they will be there to catch you when you fall.

That is how my impromptu goal of making new friends, and embracing diversity got accomplished. By opening up to them and at least being friendly enough to show I care immediately improved our friendship, even creating everlasting ones. This will always be one of the successes in my life I will remember forever.

Chan Xin
Class 4E4



Every year, all secondary 3 students are given the chance to go for an overseas educational programme. I was given the chance to visit Wu Yi Shan in China. Since the number of students visiting Wu Yi Shan was large, we were split into two groups. Upon finding out who were the students in my group, I was devastated. I could not stop whining. I was annoyed that not only did I not know most of the people in my group but that everyone from my class going to Wu Yi Shan was in the other group. That meant that I was the only one in my group from 3E4.

My first thought was what I should do. So instead of continuing to whine, I decided that I would use this as an opportunity to make new friends. I started by making small talk with those who sat near me. For those whom I felt were shy, I made the first move by introducing myself. With a strong determination to make new friends, I succeeded. I was even able to bond with my roommate in a short period of time.

The highlight of the trip was actually the mountain climbing. We climbed not one but three mountains. I still remember our reaction when the teachers-in-charge announced our plan for the day that included mountain climbing. I was worried about climbing the mountain. Unlike the others, I was afraid of the idea of falling. I tend to be able to think of the many different scenarios and ways I could fall, and this obviously scared me even more. Looking around, I realised that I was not the only one looking worried and scared of the journey ahead. Everyone's face showed signs of restlessness and a lack of confidence in themselves. They did not believe that they would be able to reach the top without giving up half-way.

Although we were all worried, we encouraged one another not to give up half-way as our hard work and effort put into climbing would be worth it. Throughout the climb up the mountain, we gave words of encouragement to one another to motivate those who were stressed about falling down or those who were worn out. This reminded me of my journey to the O level exams this year. I realised that I was not the only one edgy, troubled and agitated. We all started our journey the same way. Despite not knowing our classmates well enough, we were able to bond together in a short period of time and never failed to remind one another why persevering till we reached our goals is worth it especially when one has the thought of giving up.

What is success? It is the accomplishment of one's goals or purpose. To be able to achieve success, one has to persevere and work hard. My success story is about embracing diversity through my OEP trip to Wu Yi Shan and not giving up no matter how many obstacles are thrown in my way. Instead, I managed to dodge them all it like a professional. Everyone has a success story, and this is mine.

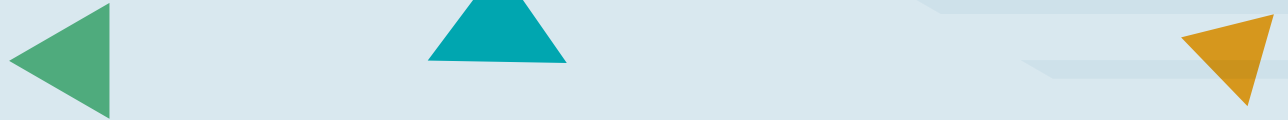
Haziqah Binte Mohammed Dzulkifly
Class 4E4

This year, I just came back from an overseas education trip as part of our school's Overseas Education Programme (OEP) to Surabaya. The aim of this OEP is for us to learn about different cultures and the lifestyles of different people in different countries.

During OEP, there were multiple training and bonding sessions before we went to Surabaya. I was not looking forward to the trip partially because I was intimidated by other peers that I did not interact with. But I was excited about the trip because I was mixing with new people and getting to know them. I remember being very uncomfortable during the bonding session. I remember how the teachers tried to make us bond by doing some bonding activity. I remember just sticking to two friends because I was close to them. However, the teacher tried to make all of us step out of our comfort zones and it worked. She forced us to interact with peers from other classes and to share our personal experiences to get to know one another better. I ended up speaking to many people from different classes, some of whom I was meeting for the first time. I also understood the significance of bonding with everyone and stepping out of our comfort zones. As we were going overseas, it was important to have that bond so that we could work well together. Of course, there were some people we disliked, we still needed to work with because we were in the same group. Hence, we had to make the effort to accept our differences and embrace diversity.

It was a Saturday morning. I came to school and greeted my new friends who were in my group. We flew off to Indonesia and arrived at noon. Our first challenge began with helping one another from the airport to the hotel room. Three of my roommates were people I did not know. I remember how the teachers told me about the importance of knowing your group mates so I decided to try talking to them. I felt it would be an accomplishment if I could stay optimistic and go through this challenge. We did batik activities that day and I made an effort to talk to my roommates and others I was not familiar with. Dinner was at the hotel and I decided to sit down with my close friends but I invited my roommates to sit with me too. Things were awkward at first as we did not have any common interests. However it got better as we were all hungry and tired so we just talked and bonded.

Our next challenge came the next day. We were briefed by our teacher-in-charge that we needed to work and brainstorm on what we wanted to do as we were on an exchange programme with a local school. At first, we were clueless and quiet, as we did not know one another that well. So we decided to do some activities like 'taku yayi' or 'splat'. These are bonding games that are played to tighten bonds. After all of us had a good laugh, we started to do the important thing, which was planning what to do for the local school. We had a hard time at first. I stepped up and moved out of my comfort zone to ask around and it was worth it. We soon



had ideas and we were all very excited. It was quite difficult to work with people of different attitudes but teamwork made our dream work. We eventually put aside our differences and worked towards a common goal. We decided to dance our Loyang View Secondary School dance and prepare gifts for them.

We arrived at the local school by noon and we were warmly welcomed. We settled in and we were intrigued as the school had also prepared a traditional Indonesian performance for us. We applauded loudly. Soon it was our turn to show off our dance. We danced together as a group and had an amazing time. The day passed and we passed our gifts to the local students. Our teacher-in-charge gave a speech to wrap things up and we all went back to our hotel. The next day, we went to do a drawing activity before returning to Singapore. I believe that this trip has shown me the aspect of teamwork and taught me to embrace diversity. It highlights how I can step out of my comfort zone and do the right thing.

In conclusion, I had an amazing experience during the OEP to Surabaya. I have learnt to embrace diversity and accept people from all walks of life. I have made so many friends and in fact, we are still close now. My teachers have opened my eyes to diversity by introducing a different way of life in another country. I will continue to embrace diversity and apply it in my life.

Muhammad Iskandar Mohamad Aidil
Class 4E4

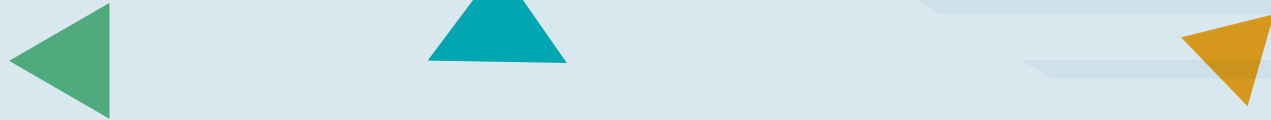
Having friends of different races allowed me to embrace diversity. To me, embracing diversity is important as our society today, especially in Singapore, constantly emphasises its importance. Learning about other cultures has helped me to understand different cultural perspectives. I have friends of different races, and there are bound to be differences in opinion and situations that we might not agree on occasionally. However, the importance of embracing diversity has made these friends play a pivoted role in my life today.

Personally, stepping out of my comfort zone to accept friends from all walks of life and races has got to be one of my greatest accomplishments. However, this could not have been possible if not for school events and opportunities. Throughout my educational journey, I always enjoyed special occasions such as Racial Harmony Day and festive celebrations like Chinese New Year and Hari Raya celebrations. I absolutely eagerly looked forward to Racial Harmony Day as my classmates and I got to learn more about every culture, the Chinese, Malay, Indian, Eurasian, and other ethnic groups we have in Singapore. We got to bond through various school activities such as trying out different local delicacies of each culture and learning about the history behind every culture. Besides that, we got to come in our own traditional costumes. Some of us would even borrow these costumes from our friends. Being able to witness such occasions myself as well as experiencing it, created a sense of belonging. Furthermore, during Racial Harmony Day, we got to play traditional games such as five stones and chapteh. These games, played amongst different races led to a greater appreciation of one another.

Alongside Racial Harmony Day, we celebrated festivals such as Chinese New Year, Hari Raya and Deepavali too. This helped profile every race that was regarded equal. During these celebrations, the school organised performances that made every individual feel included. This further promoted the importance of embracing diversity. I myself enjoyed the company of these different races! During these special celebrations, my group of friends and I would invite one another to celebrate Chinese New Year, Hari Raya and Deepavali together. We would visit each other's homes and indulge in the various scrumptious buffet spread made up of different Malay kuehs for example. I love how my friends and I were able to bond in such a manner. It has become a yearly routine for 4 years now.

Embracing diversity has also taught me to become a better person and to be more accepting of others. When better relationships are built with others, it enables people like me to have a greater perspective and understanding of their culture and to be more sensitive towards others, which is who I am now!

Lycia Quek Yee Ling
Class 5A1



Dance has always been my passionate hobby. The adrenaline of performing on stage, in front of a large crowd of people, alongside my fellow dance mates who have trained very hard for that performance makes me feel great.

In my first year in Loyang View Secondary School, I was fortunate enough to have competed in the SYF, also known as the Singapore Youth Festival. It made me feel proud of myself for I knew there were a lot of criteria they were looking for in dancers eligible to compete. I had learned a lot from my then dance teacher and had created a close bond with my fellow dancers. We were a small team so it really felt like a family.

The following year, I was told that a number of the Co-curricular Activities (CCAs) in my school were going to be closed down. Luckily, the Dance Club was still going strong. Hence, many students were transferred from other clubs that were shut down into the Dance Club. Imagine my astonishment to see so many students wearing the dance attire when I walked into the Performance Theatre on the first day of CCA that year.

However, the biggest surprise to me was to learn that our instructor was someone new. To be frank, I was quite upset considering how close we were to our first instructor. I had made up my mind that the new teacher was not going to be able to teach me the skills and techniques my previous teacher had taught me. My once small dance team of not more than 20 students had quickly grown to be a large club of 60! This was another obstacle for me, as the team previously had dance backgrounds and were close and bonded. It was not going to be easy, having to adapt to a new instructor and having to bond with new club members. We spent a lot of time re-learning basics as the newer members were not experienced in dancing. This frustrated me because I had already spent so much of my time last year learning the same basics and felt like this was all very repetitive.

It was a busy year as we had to prepare for the musical, 'Alyss in Loyang Land'. We also had to train for a national dance competition called Super 24. The months we spent intensely training gave me a new mind-set and opened my eyes to new possibilities. I began to look at the new dance team differently. As a result, we grew closer and even managed to make it through the finals. I initially thought that as the dance team was primarily made up of students from different CCAs, like Guzheng, Guitar and Choir, we would go nowhere. However, I was wrong because not only did we manage to grow closer as friends, we even grew as individuals and as dancers. I learnt to embrace diversity. From a team that used to be separated and clueless, we were now bonded and skilled. Thus, the name Dance-Versity; combining 'Dance' and 'Diversity'.

Sapiera Zalena Mari Mauri
Class 5A2




**INNOVATIVE
SPIRIT**

Success to me is to not talk too much. This is because I talk too much and always get in trouble. One afternoon, my friend Jeremy came up to me and dared me. “Raheem I dare you to not to talk in English class today. I will give you \$150 if you do it for five straight hours.” I thought about it. After a while, I accepted the challenge. In the beginning, I was a little bit nervous because I am usually not able to shut my mouth.

My friends called me a psycho and an idiot but I did not care. My own teacher thought that something had happened to me. Two and a half hours passed and my teacher asked me a question and I did not know what to do. I looked at Jeremy and he allowed me to answer, so I answered.

Four hours and fifty minutes had passed and I was sweating while Jeremy was worried because he was going to lose his money. When the bell rang, I smiled and asked Jeremy for the money but he ran away. I started running after him and soon caught up with him and grabbed him by his shirt. He gave me the money. I felt on top of the moon as I had succeeded in keeping my mouth shut for a long period.

Abdurraheem
Class 1A2



One of the most significant memories in Secondary 1 was the Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) bonding camp.

Awesome and tiring, was what I felt during the bonding activities in camp. My CCA is NCC (National Cadet Corps) and the bonding camp was on a Saturday, 9th of March. It was a one day camp from morning till night. We started off with our usual routine and water parade. After that, our Sir and Ma'am gave us a safety briefing and a plan of what we were going to do that day. Then, we began with our activities by playing a game which needed lots of teamwork to win. We were separated into eight different teams that consisted of cadets from different levels because we were supposed to bond with different and new cadets. We continued our 2nd activity which was us watching a short movie clip called "The Line" which was related to "army life". In the meantime when we were still watching the movie, our teachers got us some snacks to consume after the movie.

Upon consuming our snacks, we were asked to clear up and assemble for our most interesting and exciting activity of all! It was DRAGON BOATING!! We were all feeling very excited and were all busy buzzing around! I was extremely excited as I had never tried dragon boating. It was a painfully satisfying experience. My body felt sore from all the rowing but I was so happy I got to experience it.

Tay Jack Kent
Class 1E2


My most memorable experience was definitely the secondary one orientation camp. Although it was just a 2-day-1-night camp, I enjoyed myself with my class and my orientation group leader (OGL). It was a good camp that bonded our class together and most of us were strangers but now friends. I made many new friends as they were all very friendly!

On the first day, our OGL made us play some icebreakers like 'broken telephone', 'Simons says' and many other games that helped us to know each other's names. Then, our student councillors taught us the school's mass dance. It was an amazing experience getting to know the school's mass dance. After the mass dance, our OGL led us to our class. He told us we had to prepare a cheer and a class performance for the campfire the next day. After much procrastination, our class decided to use the baby shark song. We also created a cheer with the help of our OGL. Time flew by and the first day of camp was over. We washed up and went to sleep.

Next morning, we set out for the hike at Southern Ridges. We were not really excited as the sun was burning. Three hours passed, and we were finally done with the hike. We headed back to school for our campfire. At that point, I couldn't hold my excitement back. We were going to perform as a class for the first time. Overall, our class won the most enthusiastic class award.

It was a good experience as I bonded with many of my classmates and even got to know them better! LVSS has moulded me into a more wholesome and confident individual.

Tiffany
Class 1E2



The Farmers Market was introduced to the Secondary two students in Term 1. We had a briefing at the Performance Theatre about the event. Before the briefing started, I thought it was going to be boring as I did not really like the market. However, as soon as I was in the canteen, I just had a feeling that I would have a good time. It felt like a blast filled with good energy vibes had hit me as soon as I walked in.

Before the Farmers Market, our teacher assigned us to do various duties. I was in charge of encouraging students and customers to come to our booth to buy our items. My class had decided to sell ice lollies. In all, there were five flavours, Milo, Orange, Bandung, Lime and Thai Milk Tea. On the day itself, all of us had to wear our class T-shirts. Our booth was already set up by 2:30 pm and I was brimming with energy. The first customer I managed to get was a student at the school foyer. It was a delightful feeling.

During that time, there were not many students in school as most of them usually went out for lunch before the start of their enrichment sessions. However, as time passed, more students appeared, and I encouraged them to come to our booth. Soon, there was a decent number of people queueing in front of our class. This got me thinking that, even though I was not happy to have a duty in the Farmers Market on the day of the event, I felt very motivated and realized that I had an innovative spirit.


With help from my teachers and classmates, our ice lollies were sold out within two hours. We managed to collect \$106. We ended early as the coupons had already been sold out. Our teacher gave us a \$2-coupon each, but I was given a \$4-coupon as she informed me that I was the reason my class had so many customers. I felt a real sense of accomplishment that day!

Sharifa Falisha Binte Syed Shafiq Alsagoff
Class 2A1

Success. I actually don't like the word. I would define success as a stage. These successes of mine, I see them as stages. Stages in life that will lead me to my actual purpose in life which is to accomplish something. My goal is to live my life with the least regrets and coming to terms with the choices that I have made. I am at a stage in my life that I stand up to any challenge given to me. I always tell myself, "Do it till the end with the best of your abilities because the feelings of frustration and dejection of not trying your best is the worst that you will ever feel." I stand by these words. The mental strength that I have and of constantly reminding myself of these words helps me go the struggles and challenges that come my way. This mentality of mine is something I am glad to have found. I've always been negative and to know that now, I don't easily give up and always tell myself to do my very best, really encourages me to move on to find a better state of mind and to accept myself for who I am both physically and mentally.

It was early in the year. I'm a proud member of the drama club and we were preparing for the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF). I was never good at acting as I was horrible at memorising lines and I always got terribly nervous and scared when I had to recite the lines. I know my own weaknesses and strengths, things I'm interested in and what I want to do. And on that particular day when our instructor, Mr Dwayne, was assigning the drama members their roles and positions for SYF, I volunteered to be the person-in-charge of costumes and props. I wasn't meant to be in charge of props but since the previous person was an actor and was not able to help instruct the prop making, I took charge and became known as the person-in-charge of props rather than costumes.

Now, as the person-in-charge of props, I truly believed I gave it my all. I do have interest in furniture design and, of course, challenging my creativity to make products from scratch with materials I already have without purchasing anything. I would draw out drafts of how I wanted the designs to look like and discuss with the director and instructor, Mr. Dwayne, about it and receive the confirmation before making the product come to life. I have amazing juniors in my drama club who had just joined and willingly listened to me and allowed me to lead them through the process of creating the props. They trusted me and allowed me to give them instructions and directions. They helped me greatly and we managed to complete all the amazing props just before the day of the competition. It touches me greatly to hear such amazing and great praises from Mr. Dwayne about the props. To me, to know that my work is excellent is when a person who has years of experience as a professional, compliments the work my team and I have done.



It all started when we had to raise funds for the needy students in our school and also to instil entrepreneurial spirit in all of us. The school came up with an event called the 'Farmers Market'.

All the Secondary Two classes and their form teachers had to set up booths and sell their farm produce. At the beginning of the year, each class was given a small plot of land to plant some vegetables. My class planted some chilli plants and ladies fingers. As I was made to be in-charge of this project, I designed a duty roster. I assigned a group of four to five classmates of mine to tend to the vegetables and water them. We took turns to carry out this duty. Before long, the time came for us to harvest our crops and sell them to the other students and teachers.

As if that was not enough, we were allowed to invite students from other schools to come and buy whatever we sold. More than just selling vegetables, some classes set up game stalls in the canteen. Other classes sold snacks and desserts like ice-cream and puffs

When I came up with the idea to collect orders first, my teachers supported me. I worked on the order forms and we started to canvass our products from class to class to take their orders.

On the actual day, apart from making sure that what I had planned went well, I had a lot of fun as I played some games and ate the delicious food. I had a great time harvesting and selling the vegetables we grew. I learned more about planting, tacking care of the vegetables and harvesting them.

Some things I learnt from the whole event is that we need to be patient when planting greens. I also learned that we needed teamwork, without which the task of planting, watering and harvesting the vegetables would not be accomplished. We also had to be innovative to come up with original ideas to commercialise our produce. I felt that I had succeeded in facilitating the task, and raising funds for the needy students.


Jerica Jessie Han Ting
Class 2A2

Through this process of being a leader for my juniors for the first six months of the year, I've created comfortable relationships with them and recognise all their faces. I still do try my very best to remember all their names. Seeing that I have this comfortable relationship with my juniors, I hope this will help me in future performances by the drama club. I sincerely believe that this relationship I have with my juniors will allow us, the drama club, to create even more fantastic and amazing props for future performances.

I believe that to be an amazing drama club member, you need to have that ego in you, and for me, my ego is definitely off the charts. It takes time and effort to build that confidence and to be able to express yourself. People will call it ego because they may find it to be too much. Perhaps it may just be because they don't have the same level of confidence. To be able to express yourself to others, there is the coming to terms that you need to love yourself first and accept who you are before you can improve yourself for the better. Having that mentality of being able to accept yourself and the confidence to be expressive and exaggerate your actions and words, these are the qualities that makes a drama member a member that helps make the drama club active and alive.

I have confidence, I have a good amount of ego and I surely do have the ability to express myself well. I have the confidence to express my opinions to my drama members. I have the ego to express my self-love to others and as well encourage self-love in others. I have the ability to express myself strongly and to have an impact on others. I get much of the encouragement to continue to be who I am from my drama members, teachers and my instructor.

Nur Arifah
Class 2A3



Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about my experience in the Secondary one musical production and Secondary two Farmer's Market.

In the Secondary one Musical Experience, we performed a short drama which was called "LOVE: Bagus Kueh". Every class wore formal wedding clothes. It took place last year on racial harmony day. We went to the "Our Tampines Hub" to perform and practice there as well. It was quite fun and nerve wrecking as well for me as it was my first time doing a live performance on stage with over 100 people in the audience. I should say that acting on stage live is not so easy. It is actually quite hard. This has taught me not to be afraid when I am on stage.

This year, the whole Secondary two cohort had to do a Farmer's Market on 8th March 2019. All the Secondary two students were in the canteen selling a variety of food and drinks. There were candy stalls, chocolate stalls, game stalls, snack stalls, ice cream stalls, drinks stalls and even henna drawing stalls. Some of my friends and I went to the kitchen with my co-form teacher to fry the nuggets and boil the sausages. We started frying from 12.30pm till 2.20pm. My co-form teacher bought Macdonald's for us as we didn't have lunch as we were very eager to do the frying. We sold the snacks that we made in the canteen and other classes were also selling their food there. As there were so many stalls selling food, it was a challenge for us to sell all the food. The Secondary two cohort was very supportive as other classes came to our class and bought what we were selling and our class also supported the other stalls. In the end, we sold everything which we fried and boiled and we raised a total of \$250 after selling everything.

I am looking forward to more events in Loyang View as every event or enrichment teaches me new things. Every day when I step out of Loyang View, I feel that I have learnt something good. Loyang View teaches me to be a wholesome individual with a robust character. I am always looking forward to come to school every day to learn new things.

Kiriyadevi
Class 2A3

What is success about? Success is an accomplishment of an aim or purpose. My success is about me and my teammates constructing a solar fan from recyclable materials alone.

When we were told to bring our own recyclable materials, we were really lazy to construct it because we did not have any idea what we wanted to build, but we were given three to four weeks to do it. We took our own sweet time to do it. It was a mistake for us to take our own sweet time because we were far behind as we did not plan in the first place.


So we asked our teacher for help so that we would know how to start our work. The following week, I brought the recyclable materials because we planned to do the easiest work which is the solar fan. It was really tough because in my group, only one of my teammates and I were constructing the solar fan while the two other teammates were not really helping. However, it was really interesting to construct because I like to build objects since I was young and I planned to be an engineer when I grew up. Luckily, we were able to construct our solar fan on time as we did not make a lot of mistakes. When we tested it under the sun, it actually worked and I was really happy because I felt that I had accomplished something from just recyclable materials.

At the start, I was about to give up but I persevered because if I had given up, I would be a useless teammate but my teacher gave me courage and advised me to have resilience in life if I want to be an engineer.

That is my success story. In life, we need to go through difficult challenges in order to succeed in life because if we just keep doing the easiest stuff, when comes to hard stuff, we may not be able to do them. So I take this story as my success story as I have never constructed a solar panel from recyclable material.

Everyone in this world would want to succeed and have a story to tell. So what's yours?

Muhammad Yasin
Class 2A3



Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about having to learn from your mistakes. Sometimes, even if you have studied hard, you may still fail your examinations. There's no use in achieving something by luck or by chance without knowing your mistakes to improve the next time.

One significant event I have experienced in Secondary two was the Farmer's Market. Some of the things that we did on the day of the farmer's market was helping to take care of the stall, buying of ingredients and making a big poster to promote our stall. It took place on 8th March 2019 and the preparation took place throughout term 1 to plan the food, price, and what kind of things to sell. The farmer's market took place at the canteen.

The preparation included planning our roles on the day of the Farmer's Market to assigning people to buy the things. Some of the things I contributed was volunteering to buy the ingredients for the food. The outcome of the event was successful as all the food was sold out. The money that we earned was for donations to help the less fortunate. Everyone was involved and took turns to help with the stall. We all enjoyed the event and were happy with the result.

I felt proud and happy about the event as it was successful. I also felt grateful as I helped raised money for the poor. I learnt that to make the event a success, that teamwork is important as everyone had an important role to play to help raise the money for the poor. The experience from the Farmer's Market has inspired me to volunteer for other events that can help raise money for the poor. I really enjoyed the experience from the Farmer's Market and I hope that there will be other similar events.

Zafirah
Class 2A3

It was that time of the year again. The Farmers' Market made its comeback. After a hectic period of almost three months attending to our vegetables, it was time to harvest them and sell them to the teachers and students of the school.

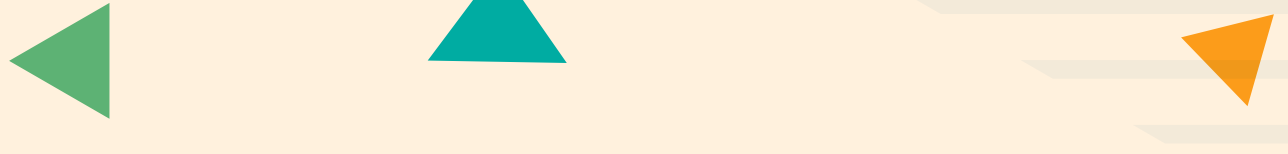
The teacher formed some committees to take charge of this project. I volunteered to be in the publicity committee. My friends and my task was to look at how we could publicise our products. I spent a bit of time doing some simple research and came up with the idea of using a flyer to be distributed before the actual day. I also got the teachers and students to place their order before the actual day. By doing so, we could sell faster and count our chickens before they were hatched.

I got my good friend, Tasyah, to design and draw the flyer, as she was super good at Art. I got another friend of mine, Jake, to bring some rattan baskets so that we could place our attractively packed vegetables in them. I would do the selling and distributing of the vegetables, together with the other girls.

When the day came, we set up our stall at the foyer and waited patiently for our customers. Meanwhile, we had raked in quite a fair bit of sales through the orders that we had secured. The amount of cash we had collected was pretty impressive. When the crowd started to gather, we became more aggressive with our sales strategies. We got many of them to buy our produce. Although we were tired, the fun was there. We were entertained by some of the classes that set up their music stall, charging their customers for song requests.

At the end of the day, my class collected almost one hundred and fifty dollars. We were so proud of ourselves as we had done something to help the needy students in our school. I felt a sense of pride and achievement as I closed the stall and headed home.

Nurul Azeqa Binte Roslan
Class 2T1



There is an event called Farmers market, where each class together with the urban farmers needed to set up stalls to sell food.

It all started with me joining urban farming with my classmates. It was tiring every time we needed to harvest the plants and replant them. It took passion and responsibility to make the plants grow nicely and looking fresh. Once the plants were harvested, we needed to plan how to set up the stall to sell the vegetables. The other classes would also need to plan how to set up their stalls with the food that people would like to satisfy their craving.

We were all struggling with the planning. Being urban farmers was a stressful activity. The teachers helped us through all the problems that we had, like planning of decorations, what to sell, and to visualise the things that would be going on so that we could be better prepared. Our teachers also helped us to set up the stall and buy the necessary ingredients so that we could sell them. The teachers' help made us feel secure and ready to move ahead.

After the entire event, we learnt that working as a group and having our teachers by our side helped make it is easier to work and plan. The teachers have shown us what it is like to work as a class and solving problems together when we were stressed out. My word of advice to my juniors is that, no matter how stressed or tired you are, you must always work till the end and not give up. There will always be people supporting you and you would not have to work alone.

Daryl Quan Zi Yang
Class 2T1

“Make sure we have enough stocks to sell!” I warned my friends as they packed the vegetables for us to sell in the Farmers’ Market. My teacher had asked me if I could take charge of the packing of the vegetables. I agreed as I wanted to do my part to make it a success.


My class took part in this programme for the first time. Months before, we were given some saplings to plant. The vegetables, once grown, would be sold to both the teachers and students of the school. We tended to our tiny plot of land with care. We took turns to water and fertilise the plants. Three months later, the vegetables grew so well that they were ready to be sold. We harvested the vegetables and washed them. After that, we put them in small plastic bags and planned to sell them for three dollars each. It was also an opportunity for us to raise funds and help the needy students in the school.

When the day came, we were all ready. Another group of my friends took charge of marketing our produce. They went round with a mini banner to attract the attention of our potential customers. They used the loud hailer so that their presence could be seen and heard.

The response was overwhelming. We were on our toes most of the time attending to our customers who were impressed with the leafy fresh vegetables, harvested directly from the school garden. It was a good buy because we sold them at a reasonable price.

At the end of the day, we counted our cash and collected eighty dollars. We were so proud of ourselves, and as we closed our stall, we looked forward to be of service to the school again. We learned what it was like to be businessmen and businesswomen for a day. My task was completed and I felt a sense of achievement undertaking it.

Rifqi Matin Bin Rizal
Class 2T1



“Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm.” This is a quote from Winston Churchill. This quote tells me that it is not a big deal to make mistakes, if we are open to learning from them. I experienced success when I sold a lot of vegetables to teachers and students during school’s farmers’ market.

Farmers’ market was an event that required every class to sell vegetables. Special stalls were set up to sell vegetables grown by the students a few months before the Farmers’ Market. The vegetables were picked just one day before the farmers’ market in order to make sure they were fresh.

During the Farmers’ Market, I was one of the students in-charge of the vegetable stall. At first, nobody came to our stall. I believe it was because it was still early. After we waited for half an hour, we decided to separate into two groups. One group looked for teachers on each floor of the school while the other stayed at the vegetable stall to target students.

My group walked around the whole school and focused on teachers’ offices. We met our principal, vice-principals and many teachers. Most of them bought our vegetables. We sold all the vegetables we had and went back to the stall.

At the end of farmers’ market, we had sold most of the vegetables and bought the rest. It was a great achievement for me and this is my success story.

Xu Bo Tian
Class 3A1

What is an innovative spirit? An innovative spirit is a mindset that actively seeks change rather than waiting to adapt to change. In other words, it is a super-positive mindset that embraces critical questioning, creative and continuous improvement.


I watched this video about a couple living in a future house for a week. The aim of this video was for the couple to live sustainably for a week and to make more energy than they use, which included growing your own food and making your own electricity. For example, if you make two watts and use one watt, you would be giving one watt back. This house was built with the idea that you do not have to give up anything to have a better lifestyle that is better for your health and environment. Growing your own food has a smaller carbon footprint because they do not need to travel.

During Urban farming we planted vegetables and harvested them. First we needed to remove the weed and other plants that may be growing in the vegetable lot. To do this, we could not just pluck the remaining weed or plant, we had to dig out the roots too. Next, we loosened up the soil. The vegetables were already saplings so all we had to do was dig a hole to fit the roots of the sapling, cover it back with soil and press the soil around it so that it will be stable. Then, we put fertiliser and water it. We then continued to do this until it was ready to be harvested. Throughout this process, some of the vegetables became bad so we had to take them out and we also had to check that there were no snails near the vegetables, if there were snails we had to take them out and put them somewhere else. Finally, it was ready to be harvested and sold.

I learnt how to farm and find that it is a useful skill as I can grow my own vegetables. Urban farming taught me patience and to be more eco-friendly. We had to be patient while growing the vegetables as farming is a long process, so it takes time. Farming is also eco-friendly as it does not produce as much carbon footprint compared to buying food from the grocery store.

In conclusion, I hope that this innovative spirit will help me one day and that I will be able to maintain it.

Coladilla Jerstine Ann Sanchez
Class 3E2



I've never thought I would have the chance or the confidence to have done what I did. Considering I never pictured myself as one who could lead other people, I was one of the leaders of the Farmers' Market Project.

During my 6 years in primary school, I never had the opportunity to be a leader. However, when Farmers' Market arrived, my friends were excitedly volunteering to be one of the leaders. I thought maybe I should give it a shot, too, and with my friend's encouragement, I volunteered.

Being one of the leaders of the Farmers' Market made me more responsible and open-minded, and it also helped me step out of my comfort zone. I am a rather awkward person, which made it difficult for me to project my voice to the class or even give some of my opinions. However, as a leader, I slowly learned what I needed to do and how I needed to do it.

I learned how to be more outspoken yet approachable. So, if my classmates had any queries, they will be comfortable enough to talk to me about it. It also helped me to understand others from another point of view.

Even though being a leader of the Farmers' Market may not be considered significant by others, it made me become a better version of myself; a version, I did not even know existed.

Shantelle Ong Zhi Xuan
Class 3E2

What started out as something fun and interesting, turned out to be a personal victory for me!

Twice a week, I had to water the vegetables and pluck the weeds out. It was made more challenging when the weather was hot. However, I was not discouraged. I worked hard because there was something to be done. We had to raise fund for the needy students by organising a Farmers' Market, selling those vegetables which we had been planting, watering and tending to all this while. It was all in the name of innovation!

I took pride and ownership when my form teacher tasked me to be the person-in-charge of this project. I formed a committee and started to assign my classmates some roles. We explored many ideas on how to make this project profitable and exciting.

We started by commercialising our products. We advertised what we wanted to sell by printing our flyers and pasting them on the walls. As if that was not enough, we went from class to class to take orders from the students.


When the day came, we got all our vegetables packed nicely and displayed them on the racks. I was there waiting patiently for our customers to visit our stall and buy our vegetables.

Armed with a loudhailer, I kept on shouting for customers, enticing them to buy our produce. To make it more interesting, we sold our vegetables in combo. For every packet of vegetables that they bought, they were entitled to a small bottle of salad dressing at no cost.

I had to be innovative, creative and imaginative in my greatest desire to become an entrepreneur for a day. In the course of organising this project I learned how to work as a team, being positive and constructive to feedback and suggestions and value every contribution.

These were the valuable lessons that I learned in life. I put aside my personal prejudices and judgement in order to move on as a team. I had achieved what I wanted to from this project. I became more resilient and not admit defeat. More than waiting for something to happen, I had made things happen!

Nur Fatin Binte Raihan
Class 3T1



“Quickly pass me the vegetables,” I shouted at my friend who was helping me man our class stall for the annual Farmers’ Market held in our school. ‘Thank you, teacher, for your support and have a nice day,’ I smiled as I thanked her, and gave her the packet of vegetables and her change.

It all started when we had to raise funds for the needy students in our school. Likewise, the school also wanted to instil in us the entrepreneurial spirit. . We only had a few weeks to plan on what we wanted to sell in order to attract more people to come to our booth.

I was as busy as a bee, just like the other classmates of mine. When the idea was mooted, all of us decided to sell what we had planted for the last three months or so. Given a small plot of land to work on, we planted several types of vegetables, we had to take care of, before the start of Farmers Market.

We planted the seeds and waited for them to grow well and healthy. We tolled and toiled. Every day, we took turns to water the vegetables and plucked out all the weeds so that our vegetables could grow well. Dividing ourselves into groups, we enjoyed every moment of the task, challenging though.

On the day when we had our Farmers’ Market, we were busy from morning right up till the end of the day. We packed the vegetables into small packs, weighed and labelled the price. We put them in beautiful baskets and sprinkled them with water so that they looked fresh all over.

My friends got some placards ready and wrote ‘Die Die Must Try!’ and ‘Cheap” Cheap!’ They then hung the placards on their necks and became walking advertisement boards for the day. It was really fun and innovative.


The crowd started to form and within minutes on its opening, our class attracted the most crowd. We sold everything we had. We were motivated by the support given to us.

Our 'live' station was even better. Some of the girls in our class had a cooking demonstration where we cooked some mushrooms in garlic and oyster sauce. The sale was overwhelming that we were able to sell our food in less than thirty minutes. Everyone said that our food was 'yummy'.

Looking at the crowd and support we had, I forgot all the painstaking effort we experienced in order to make this a success. It was really tremendous and overwhelming! We were encouraged to sell more! Even our packet drinks and tit-bits were sold out. Our form teachers were kept on their toes all the time. What started as an exercise in innovation taught us how to take ownership and pride in doing something good for the needy students. It turned out to be what I call, experiencing success in organising an event like this for the class.

As the leader of the committee for this event, I felt that I had achieved success in winning the hearts and minds of my teammates.

Muhammad Subhi Amri Bin Muhammad Hudzaiman
Class 3T1



At the beginning of the year, our form teacher shared with us that we would be involved in one of the school programmes known as 'Farmers' Market'. As the class chairman, I had a panic attack all of a sudden. Would I be able to organise this? Would I succeed? Would we be able to help the needy in our school with the funds to be raised? I stayed mum and started to think what I should do.

It was a challenging task for me to bring the class as one and start the ball rolling. However, I wanted to take ownership of this, working together with my classmates and develop in us the entrepreneurial spirit that the school wanted to instil in us.

I got into the thick of actions by forming several committees to take charge of this project. I had half the class to take charge of planting the vegetables, looking after them, harvesting them and packing them into bags. Another group took charge of advertising our products and one more to man the stall that we had to set up in the canteen on the actual day.

Three months into the year, we were all ready to make things happen. On the actual Farmers' Market day, we set up our stall in the canteen and displayed what we had harvested. Our strategy of getting orders way before that from students from other classes bore fruit when we received overwhelming support from them through their orders. Even the teachers placed their orders and supported our class.

As the students got into the canteen, the crowd got thicker and everything got merrier. "Come and buy from us! Buy two get one free! Buy now or never!" I shouted my lungs out into the megaphone that was in my hand. The next moment, my class attracted the largest crowd with both walk-in customers and those who had placed their orders earlier. As we packed more vegetables into the plastic bags, more packs exchanged hands. At the end of the day, we made a whopper! We had a profit of almost two hundred dollars!

After months of hard work, all the fatigue dissipated when we looked at the amount of profit we had made with grit and determination for a worthy cause. We learned teamwork, creativity, innovation and putting others before self. Our efforts paid off. We felt a huge sense of success. I had also succeeded in working with my classmates to make this day a wonderful and enjoyable learning experience for all of us!

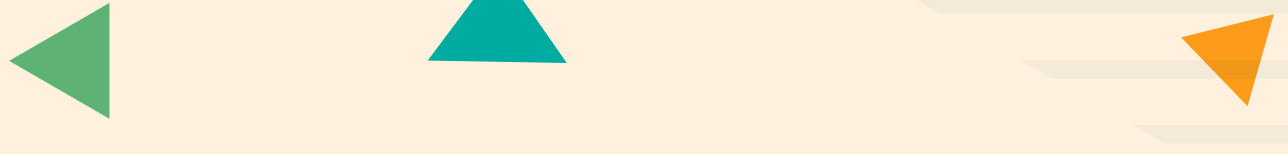
Nur Khaliifah Binte Muhammad Nasser
Class 3T1

Many students, I feel, recite the student creed without understanding it. What is “Wholesome Individual”? If you project a wholesome image, other people see you as a decent, moral person and somebody who is trustworthy. This means that a person can be trusted as he or she has a good attitude. In conclusion, Wholesome Individual means a person who is willing to help others and listen to others.

Being a student really is not an easy task. Most parents may think that their children go to school to study. Well, that is indeed true however do they know that we have other duties such as Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) and a handful of us could be Student Councilors or Class Leaders. As for me, I became a leader in my Malay Dance CCA. My role was to teach everyone in the group the choreography and ensure that they got it. Well, at first I thought it was going to be easy. All I needed to do was to teach them. We slowly went through the steps and everything was going smoothly. We were all cheerful and our faces were filled with wide smiles.

During one of our final rehearsals, as all my team members were really satisfied with the moves and had done really well, we took a five minute break to quench our thirst. After five minutes, our instructor gathered everyone. “Each group will have to come up in front and show me your moves,” our instructor said in a stern voice. My group was super confident so we decided to go first. We got up on our feet and walked with pride. The music started to play and I started to count in my mind “1...2...3...4...,” we all danced with passion. There was one move where we had to throw the prop, spin and catch it immediately. As I threw my plates and spun, “Clang! Clang!” the sound of plates hit the floor. I glanced at the instructor and he had a furious look on his face. In that instance, I knew that he was not pleased with the results. He stopped the music and told everyone to sit.

“This is absolutely horrible, please learn your steps properly and do not bring disgrace to your school!” he shouted at the top of his voice, took his belongings and left the studio. All the dancers were speechless. No one dared to say anything. I stood up and apologised for not teaching my team mates properly. I asked everyone if they were all right about staying for a few minutes so we could get it perfect. A handful of them could not stay as they had tuition. As a leader, I allowed them to leave early to prepare for their



tuition however, they had to send me a video of them dancing that night itself. They agreed with my idea. For the rest of the dancers, we continued dancing until we got it perfect. Even though most of us wanted to give up, we cheered for each other. About thirty minutes later, most of us got the moves.

It was already midnight but the dancers who went home were still sending me their videos of them practising. Even though I told them to sleep, they told me they did not want to see our instructor get mad again. As a senior, I was so proud of my juniors. As time passed, the day when we had to show our instructor the perfect moves arrived. "1...2...3...4....," we continued dancing. We were getting to the hardest step and I could sense the tension in everyone. We threw our props, spun and caught it immediately. We did it! There was no sound of Kompang dropping. Our instructor had the biggest smile on his face. We cheered and hugged each other. With my innovative spirit and ideas, we had accomplished the hardest choreography as a group.

Evfreen Betrisyia Suhirman
Class 4A1

To me, one can experience success even in the small, day to day occurrences. It does not always have to be a big thing that you have achieved. My achievements have always been small and throughout my life, I have never achieved anything big. However, attending the Outward Bound School in Singapore (OBS) last year made me feel like I had succeeded in something big for the very first time. It really felt good. I was over the moon.


The OBS really helped me a lot in terms of overcoming all my fears of nature, the sea and also heights. Literally whatever we did there was what I have feared throughout my life. Having my friends and instructors encourage me, sort of forced me to do the obstacle courses. It really made me feel good even though I hated doing the obstacle courses so much.

It was so hot in the morning but we were not allowed to shower in order to save time to do all the activities. I was sweaty and super sticky as a result. Nothing could describe those moments I had been through. It was like a love hate relationship because I don't really know if I miss those times.

Besides, on the first day of camp, I needed to introduce myself in front of a whole bunch of people and it was the scariest thing I had ever done because I feared opening up to a group of people, I hardly knew. I disliked speaking in front of a group of strangers just to introduce myself.

In spite of the discomfort, I am really grateful for my friends and instructors who were there spurring me on. They helped me overcome many of my fears. Reflecting on it, now, I feel like I had succeeded in a big way because I did not give up of everything. I persevered.

Farina Hilia
Class 4A2



I always remind myself with a favourite quote of mine whenever I feel down and depressed. “Push yourself, because no one else is going to do it for you”. This quote motivates me because I know no one will be there for me if I don’t help myself. It is a great pick me up. I also know that I will feel happy and successful when I push myself through tough times.

One such time when I pushed myself to succeed was at the Outward Bound School (OBS) Camp. At this camp, I tried the things that I had never thought I could do. In OBS, my group went hiking carrying big and heavy bags from Campsite 1 to Campsite 2 which was a 3.4 km walk approximately. Though the hike was arduous, I never gave up. When we reached Campsite 2, in spite of being dead tired, we still washed and dried our tents for the night. We did not have much time, so all of them went to shower while, my friend and I, washed and set up the tent to dry in the sun. We were exhausted but I motivated myself with the quote: “Push yourself, because no one else is going to do it for you”.

This camp made me feel successful because I had good memories of surviving the gruelling experience.

Nur Adlinah
Class 4A2


There is a dose of reality in the following quote from an unknown person: “Don’t expect to see a change if you don’t make one”. This is one of my favourite quotes that spurred me on to succeed. It motivated me to do more and pursue my dreams. This is my success story.

My first success story was when I managed to pass my examinations in the majority of my subjects. I was shocked when I collected my results slip as I passed five out of six subjects namely in English, Mother Tongue, Design and Technology, Humanities and Science. I was surprised and happy that I passed my common test with flying colours and that’s when I felt motivated to do better in the future.

My second success story was when I stepped down from my CCA knowing that I had successfully taught the basics to my junior cadets in NPCC. For example, I taught my Junior cadets camp craft knots, resulting in many of them passing their camp craft test. I was so proud for having taught them successfully and wished them all the best in the future.

In conclusion, I think that these are a few stories of my success that will motivate me in the years to come.

Muhammad Idris
Class 4A4



The first skateboarders started with wooden boxes or boards with roller skate wheels slapped on the bottom. As you might imagine, a lot of people got hurt in skateboard's early years. The boxes turned into planks, and eventually companies started producing decks of pressed layers of wood, similar to the skateboard decks of today. During this time, skateboarding was seen as something to do for fun after surfing.

One day when I was out with my friends having a street skating session, we started the day, bright and cheery with a lot of tricks with 'steeze' (style with ease in skateboarding terms) in our moves. The police or security did not disturb us on the ground floor of One Raffles Place. It is a place where skateboarders come together and meet while having an enjoyable session. I was learning how to put in a new trick that was a Backside 180. It was one of the intermediate beginner tricks that can help us put down the basics of amateur tricks which would be much more complicated. When one of the skaters approached me, he gave me tips on how to put in the tricks with ease and when I listened to his tips, I tried to perform it and I unlocked the Backside 180 trick. I was so confident with it, I tried going down a small set of three steps and managed to do it in three tries. With this, I could tell that I was doing well on and it would be a great skate session that day.


My friend recommended me a skate spot which was The Cenotaph War Memorial at Raffles Place. I was quite interested in trying to skate there so my friends and I packed our bags and quickly skated over to the memorial. We reached within 10 minutes because the location was nearby. When I saw the memorial, I was quite amazed that people would make it a skate spot knowing that it is a war memorial, a place where people visit to remember those who sacrificed their lives for the country. Once I arrived, I noticed that the memorial had 5 big steps that could each be skated on. I started my warm up with the first step which was not that high and I got to Ollie down it to gauge the impact of it, slowly I went up to the second which was a bit higher than the first and more challenging as I did not have much confidence in myself but I still ended up pushing myself on to complete the second step.

I decided to move on the fourth and skip the third as I thought it would not make a major difference of impact with the second. I took my time out to decide a different trick, instead of doing an Ollie why

not do a Backside 180 off the fourth step since I just unlocked the trick, and also if I managed to put it down it would be one of the greatest achievements of my skating days. It was quite hard for me to have a good run up as the step was quite narrow but if I made a slight curve, I would hit my heel on the next step and throw myself forward. I did my first run up and I bailed, causing me to jump off the whole step, and having my board roll onto the road. I had landed wrongly. I rolled in pain as my left previously injured ankle hit the step. My friends picked me up and told me to sit by the side and rest before coming back whenever I thought I was ready to.

I took 30 minutes to rest but my ankle was still hurting. I still had faith in myself fortunately to beat the four steps. So, I went up and reminded myself that, "Commitment is key to completing everything. Without commitment nothing can be done". I started my run-up fast! It gave me less time to prepare my foot position but I managed to put it in place. When I came to the tip of the step, I quickly popped my board and did a Backside 180. Once I landed, all my friends and skaters, and even those who did not know me cheered for me. I felt pride in myself for doing something that I thought I could not do. On that day, I learned to always have at least the slightest faith and commitment to myself because gradually it would push me to do something gnarly. This is my success story.

Muhammad Ikram
Class 4A4



I have seen many successful people who have become influential people with the power to change the world. People like Michelle Obama, Bill Gates and George Clooney. These people underwent different difficulties and challenges on their road to success. They experienced tough times and negativity but these were also the times when they got to know more about themselves through their mistakes and problems.

I love music, I truly do. I even learned the music of Beethoven as he is my favorite composer. His music is very different. Although it is classical music, it is soothing and relaxing and I find it meaningful. It is like feeling alive when listening to his music. You think about yourself, the present and the future when you play the musical pieces. I have especially enjoyed playing the piano since I was young. I admired and watched shows featuring talented pianist and I was inspired to learn how to play the piano. Although it was tiring and difficult for me to learn and memorise the piano keys and notes, I did not give up and pursued my goal. Eventually I managed to play a few simple songs.

When I was in primary school, there was a music program that allowed students to learn their desired musical instrument. I signed up for the program and learned about playing the piano. It helped me become more knowledgeable about the piano and I learnt to play different songs. I enjoy playing the piano but it is sometimes a challenge to find the time especially when the examinations are coming as I have more and more homework as well as revision to do. I might not be able to play the piano as often as I would like to but one thing about this musical journey of mine is that it has taught me to not give up and do what makes me happy. So whenever I am tired, I play the piano as it relaxes and calms me down.

Learning to play the piano was not an easy thing for me. I had to remember the notes to be able to play the musical pieces by memory. I had to master each musical piece before I could move on to playing more difficult pieces. In conclusion, success is not so much about the result but about the process that we have to go through to achieve that success.

Tracy Yeo
Class 4A4

“You can either use your disadvantages as an excuse or do something about it.” These words, which were said by my Mathematics teacher, Mr Ong, were the reason I chose not to give up. It was the reason why I was able to do well in my examinations with only one arm! Even though the odds were against me and it seemed impossible, with the help and support from my family, teachers and friends, I overcame the challenges and the results were worth it. This experience taught me many valuable lessons.


Back in 2017, it was my streaming year. Examinations were around the corner. Unfortunately due to a clumsy act, I had fractured my left arm in a friendly match of Softball. I was immediately rushed to the hospital. It was a miracle that the doctors were able to straighten my left arm but as the X-ray results showed that there was a crack in my bone, I had to wear a cast to ensure that the fracture healed properly. That was bad news for me as the cast covered most of my left arm and it hindered my movements. That meant I had to depend entirely on my right arm.

The examinations were in three weeks and I had to wear the cast for two months. The cast was a huge burden! Without the use of both my arms, I could not even do basic things at home without having one of my family members helping me. They had to help me put on my clothes and shower me. I could not even have a good night sleep because I was not able to lie down on the bed properly.

Things in school were not any better. My friends had to help me open my bag, open my pencil case, buy me food and carry my things. They even had to help me put on my pants after I used the toilet which was very embarrassing! Normally during lessons I could keep up and be on task. However, having to depend on only one arm really changed everything.

The papers kept moving around. I could not draw a straight line and even erase my mistakes on the paper. I was particularly worried about my mathematics and art examinations. Without my left arm, I could not do a graph nor draw. No matter how hard I tried, the results were still the same. Failure! I just had to accept that I might not get promoted.

With a heavy heart, I shared with Mr Ong my thoughts. Mr Ong looked at me and spoke in a calm tone. He told me that I was not even trying and that I was using my left arm as an excuse. He told me that not every solution could be easily seen. I had to look at things from different angles and be creative.



I thought about what Mr Ong said. I could not draw on the paper as the paper would move around. I needed something heavy to hold it down. Then I had an idea. I used a heavy book and placed it on my paper. It worked! I was able to draw and erase with ease. Then I tried using the same method to draw a straight line by placing the heavy book on the ruler. It worked again. I knew that I could not bring a book to the examination hall so I asked my parents for a paperweight. I even requested to have extra time during the examinations.

Soon it was time to take my examinations. My friends accompanied me to the examination hall and wished me all the best. I was nervous but at the same time eager to try. The examinations went smoothly and for the first time ever, I actually felt happy taking them. A week flew by and the examinations were finally over. I could not believe that I had just taken my examinations with only one arm! My art examination result was decent but I got a distinction in my mathematics! That meant I could take Additional Mathematics as a subject the following year.

This experience has taught me that nothing is impossible. I learnt that to achieve success, we must persevere and put in the effort. If the solution is not clear, look at another angles and be creative. Never give up! Though this incident happened five years ago, I still remember it. It reminded me that anyone could be successful and achieve their goal if they put in the effort.

Almu'tasim Billah B Alaina B B
Class 4E2

I still remember vividly my first Co Curriculum Activity (CCA) session. I was in Secondary 1 when I first joined the National Cadet Corps (NCC) as my CCA. The seniors had conducted an introduction for us, the Secondary 1s. It is still clear in my head. I remember, a senior asking me, “What do you want to be in the future, in NCC?”


Without hesitation, I exclaimed loudly, “I want to be a good....cadet!” Everybody in the classroom burst into laughter because of the way I said it.

During the first two years in NCC, I always looked up to my seniors. I admired how they issued instructions, commands and the way they led, with a great sense of humour. I aspired to be like them or become even better than them. It was during my second year in NCC when I realised I wanted to lead the company in anyway possible. I wanted to achieve a Distinction for Unit Recognition (UR) for my company.

In 2017, I attended many courses. Only a few volunteered or selected cadets were able to go for the courses. It was an honour for me to be chosen for some of the courses. In 2018, I realised it was the year the platoon I was in was going to lead the company in a few months'. That was when I became passionate about showing to my seniors and the teachers that I wanted to be one of the leaders. I had to step up, volunteer and take the initiative in helping the seniors, teachers and my platoon mates when they were in need, during CCA training. It was a tough fight as there were many of my platoon mates who showed more of the same amount of passion as I did during CCA training. During training the seniors gave pep talks to my platoon mates and I, as we were going to take over from them. Later that year they announced our leadership roles, for the camp that we were going to organise.

Before the seniors stepped down, they announced who was going take over the leadership roles. One by one, names were called. I was shaking. I did not know what to expect. After the other names were called, I was surprised when my Teacher Officer called out my name. I had been appointed as the Unit Sergeant Major (USM) of the company. From then on I was one step closer to achieving the goal I had.

My group of appointment holders and I had to plan the training for the company and had to give instructions and commands to our respective platoons. It was difficult at first, commanding and talking to the whole company. Training after training, not only did I have to improve in confidently commanding the company but also the appointment holders, who had their respective platoons to command. I became



more socially confident when talking to my juniors and teachers. During CCA sessions, while training we would observe each platoon or cadet. After a tiring day, we would all stay back and have debriefs, where we shared our opinions and the pros and cons of things we went through during each CCA session.

Throughout the training we believed that my appointment holders and I, had an innovative spirit. We encouraged each other and the juniors during physical training and drill sessions. There were days when we wanted to give up. We held on and had a positive mindset towards training. We had games incorporated into training sessions so that the juniors would not get bored.

There were many challenges but we faced them together. During morning assembly, the announcer announced that other uniform groups had achieved Gold for their unit. I knew that the results for my NCC unit would be coming, too. At one of the debrief sessions, my teacher officer sat down with us. I whispered to myself, "I know its coming."

She said she had something important to tell us. It was about the results for our Unit Recognition. I was trembling but was also excited to know the results. She exclaimed "We got gold!" It was as if a great weight had been lifted off my shoulders and I let out a sigh of relief.

Through this journey I have learnt that it takes a good environment and great people around you, to give you the support you need to achieve your goals. I had an amazing group to handle the company with. After many obstacles, we faced them together, united as one.

Naufal Aqeel B Musannif
Class 4E2

The success I'm most proud of since joining this school is gaining an innovative spirit. I've been given multiple opportunities to collaborate with others, exchange ideas and learn how to better improve myself in terms of problem-solving efficiency and learning to compromise.

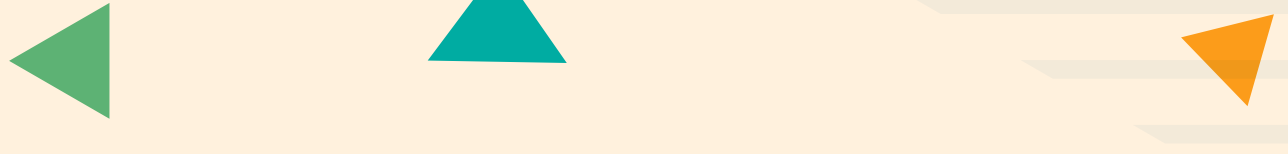
Being an artistic person, I've been given certain projects that require designing, like designing a class T-shirt or doing class decorations. As I did more design projects, I learnt designing along the way: how designing does not only require artistic inclinations but the ability to make something look appealing. It also requires communication skills and organisation skills.

In the design process of a class T-shirt, I had to ask the whole class what they wanted to be included in the shirt design and what colour they preferred. Subsequently, I would collate all these ideas and discuss with my team how to incorporate everyone's ideas into the shirt so that everyone would like it. Then, I would allocate the jobs of designing the shirt design, finding a shirt vendor, and collecting money from the class. During this process, naturally, we had disagreements on things like the design, which made me feel frustrated as it slowed down our efficiency. However, we managed to resolve this by compromising on a class logo to put on our class T-shirt which represented our entire class.

After agreeing on the design, sometimes I would encounter more problems: the budget. I would be stuck between changing the design drastically and blowing the constraints of the budget given to us. I used to think of extravagant designs and end up busting the budget, then I learnt from my mistakes and thought of ways to make simple designs that are cheaper but appealing nonetheless.

As I did more collaborative design projects like class decorations and CCA T-shirt designs, I learnt how to rely on not only my own ability but others' as well. I reminded myself to ask others for help and not take all the responsibility and stress. 'You can do anything, but not everything.' I also found happiness serving others. When my peers received their T-shirts they looked immensely proud to own it, as we had designed it through collaborative team effort.

Angeles Yszelle Aien Advincula
Class 4E3



Every year, the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) would hold camps to train the Secondary 3 cadets to become leaders and welcome the Secondary 1s. Usually, whenever I participate in camps, I would find it boring as the games are often the same and repetitive. However, this year, the Secondary 4s had to plan for the whole camp and I was in charge of a game.

I felt excited yet anxious as it was the first camp that I was going to plan. Lots of ideas filled my mind after hearing that I was going to organise a game. I was ambitious and decided to take a risk by organising a game that my CCA mates were not familiar with which I hoped my juniors would enjoy. My group and I worked hard planning the game but there were many glitches along the way. Our teacher said that the game was too confusing and that there was limited manpower and space then.

Upon hearing this, my group and I felt very dejected as we had high hopes for our idea. Nonetheless, we persevered with our idea and took the advice. We worked closely and experimented the game on ourselves, which really brought out our innovative spirit. We managed to improve our game to become less confusing for others. We asked many people for their suggestions and based on the feedback we changed a bit of the layout of the game.

In the end, our game was a success! We managed to meet the objectives of the game and everybody had fun. From this experience, I learned to be responsible and positive about the things we do.


Low Jia Xuan
Class 4E3

Thomas Fowell Buxton once said, “With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable.” Once I thought that this was merely a quote that would not have any significance in my life whatsoever but after going through the Nanyang Polytechnic Swensen’s Ice Cream Competition, I slowly started to understand its meaning.

During my food and nutrition lesson, my teacher had asked who wanted to join the ice-cream competition. My friends and I decided to participate as we were interested and had the greatest desire to try something new that did not involve lessons and exams. The following week, the three of us and Miss Shuhadah went to Suntec City Convention Centre to collect ingredients and to search for inspiration for our ice cream. Together, my teammates and I read the rules and criteria of the competition and all of us felt pressured and petrified. Could we actually do this?

On our first meet-up, we brainstormed on ideas based on the criteria of the competition. We searched multiple websites, books and other creations just to come up with a fresh new creation of our own. During the November holidays, I came back to school and started practising and generating ideas for the competition. I was determined to win as this might be a chance for me to show my creativity and innovative spirit. On our first few tries of making the ice cream, we failed a couple of times and my desire to win slowly deteriorated as I was losing hope. But seeing my friends and Miss Shuhadah persevering, I got myself together and started to think of different ways we could make it work. Our innovative spirit was tested to the maximum as we struggled to generate new ideas. A few days later, the competition started and we were all feeling apprehensive. There were many other schools, the ones with good reputation and high standards, and then there was us. We were overwhelmed by their presence. At the end of the competition, we were shortlisted for the finals. We were all ecstatic!

As the day of the final round of the competition got closer and closer, we were all petrified. We did not have the time to practise due to our busy school schedule. But whenever I had the time, I would think of creative and exceptional ways to plate our ice cream. I would then share my ideas with the others so that we could amend the ideas according to the criteria together. Two days before the competition, we gathered and tried out different plating ideas and came up with an idea we had never tried before. We knew it was a huge risk to take but we decided to step up to the challenge. On the day of the



competition itself, we were surrounded by confident-looking competitors and there we were, helpless, worried and anxious about our plating. When the competition finally started, we did all the basic ice-cream making and prepared our plating which was a bowl made of chocolate. The first three plating ideas were somewhat appealing but when we got to the final plate, the chocolate bowl broke. Our hopes and motivation at that moment, disappeared. We were on the brink of giving up but we had no choice anyway. We had to present our ice cream to the judges.

As we entered the judging room, the looks of the judges made us feel frightened. I summoned all the energy and courage that I had left in me and explained our ice-cream creation. A little hope sparked in me as the amused and interested faces of the judges appeared when they listened to my explanation and tasted the ice cream. An hour later, all the competitors were called to the next room as they were going to announce the winners of the competition. By then, we were feeling upset and thought that we had no chance at all. We did not bother to listen as we knew that we would not win anyway. To our surprise, we were the final winners! I had never been so overjoyed in my whole life! It was like a whole new world, a world of hope.

We, including Miss Shuhadah, were extremely proud of ourselves. Our innovative spirit and perseverance had led us to an unexpected success. This experience had taught me the importance of being innovative and patient with all the things we do.

Sharifah Inshirah Al-faqeh
Class 4E3

I am a Secondary Four student from Loyang View Secondary School. In these four years, many things have come and gone. From the many activities I have had, many successes have been achieved, the most memorable of which is Farmers' Market.

Farmers' Market is an activity that is held yearly. Throughout the year, the Secondary One to Three students have to grow and maintain a certain type of crop assigned to them. Once grown, the crops will be harvested and the students will have to sell them along with other items they would like to sell such as snacks, stuffed toys and much more to raise funds for the needy.


Together with our crop of kailan, we decided to sell popcorn and stuffed toys. We decided to sell these items as not only parents are allowed to participate but they are allowed to bring their children. Since children like a lot of snacks and toys, we had wanted to interest them in persuading their parents to buy these for them.

However there were certain complications. A lot of people did not want to walk around so they did not notice our set-up and many other classes had the same ideas as us. Moreover not a lot of people wanted to buy the vegetables. This got me frustrated. On the flip side, we were able to come up with solutions.

Since a lot of the people at the Farmers' Market did not want to walk around, a group of four of my classmates were sent out to walk about and sell the items to the people who did not come to our stall. We had planned to not sell the items that other classes had at first. Then when the other classes ran out, people would have to come to our stall. These ideas worked quite well.

Farmers' Market had allowed me to achieve success in many areas. Not only did we have to grow the crop ourselves, this activity bore resemblance to real-world businesses, where we would have to compete with one another and outsmart others in order to succeed. I have always wanted to succeed in the field of business and Farmers' Market has allowed me to get a taste of it. This is my success story.

Vikram Rajendran
Class 4E3



Since young, I have always loved drawing. It was something which made me feel at ease and which allowed me to express myself without words. I am quite a shy person and at times, I feel awkward in the presence of others, especially when I need to talk to strangers. But, when I am sketching, I do not need words. I do not need to guess what people actually mean. Some people wear masks. They do not mean what they say in public. That makes me feel very uncomfortable. When I am sketching, I am in a world all by myself. I feel very carefree.

It was in Secondary Three when I learnt more about designing new clothes and dresses by watching YouTube and reading fashion magazines. That made me very keen on design. Before long, I wanted to explore design as a future career choice. I started doodling in my free time, on a daily basis. By the end of the year, I started sketching dresses. I learnt about the different types of fabrics used on clothes. I also learnt to match colours by using the colour wheel.

When I showed my designs to my cousins and my family members, they revealed that I had a flair in design. I love to design clothes which allow the wearer to feel at ease and which allows them to move freely, like the wind. I researched for the meaning of colours and took inspiration from famous designers, trying to see if I could use some of their ideas on my own dresses. I was very flattered when my cousins and my family members shared with me that my sketches looked very appealing. They are most keen to be my customers in the future when they are looking for elegant gowns or even wedding dresses. That buoyed me with hope. In life, all of us have different pathways. Some of us are talented in our studies. Some of us are more skilled with our hands. I may be the latter. I will work hard to fulfil my dream of becoming a fashion designer of women's dresses.

Jess Low Zhi Xiu
Class 4T1

A large teal triangle pointing to the right, containing the text "PASSION FOR LEARNING".

**PASSION
FOR LEARNING**

A background pattern of light blue hexagons, some containing a small circle, creating a molecular or network-like structure.A small teal triangle pointing upwards, located in the upper right quadrant of the image.A graphic consisting of two overlapping triangles: a green one on top and an orange one on the bottom, both pointing to the right, located in the lower right quadrant of the image.A small graphic consisting of two overlapping triangles: a teal one on top and an orange one on the bottom, both pointing to the right, located in the bottom right corner of the image.

Watching cooking shows on television and internet is always fun, and I have always wanted to learn how to cook ever since I was young. However, I have never learnt to cook anything except for cooking instant noodles. The first time I started cooking was in Secondary one.

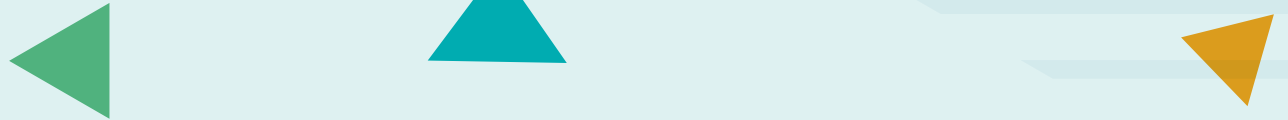
During my first Food and Consumer Education (FCE) lesson when I walked into the kitchen, I was so excited and couldn't wait to start as this was the first time I got to cook. My FCE teacher told the class that we would be cooking macaroni and cheese the next day.

When we came to class, the following day, my teacher gave us the instructions on how to cook. It was really complicated because there were many steps to memorise like which ingredient to add first and how long we had to cook it.

When we started cooking, it was not as simple as it looked when my teacher demonstrated earlier. Luckily, I had a partner to help me when I was unsure. I had trouble with the stove because I wasn't switching it on the correct way. The cheese almost melted even though I had not even started cooking it.

After the lesson, even though it was tough and the food didn't really taste that good, I was still proud of myself for having cooked the Macaroni and Cheese dish.

Ang Huey Shin Doreen
Class 1A1



My story of success in school is from last year. I was 12 years old and in Primary 6, the year I had to take the final examinations known as the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE). Over the previous 5 years, I had been getting bad grades for all my subjects. Although I had not given up on my studies, I felt that my efforts were all for nothing when I got my Primary 5 final examination grades. They were really bad.

Since Primary 1, I had struggled academically. When my teachers told me that I was slow, I did not understand what they meant as I was still very young. When I was in Primary 5, I wanted to give up studying. Fortunately, my teacher did not let me quit. Every day, she would force me and my class to stay back. Over the days, weeks and months, I improved and became one of the average students in terms of studying.

When it was finally time to take my PSLE, I did my best. I managed to obtain an aggregate score of 169. I was very proud of myself. I thanked my family, friends and teachers. I had learnt to do my best even during the worst of times.

Unfortunately, I could not get into the school that I had always wanted to go to. Nevertheless, I will continue to work hard to achieve my goals in the future.

Muhamad Azri
Class 1A1

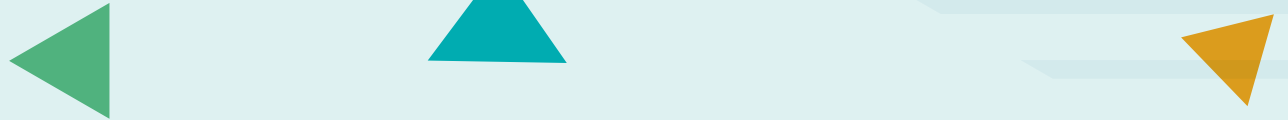
In primary school, I had always failed my mathematics examinations starting from when I was in Primary 3. No matter how hard I studied, I would always fail. Mathematics was my weakest subject aside from Chinese until I went to secondary school.

When I started learning mathematics in secondary school, I finally got the hang of it and understood most of the concepts. Although I still failed some of the mini tests during class, I had managed to understand the topics that were being taught in class.

One fine day, the report books were handed out to everyone in the class. I looked at all of my results and screamed excitedly when I saw that I had finally passed my mathematics. I was really surprised that I had passed after all those years of failing mathematics. I had actually lost all hope. When I reached home, I quickly took out my report book and showed it to my mother. When she saw the results, she hugged me and told me how proud she was of me.

I was finally no longer disappointed with my mathematics results and was actually proud of myself. I had always wanted to pass my mathematics and I had finally accomplished it. Ever since then, I have always worked hard to pass my mathematics to make my parents proud.

Nur Eliza
Class 1A1



My first day in Loyang View Secondary School was quite fun, especially the Secondary one Orientation camp.

Weeks later, the co-curricular activity (CCA) trials started. When the floorball trials started, I tried my best to be selected as that was the CCA I wanted. When I found out that I was shortlisted, I was really happy.

When the teacher-in-charge announced that there was a Youth Floorball League (YFL) competition and C-Division matches, I was all ears. I knew I wanted to be part of the team, so I listened carefully to the coach during training and played my best during friendly matches. I also worked on my stick work every day for about ten minutes.

I felt nervous when the competition started. Our opponents were taller and stronger than us, and in the end, we lost the match. Despite the loss, I was proud of myself as I had given my best during the match.

Through all of this, I learnt to work with my friends and to communicate with them. I also learnt how to control the ball and pass the ball to the shooting side of the person.

Faris Bin Razali
Class 1A1

Mastering a new skill is a natural process of growing up to become more successful.

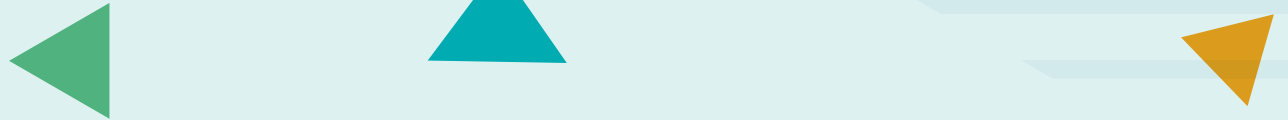
I decided, one day, to learn something new and exciting for my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA). It was my first experience at “Modern Dance” in Loyang View Secondary School. When the CCA sessions started, I never knew there were so many different and amazing dance moves. Dancing has become part and parcel of my life since then.

Dancing with friends is the best thing I have ever done in my CCA. My friends and I have learnt so many new dance moves. I have wondered: Why did I choose to dance? Why did I want to master new skills like modern dancing? I think, it is because I just want to feel happy and proud to be able to do such amazing things. It is also important to dance because we can make someone happy just by letting them watch a beautiful dance.

If you have a chance to perform, you’ll get what I mean. Just a simple dance can make a thousand people smile at you.

This is why mastering a new skill, like dancing, is important. Joining the Modern Dance Club at Loyang View Secondary School has given me so much happiness.

Irdina Binte Ahmad Bashir F M
Class 1A1



What is success? Success to me is achieving something that you had wanted for quite some time. My success story started when I was in Primary 4. I kept failing my mathematics and science. It was that same year that I thought to myself that I needed to stop failing those two subjects to get through my Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) and get to the secondary school of my choice.

When I started Primary 5 after the December holidays, I knew that I had to stop being playful and start focusing when my teacher was teaching. I made myself a timetable to stick to everyday after school to make sure I balanced my studies with my gaming time. After being more focused in class and balancing my time better, I realised that it was working. I started getting good results for my CA and SA.

I continued do this all the way up to my PSLE. I was so nervous when it came to my mathematics and science papers. After the whole examinations was over, I realised that there was nothing to worry about as long as I studied hard and believed in myself.

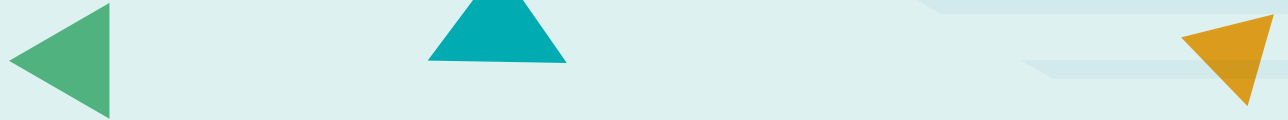
Jana Jeremy S/O Sukumaran
Class 1A1

My success story is about my school hockey team winning the championships. My hockey team had been losing to a school in Pasir Ris as they had really good players in their team. We only managed to come in either 2nd or 3rd. We all decided to work hard for our next competition, staying up till 11 pm to practice. We would meet at McDonalds to discuss how to beat our opponents. We figured out all their moves and planned to use it against them.

The day of the match finally arrived. We have trained our butts off for this moment and we all knew what the opponents were going to do. After the first half, we were winning by 2 goals. We had no energy left and were really tired. Although we tried to do our best, our opponents managed to equalise in the second half. It was in the final 10 seconds of the match that I had the ball so I had no choice but to shoot from halfway. It was a miracle that my shot went in. It was a perfect goal. We had finally won against our opponents.

I learnt that all we had to do was to work hard and do our best as a team. It was not easy at all but we managed to do it. My teammates were so happy to win the championships and it was one of the most memorable things that has happened to me.

Goh Yuren, Jin
Class 1A1



Success is something that has so far not been within my reach. I am the third of 3 sons in my family.

From when I started school, I have always envied my brothers. They were way better than me academically. I did not receive any awards, distinctions or straight As in my studies. That was my life for a long time. I was always last in the family. I felt overshadowed and weak. In primary school, my first examination hit me like a bus. I failed all my subjects. When I reached home, I cried, “Why am I so useless! I am not as good as my brothers!”

This continued throughout primary school as I only managed an aggregate score of 145 in my Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE). It was the same in secondary school but something was different, I saw a glimmer of light. I learnt the phrase “Learn till you understand.” It hit me. My brothers and I were no different after all. I finally understood. I told myself that I had been foolish not to have realised that earlier.

Success is based on hard work. I finally saw that my brothers had achieved their success through hard work. Now, I work hard to achieve the success I want. So far I am doing quite well. I realise that only with time and the blood, sweat and tears that come from hard work will I be able to be successful.

Low Kai Ruan
Class 1A1

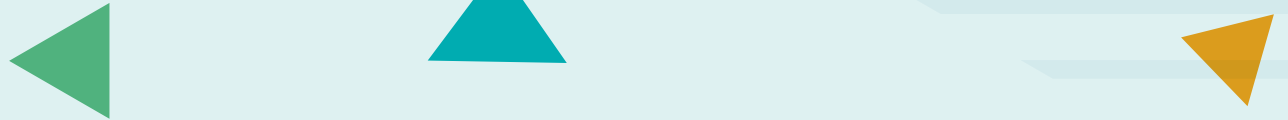
My first wish in Loyang View Secondary School was to be part of the floorball team. When the co-curricular activity (CCA) trials started, I paid attention to the floorball ones. On the day of the trials, I tried my best to be selected as that was the only CCA I wanted to join. Being an active and energetic person, I could easily perform whatever task that was given. Although I felt that I had a good chance of being selected, when the actual selection list came out, I was still really happy to have been shortlisted.

Every floorball session was exciting for me as I could unleash my excess energy on the game. When I heard of the Youth Floorball League, I knew I wanted to be part of the team taking part in it. From that time on, I paid attention to the coach's instructions and trained tirelessly. Eventually, I managed to be part of the school team.

When the competition started, I felt nervous as our opponents were taller and stronger than us. In the end, we lost the match. Despite the loss, I was proud of myself as I had given off my best during the match.

These matches and training sessions allowed me to work with my friends. I also learnt how to control the ball and pass the ball accurately to my teammates.

Luzman Afiq Bin Mohamad Aidil
Class 1A1



I sighed while looking at my report book. My classmates and I had just got our report books for Term One. While all of them were talking about how happy they were with their marks, I was actually quite disappointed with mine.

After staring at my report book for a few minutes, I heard Ms Natalie call my name. I went to her table and stood there. "Nuri, I know that you are very disappointed with your marks. You have been staring at your report book for a while now," Ms Natalie said. "You are a really smart girl and I know you can do better for Term Two," she added. "Thank you Ms Natalie," I said with a smile.

That evening, I went home and reflected on my results. I started studying harder since that time. Even when I did not know how to answer any of the questions, I would still try my best to answer them.

When my examinations were approaching, I started to revise what I have learnt in school. I would ask my mother for help if the questions were too hard for me.

After the Term Two examinations were done, I finally got my report book back. I was so happy with my results. I am proud of myself for improving in most of my subjects.

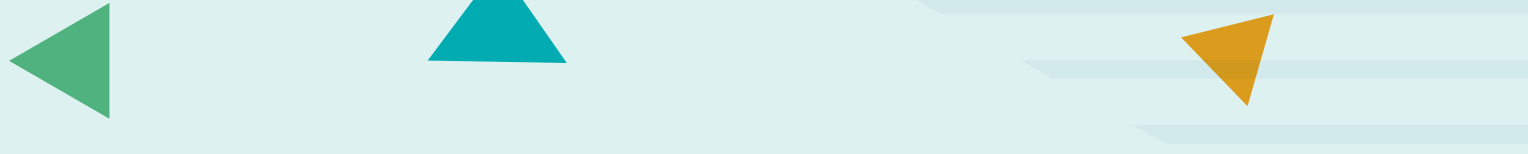
Nuri Eriquisha
Class 1A1

When I was in primary 6, I was scared of the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE). I was afraid that I was going to fail the examinations and be retained for another year. So I set myself a goal of 160 for my aggregate score. But I did not study as hard as I thought I would. I just paid more attention in class. I tried to learn fractions by myself but unfortunately, it did not work. So I had to think of another way to learn. The day before the mathematics examination, I asked my friend to teach me. I was very lucky that I had a friend who was amazing at mathematics!

The next day I had my Mathematics Paper 1 and Paper 2. Paper 1 was easy since it was only multiple choice but Paper 2 was very hard and I skipped most of the questions. When I got Paper 1 and Paper 2 back, I was not shocked to see that I got an E for mathematics. The next few examinations for the other subjects went smoothly. They were not as hard as the mathematics examination. In the end, I got a C for English and Science, and a B for Chinese. I was very surprised at my marks for Science. I did not think that I would get a C since I was never good in Science.

My total aggregate score was 164, which meant that I had passed my goal by 4 marks! I knew that I could have done even better if I had studied harder in primary 5. I was very lazy and immature then. I had not realised how important studies were and that doing well in my studies could benefit me in the future. Now I do.

Raine Ng
Class 1A1



It was the day we were going to choose our Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)! Uncertain about which CCA to choose, I decided to join the school's Symphonic Band. Some of my friend's followed suit. A few days after choosing a CCA, I was told that I had been accepted. I was happy and excited! At the same time, I was nervous as I did not know what was going to happen.

The next day, we went to the Performance Theatre where we were assigned our instruments to join the Junior band. The whole band entered the Performance Theatre and all our seniors were looking at us. This made me more nervous as we sat on the floor. The instructor stepped in and introduced himself. Then he assigned each of us to an instrument section. Some went to percussion, woodwinds and brass. I got chosen to play the trombone which was part of the brass section.

After being assigned to our sections, we then split up and went to our sections to meet our seniors. They then introduced themselves and taught us how to use the trombone. When I first played my first few notes, it didn't go as well as I had expected. The seniors then encouraged me to do much better. After many days of hard work and practice, I finally mastered those few notes. I was so proud of myself.

Reuben Chye
Class 1A1

Success comes in a variety of ways. It can be something big like starting a business, becoming a lawyer, or inventing something astounding or it could be something small like cooking a simple dish, helping your parents with chores and handing in homework on time.

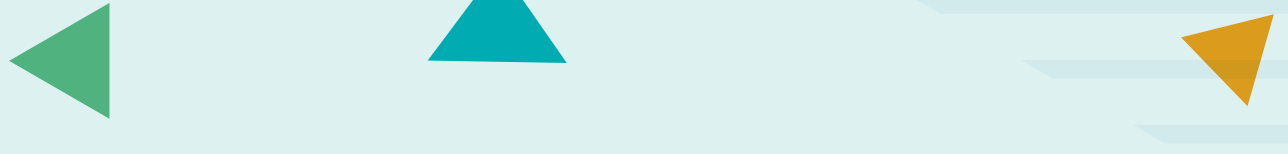
My story success of success is when I passed my Primary School Leaving Examination, better known as PSLE.

It was just days before the examinations started. I was not necessarily nervous, nor did I take it too lightly. I did study, but only a little bit, much lesser than anyone else I assumed. Nevertheless, the examinations were inevitable and everybody had to face it and I was no exception.

When the day arrived, I actually started feeling nervous. I kept thinking about what would happen if I failed? Would things be any different? Would my future be determined by some grades on a piece of paper? Only a few weeks later would I get to know my fate.

The day finally arrived for the results. I had managed to scrape through my PSLE. The tension in me died down, I felt relieved. I had succeeded in passing the PSLE.

Wallace Teo
Class 1A1



What is success? Success is about fulfilling your dreams. I managed to experience success for my Secondary 1 mid-year examinations in which I got 4 A1s. I felt a sense of achievement looking at my report book after receiving those results. At the start of the year, I planned on getting good grades so that I could make my family proud and could switch to the Express stream.

But some people have asked me why I wanted to switch to the Express stream? The reason for that is because in the Express stream, it would be easier to go to the Polytechnic. Achieving these grades would not have been possible without my father having signed me up for mathematics tuition every Sunday as secondary school mathematics is harder. This was not the first time he had helped me. He signed me up for tuition till I managed to get the “Best Progress” award when I was in Primary 4 for which I received a trophy from my Principal. When I was in Primary 5, I received an Edusave award and now I had received another from my Principal at the end of Term 2. These are definitely some of the happiest moments of my life.

Lastly I would like to thank all my subject teachers for helping me and my father for signing me up for tuition. I would also like to thank myself for paying attention in school and in tuition. Without the hard work and commitment, I would definitely not have received all these awards.

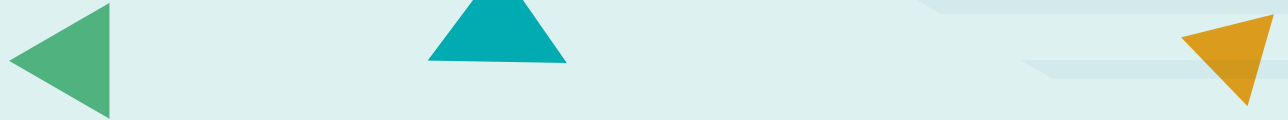
Wayne Teo
Class 1A1

What is success? Success to most people is to be top of the class, but success to me is something different.

When I was in primary school, I was diagnosed with dyslexia. This means that I had difficulty in learning to read or interpret words, letters and other symbols but does not affect my general intelligence. However, it did affect my results as I failed all my subjects except for PE and Art. Because of my poor results, I took extra classes which meant I could not participate in other more fun activities. One year after I started extra classes, my results showed that I had barely improved. I was starting to question if the extra classes were even necessary. However, in Primary 4 I began to see small successes like not failing most of my subjects. But one thing changed it all for me when I scored the highest in my class for science.

This continued in Secondary school as I did pretty well in all my subjects especially science. I hope it will stay that way.

Wynsen Teo
Class 1A1



“Every success story always starts with a failure.” My story starts with me failing my mathematics. I had been failing my mathematics for the past few years.

Even when I studied hard for all my mathematics tests and exams, I would fail. Every time I got my report book, I was always disappointed with my results. When it was time for my big test in Secondary 1, I was not really ready but I believed I could pass. After the test, I was so nervous as I thought that I would fail.

After two weeks, I finally got my test paper back. When I saw the mark, I screamed with happiness. I had finally passed my mathematics. I went home and showed my mom and she was so proud of me.

Muhammad Nur Zakwan
Class 1A1

What is success? Success to some may be achieving something great or winning a competition. But to me, success is getting on the right track. I remember the story very clearly in my head. Let me tell you my success story.

In Primary school, I used to flunk my examinations badly, especially mathematics. All the calculations and problem solving always made my head ache. In fact, I did not like mathematics. On top of that, my parents kept changing tutors for me whenever I failed. The mathematics tuition did not help me at all! Instead my grades dropped further. My Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) mathematics grade was an E which was somehow a fail. I used to get a C or a D. The drastic change in my result made my parents and I extremely worried.

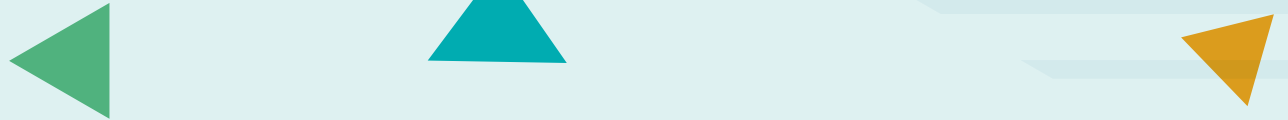
Being in Secondary one this year, the subjects have gotten harder and harder. It is also hard to manage my time due to co-curricular activity (CCA) and tuition. So I decided not to have mathematics tuition anymore.

In Secondary one, my mathematics teacher, Miss Chew, is the best teacher ever. Although she is serious most of the time, she is understanding too. She explains the answers of the questions really well unlike my previous teachers. I bet that my classmates would agree with me.

When it was time for my weighted assessment, she put in a lot of effort to prepare us. Although she reprimands us sometimes, I know she means well. She likes to joke around with us. Whenever some of our class clowns told a joke, she would also join in and joke around with us. When I received my weighted assessment results, I found that I had improved.

I would like to give credit to Miss Chew for helping me improve. Thank you for teaching our class. We will improve day by day to make you proud of us! So that is my success story. I am so happy that I am improving day by day and being on the right track.

Ashlyn Teo Yu Xuan
Class 1A2



Success is not without failure. Success is what is earned and it is not given. It is only acquired when you work hard. Success could be as simple as helping someone with something small like helping your friend with their homework or it could be something like passing a test. For me, success is passing my test. But to be specific, it was a mathematics test, which was something I have not achieved since Primary 5.

When I was in Primary 5, I kept failing my mathematics tests. It was a subject I found really complicated. I also kept failing in Primary 6. Even in my Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE), I failed that as well. At that time, I just felt that it was a hopeless situation and that I would never pass mathematics!

So when I went to Secondary school, I had a weighted assessment for mathematics but as usual, I did not pass that. I felt that I had had enough and that I was done failing so I decided to work extremely hard for the next weighted assessment and to my amazement, I passed. I finally passed. So if you work really hard, I believe you can achieve your dreams.

Tan Guan Ting, Caden
Class 1A2

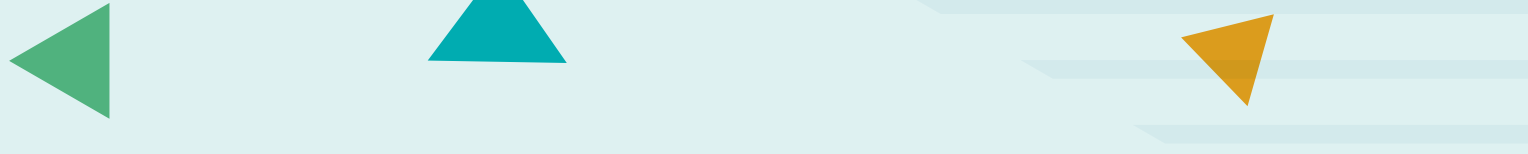
“Success, what does it mean?”. Everyone has their own definition of success, but to me it means achieving or accomplishing something you dream of or perhaps never thought you would achieve. Let me share with you my success story.

It was a cold Friday night. I was playing the PS4 with my good friend Syakir from 1A1. Syakir and I were thinking of the games we could play together and we came across Ark: Survival Evolved. It is a game about the prehistoric period when dinosaurs were still alive. Syakir had already bought the game so I decided to ask my dad to get it for me. I texted my dad who had gone out and waited for about 15 minutes until he responded with a picture of the game.

I was excited as Syakir and I could now play the game together. Later that night, my dad came home and came into my room and handed the game to me. Syakir told me that we should play tomorrow as it was already late and he was tired. So I downloaded the game overnight and played it the following day. When we started playing, I asked Syakir, “Can we tame a griffin?” and he replied “No, not on this server but on Ragnarok we can.” So Syakir and I continued our journey taming dinosaurs such as Triceratops, Therizinosaur, Ankylosaur and a fan favourite Velociraptor. A few days later we got raided. All our dinosaurs died and from that day onwards we quit the game. We went on to play other games but never seemed to have the mood to play Ark again.

Not until our friend Danish from 1T1 came back to playing the PS4 and bought Ark. Syakir and I were so excited as the last time we touched Ark was a year ago. When Danish played with us we got raided twice but we ended up transferring to Ragnarok. Not long after the transfer, we raided a tribe and killed their dinosaurs.

We decided to set up our base at a place where griffins spawned and after taming the dinosaurs to help defend our base, we tamed for each of us an Argentavis so that we could fly around the map. I named mine Vanilla as its feathers were as white as snow. After making progress we decided to tame the griffins. Syakir had to use Vanilla for some reason but I did not really care as he is more experienced than me and Danish so I trusted him. We managed to trap the griffin but Syakir said to tame the griffin a sacrifice had to be made so he left Vanilla in the trap and closed the gate. Vanilla was slowly dying.



Syakir tried to keep it alive by shooting the griffin with all his tranquilizer darts. The griffin was knocked out and Vanilla survived with 600 health points. People might think that is a lot of points but in this game it is not. It only needed to be hit about 3 more times and it would have died. I was so grateful that Vanilla survived. We ended up taming the griffin and named it flash. I never thought we were ever going to tame a griffin but we did.

I hogged the griffin by riding it everywhere I went. I had accomplished my dreams. We then tamed a T-rex which we did a few days later. We tamed it by tranquilizing it.

At the end of the June holidays, I was happy as I had tamed my favourite dinosaurs the griffin and the T-rex. I learned to never give up even after we got raided in Ragnarok after taming the griffin. Syakir, Danish and I now live on a raft at the border of the map happily with our dinosaurs.

Hafiz Ihsan Bin Haslan
Class 1A2

It was 2018 and I was in Primary 6. I was 12 years old then and was about to face the biggest examination of my life. It was called the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) and it would determine if I make it to secondary school. I was not really worried about my other subjects but only Mathematics. Mathematics has always been a challenge for me. I was always not able to pass that one subject that some people told me was the only subject where it was possible to get full marks if you really worked hard for it.

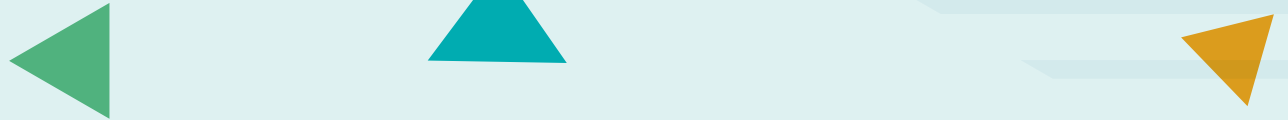
It was three months before the PSLE and I finally had Mathematics tuition. I only had two months of tuition. As expected I was still worried because it was kind of last minute.

It was the day of the Mathematics examination and I was really worried. The only thing I could do was to try to keep myself calm and pray that I would get just a pass. It was really nerve wrecking and words could not describe my feelings. Suddenly, the teacher in-charge picked up the microphone and started talking. She read out the necessary instructions and after that the teachers started giving out the Mathematics examination papers.

The teacher in-charge picked up the microphone again. She read out the instructions written on the paper and we began the examination. The first question was not too bad. It was not the easiest nor the hardest. I was stuck at many of the questions but managed to finish all the questions I knew. Time flew by past so fast that when I looked up, it was already twenty minutes before the examination ended. All of a sudden I figured out some of the question that I did not know how to do earlier. I did three of them in that twenty minutes. The examination ended and the teachers collected the paper. The day ended and most people were talking about the answers for the examination.

It was one week later and we were going to collect our results. We were lining up according to our register number and were just waiting anxiously. When it was my turn, I got up and prayed for a pass for my Mathematics paper and of course for my other subjects. I walked up to my teacher and saw my results. I was in total shock. I had gotten a B for my Mathematics and I looked at my parents excitedly. My teachers congratulated me and I went straight to my parents. They were so happy for me. Instead of getting just a pass, I had got a B. That is my success story.

Syed Ilham Syukri Albukharei
Class 1A2



It was the first day of the co-curricular activity (CCA) trials. My mind was blank as there were a lot of choices to choose from. During the netball trial, I thought that netball would be the best for me. When I was trying to score, I only managed to score two out of the five attempts. I was disappointed in myself and I knew that I would not be chosen so I decided not to include netball in my choices. When it was time for the Girl Guides trial, I thought that it would be the best for me. After hearing all the activities we would be doing, I was interested. I thought of putting that as my first choice but when I heard that there was Modern Dance, I decided to put Girl Guides as my second choice. When I went for the Modern Dance trial, I was excited as I love dancing.

When we were undergoing the dance trial, I felt nervous, but I knew that if I passed the trial, I would be able to continue dancing as I had been in Chinese Dance from Primary 1 to Primary 6. First, we did some warm-ups and then we started to learn the dance steps. The dance moves were difficult but I tried my best to learn the dance. After we completed the dance moves, it was time for the judges to see who would be selected. They gave us some time to practise the dance before judging us. When it was my turn to perform, I felt nervous as I was scared that I would forget the steps. After I finished performing, I felt happy. I hoped that I would be selected.

A few days later the results were out. I went to look and found that I had been selected for Modern Dance. I was on cloud nine and kept jumping around. When it was the first day of dance training, I was scared but excited at the same time. When I entered into the Dance Studio, it was big and nice. I knew it that Modern Dance was the right choice for me.

Teo Yifang, Jesslyn
Class 1A2

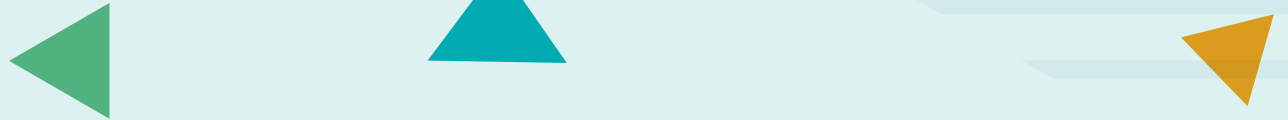
It was tough. It was tough picking a Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) as there were so many to choose from. There was Drama, NPCC, Infocomm Club and so many more. I was dead sure that I was going to pick Infocomm Club. It focused on what I liked to do. However, thanks to my friends, they introduced me to this CCA that I was not even considering, Band. I already had a clear impression of what band was. It was just playing instruments together; how hard could it be? To cut a long story short, my choices came down to either Infocomm Club or Band. It was a tough choice as my friends were pressuring me to join band but I really wanted to join Infocomm Club. After thinking hard about it and being under intense peer pressure, I decided that I would join the school's Symphonic Band.

When I first joined the Band, I didn't know what instrument I wanted to play, but ultimately, I decided on the saxophone. The saxophone is actually a very complicated instrument. It has twenty-three keys, and requires two different styles of breathing to produce a different sound, and to top it all off, it was extremely bulky and hard to maneuver. I'm not going to lie, for the first few weeks with my saxophone, I really struggled. It was a bit difficult and complicated to set up. I was also having trouble blowing the instrument properly. It got to the point where I asked my band teacher if I could transfer to another CCA. He told me I couldn't do that right now as all the other CCAs were full.

I felt like I had to make the best out of what I was given. So, week after week, I kept bringing home my instrument. I played every single day, be it night or day, rain or shine, except at night as the neighbors would complain. I still remember that day, when we had the whole band practicing together. After we had played, the band teacher did not nitpick on me like he always did; instead he was nitpicking on others. I thought, "Hey! Did I improve?"

I then asked my band teacher to evaluate my performance. He told me that he had never seen such growth and improvement in someone over five weeks. There were still some things I needed to work on, but overall, he was very impressed. I was ecstatic! I thought that my hard work had finally paid off. Now that it is the end of the semester, I feel like I have almost perfected my blowing technique. I can set up my instrument faster. I feel like I have mastered this instrument in its basic form. I know there is so much more I can learn but I will go along slowly. I now don't regret joining the Band and have mastered a new skill.

Jonah Tan Shi Liang
Class 1A2



My weakest subject was Mathematics. I was really weak at it as I found it hard paying attention in class during the lesson. It was really confusing and it made my brain hurt. I failed almost all of my Mathematics examinations. I have not passed Mathematics since Primary school. I barely made it in the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) but luckily I did better in the other subjects and was able to enter Secondary school.

My goal for 2019 was to pass my Mathematics weighted assessment. I did not care whether I got high marks or not, most importantly I just wanted to pass. I wanted to make my parents and myself happy. I told myself that if I could pass my weighted assessment then I would keep it up and aim to get higher marks next time around.

I stayed focused in class and worked as hard as I could. I also bought all the textbooks and revision worksheets. I even forced myself to ask my Mathematics teacher whenever I was not sure about any of the problems. I played with my mobile phone and computer for only a short period of time each day as social media and games were distracting me from giving my hundred percent in class.

Finally, after weeks of hard work, my weighted assessment came. I was not confident that I would pass but I told myself that I just had to try my best. I found the paper to be actually really easy. All the questions were what I had revised on.

The next day after our papers were marked, our teacher returned them to us. I was really speechless when I saw my marks. I had passed! I had finally done it! I had achieved my goals! I jumped with joy. When I went home and showed my parents my paper, they were really happy too. For me, this is the biggest thing that I have ever achieved.

Nur Dini Adriana
Class 1A1

“Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance and most of all, love of what you are doing.” That was what success meant to Pele, the famous footballer. To me, success means achieving a goal you strived for and looked forward to. My goal was to score higher for my Mathematics by the time I graduated from Primary school. Here is how it all began.

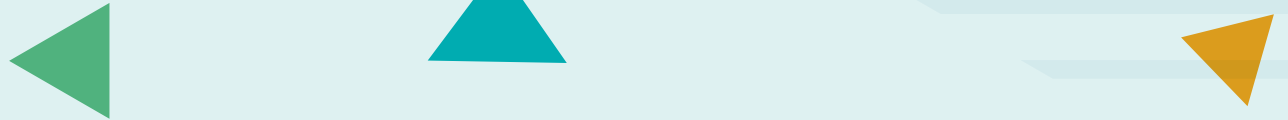
“Arissa! Get here and explain to me this nonsense this instant!”, my mother yelled at me. I dashed to the dining room and saw her expression. I stood there as she glared at me with her eyes piercing through me. Fortunately, that was in Primary 3. I had three more years to improve in my Mathematics in Primary school. I apologised to my mother for failing and begged her for another chance. She just rolled her eyes and stomped out of my sight.

Soon, the years passed and I was already in Primary 6. It was a big year for me as my Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) was coming in a few months’ time. I sighed as a new chapter was about to begin. I whispered under my breath, “Okay. It is a big year for you and you better make the people around you proud!” I promised myself to do better than in the previous years. It was a hectic year for me as there was a lot homework and projects. I studied hard and paid greater attention in Mathematics class.

Finally it was the PSLE period. I had no choice but to face my biggest fear. I was trembling in fear as I did not feel that I was ready for this moment. One after another, the papers were done. By the time the Mathematics paper came around, I felt brain dead. I was feeling anxious and empty-headed. I felt dizzy and was surrounded by fear and anxiety.

After my Mathematics paper, I was overwhelmed by strong feelings of negativity. I went home and cried silently to my mother as I was not confident of passing my Mathematics paper. My mother was sympathetic and tried to comfort me. I was also worried about my overall results. Soon, it was time to collect my results. I was astonished at my Mathematics results. In the end, I was glad that not only had I graduated but had succeeded in doing well in my Mathematics.

Nurarissa
Class 1A2



What is success? To me, success can mean anything related to what I had not dared to do at first or to achieve something that I have not been able to do before. For example, getting good academic results.

Starting from Primary one, I would usually pass all my subjects. Unfortunately, in Primary 3, my younger sister, Sylvia, joined my Primary school. She did well in all her subjects. I wanted to get full marks in at least two of my subjects so that I would get better results than her. I studied really hard but forgot more than half of what I had studied. When I got back my results, I had actually done badly. I gave up on studying after this incident. My parents and older siblings started comparing me with Sylvia. From then on, I hated Sylvia and whenever my family asked me to help Sylvia with her studies, I would say no.

After all those years of comparing my sister and I, I got really annoyed and told my parents that I no longer wanted to study hard. I did so in the hope that I could surprise them with a good set of results.

When secondary school started, I would normally stay back and do some revision. I actually did not expect myself to pass all my subjects. I was so happy that I cried with tears of joy. But when I got home and showed my parents my results, I expected them to be happy for me but since the incident, I realised they loved Sylvia more than me. So when they saw my results, they just said ok and signed the report book nonchalantly.

Although what I was hoping for did not happen, I still regard it as a success as I managed to pass all my subjects in the first exam in secondary school with my own hard work!

Olivia Teng
Class 1A2

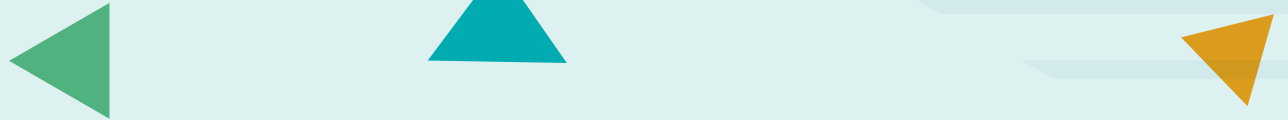
This year I entered Loyang View Secondary School. I was very interested in floorball but I was afraid that I would not be good enough to be selected for it. Nevertheless, I went for the trials.

To my surprise and happiness, I made it into the floorball club. Immediately, I bought a floorball stick and trained really hard. Although I was always scolded by my coach, I learnt from my mistakes and trained even harder. Before the June holidays, I was selected for the Youth Floorball League Competition which was for people under 18 years old. The start of the competition was tough. We learnt from our mistakes and in the next game, we managed to do better. Besides these two matches, we went on to play more matches, in which, we won two and I managed to score four goals. I felt a great sense of accomplishment.

To me, being part of the C-division floorball team was a dream come true.

Besides being active in sports, I went on to take part in the Secondary one drama production where I had to play the role of a child. My teacher selected me for the role due to my cherubic looks and mannerism. Initially, I felt half-hearted about drama and did not take it seriously. I am naturally shy and having to act in front of an audience scared me. I was fine playing in an intense game full of spectators where I was moving all the time. However, when it came to acting, I felt helpless. After much persuasion and practice, I realized that my role was not too difficult to portray as I could display my mischievous nature. On the actual day of the performance, I rose to the occasion and did my part well. Drama turned out to be quite fun.

Poon En Kai
Class 1A2



What is success to me? Success to me is achieving something you really wanted or needed or something you were not able to achieve before. It is hard to describe success but anyway here is my story.

Back in Primary school, my behaviour and grades were very different compared to Secondary school. I was considered a playful and naughty student in and out of the classroom. I was not achieving good grades and frequently got in trouble with the teachers and other students. I was fighting with classmates, talking in class, and getting into trouble. I was bad in all my subjects especially Mathematics. Over time though, I started to develop better study habits. I improved in both my grades and my behaviour. I began to set aside time for my schoolwork and studies instead of watching television and playing games all day long. I tried to pay attention in class and not fall asleep. I tried to have a positive mindset and not to fight with people. I wrote down all my homework on a notebook so that I would not forget about it and hand it in late. I started developing good habits because I was so tired of getting scolded by my teachers and friends.

Throughout Primary school, my behaviour and grades improved. This was evident especially in Primary 5 and 6. I did not have to stay back after school to do extra work for getting bad grades and I stopped having to see the discipline master for causing trouble. During the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE), I studied hard enough to get two As and nearly landed a spot in the express stream.

I feel like I have come a long way from being a person who regularly got in trouble to being a quieter and more reasonable person. I have not even once been to the discipline master's room even though I have been here for six months. I feel good about the progress that I have made and hope to become a better person.

Mohamad Rifqy Afiq
Class 1A2

This year, I learnt many things. Out of all the things I have learnt, I am most happy with my study of English Literature.

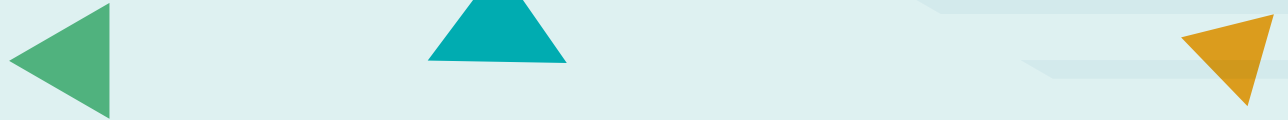
It is something like the English lessons in primary school, but we study poems and their rhyme patterns which make some of them sound like songs. I have learnt many things in Literature but I like how some of the poets use literary devices that I might not have heard of before.

Alliteration was especially interesting, and in some cases similar to a tongue twister. Besides this there were still rhymes, and other devices that made poems musical.

Besides knowing what is Literature, I can also learn different songs, or poems. To know what a song or poem means requires thinking. For example, we need to understand what the author is trying to convey through the use of specific sounds or images. In literature we do not just learn poems but we also read stories with very interesting characters.

I can't wait to find which literary text we will be doing next!

Wong Meixin
Class 1A2



The Loyang View drama club was took part in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation (SYF) this year. By the third training session, the actors and our instructor, Mr Dwayne, had figured out how our performance was going to be like. We were going to put up a performance called “Snakes and Ladders”. The story revolved around five protagonists and their stories, and I, together with another secondary one member, Iva, were the actors playing the snake, the main villain. Practice, practice and more practice, that was all we had on our minds. The snake part was uncomfortable for me as I had to hold on to the hips of another actor, and I was very uncomfortable with touching a female student. In the end, Iva told me to just hold onto the loose ends of her jacket.

By the eighteenth training session, many things had changed. There was a change in casting for one of the main leads. There was also a major change to the snake as we now had scales! There were many ups and downs during the practice sessions. I scraped my knee during one of the sessions. I also had to wear a “tail” as I was the end of the snake, and my “tail” had to be changed because the original one was too long and affected my movement. There were many times when we were scolded but there were also praises. Eventually, our performance took shape and our instructor was very happy with it.

On the day of SYF performance, we were all pretty hyped up. I was scared out of my wits. When we were outside the performance hall, I could feel sweat dripping on top of my thick make-up. It was very uncomfortable. However, when it was our turn to perform, the actual experience was so much fun! I thought we did very well and would surely get a Certificate of Distinction for our performance. Unfortunately, we only managed to get a Certificate of Accomplishment. Nevertheless, I felt I did a great job on my part and gained much confidence from this experience. This is my success story.

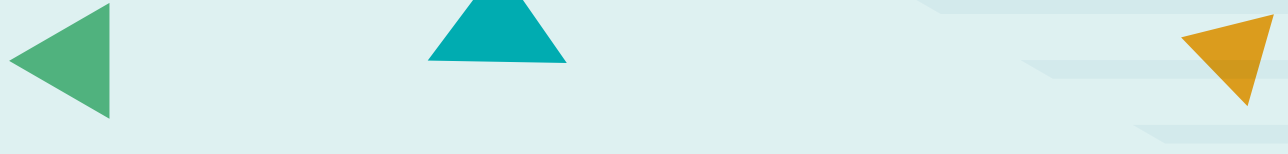
Adam Naufal Bin Mohammad Nazri
Class 1E1

I never thought that I would be able to get into the school basketball team. When I first joined this co-curricular activity (CCA), I had no relevant skills. I did not know the basics of the sport and I did not know how to play it. However, I improved in my abilities with every training session. I was able to dribble the ball properly, and I was able to shoot the ball through the hoop more accurately. Training was hard but I persevered.

Apart from improving my basketball skills, I was also making new friends in the CCA. My new friends helped me to better train as they encouraged me. I remember an occasion when I had injured my leg. The teacher in charge told me not to carry on training but I refused to rest as I wanted to get into the school team to represent the school in the future. However, my hopes of getting into the school team were not high as all my team mates were doing better than me, and I was getting disheartened. Nevertheless, one of my friends was there for me and encouraged me to train harder. He even helped me with my training during the weekends.

Before I knew it, the selection period for the school team had arrived. Before the coach announced who were selected, we had to play a friendly match with Temasek Secondary School. The match did not go well and we lost by forty-five points. It was on our way back to school from the match that the coach announced the names of those who had been selected. There were altogether twelve people who made the cut. As he started calling out the names, I was both nervous and excited. With each name being called, I became more nervous. Suddenly, I heard my name being called. I was over the moon and felt very proud of myself. I thanked my friends who had helped me to improve my skills, and was glad that my hard work had paid off. That is my success story.

Cudal Eduard Navarro
Class 1E1



I joined the air rifle club with no knowledge of the sport. I was “forced” to join as my friend really enjoyed the trials and persuaded me to accompany her. During the first few weeks of practice, the secondary one members showed how good they were at shooting. I was only average and did not really think I would go far in the sport.

Nevertheless, I practised and practised, and somehow I managed to improve and even became one of the top shooters in my cohort! The coach told me that I was the best in my cohort, alongside this other member who was taking lessons on his own outside school hours. In fact, the coach was so impressed with my performance that he decided to put me in the school’s C-division team! I never thought I would be taking part in the nationals. It was a great achievement because I was the only secondary one girl taking part in it!

From then on, I have been motivated to work hard and do well in the sport. My love for shooting has also grown by leaps and bounds. I promised myself that I would work hard and do my best to further improve my skills.

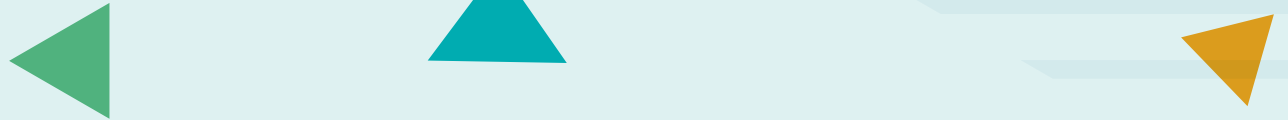
Flores Samantha Andrea Balberan
Class 1E1

To most people, drama is a type of performance on radio or television or performed in a theatre. It usually contains conflict between the characters. To me, drama is more than that. It is a portal to anywhere my imagination may take me. I could go to a world of fairies and elves, a magical wonderland.

I used to take part in drama productions in primary school but this year was my chance to really shine and put myself out there. I was selected to be part of my school's Singapore Youth Festival Arts presentation as an understudy. To me, that was already a huge achievement, but it did not stop there. After a few weeks of rehearsals, I was actually given a part in the show. I was so honoured to get the part that I almost could not believe it. I was just a secondary one student, and already I was given a role to play in the production!

Although the drama club did not get a Certificate of Distinction for our performance, we did get a Certificate of Accomplishment, which to me was good enough. I am sure with hard work and perseverance, we will get the Distinction next time around.

Iva Todorova Encheva
Class 1E1



During my primary school days, my mathematics results were, let's just say, not the best. Still, I managed to pass my exams with either a B or C grade. To me mathematics was a huge pain. Furthermore, I was upset with my teachers for lecturing me over my poor results. That made mathematics all the more unbearable. My teachers from primary three to six were all very strict and did nothing to motivate me to do better or make me more confident in my work.

Since I started secondary school, for some reason mathematics turned out to be easier than I had previously experienced. I found the topics manageable. On top of that, my mathematics teacher was very nice and taught the class in a fun and easy-to-understand way. Due to these reasons, my self-esteem and confidence increased. I ended up scoring an A1 for my first weighted assessment and a B for my second weighted assessment. I was even top of my class for my first weighted assessment!

My journey at Loyang View so far has helped me overcome my disappointment over my Primary School Leaving Examination results, and has given me encouragement and the desire to do well for mathematics. I am very happy to be where I am now.

Rayden Kho Jia Qi
Class 1E1

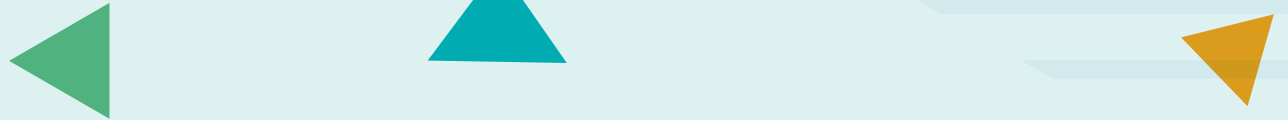
I was initially very disappointed about coming to Loyang View. I had wanted to take O-level Music at secondary school but I had scored only 198 for my Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) which meant that I was not eligible to go to the school I had been aiming for that offered O-level Music. On the day that the PSLE results were released, I was very upset when I received my result slip and could not stop crying. Then I remembered reading about the Music Elective Programme (MEP) at secondary school, and I decided to try for that.

To be selected for MEP, I had to go through two phases. The first was the written examination, and the second was the audition during which there would be an interview and I had to play my choice of musical instrument. Preparing for phase one was tough as there were many things to learn and memorise. On the day of the examination, I was very nervous but I told myself that as long as I believed in myself, I could do it. Two weeks after the examination, I leapt with joy and excitement when I received a text message from my father that I had passed the written exam.

That meant I had to prepare for the audition which would be even tougher than the written examination. My hands would become very sweaty during my practice, and that made playing the instrument very difficult. I was very nervous during the audition, but I told myself to keep smiling, stay positive and not to give up.

Imagine my exhilaration a month later when I learnt that I had passed the audition and been offered the MEP! I was so happy that I screamed with excitement when I received the news.

Ow Yong Wai Yen
Class 1E1



It has been about five months since I joined Loyang View Secondary School. Within these few months, I have made a lot of new friends along the way and got to know them better. I also met a lot of interesting seniors from my participation in Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) and the Student Council. My seniors are kind and friendly. My dance seniors are always there to cheer us on especially in times when we are about to 'die' with exhaustion.

About two months ago, the Sec 4 and Sec 5 seniors had to step down to prepare for their examinations. When I heard the news, I was so sad and shocked. We prepared nicely decorated cards for each one of the seniors who would be stepping down. Everyone was asked to write in the cards for different seniors.

During the last half hour of CCA, we had a mini graduation party for them. The teacher-in-charge, Ms Teo, gave her speech about how the dance CCA that they had started meant a lot to her. She started crying even before she could finish her speech. Well, as you know, crying is kind of contagious and, soon, most of the seniors started to cry as well. The seniors went up one by one to receive the cards that we had personally decorated and wrote in them with a mini cupcake Ms Teo had bought for them. They told us their experiences in dance and how much they enjoyed being in dance. Some of the seniors were funny, some of them were touching. But most of their speeches were encouraging and showed how grateful they were to have been in dance.

Unknowingly, some of my friends and I started to cry...a lot. Well, I did not know why but we just could not stop crying. Our eyes and noses became so red. We couldn't bear to see them leave.

At the end of the CCA session, I went to my favourite senior and gave her a big hug. She was always there cheering me on and giving me tips on how to sustain my planks and many more. I want to be just like her in the future. Not only was she an awesome dancer, she was also a great senior to us. I will miss her a lot and hope she comes and visits us whenever she can.

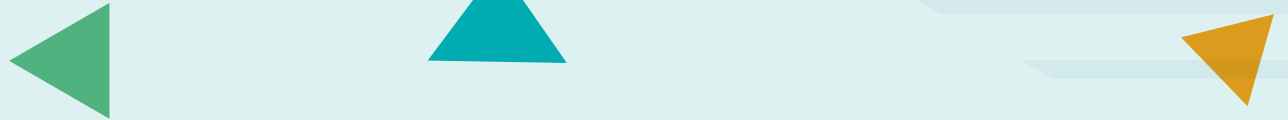
I hope that I would be able to represent the school in competitions like Singapore Youth Festival and Super 24. I think that I would be able to learn 'determination' as in dance, we go through a lot of physical training.

Amory Choo
Class 1E2

One of the most significant memories in Secondary 1 was my first day of CCA at Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS). It was one of the most pressurising days in my life. On the day itself, we had to assemble in front of the control room that was located at level 3. Every Secondary 1 pupil was instructed to sit according to the CCA they were allocated to. To avoid confusion, they had multiple papers printed with the different CCAs that were available. For each CCA, there were at least 2 members of the club. I sat in front of the 'Dance' Club. I was delighted when I discovered I had friends I knew in the same CCA as me. We sat there, conversing, for around 20 minutes. When the time came, the new dance members stood and walked towards the Dance studio.

As soon as I entered the studio, I felt the energy of the dance crew. The new Sec 1s were welcomed by rounds of applause. We sat down in two rows, listening to each member introduce themselves. That wasn't all, they told us to gather outside the studio, closer to the staff room. Two members stood in front of the entire dance crew. I partnered with another male Secondary 1 student. There were only 4 boys and so many girls but unfortunately, one boy didn't come. I heard the seniors chatting with each other talking about '7 rounds'. I was genuinely curious. One of the members in front of me said, "Ok, let's go", and started jogging with the other members outwards. I supposed that I had to follow them. After all, '7 rounds' meant that we, the juniors, had to run 7 rounds. It was easy at first but after all the pushing and overtaking, it got tough.

We ran around level 2 for 7 rounds. The Sec 1s were told to run into the dance studio to drink up. I was panting like a dog waiting for water. Beads of sweat rolled down my cheeks as I drank up. We were given a minute before doing our breathing exercises. Once the seniors finished, we all did the daily stretching routine. As someone who is inflexible, it was very painful and tough. While doing splits, I noticed someone walking through the door. It wasn't a teacher nor a student. It was an instructor. He had a yellow cap, neatly ironed clothes and baggy pants but what caught my eyes was the drink he was holding. It was a bottle of Starbucks coffee. My mouth watered just by looking at it. I took that as a motivation to complete the stretching routine.



After torturous session of Physical Training (PT), the instructor introduced himself. There stood Mr Wein. I thought that his circular framed glasses made him look goofy but I understood that it was fashion. He told us to get on our feet and move to another room as our seniors needed to practice for the Singapore Youth Festival which was just round the corner. We took our bottles and walked towards the music room. Ms. Teo, the teacher-in-charge, let us in. She told us that we needed to learn a choreography for a second audition. After the first audition to enter the CCA, I thought I was safe but no I was not. We spent half an hour being taught new dance steps I never saw before. Afterwards, a senior brought us down to ground level. We had to practise the dance steps for another hour without the supervision of our instructor.

The time was up and we headed towards the dance studio where all the seniors and instructors were. That was the 'Now or Never' moment. At that moment, adrenaline rushed through my veins. We all knew that this could be our first and last performance. Everyone wished each other good luck. Another worst thing was, we were separated into two groups that meant I could be seen more visibly. When my group was called, I heard a senior cheering me on. It turned out that it was my Student Council leader that led my class during orientation. She told my dance buddy my name and he cheered me on, too. Soon, most of the seniors were cheering for me. I knew that I could not disappoint them so I did my very best on the dance floor. I performed multiple times but in the end, we performed as a cohort. By that time, we were all dancing as a cohort. Every senior was cheering even the teachers and instructors too. At the end of the day, the results were postponed to the next dance session. Every student in my cohort let out a groan of disappointment. Even me. I really enjoyed my first day, and knew the CCA was perfect for me.

Asiff Khan
Class 1E2

My life at Loyang View Secondary school is fantastic. A camp was held in school for the secondary one students to have fun, and to make new friends and be familiar with the school. When it was the day of the camp, I got to know new people and I made new friends. Everyone was nice and friendly. I was smiling from ear to ear and was jumping with joy. It was an enjoyable experience. We stayed in our classroom thinking of cheers for our class and we danced to the Mass Dance for our performance at night when there was a campfire. It was night time and many families came to see us fitting into the new school and to watch the performances. The seniors gave out glow sticks for us to see in the dark. The campfire was starting, the lights were off. The campfire was beautiful. Everyone was cheering. The campfire ended and some of the lights were on. The classes performed. When my class performed, I was very happy.

After that, everyone went to the canteen to eat Hawaiian pizza topped with tomato sauce, cheese, pineapple and ham. The aroma was fragrant. I wanted to eat the pizza so badly. I could not resist the temptation of wanting to eat the pizza. Before I knew it, I was savouring the pizza. The pizza was delicious. Everyone loved it.

After eating the pizza, we showered and went to sleep in the dance studio. It was a terrible experience. There were people who talked non-stop throughout the night. I was not used to sleeping in a sleeping bag. I was used to sleeping in my bed. Overall, I found the camp fun.

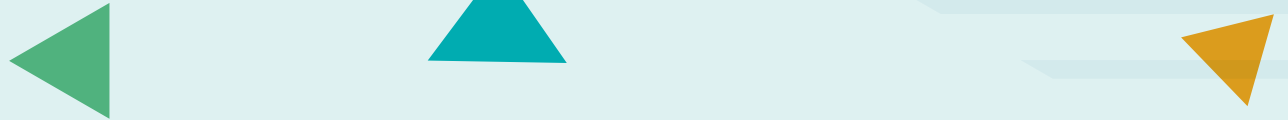
It was the first day of CCA. It was Band. I got into the CCA of my choice. I had to try out different instruments to find out which instrument was suitable for me. My instrument was the Alto-Saxophone.

There was also drama enrichment every Friday after break. It was fun. I learnt to act, project my voice, to think of ideas and to work with my teammates. I had a great time at school.

The school has taught me many new things. For drama enrichment, I learnt to be brave and perform in front of an audience.

The school is a happy and caring school. It makes sure that you have fun and that you are safe. The school rewards classes and students if they are good. I am proud to be a Loyang View Secondary School student.

Cassandra
Class 1E2



Dear diary,

I have been in secondary school for officially a week now. It's been fine. Not the best, but not the worst. Of course, I did get scolded a few times but the overall experience in secondary school was good.

I can still remember the first day of school. We were all new to the school. We knew almost nothing at all. New classmates, new teachers, new environment. It's like we are in a whole new country! Luckily, I had some of my primary school mates in the same school so I had someone to talk to at least.

Then, my worst nightmare came to life. It was time to introduce ourselves. Oh no! You know I am very shy right? Even with my friends. How could I do it to people I don't even know? I froze! The student councillors introduced themselves first. Then, they pointed at one of my classmates and said, "You, introduce yourself." She's a very shy person, so she panicked and stayed silent. I could feel the awkwardness in the air surrounding the silence of our class. Then she added up all her courage and introduced herself. Gradually, we learnt to get along with each other. Then it was time for the games! Honestly, I felt like a five-year-old child again! We played games like blow wind blow, dog and bone and splat. These were games I enjoyed playing as a toddler. It definitely brought us together. I hope?

The second day was more exciting. We went for a hike at Mount Faber. Going up to the top felt like an eternity. While we were hiking, it rained. Yes, it did. I thought to myself, is my luck really that bad? At least the rain made it cooler. When we went back to school, we ate lunch and it was good. After that, we learned the school mass dance. It was not too hard. We also created a cheer and practiced the mass dance to perform for the campfire that night. All the classes did their own cheer and mass dance and, in a blink of an eye it was finished. The school also surprised us with pizza! It was good. Then, we showered and went to sleep and woke up the next day. The camp was good and I enjoyed it very much! I bonded with my classmates and made new friends. I will always remember these amazing first days of my secondary school life.

Wong Leanne
Class 1E2

The first day of my life as a Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) student started when I heard my alarm ring. It had been a whole month since hearing my alarm ring, so upon hearing it, I didn't want to get out of bed, but I had to. I got up and stopped my alarm. I walked sluggishly to the kitchen. I grabbed my bowl, cereal and milk as though my hand was a claw from the vending machines.

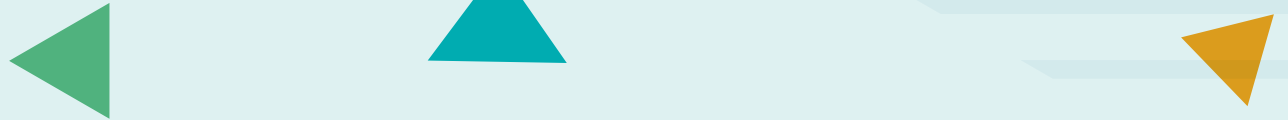
I remember my father telling me which bus stop to go to and the number of bus stops it takes to reach Loyang View. While on the bus, my heart was pumping really fast from pure nervousness and fear. I reached my stop and was immediately lost. I went to follow some random seniors not knowing where I was going. Once I reached the hall, I went to my classroom and sat down. Once I sat down, I looked around at all my different classmates and was relieved to see some of my good friends from my primary school. Then, we were invited to the hall for the school principal's address. He spoke about how happy he was to finally get back to school. After the talk, we were assigned Student Councillors (SCs). We were given instructions on games the SCs chose for us to know each other better. It was basically like that for the time being in school. Once I reached home, I told both of my parents about my first day. They were happy to see my enthusiasm talking about it. The next day was going to be even better because the school organised an overnight camp for us in school!

I woke up the same way I did the first day but this time, I was excited in anticipation of all the fun. This time, we assembled at the parade square. After the morning assembly, we went ahead with our camp. All the secondary ones in Loyang View went off for the trekking. After that we had our lunch at the canteen when we reached back. And then we had to prepare for a class concert. Basically, all secondary one classes had to do a dance or sing a song. I found it a little weird at first but after the performance, I found it fun. We went to eat our dinner and it was pizza! We showered and then slept. The next morning, I woke up and showered. After some enjoyable activities we went home. I told my entire family about my camping experiences.

After bonding with the students we needed to get to know our teachers. They were fun though they gave us homework to do. It went on for a few months. Till this day, I'm still given homework but I'm going to get through it, hopefully.

Looking forward, I hope to achieve good marks for any work I do. LVSS has moulded me into a more wholesome individual with a passion for learning.

Naufal
Class 1E2



My experience in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) has been great so far. I really like the school a lot. It may appear like a bad school to those who are not acquainted with it but in reality, it is a very nice school. Even teachers from other schools are impressed with our school!

It all started when I got a score of 195 for the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE). I was not able to get into the Express stream of any secondary school except for LVSS. My parents wanted me to go into the Express stream. As it was the nearest school from home that offered the Express stream, I had no choice but to choose that school. When my mother and I came to school to buy some supplies, we went to the hall to listen to the Principal's speech and he said really nice things about the school itself.

Fast forward to Orientation Secondary 1 Camp, I made new friends in my class, 1E2 through bonding games and other activities. It was fun, we got to hike at Mount Faber Park and when it started raining, everyone shared umbrellas with students who did not bring their umbrellas and raincoats. We also got to perform in school with a huge campfire behind us while we were performing, and it was really fun. Everyone had a blast and once everyone had finished their performance, we went to sleep.

Right now, I have adjusted to the new school. I have made new friends along the way. I have had ups and downs but that has taught me to be more resilient. Looking forward, I hope to achieve better grades in my Secondary School life so that I can go to Junior College or Polytechnic to achieve my dream job. I also want to make new friends along the way. LVSS has moulded me into a more wholesome individual by creating opportunities to Embrace Diversity and develop a deep passion for learning.

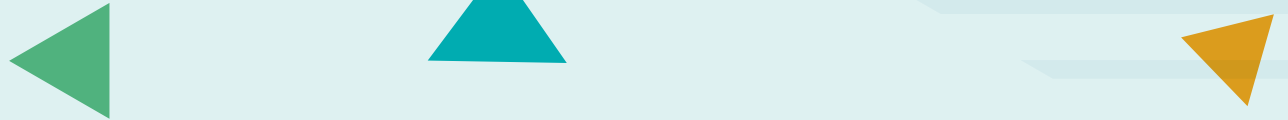
Ralph
Class 1E2

It was a breezy morning. I walked to my balcony. I skipped excitedly to grab my school shoes. I left home eagerly as I couldn't wait to arrive at school for my secondary one camp. It was a two day, one night camp. We arrived in the hall and started to do our reading. At 7:30 am, the teachers distributed small sandwiches for breakfast. After the morning assembly, all the secondary one classes got into two rows for teachers to take attendance. We boarded the bus and I can say that the bus ride was quite hectic. My classmates got along pretty well, surprisingly. They made a lot of noise to the point that I had a headache. We were making our way to Southern Ridges for a hike. It feels weird as we had all only met, the day before.

In my opinion, the hike was very boring as I had been there before in primary six. I was getting really impatient as I really wanted to go back to school to eat. Nothing interesting happened during the hike. After two and a half hours, we finally boarded the bus to head back to school. Many people fell asleep. The bus was finally quiet. Once we arrived at school, we went to the canteen to eat our lunch. We met our student councillors once again. They were really nice to us. We ate our lunch and proceeded to the classroom. We were informed that we had to practise the LVSS mass dance for the camp fire later at night. The steps was really easy. The girls were doing well but the boys weren't cooperating. We also created a 1E2 cheer for the campfire. After an hour or two, the girls and boys were separated and assigned to their respective sleeping areas. My group was in the dance studio. We brought our bags to our respective rooms to settle down. Afterwhich, we assembled at the parade square for the campfire. Before I forget, parents were allowed to come and watch.

Finally, it was time for the campfire. Our turn came up for the performance. As expected, our cheer didn't turn out too great. The mass dance was funny. I was laughing really hard. Towards the end of the campfire, from 8:30 to 9 pm, the host announced the winner for the cheer and dance. I didn't have hope for my class for some reason but surprisingly, we won! My class representative went to collect the prize which was a huge bag of food! Let's just say, my class LOVES food. My teacher took the bag of snacks and dismissed our class to get ready to sleep. Before that, we had a surprise pizza party. Again, we devoured the pizza. It was around 10:30 at night when they released us. By the time the girls finished showering and getting ready, it was close to midnight. I ended sleeping for two hours only. I slept at 3 in the morning and woke up at 5. It was literally the best camp ever. I can't wait for the next camp!

Syarifa
Class 1E2



On the day of our Co-curricular Activities trials, I was interested in the Air Rifle Club. Unfortunately, I was not shortlisted. Of course, I didn't expect to be shortlisted as it had stringent pre-requisites but there was just this tiny piece of hope. Now, I'm not the most optimistic person; due to personal reasons, I'm quite the opposite actually. So, when I heard that I wasn't shortlisted not just for this club but some others as well, my hopes and dreams came crushing down.

So, let me tell you more about the school! Trust me, this is important information; we have default CCAs for 'students' who don't have any CCAs to go to. Okay, I'm making it sound more horrible that it seems, I'm sorry. I honestly love my school but I'm just translating what I felt at that moment into words. Anyway, those 'default CCAs' were National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) and Girl Guides (GG). I had to choose one or the other, but when the person-in-charge of CCAs asked me which one I had chosen (NPCC or GG), I couldn't choose, because I was neither attracted nor interested in either NPCC or GG! With the added pressure of needing to choose right at that moment, I couldn't decide. So, the teacher just told me that he would give me more time to think about it.

Two days later, I still had a problem deciding, so I asked my friends, "Hey guys? Between NPCC and GG, which CCA is most likely to teach me to hold or shoot a gun?" Naturally, the CCA most of my friends said was NPCC.

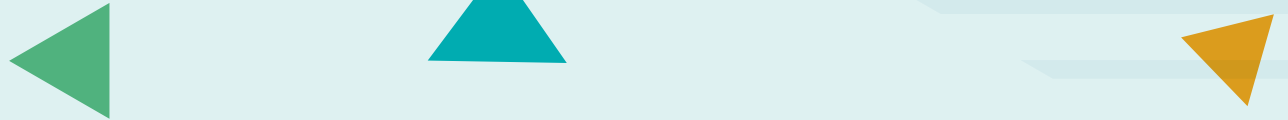
So I was ready with a decision. When the time came for us to sit according to the CCA we picked, I then walked over to where the NPCC sign was and sat down, waiting and accepting the fact that I was going to spend the rest of my 4 years in this school, in NPCC. But then, the teacher-in-charge of the CCAs called all the people who were not shortlisted to gather up by where he was. So I got up with my bag and walked over, confused. "Alright so you are all the people who were not shortlisted right?" he looked around and we all nodded saying a mix of "Yup", "Mhm" and "Yes". "Okay! I would like to talk to all of you about your CCA" and he started assigning some people to the other CCAs. What happened next surprised me.

“Taen, you would like to join the Air Rifle Club right?” the teacher asked me. “Yes...”, I answered, still confused. “So, Miss Cheng,” my form teacher and also one of the Air Rifle teachers, “has accepted you to be in the Air Rifle team.” The teacher said. I Was. Ecstatic. I’ve never really understood how people got so happy that they start crying. I was so happy, the moment I sat with the Air Rifle team, I started crying. Okay, not really cried but just teared a bit. And one of my classmates asked me, “Taen? You were accepted into Air Rifle, ah?” I looked up and nodded.

After waiting and talking to my new CCA mates, I got comfortable with them. When it was time, we were taken to the Air Rifle Range. I was amazed, and just really bubbly and brimming over with happiness. After introductions to the teachers and coach, we started to dry fire without bullets but pallets.

Now that I look back on this experience, I am immensely grateful! So, in the end I was picked! Praise the lord for this!

Taen Chong
Class 1E2



My first day of school was awesome as I got to see my primary school friends, and got to make new friends. It was fun. I got to chat with a lot of my seniors and played class bonding games which were not that fun. After that we met our subject teacher. After getting to know her better, time was almost up. When school was over, we bid farewell to our new friends and left.

The next day, we set out for the Secondary 1 orientation camp. We did not go out of school but hung out at school late into the night. It was awesome. We were taught the school mass dance and the school song. After that we went to try out the different CCA trails. The sky was getting darker as time passed. We got ready our sleeping bags and went to the hall. My friend and I got to a place where it was windy as the aircon was not on. I tried sleeping but woke up multiple times. The next morning, I was the first few to wake up in my class. I quickly showered and woke the others up. We played more of the class bonding games and practised the mass dance. We got ready for the night as our parents were supposed to come to watch the performance. The camp we saw was amazing as it was designed in the letters, LVSS.

Sadly, at the end of the camp, we had to part company.

To summarise everything, the camp was fun, and I wished there were more such camps with more exciting and sporting activities.

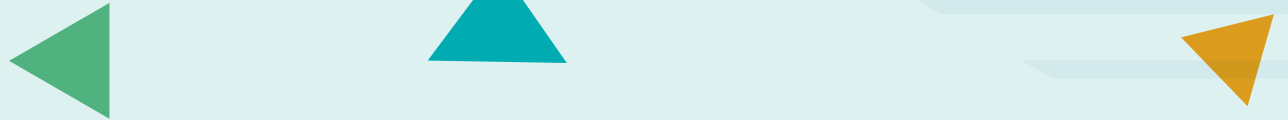
Xander Ong
Class 1E2

It was the first day of my co-curricular activity (CCA) trials and I had to go to the different CCAs to see what they offered. There were so many choices. I picked the band as I was short-listed for it. On the second day of the trials, I needed to pick which instrument to play. I was confused as to which I should pick as I was good at most of them. I decided to pick the French horn.

On the first day of playing with my senior, I was taught how to blow the buzzer. He told me that I needed to learn the first five notes in the essential elements. It was an exciting experience. At the start of term two, I was taught a few songs using the French horn. I felt glad to have progressed in playing the French horn.

Unfortunately, a few weeks into the term, I fractured my arm. I could only watch my friends play their musical instruments while I could only do so in my mind. I cannot wait to get back to playing again.

Muhammad Aniq Amir Bin Muhammad Jamil
Class 1E3



'What are these? I paid so much for your tuition fees and this is the results that you got!' exclaimed my mother as she threw my exam paper onto the table.

I had just gotten back my test papers and I had not done particularly well overall. I am academically weak so I expect a C or D grade in most subjects.

Now came secondary school. "As you know, your WA1 is around the corner, so I hope all of you will work hard to get a good grade because those marks of yours will be in your report book," announced my form teacher to the whole class.

After my form teacher ended the announcement, she left the classroom and it became noisy. While waiting for the next teacher to arrive, some students started discussing about meeting up to study together, further increasing the noise level in the class. All this while I was having a slight panic attack because I did not want to fail my first examinations.

After school ended, I dashed home unable to contain my eagerness to lie down on my comfortable bed. After I had finished preparing all the things I needed for the following day, I decided to take a quick nap. Just as my head was about to hit the pillow, I heard my mother call my name from the living room. I groaned with irritation but quickly got up to see what my mother had called me for. When I got to the living room, I saw both my parents sitting at the center table looking at me with serious looks on their faces. I knew then it was going to be a long talk.

I quickly sat opposite them. I tried to smile as broadly as I could hoping that it would distract them and I could get out of the "interrogation" session. I wanted to leave as quickly as possible, but knowing them, it would be impossible to do so.

"I know that you probably don't want to talk about this topic right now, but we have to talk to you about your examinations," my mother started.

As soon as she started talking, my smile slowly started to fade. After I left the living room, my mind kept on replaying the words that my mother said. She told me that if I continued to fail my examinations, I would have to attend tuition for all my subjects. Knowing that most of my free time would be replaced by tuition was like a harsh slap on the face. I quickly decided to be more serious about my studies.

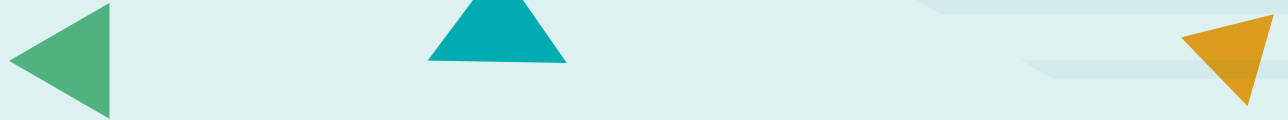
Days after the talk with my parents, I started becoming more attentive in class. I started to take notes during lessons, ask questions when I was in doubt and even studied during the breaks, while at home, I would revise the notes I took in class.

After a few weeks had passed, it was finally time for the examinations. I was quite nervous as I really wanted to do well. Many days later, the examinations ended. Every night after the examinations had ended, I could not sleep because I was thinking of the many scenarios of my examinations going badly. One night my sister saw me lying awake and told me that since I had worked hard, I did not have to worry about the examination results. Relief washed over me as she said those comforting words.

The day of our results finally arrived. I was very scared because I genuinely wanted to do well. I received the first examination paper, then the next, and finally all the papers were given out. Surprisingly, I managed to pass the examinations with flying colours. After the papers were given out, the teacher called out the names of the students who were the top 5 percent, then the top 10 percent. With my eyes wide open, I heard my name being called out for the top 10 percent. I quickly got up and took my letter of commendation with a bright smile plastered on my face.

After school ended, I bolted home, excited to tell the great news to my parents. Once I got home, I dashed into my parents' room and hugged them as tightly as I could. They both questioned my enthusiasm and I quickly told them the news. They congratulated me and told me that I would not need to attend any tuition. I learnt then that "if there is a will, there is a way."

Nurul Ariqah Binte Adilah
Class 1E3



It was the first few weeks of school and it was the trials for the different co-curricular activity (CCA). I decided to join the Drama Club, a decision that I do not regret. The Drama CCA was not bad at all. At first, when my friend, Adilah, and I saw our drama seniors, we were scared that they would be too strict. Instead, they were actually nice to us.

During some days, the junior members would be separated from the seniors because the seniors had to go for the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) training. SYF only takes place every two years. The juniors were not involved as we were not prepared. We only helped out with the props and the make-up. We thought that it would be boring as we would have nothing else to do after that.

While helping out with the props, we had lots of fun as we cracked jokes while making and painting the props. We also learnt make-up techniques. It was at times tiring as we had to rush out some of the props. As a shy person, I managed to connect with a lot of students from other classes through these tasks.

Then it was time for the SYF. As the helpers for the actors, we were let off school early. As soon as we reached the drama room, we hurried up and started to prepare the make-up. While helping the actors with their make-up, we were rushing as we did not have much time. It was stressful as we had to apply the appropriate make-up on the actors. Unlike our practice sessions which had been leisurely, we now had to work under pressure. It was scary as we could not make any mistakes. The actors were relying on us to make them look good. Being a mere Secondary 1 student, I felt intimidated initially, but later got into the flow of things. It turned out to be an exhilarating experience as I was one of the few students who could apply the eyeliners on others confidently.

When the bus arrived, we all hurriedly boarded. The actors had left earlier. During the bus ride, we were all hoping that the actors would do a great job. We arrived at the theatre and watched the performance. It was marvellous to watch our seniors perform. I felt inspired and knew I could be just as good as them.

After waiting for two weeks, we finally got the results. We only got an award for accomplishment. It was a bummer as I thought that this year would be different, but I guess not. At the next SYF in two years' time, we are all determined to do better.

Ellya Maisara Binte Mohamed Noorhaizam
Class 1E3

What is the definition of success? Is it solving a Mathematics problem or finding a cure to a medical mystery? Some say that success is an intangibly positive and uplifting feeling you experience, when you have made new discoveries as a learner. In a way, that description resonated with me aptly.

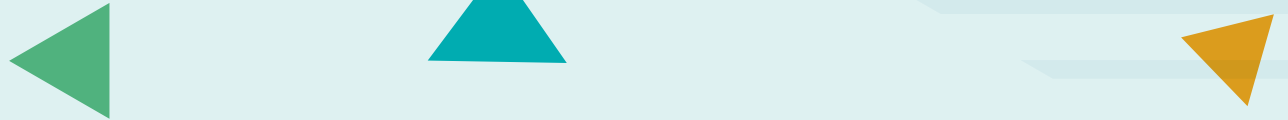
During the Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) trials, I was deciding between Basketball and Air Rifle. Unfortunately, I realised that in my school, Basketball did not accept girls. While Air Rifle seemed rather appealing, I was not confident that I could shoot from a heavy rifle and have my shots land on a small, squarish piece of paper with circular rings.

The only other CCA I displayed a passing interest in was Drama. To my surprise, I got through the auditions with relative ease. The first few sessions of drama were rather uninspiring to me. However, it was only when we were told that we had a specific play to perform in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation, I became more intrigued. What was my role, I wondered?

I was assigned to help my seniors with their makeup. I dismissed it as a fairly trivial task, simply painting their faces with face powder and eye shadow. When it came to the actual application, I discovered that none of that was easy. It was only then I came across names of other makeup peripherals such as concealer, lip liner and mascara. The hardest part of the makeup was that remedying mistakes was not easy, especially so when my subjects did not simply sit still and relax. My seniors were so visibly excited that they kept turning their heads here and there which explained why I had to touch up their ruined looks almost all the time. That was the start of what I experienced as a budding drama student. It was unexpected yet immensely challenging to me.

In my first semester as a drama club member, I made many discoveries. Drama is actually quite profound. It goes beyond mere acting, facial and body expressions as well as nuanced portrayal of the character. There is so much more that goes behind the scenes and it takes a lot of time just to get the actual production ready in time to be presented before an audience. While I have gained some knowledge and skills, I feel that I have still so much more to learn in drama and that excites me. My drama journey is inexorably long. It will be filled with high points and low points, just like how life is all about. Just thinking about what I will learn in the next drama CCA session creates a spine-tingling sensation in me already.

Angie Emmanuel Heng
Class 1E4



The definition of success is different for everybody. It could mean getting tickets to your favourite artiste's concert, winning a game or even making new friends. Over the past six months in Loyang View Secondary School, there have been many ups and downs. There are many things I could consider as achievements. There is one major achievement I have had in Loyang View that I still consider as the biggest success I have had this year.

It was the day when we would receive our first Weighted Assessment results. I was feeling extremely nervous, knowing that the results would be counted in our Overall results. These results were critical and would determine my promotion to Secondary Two. Usually, I would feel grumpy or tired in the morning, but that day was different. Throughout the morning assembly, I was preoccupied with thoughts about failing my subjects and I just could not stop thinking about them. Things came to a point whereby I almost turned paranoid just thinking about what lay before me.

When my name was called out in class, it was time to face my innermost fears. I received my report book from my teacher and sat down. I turned the pages of my report book with trembling hands before I focused on the rows of numbers before my eyes. A1, A1 and more A1s. When I realised that I attained seven A1 grades, I squealed with delight. I was truly ecstatic with my results.

That was one of the happiest days in Loyang View so far. In addition, I was also emplaced at the top five percent of my cohort! Those double successes buoyed me with intense optimism and gave me confidence that with effort, all things were possible. Since then, my journey in my school has been most enriching. There were ups and downs. However, each time I was down, I reflected on that time when I stood tall with my stellar results. Before long, I got over those depressing episodes and moved on. I await for the arrival of my End of the Year Examinations. I believe a bigger success awaits me. I shall triumph again.

Ashlyn Lim
Class 1E4

Success always has an element of failure involved in it. A successful person is likely to have failed at least once before he achieves success. To me, success is a journey of having gone through failures and eventually overcoming them.

I had pathetic grades for Science when I was in primary school. There were many reasons behind my abysmal performance. One was probably because I did not invest as much time on it as I should have. Now, in secondary school, I knew I had to change. I cut down on my time spent on gaming. I studied more and made sure I remembered what I had learnt during class by performing my self-study at home on a regular basis.

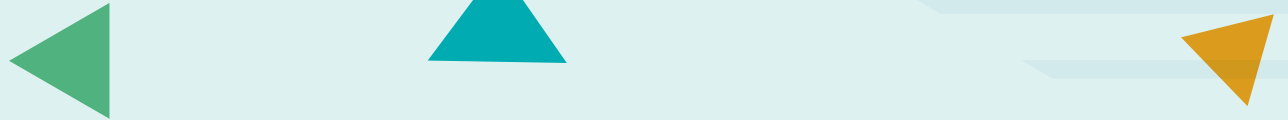
There were times when I painstakingly fought hard to resist the insane urges to use my mobile phone for gaming. Sometimes, I succumbed to my desires. Fortunately, my willpower and self-control helped me to resist the temptation most of the time.

On the day of my Science Weighted Assessment, even though I was slightly nervous, I was still able to face the subject I had the greatest difficulty in. I told myself I would not give up. Surprisingly, I managed to answer most of the questions. I gained more confidence as I thumbed page after page of my question paper. I breezed through my entire Science test with ease.

When my Science test papers were returned to us, my heart pounded as I waited for my script to be returned to me. Questions flowed through my mind. Did I do well enough? Would my efforts pay off? What if I still did not manage to clear the subject? Doubts kept flashing through my mind. I shoved them away and cleared my mind. I had to trust that I could do it. When my script was dropped on my table, I grabbed my paper and slowly shifted my eyes to the top right corner. I had scored 79/100! I made a tremendous improvement! I felt ecstatic the entire day. I beamed with ear to ear with indescribable joy.

Upon reflection, I learnt that giving up is not an option. From now on, I should always believe in myself. My strategy to apportion time wisely between my studies and my leisure pursuits and not let the latter consume me in my usage of time worked. I will not give up when faced with challenges, instead, I will always persevere for success.

Aung Khant Bo
Class 1E4



What is success? Success is the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. To some people, success is doing well in a competition or even making new friends. My success story focuses on my academic success in Loyang View Secondary School.

Ever since I was in primary four, my results have been deteriorating. It was not great to begin with but after I quit my tuition class, it just went downhill all the way. I was not too hopeful in coping well in nine different subjects in secondary school, which was a drastic increase from the four subjects I had to deal with in primary school.

In Loyang View Secondary School, I found all the subjects manageable, except for Science. I passed it with only a borderline mark. However, I did not find my performance worthy of celebration. I remembered my teachers telling me the First Weighted Assessment would be set at a lower level of difficulty. If I had difficulties with Science even at the first hurdle, I had to do something. I had to be serious and do my work properly. I started by reading my textbooks and asked for help proactively.

Before long, my Second Weighted Assessment came along. I had actually performed commendably in all my subjects. Not only that, I was also emplaced at the top five percent of my cohort! That buoyed me with intense optimism and gave me confidence that with effort, all things were possible. I called my mother the same day and thanked her for pushing me to do my best all the way since I was in primary school. That episode taught me an invaluable lesson. I had to put in effort conscientiously and take responsibility for my own learning. I am glad I learnt an important lesson in life and attained success early in my secondary school life.

I look forward to greater successes in time to come. That is my success story. What is yours?

Chua Kai En Firdaws
Class 1E4

Success comes in many different forms. It can be as small as beating a level in a game. It can also be as big as achieving a world record. For me, my personal success is what I have accomplished so far in Loyang View Secondary School as a Secondary One student.

Getting into the Express Stream in Loyang View Secondary School was already a tremendous achievement for me, given my Primary Six results. However, it was totally insignificant and incomparable to what I was about to face – a plethora of subjects awaited me in secondary school.

In the first few days of my secondary school life, we went through the basics of introducing ourselves and getting settled in the way things were done. However, when our first tests came along, I was already struggling to cope in the subjects that I was not acquainted with. Mathematics seemed especially daunting, with some topics seemingly highly abstract to me.

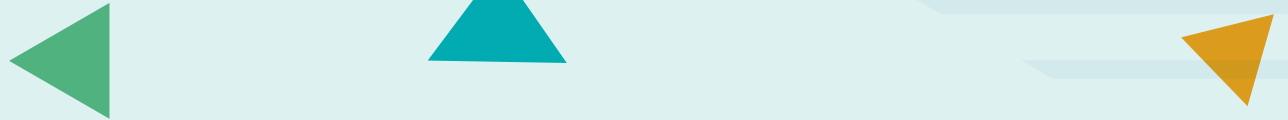
I felt as though I was not going to make it. The pressure from myself, the pressure by some very competitive classmates and parental as well as pressure from teachers simply compounded the issue. The light in the tunnel was that I did not give up on myself. I took things in my stride and tried my best to manage the stress of managing nine subjects, a very huge jump from the four subjects I was accustomed to in primary school.

When the first wave of tests ended, I heaved a huge sigh of relief. I survived the two weeks of gruelling tests. However, I was also very anxious for what was to come. In about a week's time, I would know my fate. I had no clue as to how I had performed. That created immense stress for me. I remembered having sleepless nights for days in a row.

To my utmost surprise, I managed to pass all my subjects. All nine of them! I passed some with flying colours, while for some subjects, I managed to secure only a borderline pass. Without my friends and teachers supporting and encouraging me, I could not have accomplished what I had done and could have performed far below expectations. All the studying and prudent time management paid off handsomely.

Upon reflection, I learnt that giving up is not an option. My strategy to apportion time wisely between my studies and my passion in Basketball as well as the occasional dose of mobile gaming worked. I will not give up when faced with challenges, but persevere for success.

Daniel Yu Min Lewis
Class 1E4



This is my first year in secondary school and even though only seven months have passed, a lot of things have happened. It has definitely been challenging compared to what I faced in primary school as I took only four subjects back then. Being tested in nine subjects made a world of difference to me. The subject I saw the greatest improvement in was English Language.

For my first Weighted Assessment, I got a C6 grade. This was very disappointing and a rude awakening to me. I studied harder. I focused more in class. I asked questions. I took responsibility for my own learning.

What a change I had in my second Weighted Assessment. It was a Performance Task focusing on expressive reading of fairy tales. Even in the first take, I cleared it effortlessly. I was one of those who did not require a second attempt or even a third attempt. When my teacher announced I had an A2 grade, I was speechless with disbelief.

This was something I was very proud of because that was my greatest academic success to date. I had actually improved by three grades! More importantly, I agreed with my teacher. All of us have different talents. Some are very talented in writing, some are gifted in speaking while some are able to listen to others with empathy.

Upon reflection, I think I made improvements in the second Weighted Assessment partly because it was testing me not on writing as it did the first time round. It was testing me on speaking, an area which I have a flair in. I also believed in what my teacher had said. With effort, I will make progress. In retrospect, over seven months, I have improved as a learner in secondary school. I am more diligent and conscientious in my learning. I am sure if I am tested on writing in the future, I will also make a visible improvement over my first Weighted Assessment. I am confident, and I look forward to challenges ahead.

Fawaazul Akram Fareej Mohamed
Class 1E4

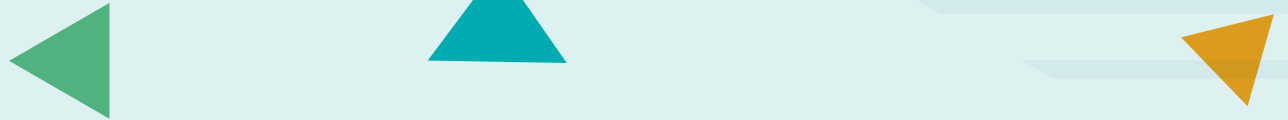
What is success to you? Is it making new friends? Or, does it involve learning something new? To me, success is achieving something you are determined to secure, like attaining a goal, or a dream.

In secondary school, I have always had one major fear – underperforming in my tests and examinations. When it was time for me to receive my results, it was also time for me to confront my innermost fears. I went up to my form teacher and received my report slip. I held my report slip in my hand, not daring to look at it. My friends all crowded around me, curiously asking for my grades. I took a deep breath and looked down at the result slip, and to my bewilderment, I scored five A1s! I squealed with delight. I was truly ecstatic with my results. A1 is the highest grade that one can ever achieve. I was not the top performer in class, but it was still an incredible achievement! I told my friends and family members the fantastic news, and they were all happy for me.

I never had that many A1s in my entire life! I was not one of the top scorers in primary school, but, when I came to secondary school, I managed to be one of the elite students in my class! It was my teachers who taught me well and who had helped me to grow into someone with knowledge and good character.

There were other successes I tasted within the first semester this year. Getting a string of A1s was definitely a tremendous success to me and the highlight of 2019. It was something I never thought I would be able to attain! I look forward to more successes in the future and I will go to school each day with keen anticipation of what I will be learning for the day.

Jane Ong Zhi Lin
Class 1E4



What is the meaning of success? According to the dictionary, success is an event that accomplishes its intended purpose. However, to different people, success would hold a different meaning. For a student, performing well in his examinations is a form of success. For an employee, it may be related to a promotion. My personal success relates to my academic achievements experienced in Loyang View Secondary School.

When I first entered secondary school, I was worried whether I would be able to cope with the increased amount of work, with nine subjects instead of four subjects that I was accustomed to in primary school. My new workload as a teenager in secondary school meant that I had nine subjects, including Co-Curricular Activity twice a week and also two hours of enrichment activities every Friday afternoon. I felt overwhelmed. In primary school, even with four subjects, I was already struggling to keep up with my homework. In comparison, it felt like I was being tasked to climb Mount Everest when I could not even pass my basic physical proficiency test comprising much simpler test items.

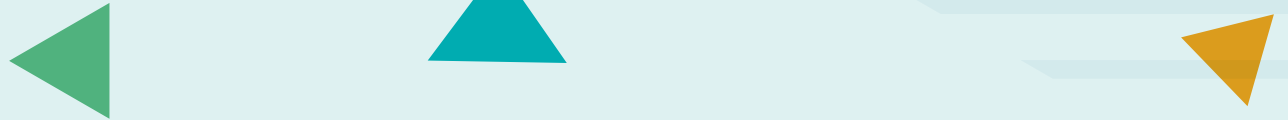
At first, it felt like I was neck-deep in homework. However, after a while, with advice from friends and my family, I managed to get a hang of things. My homework was in order and I had enough spare time for revision for the Weighted Assessments. I felt like I finally had my usage of time in control. Sometimes, I could even afford time to relax for a moment or two.

The ultimate test of my usage of time came along when my Weighted Assessment season started. I was nervous so I started revising more intensively. I paid extra attention during lessons. My friends told me I had nothing to worry about as I was prepared all along. All I needed to do was to be careful in discerning the demands of the questions when I was doing the tests. That was what I did exactly for each of my Weighted Assessments.

On the day I received my results, I was overjoyed when I saw that I had attained the top grade in most of my subjects. To top it off, I received the most uplifting news that I had also been emplaced at the top five percent of the Secondary One cohort. I was so happy that I thought that I was on top of the world, standing astride on the peak of Mount Everest, feeling triumphant. When I related to my family news of my academic achievements, they were happy for me too.

I owe my success to my family and friends who have given me invaluable support. Without their support, I would not have been able to perform so incredibly well in school. My academic success I experienced to date has buoyed me with optimism and given me the reassurance that my strategies worked. I will go on to face each new challenge boldly with fortitude. I know that I will be able to surmount them well, just as I had done in my first two Weighted Assessments. That has been a most uplifting journey in my secondary school life to date.

Loo Wai Yan Joan
Class 1E4



My teacher once said that 'success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts'. Back then, while I understood the meaning of what she said, it did not mean anything special to me, at least in practical terms.

I was playing Frisbee with my friends one day during my termly break when John threw the Frisbee with might and it flew over my head. While I was running, I did not look down, trying my best to catch it before it landed. Unfortunately, I slipped and my left leg hit a boulder. I lay slumped on the ground, bleeding profusely, too shocked to be able to react. Before I even realised it, I fainted due to the shock from excessive blood loss.

My parents were informed of what had happened. I was admitted to the hospital and went for an immediate surgery. I missed school for a period of time due to the unfortunate accident. One of my greatest concerns back then was whether I could catch up in my weakest subject, Mathematics. My mother arranged for tuition so I could keep up with what I had missed in school due to my prolonged period of absence.

After school each day, I had tuition in Mathematics. In addition to the intensive private tuition, I also practised on my own and had invested a lot of my free time working on the techniques that my teacher taught when I was not around.

Finally, the day of the Mathematics Weighted Assessment arrived. I put into practice what I had learnt and did each question carefully, noting the question demands. Before long, I had finished my paper with even time to spare. While I felt confident, I knew I should not be complacent.

When the results were released, I saw an A grade and jumped up high into the air. I clenched my fists and pumped them in triumphant glory. I shouted out aloud before relating the results to my parents over the phone.

Upon reflection, I agree wholeheartedly with my parents that 'The key to success is to focus on goals, not obstacles'. That is a glorious rebound from the low point in my life. I will continue to persevere for success no matter how challenging the odds may be.

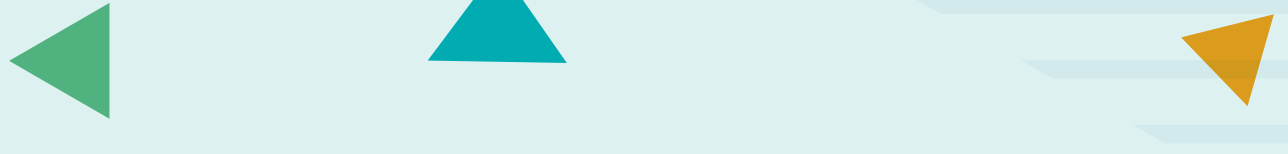
M Thenappan
Class 1E4

Since I was young, I was never good in the Chinese Language. At most, I would only attain a B grade. My parents had signed me up for various Chinese tuition lessons but to no avail. I was still floundering in the language. My kindergarten teacher was even afraid that I would not cope in it in the future. Such pessimism shown by an educator at such an early stage of development in my learning certainly did not help. In fact, it compounded the issue. I came to the realisation that I would disappoint my parents and never make them proud of me. However, I persevered as I hoped I would make my parents proud of me eventually, though I did not know when the day would ever arrive.

Primary school was indeed torturous. I had mediocre results in the Chinese Language throughout the six years of my primary school life. All the other children attained at least passing grades. I was the odd one out. My parents were alerted by my Chinese Language teachers that I had severe problems in managing even the basics. While both my kindergarten and primary school teachers lacked faith in me, I was glad my parents persisted in their belief that I would be able to surmount the difficulties I faced in the Chinese Language in time to come.

When my Primary School Leaving Examination results were released, I actually attained a B grade in the Chinese Language. My Chinese Language teacher came over to congratulate me, which was beyond disbelief.

When I first entered Loyang View Secondary School, I questioned if I would be able to manage Chinese Language, which would definitely be much more daunting in secondary school. Questions filled my head. However, I was reassured when I realised I had caring classmates, concerned teachers and the school created a warm and inviting environment for learning to take place. My two Chinese Language teachers are rather stern in class, but are actually sweet and caring. They guided us thoroughly, correcting our every mistake and cleared our doubts. With a fresh beginning, I actually started to enjoy learning the Chinese Language, with active encouragement from my two teachers.



The day of the release of our Weighted Assessment results dawned. I went to school with keen anticipation of what was to come. When I realised I received an A grade in Chinese Language, I jumped around and performed a victory dance at the back of the classroom. I was on cloud nine. I could not wait to tell my parents about my success. The looks on their faces would be priceless.

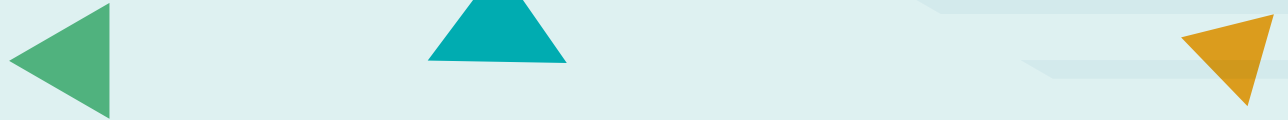
Upon reflection, I am thankful to my Chinese Language teachers for helping me to understand the Chinese Language better. They fostered my love for the language. While my kindergarten and primary school teachers saw issues and weaknesses in my learning, my secondary school teachers saw possibilities within me. They guided me patiently and gave me lots of encouragement. Without them, I might not have come this far. I am confident I would go on to make further progress in the Chinese Language in time to come.

Neo Jing Xuan Nichelle
Class 1E4

What is success? Success is the accomplishment of an aim or a purpose. Success can be seen in many different ways. Some people will consider making friends a success while others may consider doing well in their Co-Curricular Activity a success. To me, success means doing well in a particular subject. This is my first success story in Loyang View Secondary School.

On the second week of school, all the secondary one students got to know who our subject teachers were. All the teachers were warm and welcoming. However, my English Language teacher was welcoming but immensely strict. On the first lesson, he was already telling us about our results in primary school and how we ranked as a class relative to other Express stream classes. I did not perform as well as others in my class in the English Language in my Primary School Leaving Examination. My primary school teachers expected me to get an A grade but I attained only a B grade. Most of my classmates in my current class got an A grade, which made me feel insecure and somewhat unworthy. Somehow, I was quite intimidated by my English Language teacher, Mr Long.

Two weeks went by and I started to talk to Mr Long more often about my mistakes. Mr Long even had a class during the March holidays for students who needed help in specific areas. My weakest component in the English Language was composition writing. He invested a lot of time to assist us in embellishing our compositions. He would ask us to write the first draft before he would point out the areas for improvement. This method of teaching really helped me to strengthen my essay crafting skills. I started to enjoy English Language more as I knew Mr Long could actually be rather amusing, despite him portraying a menacing look.



In my first Weighted Assessment, we were supposed to write two compositions. One was about our graduation day in primary six and the other was related to a memorable dish we had. We actually had lots of time as Mr Long allowed the whole class to submit essays to him at least twice for refinement.

A week later, he returned to us the final draft of our essays. I had actually made significant improvement in one of my compositions. I was very satisfied with my marks for the first Weighted Assessment. I scored an A2 grade, which was the first time I ever scored an A grade in my life. This accomplishment motivated me to perform even better in my upcoming examination. This initial success would be fondly cherished by me for posterity in Loyang View Secondary School.

'Remember to keep chasing your successes and never give up even though it is hard to achieve it, as you will always enjoy the consequences thereafter.'

This is my success story. I cannot wait to relate to you my other successes in the future.

Pooja D/O Mohan
Class 1E4

It was a warm and sunny Tuesday, a co-curricular activity (CCA) day. My CCA is Netball.

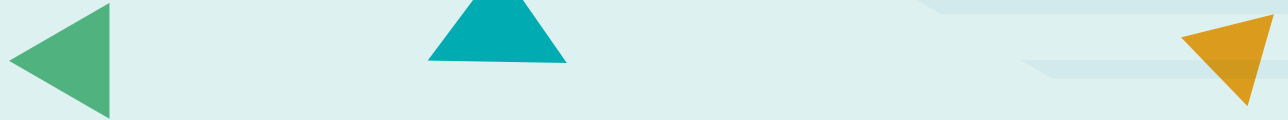
During the selection day for CCAs, I wanted to join the Dance Club as that was my CCA in primary school. However, when I tried playing netball, I liked it. So did my friends. Thus, my friends and I decided to sign up for it as our first choice.

I got accepted but unfortunately my friends were not. Instead, they were accepted by the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC). I was happy that I was accepted but, at the same time, sad as my friends would not be with me in the CCA.

Initially, it was tough but eventually, I got used to the training. I always felt very tired after the CCA. However, I never regretted being in the Netball team as I am having a lot of fun. I like my coach and teachers as they are nice and caring.

One memorable event was when my coach asked me to try playing as a shooter. I was not sure whether I could so as I was not confident. However, my friends advised me to take the chance since I would not know whether I would be good at being a shooter if I did not even try it. When the day came, I managed to score goals even though it was the first time I had played as a shooter. I had succeeded as a shooter!

Nimysha D/o Seenivasan
Class 1T1



This was the time I 'mastered' how to cook. Actually, I wouldn't say I've really 'mastered' cooking, but I've definitely improved. I am still not that interested in cooking but it seems more appealing now. Previously, the best dish I could prepare was a fried egg. When my Form Teacher told us about our FCE classes, I was not excited at all.

When the first lesson started, we were split into two groups. I was given a numbered card. I ended up sitting with three girls in my class. We were told what we would be cooking for that day.

When the class was about to bake cupcakes, we listened attentively. By the end of the lesson, my group had become the 'model student' group of the class. We also baked chocolate cakes in addition to cupcakes. I got in trouble for tasting the mixed ingredients before baking them. Since then, I have had fun baking and cooking during our practical lessons.

I think I am loud and ask a lot of questions during FCE only because half the class is not there. So, it's less stressful.

The main practical test has not started yet, and for that we're supposed to make hawker foods healthier and also make them unique. I have decided to prepare a combination of omurice and chicken rice. Using a mixture of white rice and brown rice, the dish will be healthier. I will also make it more vegetable-based (by using vegetable oil). All the ingredients like chicken will be wrapped inside the egg.

Even though I am still not very interested in cooking, I have a lot of fun during FCE lessons, cooking. I have become more comfortable with cooking ever since I learnt how to bake and cook. I still would not say that I have mastered the art cooking but at least I know how to cook a few more dishes now.

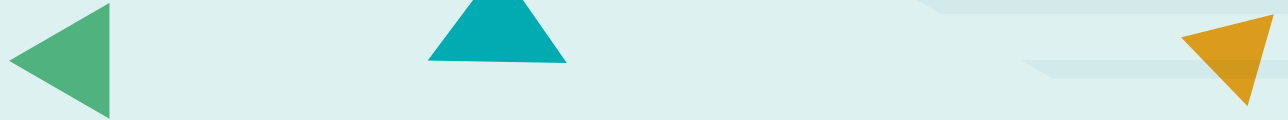
Riley Ang Jin Rong
Class 1T1

When I was in primary school my English was not that good as I always got a 'D' for English on my report card. However, in Loyang View Secondary School, I started doing relatively well in English because of my favourite teacher, Miss Yong. She has been so nice and kind; she does not scream (well, actually she does sometimes). Well, I mean, thanks to her my English is better.

The English teachers who taught me, in the past, were good but Miss Yong was far better. Thanks to her teaching, I finally got a 'B' for my English test. She also helped me to improve in my composition writing by using a variety of interesting approaches.

During one of my Weighted Assessment tasks, I played the part of the main character, Sang Nila Utama, in the play. I learnt a few new words like 'inconspicuous' and 'genuine'. I had never heard those words before. Miss Yong would also give us tips on how to make our stories better, and sometimes we got to watch sneak peeks of movies like Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone or Matilda. At times, she also read us excerpts from some of the very famous books by famous authors. Well, I would like to end this essay by saying MISS YONG YOU ARE THE BEST ENGLISH TEACHER I HAVE EVER HAD AND I HOPE NEXT YEAR YOU WILL STILL BE MY ENGLISH TEACHER.

Rio Lam Yu Kwong
Class 1T1



The event that I want share is about my involvement in Urban Farming. The training started the year before. This activity definitely broadened my knowledge about farming, and not only did I have fun, but it also opened my mind to the world of farming.

How did it start? In Secondary one before the two month-long term break, the teacher chose some students to become Urban Farmer Ambassadors and I was proud to be one of them. At first, I did not feel too happy because we had to stay back when everybody else could go home. Later on, I felt really great being part of the team of Urban Farmers. Before the training, I did not know what was coming my way. I thought I would not enjoy it, but it turned out to be an unforgettable experience. I enjoyed it very much! Not only did it teach me about farming and the world in general, it also strengthened the bonds between me and my friends.

The teachers were very fun to be around. If we made a mistake, they did not just scold us right away like some other teachers but would tell us gently and nicely that it was fine, and that everything would be all right. However, the thing that motivated me the most was definitely my friends. I felt like if they were not with me, I probably would not like Urban Farming that much. They made me feel happy while farming and their company definitely made me enjoy it more than I would have.

Before Urban Farming, I did not know much about farming or plants basically. I just thought that planting was just putting a seed in the soil and watering it from time to time. However, it was so much more than just those simple steps. You have to work hard, watch the plant every day, water it and take out the weeds. It was a lot of hard work!

In the end, it was worth it. It definitely opened me to the world and about farming. It made me feel that there is still a chance for the world. If we all help each other stop climate change, we can definitely make a difference. Many people are too caught up in their personal lives to care about farming.

Climate change is affecting the world. People do not realise that many species of fish are becoming extinct, and so are some farm animals. The climate is changing so we cannot just casually ignore it. Sooner or later, there will not be enough food for us, if we do not do anything about it. The Urban Farming activity has taught me to farm and to make the world a better place.

Chan Zi Fang Michelle
Class 2A1

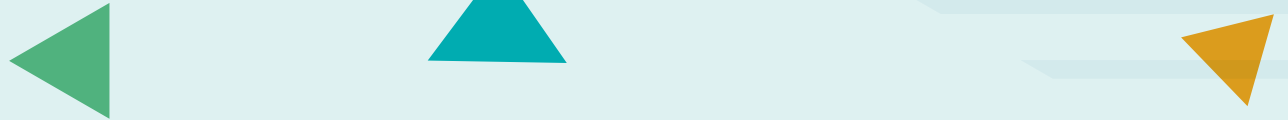
“It is ok, girls, although today’s friendly didn’t go well, there are still many more schools to go against in the future! Anyway, it is only the first friendly of the year! Don’t be discouraged, girls, there are always other friendly matches, and the netball carnival coming up in the year, ok!” said Coach Tan, our Loyang View Secondary School netball coach, who was trying to encourage us after we lost our first friendly against Anglican High School.

It was a normal Thursday afternoon. The school bell rang and classes ended. When co-curricular activity (CCA) was about to begin, I was informed about the friendly that was going to take place that very afternoon. At that exact moment, I started to panic and I felt anxious. My heart literally started thumping and for a moment, I could not believe the news I had just heard.

Shortly after, I saw the bus arrive at the foyer. I was still in shock when I saw our opponents alight from the bus. We had one hour before our friendly match and coach Tan finally arrived. Although just seeing her made me feel relieved, I still felt very nervous.

These were a few words of encouragement from Coach Tan, “Hey girls, I know most of you are very nervous but I have faith in you girls. I know you all can do it. I just want all of you to persevere through the game as the weather is quite hot today. Girls, as we don’t have enough players, some of you will have to play continuously for every quarter of the game. Nevertheless, I want you girls to have fun today while playing your opponents.”

Before these encouraging words, what had gone through our minds were mostly negative thoughts rather than positive ones. We did not have much hope before Coach Tan gave us the pep talk. Our opponents from Anglican High seemed to be taller, more skillful and fitter than us. Naturally, we were not optimistic about winning. As a netballer who had only two years of experience, I doubted myself



and comparing myself to them further lowered my self-esteem to the point where I did not want to play. However, the words of encouragement from our coach boosted my confidence.

Soon the first quarter of the match started. Ten minutes had passed and we were in the lead against Anglican High. Coach then got me to play wing attack (WA) for the second quarter. We played for the whole ten minutes and did not manage to score a goal. In the third and fourth quarters, we did not score as many goals as Anglican High.

Before long, our whole team looked gloomy. Our coach informed us that there was going to be a fifth and sixth quarter. We were losing miserably. By the time the sixth quarter came along, everyone was already very exhausted and our muscles were starting to cramp very badly. For some reason, I was asked to play in the centre position. Although I was very tired by that time, I just endured and motivated my teammates till the end of the match.

Although we did not win the friendly, I learnt how to endure and persevere through the match.

Erika Dwi Natasha Binte Mohamed Fairuz
Class 2A1

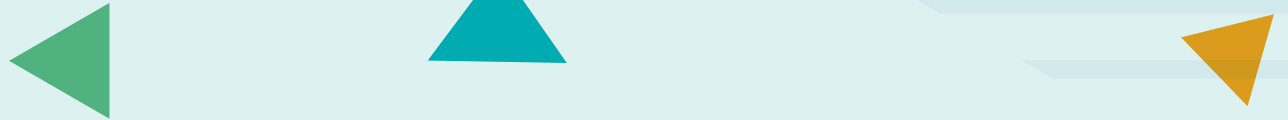
Hi, I am Ida Tan from 2A1. To be honest, I am not a very interesting person, but I will try my best to tell you about my passion for learning.

In the first place, you need to know what is learning with passion. Well for one, the learning process should be one that becomes habitual. By creating a passion for learning, you are creating a lifetime of opportunities. This passion gives you the drive to explore different topics and challenges, each with its own risks and rewards.

Now, I am going to tell you about my Secondary two camp. During the camp, there were many games that involved teamwork. Normally I am not good with games that involved teamwork. There was a game called the “caterpillar walk” that required four persons to step on a board with each leg. We had to walk to certain points, but we were not allowed to communicate with one another except for the two leaders who were able to tell us which leg to use and what step to take.

During the game, I kept making mistakes, but luckily my teammates were kind and understanding. I decided to put in more effort so that we could finish the game faster. After a while, we managed to synchronise our actions much better. Before long, we had finished the game. For the first time, I had worked well with a team. Now I know that I can work with any team.

Ida Tan Xue Qi
Class 2A1



The Secondary two camp fell between March 14 and 16 this year. Throughout these three days, I learnt a lot more about myself. I had a great experience. After the camp briefing a few days before the actual event, I felt excited, yet nervous. The activities had already been planned and set up for us.

I became more independent and braver when trying out new activities. One example was the high element course. I have a fear of heights but I attempted the activity. I did not want to go to a school camp without trying out new things. The high element course taught me to overcome my fear of heights, boosted my self-confidence and got me out of my comfort zone.

I also did the challenge rope course. It was really fun and I had such a great experience. It was also competitive. I wanted to complete the task within a short time. The instructors were friendly and they even gave us moral support because some of us were really nervous and afraid. This camp taught me values which I can apply in school or in my daily life.

I hope to experience this once again. I really enjoyed trying the activities and I also got closer to my friends. We had a few bonding games which strengthened our friendships. This camp made me a better person and helped me realise my potential.

Putri Firzanah Binte Amir
Class 2A1

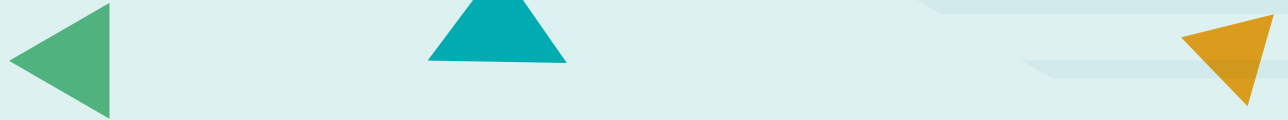
The purpose of the Secondary 2 Adventure Camp was to get students out of their comfort zone. The idea was for students to enjoy nature and become more sociable. This was certainly a good opportunity for students to build up their character by participating in the various activities.

After I placed my bag in the bunks, I assembled with my classmates at the outdoor hall. My class was assigned the High Elements as our first camp activity. I felt skeptical as the entire course of rope designs did not look safe and was intimidating. Generally, I expected the first activity to be simple, but the High Elements looked like the Ninja Challenge I had seen on television. Before long, the safety briefing started and we were told to put on our harness and helmets. Since my friends were all game to try it, so was I. While waiting for my turn at the rope course, my legs were wobbly like jelly. Anxiety coursed through my veins and I started off with small steps. When I reached a hard landing, I wanted to turn back but I realised that the only way was to complete the course. With encouragement from my friends and instructors, I managed my fears and carried on. Eventually, I planted both feet firmly on the ground. A sense of relief washed over me. My self-confidence was gradually growing.

Besides the major activities that forced me out of my comfort zone, there were many little things that I learnt. I had to be independent and ensure that the items in my bag were organised. As I did not have my family members picking up after me, I had to be responsible for my bag of soiled clothes.

In all, this camp was thoroughly enriching and I would definitely encourage all my juniors to grasp such opportunities for growth.

Muhammad Fahmy Bin Muhamad Farhad
Class 2A1



My Secondary 2 camp taught me to bond with students from other classes. When the students looked at the High Elements Rope Course, some would shudder with fear while others would burst with excitement. For me, it brought up fond memories of my Secondary 2 camp that happened in March. My mental and physical powers were totally stretched in this three-day-two-night camp.

Being a sports enthusiast, I looked forward to being in the great outdoors. When the camp came about, I eagerly anticipated the different activities. While some of my classmates groaned at the loss of their mobile devices during camp, I rubbed my hands with glee at the opportunity to quench my thirst for adventure and daring acts. The first course, High Elements, was my first activity during camp. It looked like a formidable obstacle course with the complex rope designs. Nevertheless, I was eager to start as it was my first time doing the High Elements. Soon, I was sailing through the various rope stations. It was an exhilarating experience.

Abseiling was the next activity that I truly enjoyed as I could see the funny facial expressions of my friends. Some looked downright scared while others were trying hard to be calm. To me, the abseiling experience was very enjoyable and exciting. This activity requires upper body strength and balance as we need to balance on thin ropes and to grab ropes to progress through the obstacle. The next activity was Rock Climbing. This made me very excited as rock climbing is my current co-curricular activity (CCA) and it was a piece of cake climbing up the wall. My friends commented that I looked like Spiderman, scaling the wall effortlessly. I felt very pleased with the compliment.

Lastly, we ended the camp with a performance, which needed lots of teamwork. We had to perform a short skit as well as do the Loyang View dance. The campfire lit up the night and gave the camp a nice vibe. After the camp ended, I started to miss the activities and the good vibes of this memorable camp.

This camp has allowed me to boost my self-confidence and satisfied my love for the outdoors. I have also learnt that teamwork is important as it helps to strengthen relationships as we compete with other students in different challenges.

Muhammad Harith Bin Roslee
Class 2A1

One day after training, my teacher announced that there would be morning training starting from Monday. All of the Secondary ones were scared. The Secondary twos and I were not shocked. The morning training was to prepare us for our match the following Tuesday. I was looking forward to the extra training.

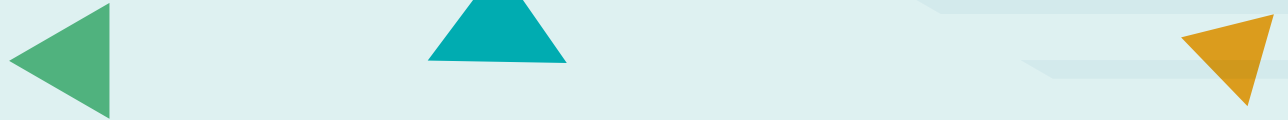
For the morning training, the coach made us work on our basic skills. He made us run a lot. We hated the running but we knew it was for our own good. We ran till our muscles ached but we still pushed on.

The next day was our match against Temasek Secondary School. In the bus, I felt nervous. When we reached the match site, we warmed up and prepared for the game. I was in the starting five. The match started. We got the ball. I dribbled it down the court feeling very anxious. I passed the ball to my teammate. Alas, he lost the ball. However, we did not let this affect us. We focused on our defence. Soon my playing time was over and our teacher substituted us out. Unfortunately, we lost the match.

Despite the loss, we did not wallow in self-pity. Instead, we did some self-reflection and realized what we could have done better. In the bus, the teacher announced the names that made the C-division school team. I heard my name and I was extremely elated. I knew I had to work harder.

Looking back, I felt that I had come a long way, from an average player to a school team player. Finally, my dream was realised. I managed to prove to myself that I had the capability to participate in my first competition and be part of the school's basketball team.

Ng Seng En
Class 2A1



I am a normal International student who is really lucky to have a chance to learn and live in a good educational environment such as Singapore. When I first came here, I felt really happy and enjoyed the country and its culture. Unfortunately, when I joined a Government school, I always felt useless and could not integrate with the people around me because of my poor English. People often had difficulty understanding me. I was really upset with myself.

When I joined the school, I had chosen dance as my Co-curricular Activity (CCA). But I think that was a wrong choice because I had never learnt how to dance before. This was also one of the reasons why I was always left behind by my CCA mates. Last year, in August, we received the news from our dance instructor that we would be participating in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) the following year. Everyone seemed very excited and nervous at the same time as we would have to train really hard for it. We might even have to forego our holidays and weekends to attend practice. That sounded horrible for my CCA mates and me.

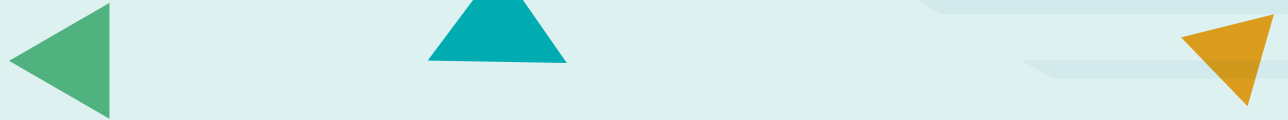
At first, I was not interested in this event because it was going to take up my June holidays. But after watching the video of my seniors' performances in the past two years, I started to feel the passion in me coming alive and decided to work hard for it. When we first started our training, I always stayed focused and paid careful attention to all the steps that the instructor showed us.

Days passed and I started to feel tired and discouraged. There were a lot of problems and I felt I could not make it. Firstly, I could not keep up with all the steps and the instructor kept changing the positions. Secondly, the weighted assessment (WA) examinations were coming at the same time and I did not have enough time to do my revision. I started to feel anxious. If I could not keep up with all the steps and changes, I would not do well for the audition and would not be selected for SYF. Also, if I had not done my revision properly, I would fail my WA1 and WA2 and it would disappoint my parents. I was worried how I was going to handle all of this.

Luckily, all my friends and also my teachers noticed my difficulty and decided to help me. My friends started to talk to me more and taught me all the things that I had missed out in the choreography. My teachers also helped me by allowing me to submit all the homework when the SYF was over. With that, I felt much better and motivated, and decided to give it my best.

In the end, I got selected for SYF. I was really happy and appreciated the help from my friends and teachers. Moving on, me and my friends started to work even harder together. On the actual day, we all gathered together as one and started to encourage each other. We all felt butterflies in our stomachs and our legs kept shaking non-stop. The time had come. We all went on stage and prepared to perform. Finally, it was all over. I went back and started to work hard for my examinations. In the end, we got a distinction for our performance. We all jumped with joy, some of us even started to cry. I felt really good that in the end, I had finally made it and made everyone feel proud of our achievement. Through this event, I had learnt a lot of useful things such as to believe and be confident in myself, perseverance, teamwork and the importance of communication with others. I hope that I will be able to make it for the next SYF event.

Thai Thien Minh Hieu (Kenneth)
Class 2A1



This year in March, Danish Anaqi and I went for a First Aid Course at the National Cadet Corps (NCC) headquarters. Our madam chose us for that course as she thought that we were good and committed. It was held at Amoy Quee Camp. During the course, they taught us how to save people's lives and some safety rules. The most basic thing that they taught us was how to do CPR as it was the most important and common first aid skill.

It was a 9-hour course. Both Danish and I felt very tired and mentally drained but we had to endure as it was important. The officers were strict but very kind. After they taught us CPR, we needed to learn about the safety rules when we saw someone who had fainted. In that course, Danish and I met other cadets from various schools. I felt honoured to be one of the representatives from Loyang View Secondary School.

I had worked hard to be selected for the course and after I completed it, I looked forward to attending the other courses which were only open to Secondary 3 and Secondary 4 cadets. I am really looking forward to be a Cadet Officer because I am really keen on NCC and I wish to carry on in the army. That is my plan for the future for now.

During the course, there were a few cadets who were playing around as our officer was giving instructions and I knew something was going to happen. The next minute as I turned back, I saw our officer shouting at those cadets. It was a terrifying moment for Danish but it was not so to me as I had experienced worst. The most important thing about NCC was discipline and commitment, and from what I saw of those cadets, they lacked discipline. I, too, sometimes lacked discipline.

From that incident, Danish and I learnt a valuable lesson. Discipline in NCC is crucial. Without discipline, we are bringing down the name of NCC and nobody ever wants that. That is the reason our officers and our Unit Sargent Major would always punish or shout at us when we misbehaved.

Zulkarnain Bin Aminuddin
Class 2A1

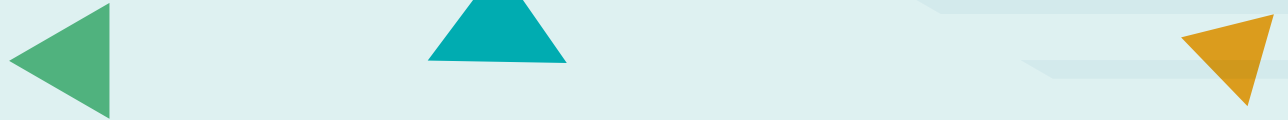
Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) students possess a strong quest for knowledge. Our passion for learning is overwhelming. Our school has many interesting and exciting programmes to feed our desire to learn. One of them was the Secondary 2 adventure training camp. In this programme, we learn how to work together as a team and bond with our class and school mates.

Learning does not only take place in the classrooms. We had our training camp at Labrador campsite. I learned many new things after I had successfully attended the three day and two night camp which was held over the weekend. By taking part in this camp, I built up my self-confidence through the high elements. I plucked up the courage to attempt every one of them as I once had a chronic fear of heights. I learned to be independent through cleaning my bunk and cooking my own meals. It developed in me a sense of camaraderie. My school mates and I bonded through the various rigorous physical activities we had like kayaking and the land expedition.

Before this camp, we put in several hours, preparing for the adventure training camp. The training was rigorous. We were required to walk and run over long distances. We also played games that required us to work closely with our team mates. We went for swimming lessons, too, that prepared us for the kayaking session.

I realised that this adventure training camp was an excellent platform for learning. I discovered the new me. I was now better able to overcome challenges. The school had provided me with opportunities to taste success, in little ways. These experiences helped shape my character.

Branden Lee
Class 2A2



Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than academic achievements. For me, it is about my co-curricular activity (CCA) achievements. I used to slack, and not train seriously and gave a lot of attitude. During training, it was hard for me to shoot, control the ball and follow the drills that was taught by our coach. I found it hard to understand my Coach's drills because I get distracted easily and sometimes won't pay attention to what he is saying.

I thought of giving up but floorball is the only sports CCA that I'm interested in. During my Primary school days, my CCA was football, which was my favourite CCA and the only sport that I was interested in. I thought that Loyang View had football but when I came to this school, I had no other choice but to join floorball. I thought of changing schools but unfortunately there was no space in the other schools.

Even though I didn't get the school of my choice, I still have to continue the new chapter in my school life. So I decided to forget about football and concentrate on floorball. It's going to be so tiring, and I wondered how I was going to cope with my studies. I also know that if I don't get enough rest, I can get sick easily.

After more than a year in floorball, it is my favourite sport now. The way the floorball committee treats the members really impresses me. With that, I decided to start afresh with a new CCA. To me, is not too late to start fresh and try new stuff. So for me this is success as now I know the importance of trying new things instead of doing nothing. I learnt that failure leads to success. It took multiple failures for me to pull up my socks and see progress. However, if we do not put in the effort, we won't succeed in what we're doing.

Ashraf Ali
Class 2A3

Having spent a year in Loyang View Secondary School, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about the passion for learning. My success story is about the achievements in my co-curricular activity (CCA). Let me introduce you to my CCA and what my CCA does. My CCA is Dance and you might think that dance is easy or just a boring one but no, it's not just about dancing. It teaches me to be responsible, how to manage my time and how to multi-task. My dance coaches provided us with a few sets of Physical Training (PT) exercises which we had to complete 16 rounds for us to improve our stamina. My goal was to get chosen for the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts 2019.

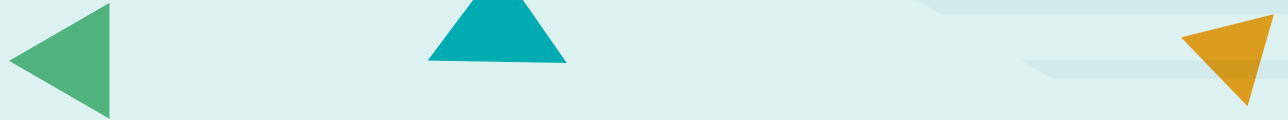
In order to get chosen, my coaches mentioned that they would be looking out for people who showed a lot of passion in dance, those who don't give up and were always consistent in the PT sessions that were provided by them and of course, be a good role model to the juniors. I started telling myself to be more aware of my surroundings and be more responsible so that I could get chosen to represent the school team and make my mom proud.

From that day onwards, I started managing my time well and whenever I had some free time, I would always train and recap the things that I learned during dance and also do the few sets of the PT exercises. I kept my consistency at the same pace every time even though there were ups and downs during the process. I kept telling myself to stay positive and not to give up even when I felt like giving up because it was too tiring. After a few months of training myself to be consistent in everything that I do, I received the good news and I was very proud of myself.

Surprisingly, I had been selected to represent the school team and be part of the SYF! I was really proud and happy for myself. All my hard work had paid off and I had achieved the goal that I wanted. After those tiring months of training for SYF, I noticed some improvements in myself in dance. I became more passionate and consistent in my dance. And I was very happy that we got a distinction in our SYF performance! I was super proud of myself and each and every one of the dancers that were part of the SYF. I was happy that I could help the Secondary 4s achieve their goal of getting a distinction since it was their last time to be part of the school team.

This experience has made me a wholesome individual by making me more socially confident and enhanced my passion for learning dance.

Farah Nabilah
Class 2A3



Success to me is about gaining experiences because having been in this school for one and a half years, success is not as important as the lessons and enrichments I have gone through after school.

I've been going through enrichment classes on Fridays after school, and one of my favourite classes is photo-montage-making. I learnt a few ways to make a good montage. Firstly, we had to take a few beautiful pictures in order to make the video montage look interesting.

Secondly, after taking the pictures, we had to edit the pictures. In order to make the video more beautiful, we could even add text to it but I chose not to as it would take a longer time in order for it to download and save. I really enjoyed the enrichment class because of the skills that I learnt.

I was initially upset as the loading of the montage was taking a long time. But I learnt that pursuing my passion takes hard work and making a montage was not easy as I have to learn a lot of details. I wanted to give up as my picture was not as nice as my classmates but I was lucky to have my friend motivate me so I continued to make the picture nicer and I managed to make the picture beautiful.

After the session ended, I managed to make a lot of montages and collages on my own with the help of the skills I picked up during the enrichment class. The course has taught me that I have to use different filters in order to make my pictures brighter and more colourful. It has also taught me, if I want to take a better picture then I have to take pictures of nature or animals.

Maybe, when I grow up, I want to be a photographer. I want to take pictures of people when they are getting married or my friends and family members when in countries like Amsterdam and Australia. Looks like I have to work harder in the future in order to pursue my dream.

Raul Haqq
Class 2A3

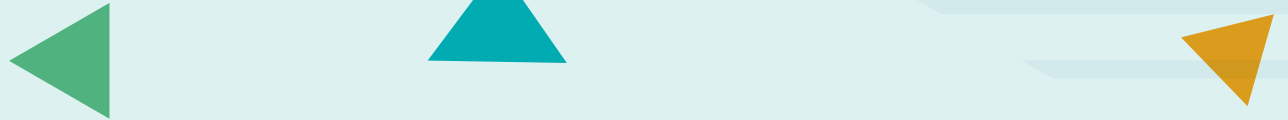
Having spent a year in Loyang view, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about having a passion for learning.

My success story involves my co-curricular activity (CCA). My CCA is band. In March this year, we had to perform at Victoria theatre and I was not the best at playing my instrument. In fact, I was at the bottom. I practiced hard because I wanted to improve and I was excited for the performance. Every day when I went home, I would play the piece in my head over and over again. We all practiced hard for the performance.

The day of the performance came and it felt like we couldn't move our faces as we were all scared. When our turn came, the whole band came on stage and we all sat down. The conductor came onto stage and bowed to the audience. I was shaking with fear. The conductor faced us and raised his hand and we all got prepared to play. In the end, our hard work paid off. I was glad the performance was over and I was happy that I got to perform in front of a huge audience. In the end I didn't need to be scared because everybody was there with me. I really enjoyed performing and, if I got another chance, I would definitely want to perform again.

In the future, I would want to perform in front of people again and I want to play for the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF). I have learnt not to give up and to keep on trying even though you had failed before.

Waiz
Class 2A3



“Zelia Koh from 2E1, you will be learning archery for Enrichment,” said the teacher who was reading out students’ names from my class. I was at a loss for words as weeks before they had finalized the groupings for our different activities. I clearly remember that I had selected inline skating as my preferred activity. To add salt to injury, most of my friends had managed to get into inline skating. Changing of groups was not allowed anymore. Therefore, I reluctantly proceeded to the assembly area for archery.

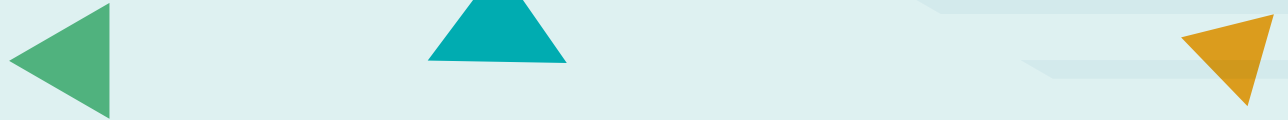
It was a scorching hot day, definitely not the ‘ideal’ weather to do archery outdoors but thankfully the instructors and teachers in charge decided to move all the equipment into an air-conditioned room. Though I was reluctant, it was great interacting with new friends and getting closer to some of my other classmates. Before I knew it, the first lesson of archery began. Our first task was to form our own groups. Usually when I am together with my close friends, without hesitation, we would always form one group, but since we were now not in the same activity, I knew I had to be more proactive in interacting with other students. Not long after, with some discussion, I formed a group with my classmates and we eventually found out that we worked very well together.

Moving on, we had to warm up to the instructors and get the equipment like the arrows and bows ready. Archery was new to me as I had never actually shot an arrow with a bow before, or in fact, I had never even held an arrow or a bow. I was really scared and the instructors told us what could go wrong if we did not follow the instructions. They even told us of their experiences of getting badly injured. Hearing all of those experiences started to make my hands sweat and my legs tremble with fear as worried thoughts went through my head. “What if my aiming is bad and the arrow I release does not hit the board or even land near it?” More “what if” questions popped into my head as I watched the instructors perform demonstrations. I felt that I was not ready but thankfully my classmates volunteered to be one of the first in our group to try it out so I did not have to go first.

It was soon going to be my turn to try it and as I was watching all my classmates attentively, I observed and noted what I should do and what I should not to prevent any accidents from happening. Time passed quickly and before I knew it, it was already my turn. I got ready and stood in position. I held my breath as I pulled the bow, closing one eye and trying to aim directly at the middle of the board.

“Get ready, one, two, three and shoot!” the instructor yelled. As soon as I released the arrow and saw it hit the board, I felt relieved and satisfied. The next person in my group went on and got ready while I waited for my next try. Surprisingly, I found it really fun! Who knew something that I kept worrying and stressing about could turn out to be so much fun! I have to admit I was reluctant at first to try archery out as I did not know if I was going to find it boring. I was upset that over the next few weeks I would be stuck in an enrichment activity which I did not like. I didn’t want to be wasting my time. However, archery has taught me not only shooting skills but also values. Archery has taught me how we should always be patient when trying something new, to never give up and always remember that mastering something will take time. People say practice makes perfect and I have found this to be true after a few weeks of practice. One day, I surprised myself by hitting the bull’s eye! My classmates and I realized that archery was actually fun and it even brought us closer together as friends. Even though I did not get my choice of enrichment activity, I am glad that it turned out well with me learning invaluable lessons from archery!

Koh Xin Er Zelia
Class 2E1



When I received the scores for my Mid-Year Examinations, I sighed with relief. All the anxiety and confusion disappeared in my mind and a sense of confidence emerged.

I remember being confused and lost on my first day at Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS). Everything had happened too suddenly. While I was still basking in the excitement of receiving the news of my successful application to join a government school, my teacher had already selected LVSS. My parents, too, were excited, but I was not. Instead, I was nervous. Honestly, I feared not knowing how to get along with my new classmates. Besides, as a foreign student, I had to prepare to sit for the Mid-Year Examinations.

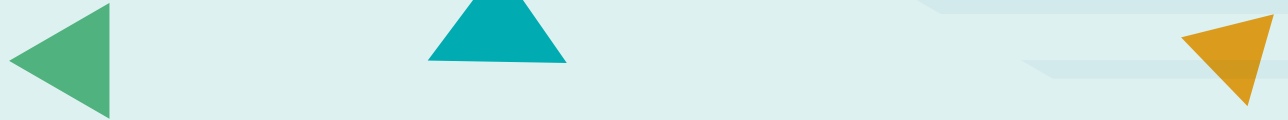
I had sat for such examinations in my home country before but I was afraid that I would use the wrong format for writing and lose marks. Besides that, I had not learnt some subjects in English before. Hence, it was quite difficult for me to score well in the examination, especially English. English was my weakest subject, I was not confident of passing. To make matters worse, I had to deal with these examinations while adapting to life in my new school. The new school was totally different from my original school. Although my marks for the Mid-Year Examinations would not be recorded, I still wanted to try my best to find out what my current standard was like.

I must say, learning without purpose was really a painful experience. I tried to revise for the various subjects with limited understanding of the examination format. There were presumably things that I had learnt before. I asked my tuition teacher what kinds of questions would appear. To know the correct format, I asked my classmates what I should do during the examination. I did not want to waste my time on getting confused about how to write in the correct way. I spent plenty of time on the humanities and English because I tried to remember some useful knowledge that could be used. During that week, I felt lost and had little confidence in myself. The new environment in school also made it harder for me to face my difficulties.

Finally, that day came. The first paper was English, one of my weakest subjects. I felt terrible on the first day. Every time I faced the subjects that I was not good at, my confidence gradually disappeared. When each test ended, I would complain to my friend that I felt terrible about my examination. With uncertainty, I waited for my results.

When I received all the results, I heaved a sigh of relief. I did not do very badly in my examinations. I felt relaxed when I knew that I passed my English and scored quite well in Literature and Geography. My confidence came back and I found a clear goal which was to improve my English and score better in the next examination. This new goal has motivated me to improve myself. It was then that I suddenly realized that people sometimes will feel confused and lose their confidence. However, if they keep trying and working hard, they will receive good results one day. We should not give up when we face difficulties.

Li Jianuo
Class 2E1



Skills. Skills are an essential part of being able to meet the challenges of everyday life. By learning new skills we can prevent boredom and perfect that skill. The habit of being open to acquiring new skills can also help us learn things faster over time. All of these can also be helpful for us in the future.

Despite all of these, many people still don't find time to learn something new. This is why I am happy to study in a school where it is mandatory to learn a new skill during our Friday Enrichment Classes. I was in iBand. I knew nothing about what this was but I was keen to find out.

On the first day, we were given iPads with the Garageband app installed. iBand was music that we learnt to play on electronic devices which, in our case, were iPads. There were about 40 students from Secondary 2 and 1 iBand teacher. At first we were totally clueless. Soon the teacher started to teach us a few ways to play the drum, electronic guitar and piano.

I wasn't really good at first but started to improve later on. I did pay my best attention during those three enrichment sessions. There was going to be a performance to showcase our talent to the entire school in a few days time and I was selected for it. My job was to play the drums. After the second session, I gradually got better at it.

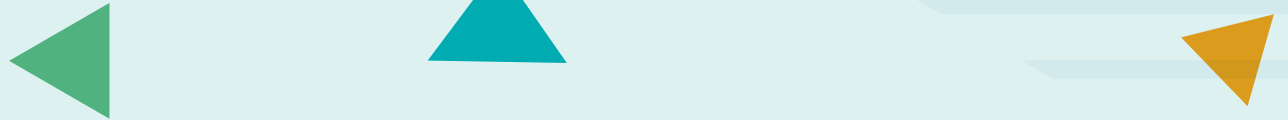
I was not so happy that I had been selected because I had stage fright and had trouble performing in front of large crowds. I knew I had to overcome my fear. Now, I was clearly learning two skills. By performing on the stage I would become more confident and courageous.

During the third session we rehearsed the entire song with all the instruments we learnt on Garageband. We were pretty proud of our progress so far but we didn't have a lot of time left. We did panic in the process but we thought we would be fine as long as we didn't mess up the song on stage.

At last, the day arrived, the day we had to show what we had learnt from the past three enrichment sessions. My palms were sweaty from all of that nervousness. I mustered all my courage and walked out to the stage with my group members. I was stunned by the number of people in the audience. I had never imagined that there would be so many people in the hall every day. We played the song for one last time and before we knew it, it was over.

There was thunderous applause from the audience and we knew that our hard work paid off. After learning this skill I realized that there was more to music than I knew. By acquiring this new skill my confidence improved. I was happy with what I had learnt and hoped to learn something new in the future.

Mitta Sai Suhruth
Class 2E1



It was three minutes before break. Everyone in class was attentively listening to Ms. Lau, our Mathematics teacher. After she had finished her lesson, she dismissed us for break. We looked forward to the next activity with bated breath. Our form teacher, Ms Ng, was about to tell us about the enrichment activities we were allocated during Friday Enrichment. Unlike everyone, I wasn't excited. You see, luck is never on my side. On the first day of school, I got served detention for the whole day as my skirt was too short. Unfortunately for me, that was also the day when my class picked their enrichment activities. Therefore, I did not get to pick the activity of my choice. That was the reason why I was not excited. I knew I would get something that I did not like as, like I said, luck was and has never been on my side.

As everyone checked their activity enthusiastically, I just sighed and took out my phone. To my surprise, I got the enrichment activity that I wanted! It was Archery. I had wanted to try Archery as I watched the movies on 'The Chronicles of Narnia' when I was young and I particularly loved the character of Susan Pevensie. I went to my friends and asked them what they got with more excitement than a minute ago. My excitement died once I heard what they got.

"I got In-line Skating," Syahirah said in anticipation.

"Me too!" Munirah said happily.

"I got Sand Animation; what did you get?" Faizah said frowning.

I told them what I got, feeling disappointed. Faizah and I felt very unlucky. Although I wanted Archery, I did not want to do it alone. I wanted to apply for a change but Ms Ng said it was final and that it was too late.

When the day of the enrichment activity came, I was feeling nervous as I was not close to anyone there. Suddenly my friend came, leaving me puzzled. She then explained to me that a teacher gave her permission to change her activity and she chose mine so that I would not be alone. I was delighted and after some time our lesson started.

The instructor briefed us on the do's and don'ts, how to aim and fire before we started. We started getting used to the sport during the two days. My aiming improved slowly and it was obvious through

my shooting that I was doing well. The instructors were a big help as they were ready to assist me and the other students whenever we needed them. On top of that, they also gladly answered the burning questions we asked. I was not very confident when standing at the shooting position but the instructors and Faizah kept on motivating me. I felt pressured at first but after the motivation they gave me, I felt confident and not as nervous as before. When it was my turn, I shot a 'bull's eye'. I was proud of my achievement.

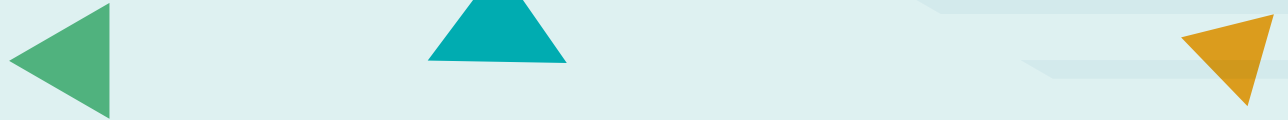
During the third and fourth session of the enrichment, we had a mini competition between the teams that the instructors had put us in. I did not attend the third session but luckily, Faizah did, and she taught me roughly what to do. During the competition, I felt stressed out again and was not confident of myself. I was playing for the team now and for myself. My heart skipped a beat when the instructor asked my row to be in stand-by position. I was feeling too nervous and I started to have sweaty palms. However, I stood at the shooting position waiting for the cue to shoot. I could hear my heart pumping faster and faster.

"FWEET!" the instructor blew her whistle and I heard all the other students shoot their arrows.

I shot my arrow and it landed right beside the 'bull's eye'. I was satisfied with it even though I did not hit the "bullseye". I had almost hit it but because of my sweaty palms and nervousness I did not.

I had learnt a new skill during the enrichment programme, and would love to try a more difficult level of Archery in the future.

Nur Qurnia Ashlya Binte Yusri
Class 2E1



Everyone is improving every day and so am I. We can master a new skill unintentionally on a daily basis; it is just that we are unaware that we have this ability. Just like learning how to use chopsticks, we just have to keep practicing to perfect the skill. For instance, I learnt how to play badminton when I was 14 years old. I was keen to learn how to execute a smash to stun my opponent. After years of practice and drills, I could finally smash the shuttlecock when I was 16 years old. It took me two years to accomplish the fundamental skills of badminton and learn how to execute a smash.

It was during one of the PE lessons in the school hall that I learnt how to execute a smash. I learnt the tips of smashing while playing with others. I tried to execute it whenever I had the opportunity during a game. It was not easy initially but eventually I managed to master this skill. During every game, I tried to figure out my moves and enhance them. Without doing this, I would not know where my mistakes were and how to rectify them. I have heard a lot of suggestions from my coach and my friends who play better than me. Before learning how to hit a smash, I played quite a number of singles and doubles games. These games enabled me to play better. By playing with others, I got to learn some new strategies and techniques. These helped me to do a smash on the shuttlecock more accurately and in a deadly fashion. Smashing has become my preferred technique during a game. I was very excited whenever I earned a point from it. I have been wanting this to happen ever since I started playing badminton.

The reason why I chose badminton as my favourite sport was because I was inspired by Lin Dan, a professional Chinese badminton player. And obviously, I find badminton fascinating! It has motivated me to work hard at the sport. Winning invigorates me. It helps me to keep advancing. Playing badminton will also help me to make friends with my opponents as there is always something I can learn from them. Badminton has changed my life and become my inspiration.

Pieter Manuel
Class 2E1

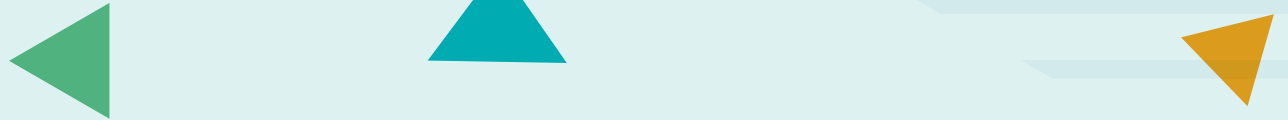
After lessons were over on Friday, it was the usual practice for students to go out of school to have their lunch with their friends at nearby food courts or fast food chains but I and a couple of others would either play basketball or stay in the library to do something productive like finishing our homework. That day, I was very excited. Why you may ask? Well, that day the entire cohort was going for different enrichment activities but I was going for sand animation.

I have liked sand animation since I first saw it in a mini-film made by a Singaporean animator who talked about a dark time in 2003. Finally, I had the opportunity to try it out. The instructor had asked us to get into groups and make a storyboard on what we wanted. Since I was with three of my best friends, we knew what we had wanted to do.

We decided to make a fictional story based on an internet sensation at that time by the name of 'Big Chungus'. 'Big Chungus' was an internet meme that had gone viral at the time of the sessions which portrayed a fatter version of the famous cartoon character known as 'Bugs Bunny'. Sadly, our plot wasn't chosen as it was seen as unmeaningful and therefore we chose a story about a netballer. It was the first time we were taught the different ways to make art out of sand. There were three different methods, one of which was to start the frame. First, we had to start it by pouring some sand onto the board, also known as 'Scattering' but if we were to do the 'Pouring' technique there wouldn't be any need for 'Scattering'. Typically, we used the 'Scattering' technique as after we covered the board with the sand, we just needed to use our hands after the sand goes onto the board by rubbing in various ways with our fingertips, palms or whole hands if we needed to clear up a big area on the board or the entire board itself.

Anyway, all good things have to come to an end. That was what happened, After the fourth session of sand animation, it was time to say our goodbyes to the instructors and the feel of moving the grainy, white sand across the board and the sound of the sand scattering across the board. Despite everything, the entire animation was put together and shown during morning assembly a few weeks after. I was proud of myself, I had learnt something I wanted to know more about for years. Honestly, if you ask me if I would do it again, I would.

Siang Bok An Kevis
Class 2E1



“To become a master at any skill, it takes the total effort of your: heart, mind, and soul working together in tandem.”

- Maurice Young

It was 18 minutes after school had ended on Friday. Every Friday, we would have a two-hour long break, followed by two hours of enrichment programmes. This week, our enrichment activity was learning how to operate drones, or to learn how to do sand animation. And of course, I gladly picked the cooler choice, to operate drones. There would be about eight sessions in total, which would span a period of 2 months. And today, we were going to start on learning to operate drones.

“Good afternoon class. My name is Marley Wong, or you could call me Mr. Wong. Today is the first lesson on learning how to operate drones. We will go through the basics on how to get the drone to move around and how to land it properly,” said Mr Wong in a monotone. However, by the end of the first lesson, I found this enrichment lesson to be entertaining. I decided to stick to it for the rest of the two months.

By the end of the 2 months of learning to operate drones, we had a test on the very last session. And me being me, I had listened to all the classes attentively. In the end, a few others and I aced the test and were awarded certificates that had stated that we had completed sessions on learning how to operate drones. A select few of us, however, had an additional feather on our caps. Our certificates reflected that we had aced the test and “mastered” the art of operating drones.

I felt more than delighted to receive the accolades. Though with the end of the enrichment activity, commenced the end of year holidays, which I looked forward to, I felt sad to part with these sessions. In the end, all great things come to an end, and if I ever have another chance to do something like this, I would gladly grab the opportunity to do it again.

Siang Bok Hing Tavis
Class 2E1

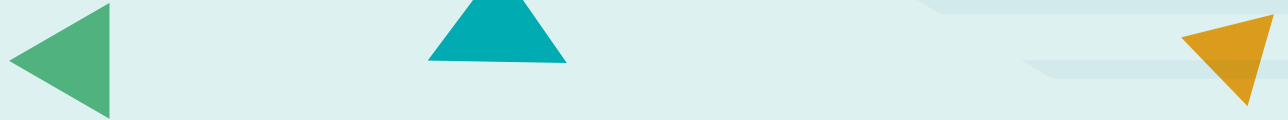
It was just a normal regular day and as usual, nothing exciting happened that morning and afternoon. Mom was as usual at the shopping mall with her friends buying new clothes, even though she didn't need them. She would probably be back at night. My brother would always and forever be with his computer, and Dad, I haven't seen him for quite a while and I miss him very much. Since he got his new job, he has been traveling around the world, and from then on our family has been drifting apart slowly.

Well, I decided to do something exciting today like make ice-cream with waffles since I'm really hungry too. So I decided to go down to the grocery store to get the ingredients. While I was walking down the pavement, I saw a woman walking on the opposite side of the road. She looked rather pale and was holding onto the pole of the building behind her. I thought maybe she was having a stomach ache or something but suddenly she collapsed. I panicked and dashed across the zebra crossing. Luckily there were no cars. I ran to her as fast as I could. I tried shaking her but she didn't respond. I checked for her pulse on her right arm but I couldn't feel it. So I checked her left arm but again I couldn't feel anything. I panicked again and decided that I should call the ambulance. The paramedics said that they would be on their way but I would have to do CPR first while waiting.

I took a deep breath as I was scared and I haven't done CPR before. I pushed hard on the woman's chest at a rate of 100 to 120 compressions per minute. The paramedics said I should continue doing that until they arrive. Everyone was staring at me some helped me too. A few minutes later, the paramedics arrived and thanked me.

I was grateful that the CPR that is normally performed by paramedics or doctors, worked. I decided that it was a useful skill to have. Perhaps, I would learn it some day! After the morning's excitement, I decided to forget about the ice cream and waffles. I thought about how I had actually saved someone's life. It was no meant feat. It inspired me to equip myself with skills that would help others.

Syadeeya Binte Harith Fadhirlah
Class 2E1



Success. What is success? Success is the achievement of something that you have been trying to do. One of the greatest inspiring coaches in life, John Wooden, once defined success as "... peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to do your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming". Success is the result of having a positive mindset, which requires your maximum effort in everything that you do.

I view my recent success in Mathematics as my success story. I became the top scorer this year with thirty-three out of thirty-five marks in a recent class test. That is an incredible achievement. Upon reflection, many things have led to this success.

All along in my life, Mathematics was my favourite subject. I would spend lots of my time revising the subject as I have a genuine love and interest in the subject. My love for Mathematics was way greater than my love for the English Language or even Science. Mathematics allowed me to demonstrate my prowess as an Express stream student. My ability to perform outstandingly well in Mathematics has given me much optimism. In fact, I often encourage myself that if I was not performing well in a subject, I would reassure myself that if I put in sufficient effort, I would be able to make the same degree of improvement and taste the sweet success as I did in my Mathematics.

While I was nervous on the day of my Mathematics test, I discovered that I was not the only one. I could see droplets of perspiration on the foreheads of some of my classmates, their faces locked in intense concentration. That ramped up the pressure for me and I knew I was not only trying to do well, but I was effectively competing against some of my most academically talented classmates.

I checked my work religiously over and over again. To ensure I would not lose marks due to my carelessness, I scrutinised every line of my working. My efforts paid off handsomely. I became the top performing student in my class. That gave me a tremendous confidence boost.

Upon reflection, my success is due to my diligence and how I prioritise my studies over trivial pursuits such as chatting in the social media. With perseverance, I will continue to strive to achieve other successes, big or small. I shall climb higher and higher.

Ashlynadeep Kaur
Class 2E2

Success has many different meanings. Success could mean the attainment of wealth or the accomplishment of one's goals. Examinations came sooner than I expected with just one more week before they commenced and I had not even started studying. My typical grades hovered between a borderline pass and an abysmal fail.

People always say that “the best is yet to be”, but for me, it is always “the worst is yet to come”. The subject that I have always disliked the most is Literature. It is the subject that pulls my overall grade down the most. This time round, if I did not pass the subject, I would be punished severely. To prevent the inevitable from happening, I decided to put in my utmost for the upcoming Literature examination. Despite the fact that most of the themes in Literature did not make any sense to me, I still forced myself to understand the passage by going through my notes repeatedly.

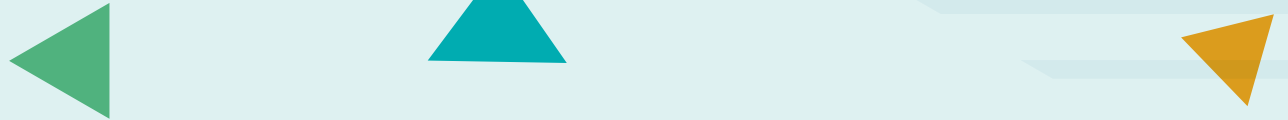
In the blink of an eye, I had already finished four days of my examinations but there was still one more subject left, Literature. That fifth day would determine my fate. Would my report card show a decent grade or an atrocious grade? I used my last day to do a quick revision of what I had learnt and put in extra effort to memorise the text as I was alerted beforehand that I would not be allowed to refer to any reference books during the examination.

When the Literature examination commenced, the questions were surprisingly manageable. I could easily regurgitate everything I had committed to memory. While I was heartened that the period of intense stress was over, I worried over what was to come.

When the Literature results were released, I could not believe what I saw. It was not a mere pass. It was so much higher. I actually attained an A grade. My heart was beating with excitement as it was a first.

Upon reflection, I realised that my success in Literature was not a mere flash in the pan. For success to happen, we must do our part. I prepared myself before I took my Literature examination, though it could have started much earlier. If I had managed my time properly, I might have attained even greater success in all subjects. That was one invaluable lesson I learnt, and I would always be mindful of my usage of time. With this success boosting my confidence, I look forward to other challenges ahead.

Chew Tze Wei, Hezekiah
Class 2E2



Success. What is success? To some, it relates to wealth, to others, it relates to having a happy life and a warm, loving family. However, to me, success can be a very small yet immensely meaningful achievement. It can be as simple as improving by one grade in my studies or even learning a new skill. My success story centres around how I managed to improve in my weakest subject, Science.

I felt that my late entry into Secondary One, as late as term 2, made me miss out on a lot of lessons. Life was really daunting back then as I had to adapt to a new curriculum and the style in which lessons were taught. Of all the subjects, I just could not adapt to the way Science was taught in Singapore. It was different from how I was taught back in China. That was the main reason why I failed Science last year. That made me feel rather despondent.

However, I am never one who would accept defeat or being labelled as a failure. I worked hard during the end of year holidays. While my peers travelled overseas or had a great time enjoying themselves in Singapore, spending their time away from their books, I was hard at work. I read my textbook from the very beginning. I attempted my worksheets all over again. I wanted to start this year right. I wanted to make a difference in my Secondary Two Science assessments.

Before long, I saw an improvement in my grades. Instead of a D7 grade which I received last year, I moved up to a C5. Step by step, I made gradual improvement. My last Weighted Assessment saw me moving up to a B3, which was an incredible achievement considering that I had once been awarded a pathetic D7. I am not resting on my laurels. I will continue to persevere for even greater success. I am comforted that I managed to do justice to my ability. From how I see it, success comes to one who perseveres. It is that simple. I yearned for success. I worked towards it. I earned it rightfully by relying on my effort, determination and patience. I can't wait to see my Science grade moving up to an A by the end of the year. I will make it happen.

Liu Mohan
Class 2E2

When I was much younger, I lived my life unproductively. I slacked a lot and had actually thought that using my time frivolously was an ideal way of spending my free time. For a large part of my life, my daily routine after I woke up was to shower, eat, head for school, return home, watch television, eat and finally end off my day. That would be repeated daily in that exact order. This continued for a number of years until I entered Secondary Two. At the start of this year, I became more aware that I needed to do something about my pathetic grades. I had the sudden realisation that I could be laterally transferred to the Normal Academic stream in Secondary Three if I did not buck up before it was far too late.

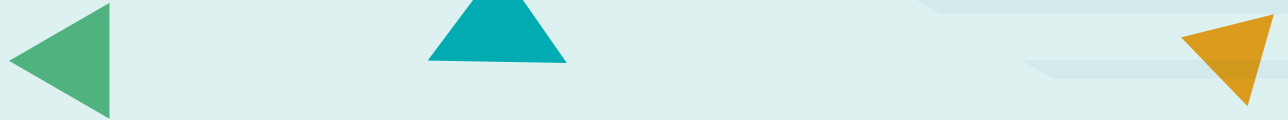
Of all the things, it was actually a game which motivated me. BitLife allowed me to control the lives of the people from birth to death in the role playing game. I could choose from a variety of occupations such as a doctor or even a dancer in my avatar's life. That opened up my eyes to the endless possibilities I could actually do in my own life just as I could in my avatar's life. For once, I yearned to be successful and made a decision to work towards my dream.

From the day I heard that my Second Weighted Assessment was approaching, I started to revise on an intensive basis. There were times when I painstakingly resisted and fought hard to resist the insane urge to use my mobile phone for entertainment. Sometimes, I succumbed to my desires. Fortunately, my willpower and self-control helped me to resist the temptation most of the time.

On the day, I received my results, I rejoiced. I had an A1 for both my Mathematics and Science, which were my weakest subjects traditionally. I was overjoyed. I related the joyous news to my parents immediately. They congratulated me and even planned to make my favourite dish; Adobo, a Filipino dish consisting of cooked chicken, potato and carrots smothered in soya sauce.

Upon reflection, I learnt that giving up is not an option. From now on, I should always believe in myself. My strategy to apportion time wisely between my studies and my leisure pursuits and not let the latter consume me in my usage of time worked. I will not give up when faced with challenges, instead, I will always persevere for success.

Mildred Sanchez Dagarag
Class 2E2



The definition of success varies from person to person. It relates to the accomplishment of an aim or purpose that one has in mind. It can also relate to the attainment of fame, wealth or social status. Unlike others who may experience resounding forms of success, my success is quite small in comparison. However, I am still proud of my success as it has enabled me to believe in my abilities as a student.

History is something that I have always dreaded to study. I had initially believed that History was not relevant in our modern day context. As a result, it was not the least bit surprising that I had only borderline marks in all my tests. However, all these changed when I met Mr Yang, my current History teacher this year.

He taught in a most unconventional manner. His first lesson was memorable for all the wrong reasons. To date, I still remember how we really hated him after the first lesson concluded. We only discovered the real reason as to why he behaved in that manner in the second lesson. When he first stepped into the class, he split the class up into racially distinct groups. He started off his introductory lesson by putting on a very stern front. He was curt to the Chinese students and made all the Malay students do classwork. Somehow, we could feel that his treatment of the Malay students was far superior to how he treated the Chinese students. It was only in the second lesson that he revealed that he was role-playing with the class in the previous lesson. He acted as a Japanese soldier who treated the different races according to how the Japanese army perceived the locals back then. As the Chinese population opposed and fought against the Japanese during World War Two, the Japanese retaliated by oppressing the Chinese. By and large, the other races were treated less harshly in comparison. It was such a novel way of teaching us History that subconsciously, I fell in love with History at the end of the second lesson.

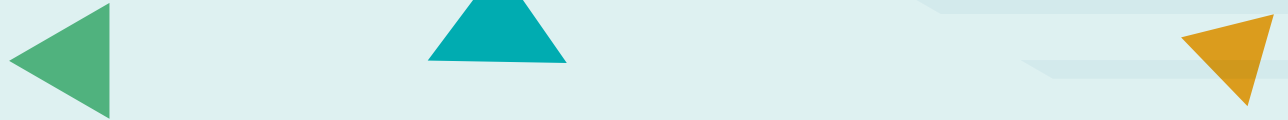
Before long, I saw History as one of the subjects I liked, in addition to English Language and Science. It was no wonder that whenever I had History lessons, I listened attentively. I also studied on my own in my free time and actually showed a genuine interest to want to learn more, even outside of the textbook.

When my Common Tests came along, it was not surprising that I found the questions manageable. I breezed through the paper easily. I received my first A grade in the subject, to the amazement of my mother and myself.

Upon reflection, I learnt that I could actually perform well in all my subjects besides my Co-Curricular Activity, Floorball. I thank Mr Yang for allowing me to experience success in History and for giving me an added insight on how we should reflect on our own behaviour. I agree wholeheartedly that an understanding of the past is vital if a country aims to move ahead confidently without committing the same mistakes its predecessors had made.

I look forward to learning more in a school which prides itself as a Happy and Caring school.

Muhammad Alman Bin Zuhainan
Class 2E2



I have never been good in Mathematics since I was in primary school. It has always been one of the toughest subjects for me to comprehend. As a result, Primary School Leaving Examination grades managed to secure my second choice option for my secondary school. It was a hard fought battle and I felt drained. I always had this fear that I would never be able to cope with secondary school life. Perhaps, I was too pessimistic. However, when I entered Loyang View Secondary School last year, things seemed to have changed for the better. I managed to secure decent grades. I became the Vice Chairperson of my class. I was nominated as a Student Councillor. I got into the Symphonic Band, a Co-Curricular Activity which I love and am very proud of. On top of it all, I had an amazing group of friends. For me, everything was going smoothly.

My initial smooth journey might have made me complacent. I was enjoying life too much in secondary school. I had an immensely vibrant social life and that impacted my ability to stay focused on what was truly important to me, and that was my academic grades. Before long, I was putting in less effort in my studies, distracted by a host of commitments. My grades started to deteriorate. Every day, when I went to school, I would just be waiting for the last bell to ring, constantly looking at the clock. I would be so tired and sleepy that I would put my head on the table and sometimes just stare into the empty space, transported into another realm.

Reality struck me. I failed my Mathematics with a F9 grade. I also did not perform well in my English Language, my strongest subject since I started schooling! I was really disappointed in myself. I had hit rock bottom. I had to study. I had to actually study and pay attention in class. I cut down on my social obligations and pumped in visible effort in my studies. There were times when I painstakingly resisted and fought hard to resist the insane urge to use my mobile phone to delight myself in my social media universe of incessant Instagram updates. Sometimes, I succumbed to my desires. Fortunately, my willpower and self-control helped me to resist the temptation most of the time. It will be a lifelong battle to not yield to my temptations.

Upon reflection, I owe my success to my family and friends who had given me invaluable support. Without their support, I would not have been able to make a rebound in school. My academic rebound has buoyed me with optimism and given me the reassurance that if I set my heart to it, I will be able to experience success. I will go on to face each new challenge every day. Life is a never ending struggle. I will persist no matter how tough the challenges are in the future.

Perez Catherine Joaquin
Class 2E2

Success is a positive experience which is not restricted to the field of business. It can even be experienced in school. The school is also a place where achievement goals are set. In the past year, I had attained a maximum of two A grades and the highest I have attained to date is an A1 grade. This year, I made a bold resolution. I would pass my examinations with flying colours. I wanted to make my parents proud, but more importantly, I wanted to experience success. I hope this success would lead to other successes in life like a droplet of water that creates ripples on still water. Success begets success, I thought.

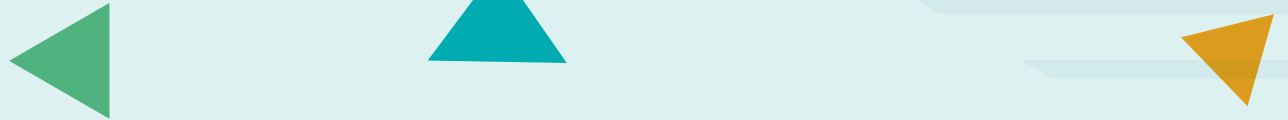
To see my dream becoming a reality, I studied every day for at least two and a half hours. Gradually, I found that I was making visible improvements in my studies. In spite of my improvements made across the board, History still stood out visibly as my Achilles Heel. I was still failing the subject. However, I did not give up. I worked on my weaknesses and put in extra effort in History as I did not want to see a single blemish on my result slip.

My examinations came and passed in a flash. For subjects which required memorisation, I could easily regurgitate everything I had committed to memory. I found that I could manage almost all my subjects, though I was still worried how I would perform in History. While I was heartened that the period of intense stress was over, I worried over what was to come.

My heart was beating with excitement when I received my results two weeks later. I had not only passed History. In fact, I achieved a total of five As.

Upon reflection, I realised that my success in History and my studies in general was not a mere flash in the pan. For success to happen, we must do our part. I have been conscientious throughout the year, which explained how I attained my five As. I managed to surmount difficulties in History instead of throwing in the towel. I persevered for success. That was one invaluable lesson I learnt. With this initial success boosting my confidence, I look forward to other challenges ahead.

Qistina Huda Binte Mohamed Imran
Class 2E2



Success cannot be obtained easily with a single snap of one's fingers. It does not come easily, definitely unlike how Thanos' fingers snapped to trigger change to how he desired it. It is like a series of never ending stairs, with each step standing in our way in the form of an obstacle. We are hindered from reaching the end of the stairs, our end point being success. However, with sufficient effort and hard work, success will be within our sight. My own success story was fraught with obstacles along the way. I managed to only overcome it with extreme effort and hard work. These are the keys to my success.

We may all have a subject that we always falter in. It just seems that attaining success in that subject is virtually impossible. For me, it was Science. Despite my best efforts, I could never ever get a decent mark. However, despite facing immense hurdles along the way, I did not let it get to me.

I knew that I had to perform well in all my subjects in my Mid-Year Examinations. It was a crucial checkpoint for us as our performance would ultimately determine our overall grade. I wanted to be promoted to the Secondary Three Express Stream and get into a desired class combination of my choice in this year's Streaming. I knew very well I had to do something about the abysmal grades so that it would not be my Achilles' heel.

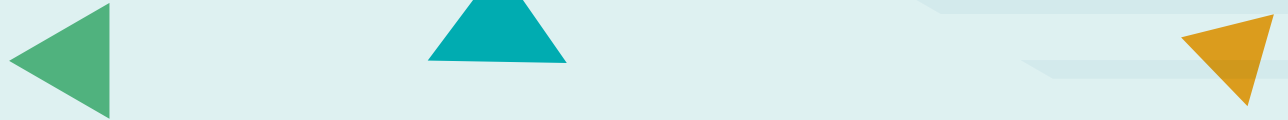
My preparation for the Mid-Year Examinations saw me reducing the time I spent on my mobile phone for entertainment and Basketball; my sporting passion in life. I tried to stay focused on my objective. I took down notes in class religiously. I consulted my teachers when doubts arose. I resorted to even checking with my seniors. I used whichever means I had access to in order to improve my grades.

The day of my Science examination finally dawned. Though I was adequately prepared, the tension I experienced consumed me totally. I managed to calm myself before I attempted the paper. Though

some questions still looked highly intimidating, I felt I managed to answer the bulk of the questions to the best of my ability. I felt that the entire process was generally smooth.

The wait for the results took two weeks. When I received my script, I was astounded. I attained an A2. My joy was indescribable, to say the least. I felt triumphant. I had done it. I clenched my fists and pumped into the air. It was exhilarating. My hard work and effort paid off handsomely. I credited my teacher and seniors for their help. To me, that was just the beginning. There is still a long road ahead of me. With my success in Science giving me a confidence boost, I felt it was equivalent to performing a slam dunk successfully in a competition. There will be other competitions awaiting me and I stand confident that I will be able to rise to the occasion.

Quinones Chester
Class 2E2



Success. What is success? It can refer to a sportsman receiving the accolade of the Greatest Of All Time (GOAT) award. It can also refer to a young adult who finally secured his dream job. My personal success is something which everyone can relate to at one point in his or her life. It is passing my Mathematics test.

I have never passed my Mathematics tests or examinations since I entered secondary school. This led me to lose interest in Mathematics. It was too complicated for my liking, and way too confusing for me to understand the subject. There are just too many topics to learn, such as Algebra, Number patterns and Factorisation, just to name a few.

Initially, I even had the nihilistic thought that it was the end of my secondary school life as Mathematics is a crucial subject required for admission to tertiary institutions. Was that the end of my educational journey? All because of Mathematics? I was stumped. I sought the advice of my Mathematics teacher, Mrs Ng. She patiently explained my areas of weaknesses to me and used alternative methods of instruction so that I could master the concepts.

Gradually, I made some progress. I invested much effort of my own and pumped in hours to attempt problem sums until I could even regurgitate the steps required to solve an equation. However, my route to success was not smooth. Along the way, I still failed an assessment. Instead of throwing in the towel, I persevered. Sometimes, we need to look long term in order to surmount difficulties experienced in life.

The turning point came when I passed my Mathematics test after a period of two months of continual persistence. Though it was not a fantastic pass, the very fact that I had managed to overcome my weakest subject proved that with effort, all things are possible. I learnt an important life lesson. From that day on, I knew that as long as I am conscientious in my studies, I will show improvement, even in my weakest subject.

Toh Yue Long
Class 2E2

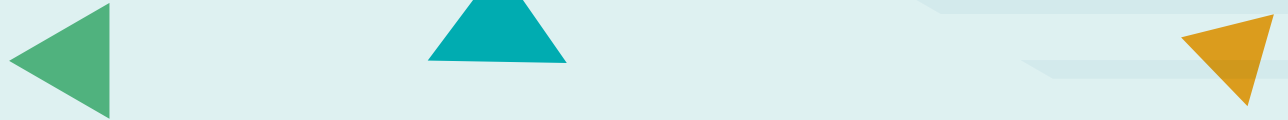
On the first day of orientation camp at Loyang View, I decided to study and work hard on my weak subjects, and avoid making the same mistakes I had made in Primary school.

Last year, my teachers made the lessons fun and interesting, which motivated me to want to read more about the topics that were taught. The contents were different from those taught in Primary school and were difficult to grasp. Thankfully, my teachers were creative in their lesson delivery and explained the concepts patiently. Therefore, I found learning to be fun.

I found the passion for learning by studying and reviewing on my own. I would write down notes and attempt revision papers to prepare for the examinations. My passion for learning helped me through the year. I passed the examinations and made my parents proud of my good results.

Mathematics is my favourite subject, as it is one of my strongest. To be honest, I am obsessed with the subject, and it is this obsession that has made Secondary school enjoyable. At the end of Secondary one, I made a breakthrough in my in mathematics results. I had performed so much better than I did in Primary school. My Secondary school performance was successful and satisfying while my primary school performance was a dismal failure. I use that to remind myself every day to drive my passion for learning forward.

Chua Yong Jun Demas
Class 2E3



At the end of Term 1 this year, after the strenuous Secondary two camp, a group of students and I went on a school trip to Kuala Selangor, Malaysia. After many briefings and an entire day of packing for the trip, the day finally arrived.

I was quite nervous as it was my first overseas trip with my school. However, by the time we reached our first destination, Kanching Waterfalls, I overcame my anxiety. Monkeys were swinging around the row of trees leading to the entrance. Even though I was ducking in fear of them attacking me, I was also gaping at them in amazement. We proceeded to hike up the trail towards where we could admire the waterfall. I was fearing for my life during the uphill hike, as the trail was extremely steep and there were no railings to hold on to for support along the way. Moreover, I was out of breath and exhausted. Somehow I managed to persevere, and with some breaks and encouragement from my friends, I made it. The view was wonderful! It sure was worth climbing up the trail. I was thrilled, but little did I know that that was just a prelude of the brilliant things I would later discover in Kuala Selangor!

On the morning of the second day, we went to “Sky Mirror”, an area in the middle of the sea where you could walk on the surface for a short period of time. Your feet would only be touching a thin film of water that forms a clear reflection of whatever was on the surface, and since the sky was reflected the most, it was called “Sky Mirror”. Once we were there, we went searching for various tiny organisms found in the water such as crabs, sea anemones and water spiders. We also learnt from our guide how the “mirror” was formed and how rare the phenomenon was. We then headed to a mushroom farm, where we learnt how mushrooms were grown and sold, as well as the various types of mushrooms found in Malaysia. We also went to an organic farm and a paddy field, where we performed the school dance. Finally, we went eagle feeding at sunset. The view was absolutely beautiful. We even saw some crocodiles up close! We learnt about the habitats in swamps and the food chains of the eagles and other creatures.

I was a little sad after the trip as it was one of the best experiences I had until then. However, I was also relieved that I could finally get some rest. From the trip, I have developed a passion for learning. I realised that learning could be fun and interesting, and could provide me with exhilarating opportunities and experiences.

Gabriel Ramsey Ranasinghe
Class 2E3

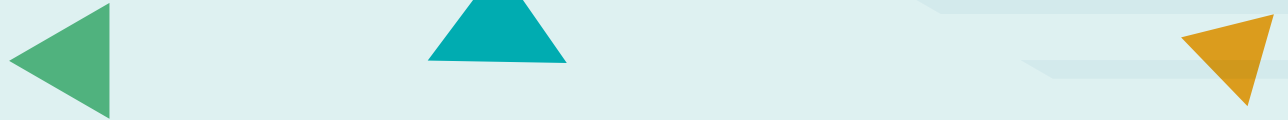
Higher Mother Tongue (HMT) is an additional and optional subject for students who have the interest and ability to handle the higher standards demanded by the subject. The contents taught to HMT students are of a higher level of difficulty and are more in-depth in order to help students achieve a higher level of proficiency in their respective mother tongues.

I come from a Chinese-speaking family, so I thought it should help me with the HMT. Also, I felt it would help me improve my command of the language and my cultural knowledge.

The process of being offered the subject turned out to be very tough, to my surprise. Sometimes I would forget how to write certain Chinese characters because I was so used to typing them out using a keyboard. Some of these characters were very complicated because they have the same pronunciation but totally different meanings. As a result, I began reading more Chinese books and learning more Chinese words. I would read Chinese novels, short stories, newspapers and other types of literature. I did feel like giving up on the subject several times, but with the support of my family and friends, I persevered. During the end-of-year examinations, I was very nervous. Fortunately, my results turned out to be very good.

In the end, I managed to be offered the subject. My hard work had paid off. I know that being offered the subject does not mean I can stop reading Chinese books and rest on my laurels. Instead, I should be studying even harder to do well in this demanding subject.

Ting Yi Ting
Class 2E3



“I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have” - Thomas Jefferson

The greatest sense of achievement I experienced was when I found myself improving on one of the arts performance Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) which was the Symphonic Band. The French horn that I played provided me with many hours of joy and satisfaction.

When I first joined the Symphonic Band, I was allocated the French horn as no one wanted to play it. It took a lot of time and practice to master this instrument as you really need to understand how to pitch all the notes correctly in the correct tune. Reading the notes was also a challenge as there were many scales to read and different notes to play with similar fingerings but different sounds.

As years and months went by with countless practice sessions, I noticed how much I improved by pitching the high notes. It was something I could not achieve back then. I soon found myself sounding better than before. Noticing my progress, I started receiving compliments from my seniors. As a result of my achievements, I managed to join the main band. Now, I am aiming for a distinction in SYF compilation. This shows that the harder and smarter you work, the greater your chance of achieving something that you have been longing for.

In conclusion, the more I practice playing the choice piece for SYF, the more confident I feel in receiving a distinction for the performance. I realise how you can create your own luck by working hard and working smart.

Ang Wanjern
Class 3A1

“Every Success Story starts with a dream.” That is what a success story is. Success is what we dreamt of and achieved. It is what drives us to continue and improve. Everyone has a Success Story of any shape and form, a challenge, a dream or a conflict that has been resolved. My form of success is how it took me two years to finally get to the top 5% in ranking of the Normal Academic cohort of my batch.

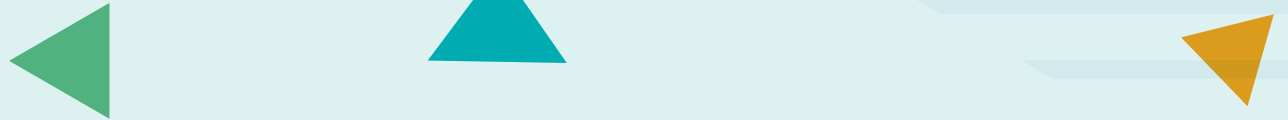
Since Secondary one, I always wanted to get an Academic Achievement Certificate from the school, but no matter how hard I tried, I just could not make it to that point. I kept studying and studying. There were many sleepless nights before the examinations, studying just so I could get that certificate, but I did not make it. For the whole of my Secondary one year, I studied hard just to get that certificate and yet, I did not make it. It discouraged me a lot, but I continued trying to achieve and never gave up.

In Secondary two, just before the Continual Assessment 1 examinations, I had sleepless nights, similarly, studying very hard. This time, however, I felt very confident. I felt that I could do it. I could finally achieve what I always wanted. The Academic Achievement Certificate given by the school. But yet again, I did not make it. Disappointed by my own failure, I gave up this dream of mine and continued as if I did not care about it. My grades started dropping, and I failed my History in the Semesteral Assessment 1. My courage and determination to strive and achieve my dream was gone. I was discouraged by my own failure.

Following the failure, next, in my Continual Assessment 1, however, I did not fail any of my subjects. Then in SA2 I got myself together, and got my courage back to work on my goal. I studied hard for SA2, I managed to get my desired grade but it did not get me to my goal. I considered it a small baby step to reach my goal.

Finally, for my Secondary 3 CA1, I studied really hard and tried my very best during the examination. I made it, finally. I made it and got my certificate of Academic Achievement. I'm so proud of myself. I finally did it. I was so happy and glad. My family was also proud of me. This is my Success Story. Every Success will have a downfall that becomes an inspiration, determination, and a will to strive on. This is what Success is to me.

James V. Montesines
Class 3A1



Success is not so much a noun as a verb. Success is dynamic, it is not a past tense, it is not a completion, but a progress. Everyone has a different definition of success. For me, it is, of course, to make improvements to my English results.

In my life, the biggest success I have achieved is to be able to study English. During my childhood, what I hated most was learning English. Therefore, from Primary One, I had never passed my English test, I even obtained the lowest mark of eight out of hundred, but I did not care about it. I was still happy every day! As I grew older, my grades became better, and in the twinkle of an eye, I ended up in a secondary school. My mind was also slowly getting more mature. I realised the importance of English. I began to regret not studying hard at English in primary school. I realised that I did not understand what the teacher was teaching in class. It made me anxious. So, I found my English teacher, told her about my fear, and my determination to learn English. Unexpectedly, my English teacher was very willing to help me, and she found a number of study materials. When I have problems, she will explain everything to me very patiently until I am fully able to absorb. After my unremitting efforts and the help and care of my English teacher, my English result improved from F9 to a C5. While this is still not enough, I think this is still a success!

I personally think that success is not a huge wealth, nor a high status. I believe that success is a goal that has to be achieved through continuous effort. Even if it just a small goal, it is achieved through one's own efforts.

Li Shiyang
Class 3A1

To be successful is to achieve your desired visions and planned goals. As the quote by the late Coach John Wooden says, “Success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to do your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming.” It means that your success should never be determined by the approval or recognition of others. Now, I would like to tell you a story of my success.

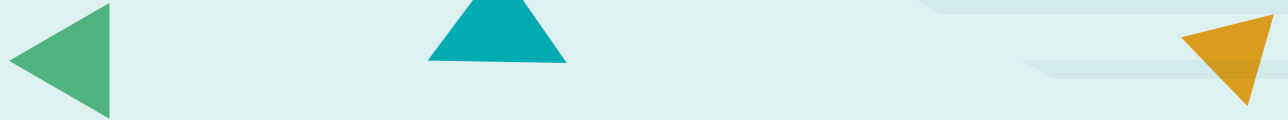
My greatest achievement is getting the subject combination that I wanted in Secondary Three. I wanted very much to be in the Additional Mathematics class though I had failed mathematics throughout my primary school. I have always had to attend extra classes after school since then. Because of this, my friends and my parents would look down on me. My mathematics results would also naturally pull my overall results down. For these reasons, I started to dislike the subject for the whole of my six years in primary school. However, when I came to Loyang View Secondary School, my life changed for the better.

When I started Secondary One, I felt that I would not be able to do well until one of my classmates came to help. She would explain some of the mathematics questions that I did not understand, and she would help me to check if my answers were correct. She would even support me and cheer me on to do well. My grades improved from a “U” grade to an “A” grade as a result. I would also get the highest mark in class. From there, I started to have an interest in mathematics and I would even continue to pass mathematics in lower secondary.

Before I moved on to upper secondary, I was given a choice to select the subjects that I would want to study in Secondary Three. One of the options that popped up was “Additional Mathematics”. Because of my interest, I chose to study “Additional Mathematics”.

In conclusion, being successful may not be easy. It takes courage and perseverance to succeed. In spite of the ups and downs during our journey, we should not give up and try our best to achieve what we want in life.

Nurul Qistina Binti Badarudin
Class 3A1



My success is that I got promoted to Secondary Three. This is a success to me as I was doing badly during lessons and my results were not good. Although I did badly, I would ask my friends like Cady, Ashlyn and Angie to teach me about what was going on during the lesson.

Cady, Ashlyn and Angie were very helpful and approachable as they took away their free time to help me through the subjects that I am weak in instead of using their free time to do their own things. Even with the help of my friends, I knew that in order to succeed, I had to put in hard work to get the results that I wanted as I knew that it was not my friends who were taking the examinations for me. The hard work and care I received from my friends paid off as I obtained better grades. I have learnt that success comes only when you have put in the hard work no matter how much help you have received from others.

Zoey Tay
Class 3A1

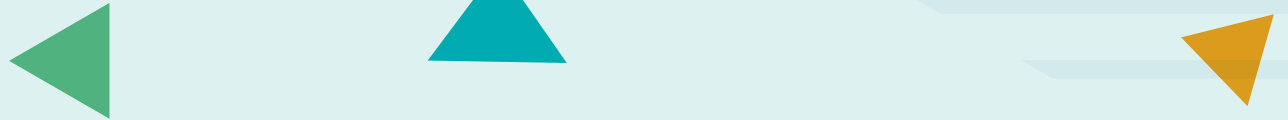
Success means to have a goal, plan and implement the steps, and finally achieve it. We achieve something by working hard to get it or doing our best to get it. When we achieve something, we would feel happy or proud. Success can also be experienced overcoming something, accomplishing something or finally getting something we could not get.

I experienced success when I learned how to cook. I was never able to cook delicious food but I learned. My school ran various enrichment programmes, of which I selected the culinary workshop. We prepared many different kinds of food and drinks. We made fried rice, cupcakes and many more. I learned how to cut vegetables and food. The chef was nice and he taught us how to cook many kinds of food. He showed us many ways to cook food. I learned to cook after many lessons.

I also learned different ways to bake and cook. For example there is grilling, frying, boiling and others. We cooked many kinds of food and I enjoyed it.

I am happy that I learned how to cook and now I can cook for myself and others to enjoy.

Connie Tay
Class 3A3



Success might mean different things to different people in the world. For a poor man, success might be having ten million dollars in his bank account while for a student it might be obtaining good grades in the examinations. In my opinion, having success is the accomplishment of one's goal. Success does not usually come easily. It takes considerable amount of hard work, determination and also patience. One great example would be Isaac Newton, who discovered the concept of gravity. He was a school dropout and did not have much support for his scientific ideas. However, he believed in himself and persevered to achieve his goals. In the end, he managed to pull through the obstacles in his life and proved to the world that there is such a thing called gravity. Although I am not as brilliant as Isaac Newton, I still have a success story which I will be sharing with you.

My greatest achievement this year was that I had obtained good grades so as to qualify for the pure science group. I have always been consistent in obtaining As in Mathematics and Science. Moreover, my parents also encouraged me to study the sciences so that I would be able to pursue a medical degree in the university. Recently my brother, Kumar did very well in his O level examinations and he too, did pure science subjects. My dream is to become a well-known doctor in the future and this will be my first step to achieve it.

I was aware that I had to perform exceptionally well academically and had to score A1 for all subjects for the End-of-Year examinations. To achieve my targets, I had to put in extra effort. For the Mid-Year examinations, I only obtained B4 for English language. Since I could not achieve my goal, I was extremely disappointed with myself and I knew I had to pull up my socks. Therefore, I decided to put in maximum effort for English than my other subjects. Instead of spending time playing I utilised that time to do English assessment books and I started to read the newspapers and books. I approached my teachers on English whenever I had doubts. At times, when I performed badly for my practice papers, I felt very upset but my friends and parents motivated me. Therefore, I managed to persevere and I continued to do the necessary to improve. With support from my teachers, parents, and peers, I managed to clinch an A1 in the final Examinations. When I received my report book and I saw that I got A1 for English, I was really elated. Moreover, I also obtained the grades that required me to be eligible for the Pure Science class. Therefore, I was in cloud nine! I felt that my effort paid off.

In a nutshell, I managed to achieve my goal and fulfill my parent's expectations. Most importantly, I managed to qualify for the Pure Science group. This experience has made me a more optimistic person and I understood that if a person puts his heart and soul into his goals he can easily achieve them.

Aishwarya Lakshmi D/O Sreenivasan
Class 3E1

Nobody can succeed without completing what they had set out to do. Success is an achievement that one can be very proud of. In 2018, I achieved something that I was very happy with. Farmer's Market is a programme that the school holds every term for students to sell the crops they have grown. The money would be donated to charity.

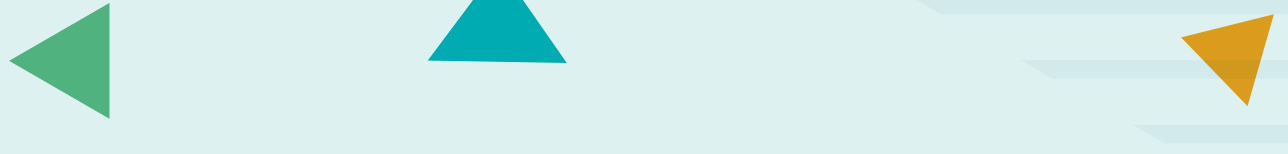
I was chosen as one of the urban farmers for the programme and we started with nothing but a pile of soil and some fertiliser and seeds. At first, there was a lot of work to do like making the soil moist and fertilising it before planting the seeds. I knew it was going to be a tiring journey for me but I knew it was going to be worth all the trouble so I took up the challenge.

When setting up the plantation for the farm which was getting the soil all set and ready for the seeds, it was very tiring. The smell of the fertiliser was so bad that I felt like vomiting but I still carried the heavy load and brought it to the planting area. Setting up the soil in the container was such a suffocating but unique experience. Afterwards, I planted the seeds into the container and watered them every day when I went to school. This routine went on for a few months, and the responsibility was very huge because I could not afford to skip more than two days of not watering the plants as they would wither.

When I looked at the end result of what I had persevered through to produce, it made me so satisfied and joyful. This made me feel a huge sense of achievement. Taking care of the plants everyday was not an easy task but I managed to endure these months and achieve something I never have. What made me even more satisfied was looking at the plants that I grew being sold to the people during the Farmer's Market.

The programme has taught me so much about plants and farming, and different values such as patience, resilience and responsibility. It was truly an overwhelming experience for me, and I was actually surprised that I managed to persevere through this journey and it was definitely a success for me.

Chin Kai En
Class 3E1



The only success I have accomplished so far is probably entering Secondary Three. My lower secondary life was not smooth for me. I encountered many failures. It was a journey full of blood and sweat.

I have always struggled in Science and Mathematics and when I saw the papers for the Mid-Year examination, I wanted to give up. Nevertheless, I pushed on and managed to make it for my Science paper. It was all due to the little revisions I had done just before the examinations. Ironically, I could not say the same for the Mathematics papers. No matter how much I tried, it was just never enough for me to push myself up to a passing grade. It always got worse. Again, I had failed to pass my Mathematics paper.

However, I was quite pleased with my Science results as I managed to push my grades from E8 to a B4. I realized that putting in a bit of effort does produce results. Since then, my passion for Science has been ignited. As for Mathematics, I will continue to persevere.

Izabela Laurine Evangelista Verzosa
Class 3E1

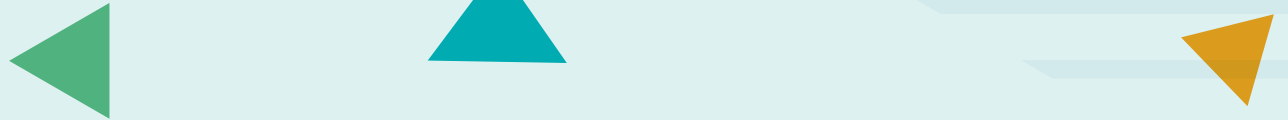
I still vividly remember the days in primary school, when I had many struggles answering Mathematic questions. I would always scan through the questions again and again, however, it would always leave me stupefied, confused and anxious over that one-paragraph-long-question. I just loathed Mathematics. It is nerve-racking and tiresome. My grades for Mathematics only deteriorated, and did not ameliorate. I could clearly remember skipping nine questions in my Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) Mathematics paper. Fortunately, I came to Loyang View Secondary School and my Mathematics teacher, Ms Nawal, ignited the passion for Mathematics in me.

Her teaching method was easy to understand and I was comfortable at her pace. In addition, she would arrange remedial sessions for students who were weaker in Mathematics so that they would be able to strive for better results, and turn their weakest subjects into their greatest strength. Many of us improved vastly in Mathematics, under her guidance. We even started enjoying her Mathematic classes!

Finally, the week of examinations came. Our teachers gave us numerous practices beforehand, to prepare us for the questions. Somehow, I was not feeling edgy about my Mathematics examination anymore. I felt prepared for whatever questions that would lay behind the cover page of our Mathematics paper. In the end, the paper was not as challenging as it used to be and I managed to complete most of the questions.

Although, I was unable to complete the paper, I managed to get an overall grade of A2 for my Mathematics. Now, I look forward to Mathematic classes. Even though Ms Nawal is no longer teaching me, I do hope that I can adapt to the different teachers' teaching styles and my passion for Mathematics will never die. I will keep working hard to improve my Mathematics.

Joey Chee Zhi Jun
Class 3E1



Last year was a year full of changes for me. I moved to a new country and started studying in a new school. I am all alone in a foreign country where I know almost nobody. However, the biggest challenge was to use English all the time.

Coming from a country where English is not used commonly in one's everyday life and the fact that I have never been exposed to accented English and "Singlish" before, I found listening and understanding teachers in class difficult and studying English proved to be a great obstacle. Everyday, English homework took up more than half the time I would spend on homework. It took me a few days to finish an essay which my friends usually only needed an evening! In the first few tests, I would nearly fail English. My mark would be a marginal pass, 51 out of 100. I knew I needed to change for the better; I scored very good marks in Science and Mathematics and I could not let one subject pull my final results down.

I started to read more English novels and articles, took down notes on phrases, expressions and vocabulary I could use. I pushed myself to use a more diverse range of vocabulary when talking, writing and even texting. My passion for learning started to ignite. I reminded myself to use correct English and speak in full, structured sentences instead of fragmented sentences.

Over time, my writing and speaking skills improved considerably, but editing remained my Mount Everest to conquer. No matter how many times I read the given passage, I was only able to spot a few basic errors that others, I imagined, identified quite easily. I got a two out of ten marks on my first editing test. I soon realised the reason why I did so badly in editing. It was because I did not have a guide or any idea of what I was supposed to look out for. Hence, I turned to my friends and seniors, who gave me precious advice on the common types of errors I would encounter in editing tests and quick, practical methods of spotting them.

With that in mind, I set out on a journey to conquer my greatest challenge in English. Within a few months, I managed to go from a two out of ten marks to seven marks on my final English examination in Secondary Two. It was not a very high mark, but to me, it was a huge success that I managed to achieve, and I am looking forward to more of such successes.

Ngo Van Anh
Class 3E1

Everyone can claim to have tasted success. Some are even lucky to have tasted success repeatedly. After many failed attempts, I finally managed to get a taste of my success. To me, success is about finding joy in something I used to dislike.

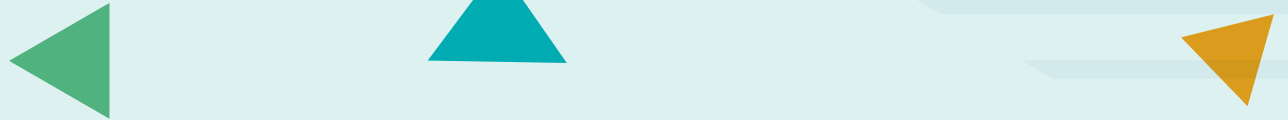
I still remember how I used to despise Mathematics and constantly failed or got a border line pass for the subject. Since primary school, Mathematics was never my favourite subject and it was also my weakest subject. I just disliked it so much. It was always so boring that I often fell asleep during the lessons. When I was in Secondary One, Mathematics was still one of my weakest subjects, however, after going through my Term One Test with my Mathematics teacher, I finally realised that Mathematics was not that difficult and I actually felt amazed to finally be able to understand the questions.

I started working hard and constantly practised Mathematics questions. With the help of my Mathematics teacher, I managed to learn better and I was finally able to excel in that subject. Every question related to Mathematics became a breeze for me and I realised that my passion for learning Mathematics had ignited. Whenever I came across difficult questions, I would become super eager to solve them. I would also spend hours attempting to solve the questions. When I finally did, I would feel this overwhelming sense of happiness. By the End-of-Year examinations, I managed to score a distinction for my Mathematics! The feeling of euphoria inspired me to continue working hard and even made my passion for Mathematics grow stronger.

Mathematics became extremely manageable and not only that, it became one of the subjects I look forward to. I look forward to learning new topics and tried my very best for every test and homework. It was a tremendous change and improvement. From not being able to pass to scoring distinctions, from disliking the subject to loving it.

Ever since, I started believing in myself and started working hard. "You never know until you start trying," is something that I have started believing in as it is true in my case. I never thought I would actually develop a passion for Mathematics but I have!

Phelia Hoe Ying Qian
Class 3E1



Success means that you have achieved something that you have been trying to do or get. Most of us would have tasted success before, however, it depends on how big or small it is. For some of us, we showed our innovative spirit during Farmer's Market while others showed their confidence and ability during public speaking. As for me, my success was in participating in the Singapore International Band Festival (SIBF).

The SIBF is a biennial festival that was started to promote the exchange of ideas between local and international bands. In order to get good results in the competition, the band members needed to work hard. We had to practise more therefore we started daily morning rehearsals. However, in the end, we did not get the best result that we were hoping for. We were disappointed and reflected on ourselves. The problem was that many of us did not pay attention during practice sessions and missed the instructions of the conductor. Poor preparation was another problem.

To prevent the same mistake from happening again, we became more focused during practice sessions. We also did not immerse ourselves in the sadness of the results of the competition. After gaining control of our emotions, we went on to the next session of SIBF, the outreach programme. We were going to perform at Our Tampines Hub. That would be my first time playing in front of an audience.

This time, I put in lots of effort. I paid full attention during the rehearsals. During the sectional practice sessions, I also did not fool around but practised my own part and played with my section to get better synchronisation.

The day arrived. I was really anxious and nervous before the performance. The performance went very well, the audience cheered for us. It was really joyful to get affirmation from others.

After participating in SIBF, I have learnt the importance of advanced preparation. It really makes a huge difference. Furthermore, my passion for learning began to develop further. Learning from mistakes is also crucial as failure is the mother of success.

Zheng Keyu
Class 3E1

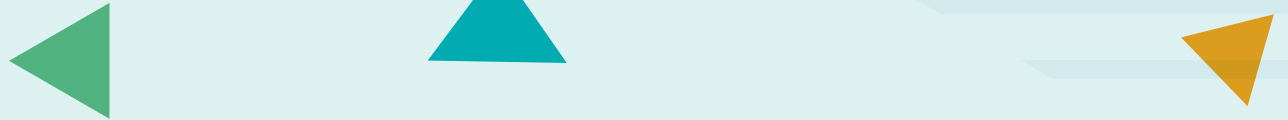
When I entered Secondary Three, I was confident it was not going to be easy as I offered pure science subjects. Since I was not able to choose pure Biology as a subject, I took pure Physics as my other science subject. Physics was never my strong subject, even back in lower secondary. I had struggled with Physics as I did not understand the concepts much.

In Term One, I was unable to cope with Physics as I was not able to understand the topics my teacher was teaching. I felt extremely unmotivated to continue the subject and considered even dropping it. However, I told myself that I could do it, and that I cannot drop the subject. Even after numerous setbacks, I did not quit. Every day after school, I would spend my time revising the topics that I did not understand. I also tried doing most of my Physics Ten Year series questions and worked on the topics I was weak in. Thus, I freed up extra time just to revise my notes. As the days went by, I still felt like I was not seeing the results I had hoped for. I felt that all the time I had spent studying and revising had borne no fruits.

However, I promised myself that I was not going to give up. I persevered and continued to revise and revise. I knew that the day would come.

Eventually, I saw a gradual change in my marks. I was as happy as a lark. Finally, my efforts had paid off. After the Mid-Year Examination, I saw that I had a B3 for Physics. I was extremely elated and joyous for accomplishing this goal I had set for myself. I realised that if I put my mind to it, I can definitely achieve it.

Brendon Toh Yi Chen
Class 3E1



Success can come in many forms, having accomplished one's dreams or goals in Academics or Co-Curricular Activity (CCA). Some have been lucky to have tasted success continuously. To me, success is about making improvements in my academic subjects. I achieved the results through hard work and with the help of my teachers and friends.

In Secondary Two, having scored an A1 for Mathematics in the final examinations, I was allowed to take Additional Mathematics in Secondary Three. I felt triumphant and thought it would be easy.

During my first Additional Mathematics lesson, I had a tough time. The concepts were difficult to understand and there were many more formulae and concepts to apply. For my first Additional Mathematics test, I scored 10 out of 35 marks, which was a fail grade. I was really sad as I had received an A1 the previous year but this time around, it was a D7. It looked really ugly in my report book. After that day, I took my Additional Mathematics very seriously. I put in my 100% into the subject and asked my teacher if I had any questions. I practised about twenty questions every day and when the next exam came, which was a Weighted Assessment, I was confident that I was able to pass. To my surprise I got 29 out of 35 marks, which was an A1, a few marks away from the top score.

This may seem like a small achievement, but I feel otherwise as I have never felt so much satisfaction and passion for Additional Mathematics.

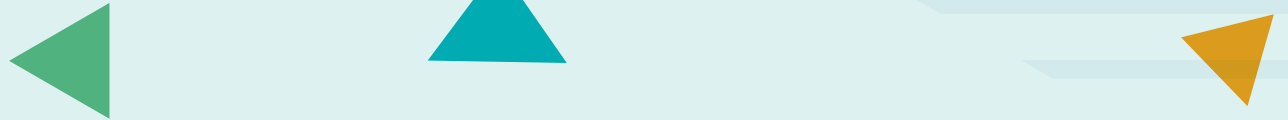
Chong Tze-Yang, Rick
Class 3E1

Success - something I hope to achieve to help others to live a better life. Success is one thing that not many people think they can achieve as it may not be as significant. 'Success means happiness' - Ben Casnocha and I do agree with that quote. If one was to look back at things like overcoming fears, or as simple as cleaning up a room or cooking a first meal, to being awarded for doing great in academics, I am sure that will put a smile on the face and bring joy. That could be success!

My greatest achievement is acing the Design and Technology paper. In Secondary Two, I did not like Design and Technology. I found it boring, and did not think of picking it up as my main subject in Secondary Three, until the results for the Common Assessment and Second Assessment came. When I got my papers back, I was in shock. I did not study nor focus much for this subject as compared to other subjects. However, I had managed to achieve a distinction! This encouraged me to study Design and Technology since the examinations were easy and I managed to pass with flying colours. Apparently, Design and Technology was one of the three subjects that I had a distinction in. I was filled with joy. After months of having little dilemmas about what subjects I should take in Secondary Three, I asked my mom, "What should I do in the future?" She told me to follow my heart. My heart chose Design and Technology. On the day when the results were out, I was excited to see which class I got into. I got to do Design and Technology as my main subject! I was excited, and filled with joy.

Now in Secondary Three, I hope to be better, and improve on areas like sketching shapes and products. Hopefully, I will continue to pursue Design and Technology in the Polytechnic. I hope that my family and friends will encourage and stand by me in this new path and fan my passion for learning. My success story may not be interesting or top-notch but this is one of my proudest moments!

Izz Mohamed Aqif Bin Mohamed Ismail
Class 3E1



Bill Gates once said, “It’s fine to celebrate success but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure.” This quote has inspired me to improve my command of Chinese.

After reflecting on why I was failing in Chinese, I worked hard to eradicate my flaws and started reading more Chinese books to expand my vocabulary. I also requested my Chinese language teacher to give me extra classes so that I could clarify my doubts.

However, the main reason why I was able to improve by leaps and bounds was because of my parents’ guidance and assistance. They were the ones who sat down with me every day to explain to me the Chinese words and phrases that I did not understand. Not only did they tell me many old Chinese folk stories that kept me really interested in learning that language, they also brought me to many different Chinese related exhibitions and plays that had rich history behind it. All of these kept me really intrigued and that gave me the determination to push on even though there were times when I wanted to give up. They also did not force me to attend extra tuition classes after school because they were worried that I would be too stressed. Without their unconditional and selfless love for me, I would not have thought that I could improve my Chinese at all.

This sense of accomplishment made me very motivated to further hone my skills and knowledge, and it also taught me that nothing comes easy. In order to succeed, I have to put my best foot forward and dedicate time and effort in order to reap the benefits. I sincerely hope that in the future I will be able to scale greater heights in my studies.

Jaryl Teo Jing Jian
Class 3E1

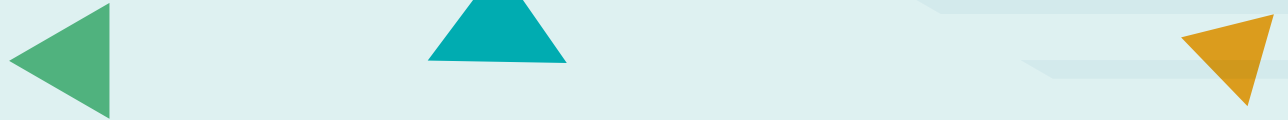
Since young I have always been a sports person. Unfortunately, I did not have the opportunity to be in a sports Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) due to the lack of interest I had in the CCAs. Hence, in Secondary One I decided to join the National Cadet Corps, otherwise known as NCC, as I had heard from my brother who was from NCC that his training sessions were tough and got him fitter. Being an active person, I decided to give it a shot.

However, after almost a term, I realised that it was not my cup of tea as the training in my school was not as vigorous as compared to my brother's. Hence, I decided to try a sport that I was not familiar with but very competitive at the same time. Soccer was the first sport that I wanted to join initially as I played soccer in primary school, but because the CCA was closing down, I decided to try out for Basketball. During the trials, I tried my best to get into the team. However, due to the lack of speed and skill I was not chosen to be part of the CCA. Though this was a setback, I decided to not let a minor setback put me down and requested for another chance. After my fourth try, I managed to work my way into the team. Even though I was not chosen to be part of the school team in the first year, I persevered and trained harder than the others and used the school's training methods to train myself outside of school during my free time or weekends.

After investing so much of my time in training and improving myself, Secondary Two school team selection finally came and thankfully my hard work paid off! My passion for Basketball grew stronger!

Ever since, I realised that nothing is impossible and that with perseverance, I will succeed.

Lim Hui Bradley
Class 3E1



Since young, I have always wanted to be a doctor. I wanted to help the needy, save lives and look smart at the same time.

When I was eight years old, my family and I took a trip to Africa. While on vacation there, I saw poor children, malnourished people and people suffering from illnesses and diseases. I sympathised with them and after I flew back to Singapore from Africa, I decided that I will study hard to become a doctor.

In primary school, I studied hard and got straight As. I got the “Good Progress Award” and that was the start of my success. After primary school, I entered secondary school. As soon as I started studying in secondary school, things started to change. The number of subjects were increasing and they started getting more difficult. It was not long before I started failing my subjects. I scraped through my Secondary One days.

In Secondary Two, it was again the same case. When I got my Mid-Year Examination result slip, my jaw dropped as I looked at my horrible grades. I stared at it for a good thirty minutes and finally, gained my senses, I decided that I would study harder to get back my good grades. I started taking extra tuition and remedial classes. I ploughed through assessment books and studied late into the night to catch up with what I had learnt in class. At first, I struggled as I was more stressed than usual and I was not able to get sufficient sleep.

After a few months of all the hard work, my grades gradually improved. At first I passed all my subjects, but I was not satisfied with just a pass. I decided to study even harder to get better grades.

Time flew by in a flash and it was a few more weeks before the End-of-Year Examinations. I pushed myself to the fullest and studied like there was no tomorrow. When the examinations were right around the corner, I was worried I would not get good grades and eventually, I panicked. I went to my parents for help and they successfully calmed me down and told me that no matter what the outcome of the examinations, I would have done my best. Thanks to that, I got back my confidence.

On the week of the examinations, I prayed to god before taking every test. A few days after the examinations, we got back our papers. When I received mine, I was shocked as my results went from a pass, to straight As. I proudly showed my results to my parents and they were impressed. My dream of becoming a doctor is going to come true.

Llobrera Joshua Jonleo Peregrino
Class 3E1

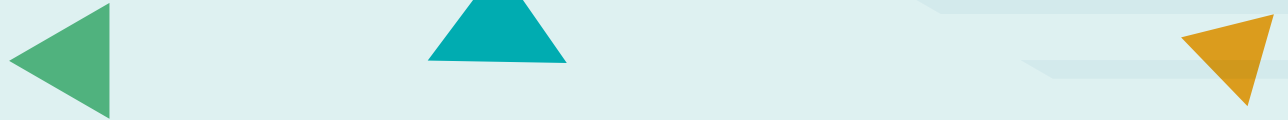
My success story is not extravagant but it is a success to me. My accomplishment took me a total of five years to achieve. It means a lot to me.

It first started when I was in Primary Three, where the subject Science, was introduced. I always thought that Science was just about nature but I soon realised that there was more to it than just nature. I did not really bother too much about studying Science during my time in primary school. Hence, I did not do well in my examinations. I really hated the subject because I kept failing no matter what I did to improve my Science grades. It was always a borderline pass.

Time flew and I was already in Loyang View Secondary School. I did not want to do badly again so I decided to do something to get better grades in school. Therefore, I started to put in more effort into my studies and I paid a ton of attention during all the lessons and completed more revision books during the holidays. I understood every single thing my teachers taught me. Furthermore, my Science teachers taught in a very interesting manner. I soon began to like Science because my grades were always one of the best in class if not, in the cohort. My passion for learning Science started to ignite within me.

I started doing very well in my examinations. I soon managed to get into the Pure Science stream in Secondary Three and I was really proud of myself. I could not have qualified for this stream if I had not studied very hard. I could not have met new teachers who were very caring if I did not study very hard. I could not have met new friends if I did not study very hard. I feel that I had finally accomplished something other than sports, which is my forte. I learnt that if you want to succeed, you must work hard and not just rely on your talent. I worked hard and succeeded after five years. This is my success story.

Mohamed Hairie Bin Mohd Shah
Class 3E1



In 2018, my floorball leaders including myself decided as a team to win all the friendly matches, and at all cost, qualify for the second round of the national tournament. This, we knew, would put us in good stead to win the Northland Floorball Challenge. Fortunately, we managed to accomplish our goal. We had a great year and all of us were delighted. We felt that all of our hard work had paid off. However, this did not come easy.

During training, we faced a lot of difficulties. There were times when we were short of players to train with. However, we made do with what we had and persevered even though the training was tough. Before the tournaments, we went through a lot of physical training from running to doing hundreds of push ups. Nonetheless, we gave our 110% during training. We had a very positive mind-set. My teachers and coach pushed us hard and gave us inspirational words. We wanted to be mentally and physically motivated for the tournaments. Prior to the games, I disciplined myself to eat healthily and drink a lot of water so that I would not fall sick. All of us were excited but nervous. We had a vision and a goal that we looked forward to.

During the games, we gave our best and put what we had learned during our training sessions to good use. We won all of our matches and remained unbeaten. To top that, we emerged as champions in the Northland Challenge. This would not have happened without the support of my coach, teachers, friends and parents. All of the vigorous training also paid off. We were proud to have achieved our goals. This would not have happened if we did not train properly.

In conclusion, I feel that success would not come without hard work and determination. We have to put in the effort to achieve our goals. This also applies in our studies. I feel that I had a great time with my team last year and we are looking forward to win more titles. My passion for floorball just gets stronger.

Muhammad Zharfan Bin Shahrin
Class 3E1

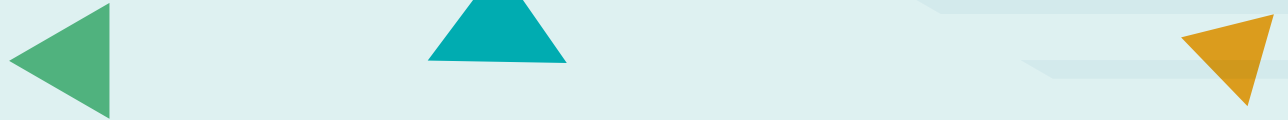
One of the things I managed to achieve this year is studying throughout the June holidays. It may not be something uncommon to most people but to people like me who rarely study, this was a great success!

Even though I left most of my study materials in school, it did not stop me from revising my work. I managed to do mind maps of chapters from Physics and Geography. I only covered two subjects during the June holidays. This is truly a success to me because I rarely study or do my revision. In fact, I would not touch anything related to school work during weekends and holidays. Furthermore, I did not study anything before the June holidays.

What motivated me to study? The results from the Mid-year examination. I did not meet the criteria to be promoted to Secondary Four. There was a possibility of me being retained in Secondary Three at the end of the year if I continue to be who I was. Upon hearing that from my Form Teacher, I chose to change to be a better person. I told myself every day that I would study and be disciplined.

I have been keeping to my word. I hope I can further improve myself to be a better student before it is too late. This is my success thus far.

Suhail Ahmed Bin Naveed Ahmed Khan
Class 3E1



When it comes to success, people tend to think that to be successful is to become a billionaire, a successful businessman or a celebrity. It is to achieve things that others may never achieve. To me, success is not a luxury, as each of us succeed every day, we just don't recognize it. I gave my seat to an old lady on the bus because I wanted her to be safe. She nodded and thanked me. I went shopping and picked up a wallet, I then rushed to give the wallet to the office. The owner had been there before I came in and he thanked me like I had just saved his life. The things that I did were something that happens every day, but to me it signified success. I want something, I try to get it, and once I get it, I call it success. The word "success" once again reminds me of how I was staring at the Geography Common Test result and whispering to myself that, I will get an A1 at the year-end exam.

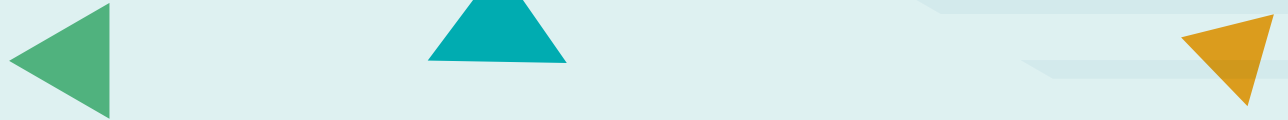
I joined Loyang View Secondary School in Term 3 last year when I had just arrived in Singapore for a few weeks. As a foreigner, I was overwhelmed by everything I saw, and impressed especially by the school. While I was still worried about how to make friends or how to study effectively, common test came. I met a billion problems with subjects that required a certain level of language, I struggled a lot and as a result, I received a D7 for my first English assignment. I then began to find a solution. I talked to my friends and teachers more about the method of learning, and how to improve my English grade. I spent most of my time at home reading English articles and stories, and luckily, the effort paid off. I completed the common test with 4 A1s and especially a B3 for English. Ironically, I received an E8 for Geography. It was first E8 Grade.

My family, I knew, would be disappointed. I did pay attention in class. I did do all the assignments that were given to me. "So, what went wrong?" I wondered. All of a sudden, as I stared at the E8 written in red, I whispered to myself, "I'll get an A1 for Geography". That was when my target was set, and there was only one more step to succeed, and that is to achieve it.

I entered keywords related to Geography on Google and start reading different documents. I decided that I would complete all my homework in school. I bought myself a notebook and began to pay more attention to the small details. I went home and looked up on Google what I wrote in the notebook. And how fortunate when I found a YouTube channel filled with content related to what I was taught. My teacher had a unique and easy-to-understand teaching method but somehow I found it very difficult to absorb the lesson, but thanks to that YouTube channel, I understood more about what my teacher had taught and started building a solid knowledge base, which was when my score increased rapidly. And yes, my Geography score in the year end exam was an A1.

When I want something, I try and finally I get it. This is success. This is how I define the word “Success.” The A1 could not erase the E8 out of my report book but somehow it influenced me to do Geography in Secondary 3. I am happy that the effort I made was worth it, and more importantly, I did not give up halfway. And thanks to my perseverance, I succeeded.

Dinh Khang
Class 3E2



Success can come in many different ways; it can be through academic subjects, CCA, conduct and more. Some people may even be lucky enough to taste success repeatedly. I am one of the lucky few who have tasted success repeatedly. However, there is a particular success that I have experienced that stood out the most.

In the 14 years of my life, I envied my peers who have won awards at ceremonies or excelled in their studies. I congratulated them with half-hearted sincerity, wishing that I could be as intelligent as them, but I never did anything about it.

I've made promises to myself and set goals to be more hardworking and to improve on all of my subjects but when it came to actually doing it, I did nothing. I was lazy, putting things off as much as I could and made empty promises, saying that it's actually fine and that I would do it tomorrow. That mindset that I had, and sometimes still do, did not get me very far.

Then, it hit me. "If I don't do it now, when am I ever going to start?" That was the starting point for me. Unfortunately, it was already the last few weeks of school and SA2 was about to start. I studied at least 5 hours a day, and even made a study plan and printed out revision papers for myself. There was not much improvement but the scores were decent enough. My efforts did pay off and that was enough for me.

Jessica Wong
Class 3E2

My greatest achievement this year was getting into the school team for basketball.

When I came back from a two-week trip to Malaysia, I fell ill and had a case of respiratory infection. I was also really rusty in basketball as I did not touch a basketball during the whole duration of being in Malaysia. Not only did I lose my touch I also lost my stamina as the only thing I remember during my trip in Malaysia was eating. So I made up my mind to run every day with my brother so that he could lose weight and I could gain back my stamina.

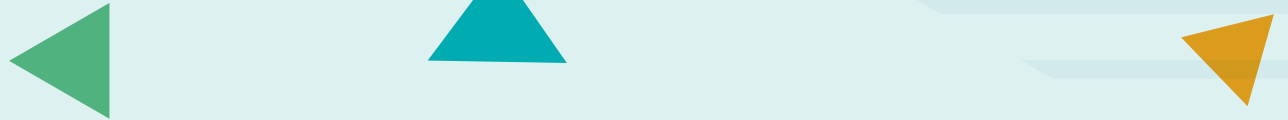
Tragically, my infection became worst to the point that I had difficulty breathing as every time I breathed in, I could feel the air pipe being choked by phlegm. This made me lose the impetus to keep on running, as I could not breathe at times. All I could do was sit at home and eat porridge and bread, as the doctor said that I could not eat any oily or greasy food and it was easier to recover when I eat porridge.

As the days went by, it was already trial week. This week is the week that the coach would put us through intense training and choose the ones who can persevere to be selected in the B division school team. Unfortunately, I was still recovering from my infection, rendering me unable to run as fast as I could in the past. This terrified me as I was afraid that I would not be chosen due to my inability to complete the run within the timing predetermined by my coach.

During the run, I felt that my throat was sparse and thought that I would die from dehydration. However, I was able to push aside these thoughts and finish the run within the timing that the coach had set and before I knew it I was chosen to be in the school basketball team for the B division.

This very experience has taught me many things. An example would be that if you persevere and keep telling yourself that you can do it, I am sure that a miracle would happen to reward you for your efforts. This was also my personal journey, from me being sick and afraid that I would not be selected to be in the school team to me being happy and having a sense of accomplishment.

Lex Lee Xian Yao
Class 3E2



I have always dreamed of being the captain of a sports club since young. I always admired the captain of my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA), which was rock climbing, as she was so good at climbing and a great captain at the same time. I couldn't wait to be a captain and be as great as she was or even better.

As different captains and other executive committee roles were being passed down to the next batch of climbers, I got more excited to be the next captain. Two years had passed and I never realised that it was the year my batch was to take over the role the executive committee members of the CCA.

It was a different way of selection this time round as in the past two years we were able to vote in the executive committee. After the elections, teachers would make the final decision. But this year, only the teachers were involved in the decision making process, which made it a lot more difficult to anticipate, as none of the students could guess the results.

On a normal day of training in school during CCA, everyone was doing their stretches together, not expecting much from that day when the teacher-in-charge walked in and suddenly announced out that she was going to tell us who the new executive committee members of the year were. She announced the names of all the office bearers except that of the vice-captain and captain. My name was yet to be mentioned. Then, I heard the words: "Our new vice-captain is... Aiman!"

My heart stopped for a while as it all felt like a dream. I then calmed myself down. Everyone started congratulating me and shaking my hands. I couldn't believe the day I became the Captain of Loyang View Rock Climbing team.

Lim Teck Seng
Class 3E2

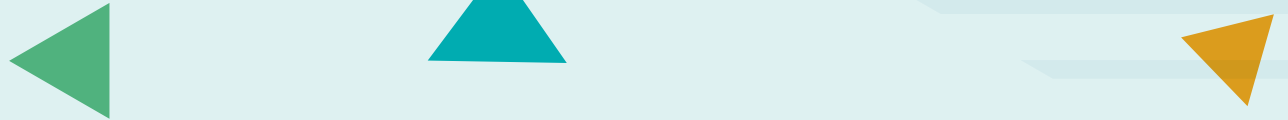
From a young age, I had a passion for learning new things that interested me the most. My interest in learning sparked when I attended a programme that was organised by the school. I do not remember the name of the programme, but I have fond memories of what I had experienced when attending the programme. I was given a job prospect to learn more about it.

At first, I was doubtful that I would enjoy myself as I did not get the chance to learn more about the job that I wanted. The job that I was learning about was about being a policymaker. Policymakers have to make policies regarding a subject and must do it in a way that will cover the needs of all the parties affected by the policy. The activities held were very innovative and assisted me with understanding what is being taught. I learned about digital technology which plays a big part in policy making. I learned that despite us being in an era where digital technology is abundant, the elderly lack the knowledge on how to operate digital technology.

After the programme, I was able to confidently explain the problems people face with digital technology and the solutions on how to educate people who are unaware of digital technology. I was also able to convince people about it could make users' lives more efficient.

From my fruitful experience I have come to understand that it is important for us to indulge in jobs that we enjoy so as to benefit us in the long run but most importantly not to judge a book by its cover. Although the policymaker programme seemed uninteresting initially, I found that it was actually engaging and exciting. This experience inspired me to try new things, and grab every opportunity that presented itself.

Muhammad Akmal Farhaan
Class 3E2



My biggest goal last year was to pass the Semestral Assessment 2 (SA2) with good grades. In secondary school, it is normal for students like me to fail or to pass with average grades. This time, I could not get any happier when I received my exam results and saw that I had an astonishing 63%! Considering what I always got for exams, this was good news to me as I barely passed the previous exams. What made it better was that I achieved two A1s.

There were many things that I did to pass the SA2. The main thing I did to pass was to keep healthy. In order to focus, one must have a fit mind and body. Playing football regularly and eating healthily helped me to focus in class. I also consumed sufficient water to hydrate myself. Whenever I was free, I would also revise and complete my homework to make sure I understood the topics. Creating a timetable helped me manage my time and make sure I got enough sleep. I started studying at 5 in the evening before dinner and slept at 10pm to make sure that I did not feel tired when I woke up.

Although there were setbacks, I persevered and continued to work hard. One of the many challenges I faced was to study. I did not like to study as I thought it a waste of time but now, I learnt that it comes with benefits and it contributes to success. I was also lacking in confidence, as there were many students in my class way smarter than me. The tests and quizzes I took were hard for me, but were a piece of cake to my classmates. Despite this, I was determined to prove myself wrong and to rise from the bottom. Nonetheless, my hard work paid off as I improved dramatically.

The moral of my story is that “there is no failure except in no longer trying.” While there were obstacles that slowed me down, I overcame them without fail and it led me to pass the examinations.

Muhammad Al-Amin
Class 3E2

I have nothing extraordinary to write about that may have had a great impact on others but there was a time when I succeeded in getting the A grade that I so desired for Mathematics.

Coming into Secondary One, I was extremely vulnerable to Mathematics having only got a B grade for it. I was also the weakest one in the class in Mathematics. My class kept changing Mathematics teachers a number of times and the final teacher we got was Ms Nawal.

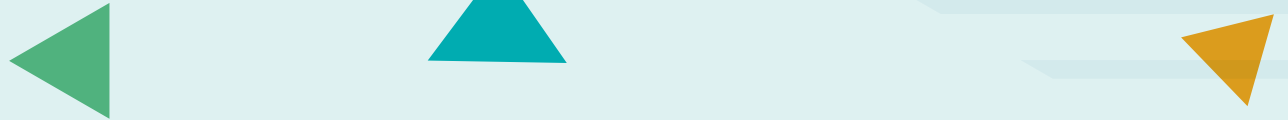
She really helped us, and the class improved by an insane margin. She went through concepts we were weak in until we understood them clearly. She reiterated other concepts as well till we were able to do those questions perfectly. I was doing well for my common tests, mid-year exams and class tests by getting constant B grades but it was not enough for me, as I seemed to not be able to get the distinction I so desperately wanted.

Before I knew it, it was already the end-of-year examinations and it was the last chance for me to get that distinction. As I did the paper, I kept checking each question ensuring I minimised or had no mistakes in my answers. I could also tell that I got better at Mathematics as a whole because I made fewer mistakes.

When the paper ended, I was sure that my grade was going to be better than my other grades as I worked extra hard and did the paper carefully. When it was time to receive the graded papers, my heart started beating like crazy, but when I got it back, I jumped with joy as I finally managed to get that distinction.

I would like to thank Ms Nawal for teaching the class, and for being open to all our suggested methods to solve problems.

Muhammad Nur Aiman
Class 3E2



Success is the achievement of something that you have been working for. For me, I have been working hard on my weakest subject, Geography. It was a struggle to learn it although I really enjoyed the lessons. I had never passed Geography in Secondary 1 and it really irritated me. That was when I was determined to make a change for the better. I persevered throughout the lessons, trying to memorise the important key points.

It was definitely not going to be a breeze. I always had difficulty memorising things as I have a goldfish's memory. There is a quote that is etched in my mind and that is "Patience is a virtue." Soon, my mid-year examinations came. I was well-prepared, but I had butterflies in my stomach. I gave my best and was hoping to not lose the battle I had trained very hard for.

Fortunately, this time I passed my exams with flying colours. My friends and teachers were extremely proud of me, as they knew I deserved the results. All my time and effort had paid off. I then decided that I had to do this consistently as success cannot be earned merely by luck but by hard work and determination.

I then took Geography as my upper secondary elective because I think I could benefit from this subject that I now love. Of course, I felt very happy as the feeling of success was within my grasp.

Muhammad Rayyan Bin Musaji Angullia
Class 3E2

I used to be a student who could not get more than C6 for Science. Having thought that I just could not do Science regardless of how hard I tried, I almost gave up on this subject. However, the results I got for my end of year papers last year totally surprised me and changed my attitude towards Science.

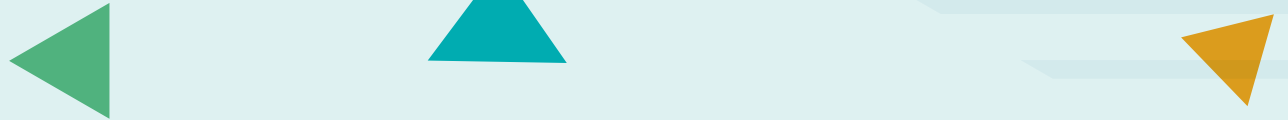
It was just two weeks before the exam. My teacher had sometimes gone through the list of people who really needed to work hard for science, and my name was there all the time. When she went through revision materials, I just copied everything down without understanding what was going on. I listened to what she taught, but my mind could not focus on it, so I ended up learning nothing during all the lessons. I was aware that I needed to do something in order not to let this subject affect my streaming results but at the same time, I was lost, and did not know how to fix my problem.

I went to my parents for advice and what they said fully motivated me at the time. They did not advise at all. Instead, they told me again about my own story, how I managed to pass the really tough exams for international students to study in Singapore government schools after so many failures. I was encouraged and started thinking of solutions to my problem.

I started by getting all my notes, homework and tests together. I took a new notebook to take down all the key words for each topic and tips to do different kinds of questions. I started memorizing the definitions as well as the phrases. I decided to spend at least 2 hours per day to catch up on a total of 8 chapters. And I did it!

Finally, my hard work paid off. From a student who always got D7 or E8, I scored a B4 for my end of year paper. For me, it was really a big jump. I was very pleased and proud of myself. This success also taught me that everything can be done if I was determined. Failure does not mean it is over; rather, it is the motivation to move on and work harder to succeed.

Nguyen Thi Minh Phuong
Class 3E2



My greatest achievement this year is getting distinction for Principles of Accounting (POA) for CA1.

I was just promoted to Secondary Three this year. I chose POA as I thought it would benefit me in the future. According to what I knew, accounting has become a rapidly growing career field and there were many different fields open to accountants. Therefore, there would be many more job opportunities for me when I grow up. Moreover, knowledge of accounting can be helpful in understanding more about money and taxes.

I was excited to attend my first lesson. My new teacher was so nice and helpful. She would answer each and every one of our concerns about the subject. I did well for the first few lessons, but after some chapters, I started struggling. I could not understand clearly how things worked in accounting and was totally lost when my teacher went into its applications in real life. After that, I regretted the choice. I lost all my excitement and passion that was there in the beginning and thought of dropping the subject.

Fortunately, my teacher noticed my lack of enthusiasm. She asked me where I faced difficulties and whether I could make time to go for extra lessons with her after school. After thinking deeply, I accepted. She not only retaught me the whole chapter but also gave me advice. She wanted me to do revision papers and complete all the worksheets because it required a lot of hard work to do well in POA.

After listening to her advice, I became determined to work hard. I could slowly see my improvements in my grades as the lessons progressed. Hence, I got back my passion for POA. During lessons, my teacher also made lots of jokes that helped us release our stress and be more focused on her teaching. As a result, I got an A1 for POA for CA1. I felt like all my hard work had paid off. This experience has motivated me to conquer new challenges in the days ahead.

Nguyen Tuan Hung
Class 3E2

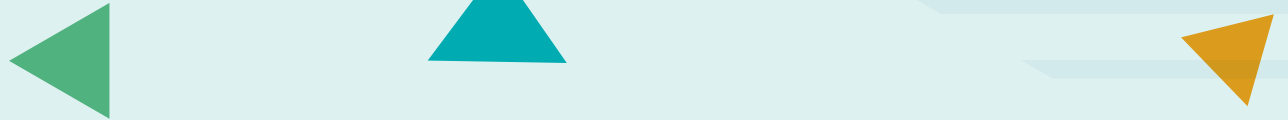
What is success? Everyone has their own definition of success. To me, the definition of success is having a sense of accomplishment after putting a lot of effort and hard work to achieve a goal. It does not have to be a big achievement. For instance, it could be a small improvement such as jumping from a 'B3' to an 'A2' in English Language.

My greatest achievement so far is having the passion for learning. What does it mean to have a passion for learning? Well, to me, the passion for learning means to keep on trying for the love of the subject despite all the failures I faced. A few of months ago, I read an article that was published on the Internet called 'A Passionate Curiosity for Learning'. I was inspired by an eight year old Taiwanese boy who worked harder than anyone in his class and in the article, he said 'I have a duty to my family and my country to do the best that I can do'. Till today, those words were stuck with me and it motivated me to do my best and work as hard as I can to achieve my goals in Secondary 3.

You might be asking, "How are you going to do that?" Well, in class, if I do not understand a certain topic or formula, I ask my teachers or friends for help and try my best to pay attention in class despite the lessons being dry or boring. In addition, I would do more revision papers at home and sleep at least 7 hours every day so that I can focus better.

In conclusion, I hope that my passion for learning will show in my results one day and that I will be able to maintain them. Hence, with these small goals in mind, I feel that this is a new beginning to more successes in the future.

Nursyahidah Binte Mohammad Rizal
Class 3E2



What is success? Success is the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. Well, to me success is being able to accomplish an aim with the people I love around me because without them, I would not have come to where I am right now.

About a month ago, my band competed at the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) in the Concert Band category. I would say that the whole performance went well and we all did our best on the day itself. But it would not have happened if we did not take months and months to prepare ourselves for the big day. We had months and months of intensive practice, and even changed choice pieces just so it would fit our band's skill level. We had multiple workshops with wonderful and talented people, and we had a band exchange programme with Meridian Secondary School Symphonic Band, all for the sake of learning new things and improving together. Of course this dream would not have happened if we did not have the support of our teachers too. Our teachers had to go through a lot for us and we appreciate them for what they have done.

We were not awarded a distinction for our performance, but we gained a stronger bond, and we learned the true meaning of teamwork and collaboration to attain goals. I think that is what we really gained out of all these experiences being able to succeed together as a band. That is my success story.

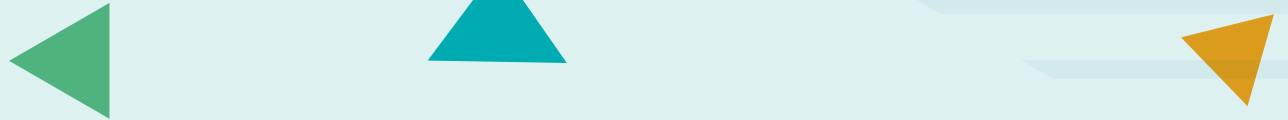
Ong Kai Xin
Class 3E2

My greatest achievement in 2019 was getting a bursary award for Good Progress in 2018 from the Member of Parliament, Mr. Desmond Choo. It was my fifth bursary award in total. This award was a great boost to my confidence. In 2018, I had studied really hard to get wonderful grades for my subjects. Just like our School's Creed, "Within me lies the power to be the best that I can be", I managed to bring out the power in me to be the best that I could be in class tests and exams. I could improve on my weak subjects and I could score even higher marks in my strongest subject, Tamil. Though my original Mother Tongue language was another Indian dialect, I am very proud for having done extremely well in Tamil from Primary school till now. My sincere hard work and confidence to do well resulted in this bursary.

The Edusave Award Presentation 2019 was held at the Tampines Changkat Community Centre on the 12th of January 2019. I attended the award ceremony with my parents and elder sister who were very proud of me. I was really thrilled upon seeing many of my friends from other secondary schools. Something that made me special was that I was the only Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) student at the event. Another surprising that made me shine in the crowd was the LVSS scarf that I wore with pride. The school scarf received a number of compliments that made me beam with happiness and pride. I could feel the school creed in my heart, "I am unique and worthy". I felt really blessed and happy.

Later on, after the opening speech from Mr. Desmond Choo, the award presentation began. When it was my turn to go up to the stage, I walked up with my family from the staircase to the stage and waited for my name to be read. The moment the host said "Congratulations to Sereena Beevi Binte Noushad for receiving the Good Progress Award", I walked with my family to the MP and shook his hands before receiving my award with dignity and honour. After a couple of photos were taken, I went down the stage with my family. It was the best moment of the day for me. I am really thankful to all my teachers who had taught me in 2017 and 2018. I would like to thank my Form teacher of (2E1) 2018 who was also my Mathematics teacher, Ms. Cheng, who encouraged me the most. Without the support of the teachers I would not have attained such a big success.

Sereena Beevi Binte Noushad
Class 3E2



They say failure is part of success and I totally agree with it. This was back in Term 3 last year, where we started to get our CA2 papers back.

It was finally the first Geography lesson of the week, I was really excited to see my results as I had always done well in Geography since Secondary One. The moment I received my paper, all I saw was crosses on it with only 3 ticks, I had scored a horrifying 5/15. I was super disappointed with myself especially when we got back our report book. My score under Geography was an F9, my first F9 in my report book. Geography was my favourite subject though, and it was the subject I did best in previously. I kept blaming myself, wondering what I had done wrong, and why I had scored such a bad grade, but I decided to not dwell on it and instead to focus on how to correct my mistakes and remember to never make the same ones again.

A term later, we had to take our second semestral examinations, the last exam that would determine our grades for streaming in the upcoming year, and I really wanted to do elective Geography in Secondary Three. So, I worked doubly hard, revising and going through everything that was going to be tested especially the topics that came out in CA2.

After the exam, I felt happy as I felt that I had done my best. My hard work paid off, I scored 31/40 for my final Paper, and my final Geography mark was 74%. Thus, qualifying for elective Geography. It might be a small matter to you, but to me this is my success story.

Teo Yi Xuan, Fayth
Class 3E2

It did not occur to me that my passion for learning (what was outside the classroom) brought about my ability to conquer my fear of heights and hence, my success story.

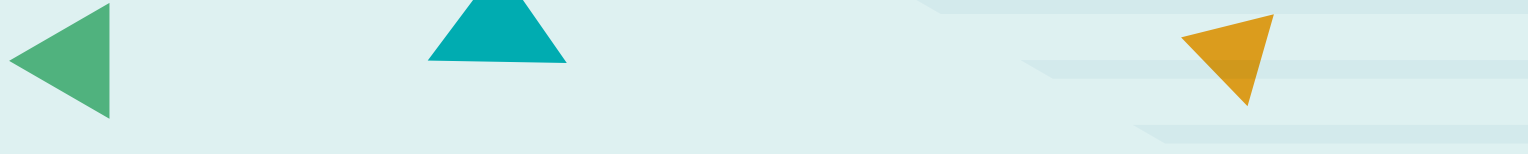
We were in Secondary 2 when the school organised a training camp at Jalan Bahtera, nestled at one corner of Singapore. It was a three day and two night camp.

Packed with all the clothes and other necessities, we left for the camp on Wednesday morning, immediately after flag raising. I was overwhelmed with a very strong sense of fear and uncertainties, as I did not know what to expect from this camp. As if packing my clothes and other stuff were not enough, I even hid some food in my bag, thinking that I might not be fed well.

After a short briefing and quick lunch, we had our first activity: the obstacle course. Climbing some steps that landed us on a platform the height of a five-storey building, my feet wobbled and teeth chattered. I had to be harnessed in order to glide to the other end of the tower safely. After wearing the safety helmet, I squatted clumsily as the wind swept through my face.

What came next was beyond my wildest imagination! I swiftly swept my feet and closed my eyes. Everything darted like a flash of light. I glided and 'flew' with the wind. I could feel myself being suspended in the air as I could not feel anything under my feet! I could only hear the shouts and applause from beneath, as my friends encouraged me to be strong and courageous.

What came next was that my feet was touching a wooden platform and I was supported, both on my left and right, by the qualified instructors and teachers. I then opened my eyes, much to the delight and smiles of those who were holding me tight. I felt a sense of relief and yes, I had succeeded in overcoming that huge sense of fear of heights and got to the other end of the cable! Going back to the original position (the other end of the tower) was a breeze. I adjusted myself well and there it went, taking it all in my stride.



What started as something fearful in me, turned out to be a success that I enjoyed the most. What came after this was nothing to me as I had overcome the fear and took every opportunity to challenge myself to the maximum.

Now, I am more confident and I have better self-esteem. Sometimes, we just have to face our unfounded fear. I would say that I have embraced my fear and brought out the best in me. Today, I have better self-confidence and self-esteem, as a result.

Erwin Bin Ilham
Class 3T1

Managing relationships is a complex process. This is especially true when you come into contact with members of the opposite sex. I had this issue when I began my Secondary 2 studies. However, with the help of the school, I was able to battle it out and emerge triumphant!

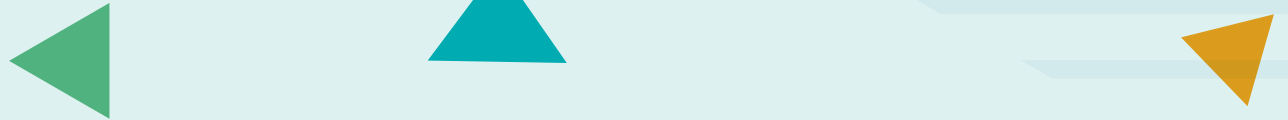
“Today, we are going to talk more about dating, what we should or should not do, in our Sexuality Education lesson.” Our jaws dropped in amazement as the teacher was very upfront about it. She was neither shy nor embarrassed when she introduced the day’s topic to us.

My quest for knowledge took the better of me when I started to ask a few questions on how to make and retain friends with my classmates, especially with members of the opposite sex. She responded to my questions and those from my friends tactfully, displaying knowledge and depth of the topic she had in hand. As if that was not enough, we were shown a video on how to maintain a happy and healthy relationship with girls. Hence, when my form teacher assigned me with the task of decorating the class notice board in conjunction with Chinese New Year celebrations, I accepted it with pride because I knew how to approach the creative and innovative girls for help.

At the end of the day, I had, in a way, equipped myself with the skills to make friends not only with the boys but also the girls. It boosted my confidence and self-esteem. My passion for learning had taken me to greater heights in terms of making friends and developing bonds.

I only have the school to thank for as overcoming this fear in me has brought about my success.

Muhammad Shakir Bin Muhammad Kamil
Class 3T1



Learning takes place everywhere. More so if one has the passion for it. I discovered this when the school gave me the opportunity to acquire some life skills when I took part in a school camp organised for all Secondary Two students. It was not only fun but I brought back with me some valuable lessons which reinforced my learning (in the classroom) and made me stronger.

I had never attended a camp. Hence, when my form teacher announced that we were going to Jalan Bahtera Campsite for one, I had butterflies in my tummy. I broke out in cold sweat suddenly and started to overthink. All negative thoughts ran wild in my imagination. “What if I got injured?” “What if I fail to do all the obstacle courses?”

Despite all the fears, I packed my bag and told myself to stay calm and report for the camp. After a short briefing, we were shoved to the open field where we had our first activity: rope climbing. The instructress demonstrated how it should be done and lo, it was then our turn to do it. When my turn came, my feet wobbled. Nonetheless, I plucked up what courage I had and held the vertical rope tightly. “If this lady can do it, why couldn’t I!” I muttered as I took the first twist with my feet above the ground. The support I had from my classmates spurred me to keep on doing the vertical climb. They clapped and cheered endlessly. Guess what? The next moment, I could feel my right hand touching the top most part of the rope that was knotted to a huge branch of a tree. “Yes, I made it!” I sighed with relief as I gasped for breath. I overcame my fear!

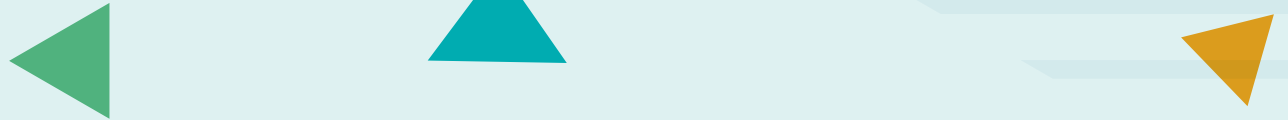
What I hated most came next. Water activity! We had to row our kayak from the campsite all the way to Punggol Waterway, under the scorching hot sun! I got excited when I saw all my friends geared up for it. I got a partner who could swim and row well. I thought it was a good idea to kayak with someone who was well versed with this water activity. He gave me the encouragement and strength to challenge

myself. What made it more adventurous was that we had to do 'capsizing'. We had to turn our bodies so hard that the kayak overturned and capsized! I was submerged. Bubbles of water were all over my face and my pair of spectacles dropped into the waters. I emerged and stayed afloat on the surface of the water with my friend's help. I stayed resilient!

For the next three days, I was as eager as ever. I enjoyed myself so much. The trainers had instilled in me what resilience was. They had taught me self-discipline and developed in me a sense of team work and spirit. I gained more self-confidence. I discovered the gem in me. I could face challenges in life more constructively. The support I got from the instructors and instructresses kept me going.

At the end of the camp, I felt that I had exceeded my expectations. I had achieved personal victory and success. I could do it if I wanted to do it!

Nguyen Dinh Thuy Trang
Class 3E2



Success is something that is very difficult to achieve. I have always looked up to this quote from an American author, Napoleon Hill, ever since Primary school. He said, "Patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success." The quote has given me inspiration and energy to study and pass my examinations. The quote was my inspiration to do well in my Primary School Leaving Examinations too.

At the start of the year, I received a letter that said that I have received an Edusave Scholarship Award for 2018. I remembered all the hardships I went through, all the failures and passes that I had gotten and the number of sleepless nights that I went through to study for those examinations and tests.

When I got my result slip at the beginning of 2018, I was shocked. I could not believe that I had gotten an A grade for my Mother Tongue Language examination. Ever since Primary school, I had always received only a B3 for that subject. I tasted success for the first time!

I told my grandparents about my achievement. They were happy for me. They believed in me and I had made them proud. My grandfather encouraged me to study harder and get even better results as it would help me later in life. He said that with better grades, I could support myself easily because he knows no one would. Ever since then, I studied even harder to support them in the event they fell ill. This was what triggered my passion for learning.

Hence, I have been continuing to study hard, to please them with my good results. My grandparents are the only ones in my family who take care of me when my mother is not at home. That is why I aim to make them happy. I felt more motivated after what they had said to me. Although my marks had gotten worse for the remainder of this year, I know that before my national examinations, my grades will be better and I will achieve my dreams.

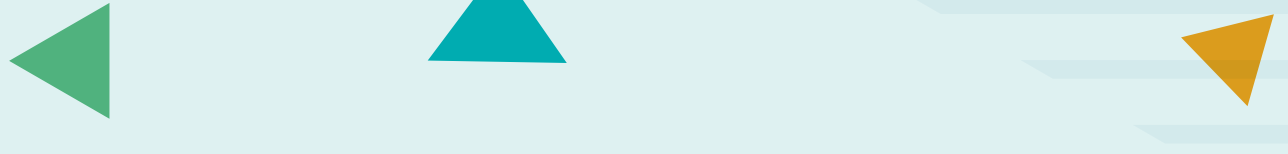
Afiqah Bte Johari
Class 4A1

A passion for learning was something I lacked. During the first year of Secondary school, I do not recall ever being excited about going to a new school. Unlike my friends, I did not see the fun nor feel the excitement that I should be feeling on the first day. Perhaps it was my fear and thoughts that prevented me from feeling what I should have felt. I feared the new subjects, new teachers, whether I would be able to make friends and the unfamiliar environment I would be studying in. Those uncertain thoughts made me not look forward to going to school. Even after a few months into the school year, I still did not take my studies as seriously as I should have and did not put in as much effort into my school work. Fortunately, that was not the end for me. My mindset slowly changed as time passed. It was not easy to achieve, but the results at the end were worth the troubles. Here is my success story.

In Secondary one, I felt lost. I had no motivation and seldom did revision. My mind wandered into anything and everything other than the lesson being taught at that moment. On top of that, I despised many subjects. Science was at the top of my list. I always had the mindset that I would never excel in that subject. Back in my Primary school days, I always scored a minimum passing mark for Science. I had never gone beyond sixty marks. I remember so vividly how my Science teacher made me cry in front of my whole class because of how disappointed she was in me. Even I was disappointed and ashamed of myself.

I remained the same way throughout the whole of Secondary one and two. However, things turned for the better when I went up to Secondary three. When we were told that my school would be merging with another school, I felt a mix of emotions. I knew for sure that this was the perfect chance for me to start anew. I did not want to continue my unhealthy habits. I wanted to better myself and instill tenacity in me.

Not only was it the first year of the two schools being merged, it was also an important year as we only had a year left to prepare for our national exams, the N Levels Examination. The realisation of how little time I had left, made me wake up and want to change. I was so grateful to have understanding and kind teachers who led and guided me throughout the whole year. After every lesson and long school days, I felt more and more motivated and even looked forward to coming to school. People do not just change overnight. Though it took me a while, I eventually changed and stopped many of my old habits. I did not daydream as much as I used to in class, I took the effort to pen down the homework for that day, and even made my own notes at home. What made me feel gratified was my improvement in Science. I did not even realise that my liking for Science had begun to ignite. I found the lessons and topics fun



and interesting and it was only possible because of my teacher. She made the lessons enjoyable and endurable which made me want to learn more. After every test, my teacher would praise me or tell me I did a good job. Those words of encouragement made me want to improve every day. The Mid-Year and End-of-Year examinations have passed. I was over the moon seeing my grades for Science. I had scored an A1 grade for the End-of-Year examination, it was unfathomable. Nonetheless, I told myself that I should be proud as I had worked hard for this.

I knew I had to take the initiative and change my mindset and the way I did things. I slowly began to be more optimistic and changed my studying habits. It was definitely not easy, but it was not impossible either. It took time. I learned that I needed to be consistent in my work if I wanted to maintain my grades. As compared to before, I did not despise my subjects. I started looking forward to lessons and participated more actively in class. Learning can be fun. It is up to us to make it worthwhile or not. As much as possible, I tried to have a positive mindset even throughout the difficult times. Though I still fail at times, I tell myself to keep persevering. Practice and determination will get me there. Now, I can finally say that my passion for learning has been ignited.

Asha Dunasco Sritharan
Class 4A1

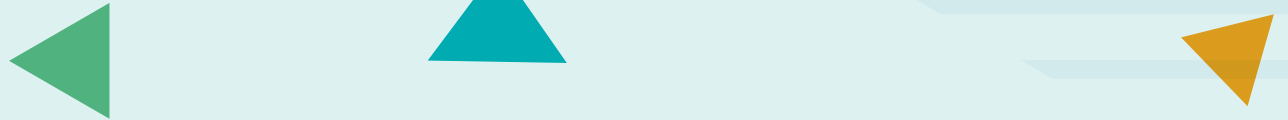
As a student I always had difficulties with my academics. I usually struggled a lot especially in my weaker subjects.

One day I was trying to solve a Principle of Accounts question. It took me more than ten minutes just to understand the question. The question was difficult for me but for my classmates, they were able to solve it in a short period of time. I was stuck at that question for a long time and my classmates were ahead of me. I tried solving it but did not get the answer right. I was really frustrated and pressured.

My teacher, Mdm Norsiah upon noticing my struggle, approached me and helped me out. She explained to me how to do it and made sure that I understood. After the lesson had ended, she talked to me and asked which part I was struggling in. She told me that I could do it if I practiced a lot on it and believes that I could do it. I was thankful that she helped me.

During the exam period, I studied hard. When I got back my paper, I was shocked and happy at the same time as I had improved a lot. Although I had made many silly mistakes here and there, I still managed to do it. Without the school and my teacher's support, I do not think that I could have achieved my grades. Now I look forward to learning and studying so that I will get better grades.

Hana' Salsabila Bte Abdul K
Class 4A1



Failure to me is not the alternative to success. It is something to be avoided, but it is also only a temporary setback for a bigger, more significant outcome. Everyone encounters failure at one point or another. What truly matters is how one reacts and learns from the failure. Success to me is when I manage to overcome failure and learn from my mistakes. Success also means getting things done.

Back in Greenview Secondary School, I was given many opportunities such as a variety of Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) to choose from. For example, the athletes could choose Netball for the females, Football and Badminton for the males. There were also performing arts CCAs such as Symphonic Band, Malay Dance, Modern Dance and Choir for students who liked to perform. The school also provided uniform groups such as Scouts, St John Brigade and National Police Cadet Corps for students who enjoy learning important life skills. I chose Symphonic Band as I had a music background from Primary school. I enjoyed playing the instrument, Guzheng, in Primary school. Hence, I joined band in secondary school to continue my passion for music.

Trumpet was the instrument that I chose in Secondary school. I was mesmerized by the sound of the trumpet and my senior decided to let me try out. Even though I have learnt how to play many instruments yet I still found myself struggling to play and keep up with my seniors and friends in the band. After weeks of practice, I still could not pitch notes such as the eighth notes in the B-flat scale. However, I was blessed with kind and caring seniors who stayed patient and helped me when I was struggling to keep up with the rhythm and notes. I was ecstatic when I found myself improving with each lesson. I was able to play the whole scale at ease after months of practice.

I was in Secondary two and the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) was approaching day by day. Words could not express how I felt towards SYF as it was the first time I would be attending SYF in my Secondary school life. Our conductor was always giving us encouraging words and supporting us. She would even make jokes to calm our nerves when we were on the bus travelling to the University Culture Centre to play our set piece and choice for SYF. Although I was very nervous, my body began to relax once the band started playing the music pieces.

Even though we did not achieve distinction, I felt a sense of accomplishment after leaving the theatre hall. Everyone was still happy with the results as SYF had helped to strengthen our bonds as a Band. I learned not give up easily, to keep moving forward and to learn from all my mistakes. I was able to make many close friends who supported me. My passion for music will continue to grow!

Ho Boon Hong
Class 4A1

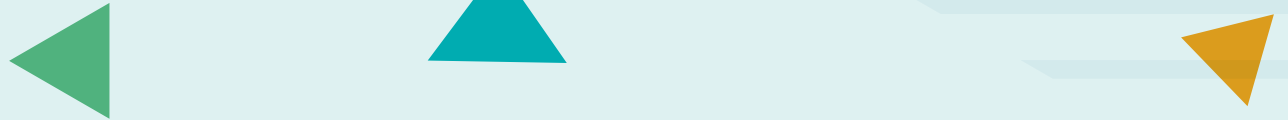
I believe success comes with hard work. My mother once taught me that, if I want to achieve something in life, I need to put in effort and be hardworking in order to achieve my goal.

I have to be honest and admit that I am an extremely slow learner and that always caused me to give up. For example, when I was Primary one, I had my first multiplication test. My mom would always test me right before bed time. I would never get it right at my first try. However, if I keep practicing and mumbling the multiplication table before I sleep, I would remember it very well. I would score a distinction for my test. Hence, my mother's words have made a very big impact in my life.

I am a Singaporean who was born and raised in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia. Currently, I have moved back to Singapore to pursue a better education as Singapore is well known for its education system in Asia. Not to mention that Singapore is a country where English language is widely used. Definitely that was a major issue as my first language was not English. Furthermore, I started learning English at a very late age. I could never forget the time during the Secondary three examination, I became so anxious and hesitated doing my paper. I felt hopeless as my weakness for English held me back from even being promoted to the next level. When I was told to sit for another examination at the end of the year, I put in greater effort by listening to news and reading articles. During weekends, I would pick a few topics from the internet to write my own essays. It was difficult for me as I wanted to enjoy my weekends but thinking about the N level examination gave me the shudders. I wanted to put in all my effort so that I would not regret in the future as I had given all my best.

Early this year, I received compliments from teachers and friends that my English language had improved. It was a motivation for me to keep working on it. My current plan is to study hard to improve my English as the N level examinations are approaching!

Jacey Ng Huijuan
Class 4A1



I was trembling with nervousness while doing the End-of-Year Mathematics Paper 2. It was the last question of the paper. The question was about sectors, the topic which I hated the most as I struggled a lot with it. I looked at the wall clock and there were only 10 minutes left before the time was up. I took a deep breath and tried to recall what my Mathematics teacher taught me during the consultation that I had with him.

Success is difficult to achieve without hard work and determination.

I had always been struggling with this topic. Despite that, I did not bother to ask my teacher for help and made the same mistakes repeatedly. Suddenly, one day, my Mathematics teacher gave the class a pop quiz on sector. I kept flipping the quiz paper and let out a sigh. After the paper, when my classmates started discussing their answers with one another, I did not even bother to go near them. The next day, my Mathematics teacher gave us back the pop quiz. Most of them had gotten full marks. When my teacher gave me mine, I had a huge shock of my life. I was the only person in the class who had failed the pop quiz. I felt so miserable that I did not study for the test. I was tremendously disappointed with myself as my marks were terrible. My marks were so terrible that I wanted to bury the paper. As everyone left the classroom, I started to cry as I could not bear to see the result that I had gotten. My Mathematics teacher comforted me and gave some advice on how I could improve on the topic.

After that day, I told myself that I had to change my mindset. Usually, I would just ignore my teacher's advice but now, I wanted to prove to myself that I could do it. My parents had a heart-to-heart talk with me to assure me that they would be there for me. I had a few sessions of consultation with my Mathematics teacher. Slowly, I could feel that I had learnt more about something that I did not know because I was curious. I would frequently practise on the topic that I was weak in.

On the day of the exam, I took a deep breath and I told myself that I could do it. After a while, I was on the last page of the paper. I saw the question which was about sector. There were 10 minutes left before time was up. I controlled my breathing. I told myself not to panic. I tried to refresh my memory of what my Mathematics teacher had taught me during the consultation.

After the paper, I left the examination room. I saw my Mathematics teacher and he asked me, "How was the paper?" I replied him with the brightest smile

Nur Hafeezah Lee Bte Yusof Lee
Class 4A1

The feeling of success is very satisfying. People who feel successful deserve it as they have worked hard for it and persevered. For example, if you really want to get a job that you love, you would try very hard and would not give up. Eventually you would get it. Success does not mean being the greatest person in the world or being someone whom your parents or anyone else wants you to be. Success means achieving something you really want.

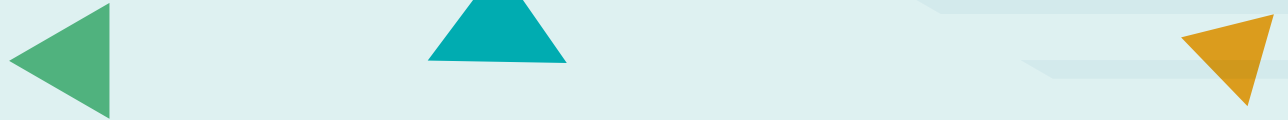
In my experience, success is not easy to feel or achieve. I had always failed Mathematics because I found it difficult. I found Mathematics a boring and uninteresting subject and no matter how hard I tried, I could not pass the subject. Due to this, I stopped putting in effort for this subject as I always found myself failing and it demotivated me a lot. Although there were a lot of negative thoughts about the subject, I noticed that somehow my sister always got better grades than me and it irked me. I hated losing to my sister, hence I decided to find different ways to pass my Mathematics. At this point, I did not mind even if I got a C5, as long as I passed.

I slowly revised my Mathematical topics from start and asked my friends for help on the questions that I did not understand. Sometimes, they had to explain to me multiple times because it was confusing and they would get frustrated. However, they never gave up and always found ways to make me understand. At times, even I wanted to give up and just cry out of frustration. Then I made a timetable for myself so that I could manage my study and break time well. I even went for Mathematics consultations. Months went by and surprisingly, I found myself gaining some interest in Mathematics and loving it. I never thought I would see myself this way but because of my hard work and support from my friends, my grades started to improve.

I got a C5 for my Mid-Year Mathematics examination and seeing that I could achieve the grades I want, I was convinced to work harder and score higher. I started to clarify things if I did not understand them during lessons and do more practice papers just so that I could get better grades. Eventually, I did get a B3 for my End-of-Year examination and I was so proud of myself.

Overall, I believe that I really have to work hard for the things I want. That is the definition of success for me. I did things I never thought I would be to and improved on my Mathematics just because I wanted to get higher grades than my sister. I learnt that I should not be discouraged if I fail my subjects because there is always a way to improve it if I really put my mind and heart into it.

Putri Farhanah Bte Amir
Class 4A1



English was never a lesson I looked forward to. I found it monotonous. The teachers' voices would drone on like a never ending recorder in classrooms. They would instantly put me to sleep. They would sit at the teacher's table and go through a slightly different but just as boring comprehension and editing exercises, articles or oral topics. I detested English as a subject.

However, in Secondary three, my perception of the subject changed when a new English teacher, Mr Ng, came to my class. His lessons were engaging as he used interactive public speaking activities that nudged us out of our comfort zone. He increased our knowledge and kept us updated on current affairs. His lessons were fruitful and I was convinced that English lessons were absolutely necessary.

Through his constant guidance and interesting lessons, the result for my End-of-Year examinations improved. I would attribute English becoming my favourite subject to a debate which he conducted based on an argumentative topic. My composition writing grew stronger after that lesson and I scored a distinction for that component. His lessons reignited my passion for the subject. I am eternally grateful for what he has taught me and all he has done to help me improve my English language.

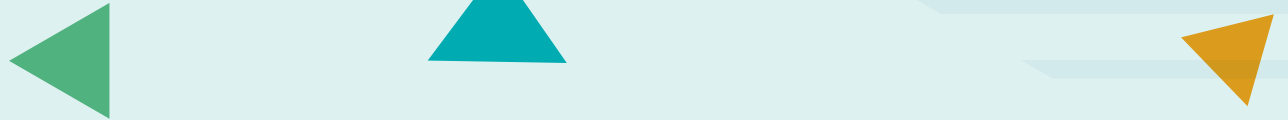
Tan Yin Xin Dawn
Class 4A1

Success is defined as the accomplishment of an aim or a purpose. I could recall the time when I was not doing well for a certain subject as I was always getting low grades for it. It involved many numbers and formulas which is best known as Mathematics. However, all that changed last year when I emerged top in my cohort and managed to do really well for that subject.

In Primary school, I always had difficulty in Mathematics. It was definitely the most difficult subject. I always found most of the questions difficult to understand and I personally felt that having tuition for that subject did not really help me as I could not understand how to solve the questions. However, when I reached Secondary one, Mathematics became easier to understand. The teachers taught well and I managed to do very well. However, the subject became tougher last year as we had to recall things from previous years. I remember during a test, I did not perform very well. That motivated me to do better and not to give up easily. With the help of my peers and teachers, Mathematics became easier to understand and that was how I managed to achieve the first position for Mathematics in my cohort again after months of working hard for my End-of-Year examinations. My passion for Mathematics was ignited.

My parents and friends had always supported and encouraged me to keep persevering and to do my best, which allowed me to make my parents proud as they knew I had been struggling with Mathematics for quite some time. They praised me as I had finally made it to the top position for Mathematics in my cohort. My Mathematics teacher was also proud of me for doing really well in the subject and encouraged me to continue working hard and do well for other subjects too. This really motivated me to keep striving for success and to keep persevering to do well for my subjects. This made me realise that whenever I put in all my effort and worked hard, there will always be a good outcome in the end.

Yan Sze San, Cheryl
Class 4A1



Achieving a goal is not that difficult if we put in more effort and be determined to work hard towards that goal that we want. For example, when I was in Secondary two, I got an academic award that I had to collect at the nearest community center. To achieve this goal, I had to study really hard at home and in school. I also had to pay attention in class and stay focused so that I did not fall behind.

This academic award was also not easy to get as I had to compete against people from my school and other schools. I also had to be in the top five to ten percent of the cohort to be selected for the academic award. An academic award is something you earned by doing well in your subject or make an improvement from your previous result. For example, I had a grade five for Mathematics in the Mid-Year examination and my result improved and I got a grade three for my End-of-Year examination. Thus, I was selected for the academic award.

I wanted to achieve this goal because I wanted to make my parents proud which was why I had to study really hard, stay focused in class and make sure I did not get distracted so I would not lose out in anything that my teachers were teaching.

After all the effort and hard work that I had put in, I finally achieved my goal to receive the academic award. My parents were proud of me when I received my academic award because it was not easy for me to get the award and I really had to put in all my effort and hard work into it.

Akid Bin Azizul
Class 4A1

Success can be different for everyone, the meaning of it, that is. For some, it could mean financial success, where a good deal of money has been earned through one's career. Success to others could also mean accomplishments like writing a book, scoring well for examinations and building something meaningful like a house. Most people want success, in whatever form, but only a few are willing to work hard enough to get it.

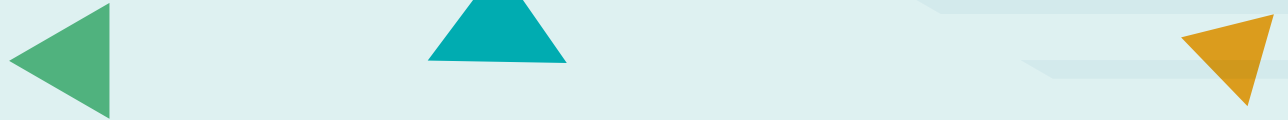
My year of being a Secondary three student was about to start and I did not really care much about my studies. I thought that if I just paid attention in class I would be fine, but that was not the case as I flunked my Mid-Year examinations. The rest of my friends did well and I realised that I needed to do some reflection. After giving much thought, I set a new goal and that was to prove to myself that I could do well in my studies and achieve something meaningful for myself.

I started to put in more effort and gradually, began to improve in my subjects. I started to go out on group studies with my friends to motivate myself as we had the passion for learning. As the End-of-Year examinations came closer, I started to feel the jitters but I realised that I should not feel that way as I had put in all the hard work.

On the day of the examinations, I felt confident that I could do well as I breezed through my papers. I left the class after the examinations feeling relieved that all my hard work was not in vain. When I finally received my results, I could not believe it! I had jumped from twenty-two points to thirteen points for my overall grade. There was a huge difference between my Mid-Year results and my End-of-Year results.

A few days passed and I received a letter stating that I got the Education Merit Award for the improvement in my studies. That was when I realised I had accomplished my goal which was to prove to myself that I could do well for my studies and achieve something meaningful for myself. I was elated and grateful that I had finally achieved success.

Andri Bin Azhar
Class 4A1



Every individual has his own definition of success. To me, success is being able to achieve whatever you have dreamt of and it definitely requires hard work and dedication. When I first came to Loyang Secondary School, the first thought that went through my mind was to study well. In Primary school, I was very weak in my studies, and did not do well in my examinations. Hence, I decided that I would try and study a lot harder.

One of the subjects that I was weak in was Mathematics. Throughout my Primary school life, I have never done well in Mathematics which worried me because Mathematics is one of the most important subjects to do well in order to proceed to tertiary education. As time went by, I decided that it was time to change. My results for Mathematics from Secondary one to Secondary three had always been on the borderline. I was determined to do well in Mathematics, and to do that, I had to put in all my hard work and dedication towards improving my Mathematics.

Now in Secondary four, I have been studying hard over the holidays and I hope to be able to raise my grade to at least a B3.

Danish Sirhan B Zulkifli
Class 4A1

In the past, I never had a passion for learning, especially Mathematics. Mathematics had always been my downfall. No matter how hard I tried, it was always beyond the bounds of possibility to even obtain a satisfactory grade of B for Mathematics. However, there is a saying which goes, “You can do anything as long you have the passion, the drive, the focus, and the support.” That made me realise that, the result of my unachievable goal was because of the lack of passion and not putting my best for every Mathematics test. My lack of passion was accumulated from my Primary school years, where I was surrounded by students who were the best in their studies especially Mathematics. This resulted in me thinking that I was not good enough, thus lacking the motivation.

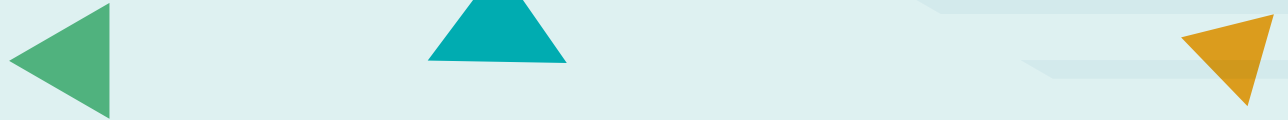
However, it all took a turn for the better when I was in Secondary one. Secondary one was a new chapter in my life, where I would say it was definitely different compared to Primary school. I still had this immature mindset that I was incapable of reaching that goal. The first Mathematics lesson I had was not pleasant, as I recalled failing a mini-bite test. Subsequently, I failed test after test. A stern scolding was given repeatedly by my Mathematics teacher, Miss Ang, until one day, she just decided to hold me back after school. We had a heart to heart talk about my Mathematics results. I told her about my problems. She understood and gave me some advice. It really helped me and my passion for Mathematics was ignited.

With that drive in me, I felt different. From then on, for every Mathematics test, I would study vigorously till every bit of information was registered in my brain. This went on for days and months, and unknowingly it become a habit. This enabled me to get my first ever A for my Mathematics since Primary three.

My passion for learning Mathematics has been growing by leaps and bounds day after day. With my ability now, I can help others who are in the same situation as I was in, struggling to do Mathematics. I lend a helping hand during lessons by teaching them how to solve the questions that they are having difficulty with. Thus, the passion for learning has continued to grow as I am starting to be intrigued and looking forward for every Mathematics lesson. Along the way, my parents, friends, Miss Ang and my tuition teacher have always been motivating me to not give up even though it can be tough at times.

In conclusion, I believe that the passion for learning should never stop growing. Even if one has stopped schooling, one should still continue learning regardless. As another saying goes, ‘Develop a passion for learning, if you do, you will never cease to grow.’ Each new day teaches us new things whether we realize it or not. In order to develop our passion, we should learn how to ask questions as that will help us grow.

How Jia Jun Wilson
Class 4A1



“Sometimes, later becomes never. Do it now,” this was the saying that I have heard many times. I did not really study very hard back then. I just got the work done and did not go the extra mile to become better. I did not do homework with my full effort and I would always daydream during lessons. After some time, I realised that the tests were getting harder and harder. The topics were just getting more complicated. However, my friends were progressing. I was beginning to think that I was losing touch with my studies. That was when I started to realise that I needed to put in more effort in my studies to do well for tests and examinations and not just slack off all the time.

I began to do my homework with greater effort. I began to revise the topics taught in school at home. I began to pay attention during lessons. I did not let other things bother or distract me. I kept focusing on my studies.

Examinations were around the corner and I did not let it make me nervous or anxious. When the examinations finally came, I was confident and ready. I went through them like it was just a normal small test in class. When the examinations ended, I got a chance to look at my results. I was really happy and satisfied with the results. I did not fail any subject, which was an achievement for me. A few days later, I received a letter stating that I would be receiving a certificate for my academic success. I was shocked but proud of myself.

The day of receiving my certificate arrived and there were many other students from other schools sitting around me. The guest of honour went up on stage to give out the certificates. I got the certificate from the guest of honour. That made my day. I went home feeling proud of myself and knew that all my hard work had paid off.

Jeeva Santhosh S/O Kunaseelan
Class 4A1

Success according to the dictionary is the accomplishment of something desired or planned. Many people think success is having wealth, fame or power. Success has different meanings depending on the individual. To me, success is about accomplishing a goal and feeling contented about it.

I consider my improvement in Mathematics a success. In Secondary three, I was given the opportunity to take Express Mathematics. At the beginning of the year, my class was told that Mathematics was going to be more demanding than the previous years as it is more challenging than the Normal Academic Mathematics.

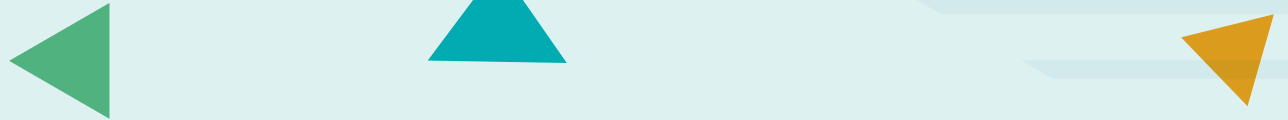
Time passed quickly and before I knew it, the Mid-Year Examinations were over. As soon as the Mathematics paper had concluded, I knew I had done badly. I felt very disappointed as I knew I was capable of doing better than that. When the results came out, I got what I had anticipated.

I reflected on the past few months which I supposedly should have used to prepare for the examinations. I knew that I should have worked harder. I regretted not putting in my best when I was assigned homework. I knew then that I had to change the way I was studying or else, I would never improve.

Hence, during the subsequent months, I worked hard to ensure that I always handed in homework that was up to my teacher's standard. I decided to revise more regularly as I did not want to end up like the previous time where I revised at the last minute. Furthermore, I asked friends and teachers for help whenever I was in doubt or if I had any questions to clarify. My teachers were also willing to meet up with me and coach me personally if I was struggling on a particular topic.

Sure enough, my hard work paid off. At the end of the year, I had improved significantly. Today, I still continue to strive for success and have improved not only in Mathematics but also in my other subjects. I would not have been able to achieve this success without the help of my family, friends and teachers.

Jeryl Angelo Roxas Navarro
Class 4A1



Success is a process. It is a journey. It is the way you feel and the effort you put into achieving your goals. It is you striving for something. For me, my short term goal is to get good results in order to choose my favorite course and subsequently to start my own business. Hence, I am studying very hard to reach this goal.

Although the goal seemed difficult for me to achieve at that point, I did not give up. As my English language was poor, my other subjects were also affected. I needed to ignite the passion for learning and try my best to improve my English language. Improving my English language would definitely make the learning of other subjects easier for me. Moreover, I could use my time to improve my studies holistically, instead of needing to spend all my time on English.

I used to be a very lazy person, who always did not do the homework nor study during weekends or during break times. I reflected on this and I was determined to do something about it. The first step was doing homework on time and doing extra work when I was free. Doing consistent work was very important in order to improve in each subject. As I did the homework, it helped me to revise what was learnt during lessons. I also used my break time to memorise some vocabulary, and paid attention during lessons. This was the most important task I needed to do in order for me to improve my English language.

I am indeed very lucky to have good friends and teachers, although my way to success is difficult. My English teacher was very kind, as she would be patient and helped me. Moreover, I also got good roommates. On weekends, we would study together and they were willing to guide me with other subjects such as Mathematics and Science. I am very lucky to have this relationship, as it has motivated me to be more hardworking. My passion for learning is growing.

Li Yanjie
Class 4A1

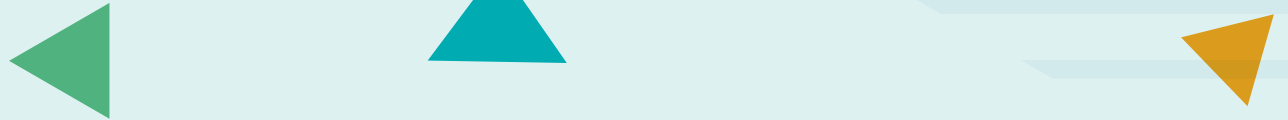
Success means to do well in something. To me, success means to do well in my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA). My CCA was Audio-Visual (AV) Club, which is usually known as Infocomm. As Infocomm club members, my CCA mates and I had to learn a lot of new skills so that we could control the sound system in school. We were also in charge of playing the National Anthem every morning. School photography was also included as part our Infocomm club duties.

It has been half a year since I came to this school. From being just an ordinary member, I soon became the Chairperson of the AV Club. Through various platforms, I had learnt to handle the control room, backstage and foyer by myself. I had also been in charge for some big events like Chinese New Year, Commendation Day and Hari Raya concert.

I have to thank Mr Sim and Mr Rahim for all the opportunities they had provided for me. I am also grateful to the rest of the other teachers, students-in charge and the seniors, because they taught me every single thing I needed to know as an AV Club member. They were very patient with me. They did not blame me when I sometimes made mistakes. They solved my problems very quickly and taught me very well. I am proud of my achievements thus far.

As an AV Club member, I also had to make some sacrifices. Every day, I had to report to the teacher in school at 6:45 a.m. This was a daunting task because I lived quite far from school. Therefore, every day I had to wake up at 5:10 a.m. so that I could catch the first bus to school. This already was a success to me. However, I did not mind as I enjoyed my AV Club duties.

Lin Sichen
Class 4A1



Every individual has his own definition of success. To me, success is being able to achieve whatever you had dreamt of and it definitely requires hard work and dedication.

When I first came to Loyang View Secondary School, the first thought that went through my mind was to study hard. In Primary school, I was very weak in my academics, hence I did not do so well in my examinations. Therefore, I decided that it should not be repeated in my Secondary school life.

One of the subjects that I was weak in was Mathematics. Throughout my Primary school life, I had never done well in Mathematics which really worried me because Mathematics is one of the most important subjects to do well in order to get to places like junior colleges or polytechnics. As time passed by, I decided that I wanted to change my attitude towards Mathematics. My results for Mathematics from Secondary one to Secondary two were all borderline passes and in Secondary three, I was determined to do well in Mathematics. In order to do that, I had to put in all my hard work and dedication towards improving my Mathematics. Every day after school, I would revise and practise together with my friend so that we could help each other out. During the school holidays, my Mathematics teacher, Mrs Lim, would ask my friends and me to come for additional classes, and from all of those additional classes, I finally understood the different Mathematics concepts. Then came the end-of-year examinations. I had never felt so confident for a Mathematics paper and when I was doing it, it felt like I could finish it in thirty minutes. When I saw my results, a few weeks later, I was so delighted because I got a B3 for my end-of-year Mathematics examination. From a C5 grade to a B3 grade, I had definitely made a great improvement!

Now in Secondary four, I have to remain consistent with my hard work for Mathematics and not falter due to my laziness. I should always be ready for the skill force of tomorrow. Not to forget, my passion for Mathematics is still growing strong.

Mohamed Daanish Amyr B M A
Class 4A1

Success is about setting goals and achieving them. Such goals include losing weight, learning how to play an instrument, making profit in a business, or being the best in certain careers. The secret to success, as many people will agree, is hard work.

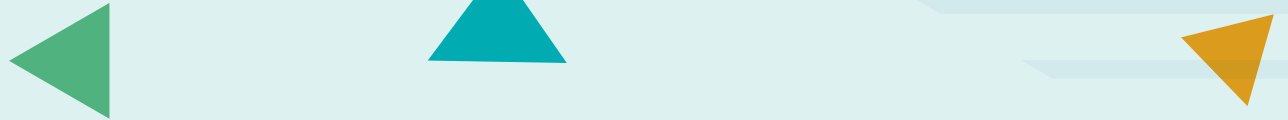
An example would be my progress in Mathematics. I simply hated Mathematics! Every now and then, I would always complain like a whiny kid, 'Why Mathematics? How is this useful in life?' It is not like we are going to tell the cashier, 'Can I have one third times five square amount of MacSpicy?' All changed when my Mathematics teacher, Ms. Ang started to give me extra lessons. At first, I thought it was pointless, but I soon realised that it would be a waste of time if I did not learn anything during those extra lessons. Hence, I decided to make full use of those lessons by listening to her, although I had difficulty understanding her initially. Soon, I was getting the hang of it. I kept on asking questions after questions until it kind of irritated her.

Soon enough, I was confident in passing my Mathematics and when I looked back at my previous results, I realised I had made a big improvement from a D grade to a B grade which was very surprising, unbelievable and wonderful. I was on cloud nine as I was so proud of my accomplishment! There were some comments on my results but one in particular was interesting: 'If only you had started to be focused since the very beginning.' That was when I realised that I could do better if I had good attitude since the very start.

This growing desire for improvement had led me to receive many wonderful praises from teachers, friends and my parents. It also led to me achieving the Edusave Award. The award was meant for those who had the most improved results within a year. Getting the award was like holding on to a gold bar, I had worked so hard to achieve this. I was so proud of myself.

Hard work and success go hand in hand because life is designed to be tough, which means that people have to keep trying to succeed. In actual sense, there are so many challenges in life that only hardworking people can overcome them. This explains why there are very few successful people in the world today. I can definitely say that I will be successful one day.

Ng Yang Yun
Class 4A1



Success is often defined as the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. To others, success is about getting the highest position, however success to me is doing my best even if I do not get to the highest spot.

My success story began when the New Year started. I was demoted from Secondary Three Express to Secondary Four Normal Academic as I had failed my English Language the previous year. I was determined however, to ensure that I would do better in my English Language this year. I had a few problems at first adjusting to the new environment and classmates but soon, I got used to it. My biggest problem was that I was still not confident of myself to do well in that subject. I often would avoid handing in homework as I was not sure if it was good enough or whether I had written it correctly. When questioned, I would make the excuse that I forgot about the homework. Though, most of the time I did do the homework! I just did not have the confidence to submit the work.

In the end, I resorted to looking for other ways to improve my English Language. I convinced myself to do some English exercises while reading some books when I had the time. Although this meant that I had less free time, I was willing to give it up. When Mid-Year examinations started, I was nervous but I reminded myself that I had to improve as compared to the previous year.

When I finally got back my results, I heaved a sigh of relief. Although I did not get the best results, I had made an improvement! I was also able to be one of the top five percent of my cohort as I scored a total of eleven points for my Mid-Year examinations. That is success to me!

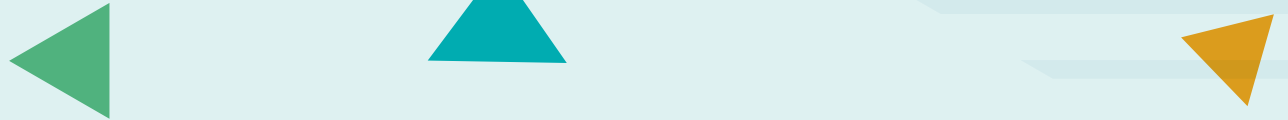
Wong Cavan
Class 4A1

“Successful people are just those with successful habits.” – Bryan Tracy. Everyone has habits peculiar to them. Be it good or bad. To me having a good habit is better than having a bad habit. What do I mean by that? I used to be extremely hardworking but something happened.

Four years ago, I used to be super motivated to study as I really wanted to make my family proud of me. As time flew, it became my habit to study every day. I would be super cranky if people disturbed me when I'm studying. For example, I used to study in my living room and I always study around 5 pm. During that time, my sister would either watch television or play with her toys in the living room. I will get annoyed and I will get angry.

Due to that, my grades dropped really badly and I gave up working hard so I let time do its job. Up until now my grades are really bad. Nevertheless, I am trying very hard nowadays as my N levels are nearing by paying more attention in class and putting more effort in handing in my assignments on time. I am still lagging behind but at least I am slowly changing my habits.

Erra Haffiza
Class 4A2



Success takes place when we have achieved a goal we had set for ourselves in life. It is a journey in which there will be challenges that we have to face.

Ever since I was in primary school, I always had trouble with my Mother Tongue language. I will either have a grade of 5 or a U grade. I knew I had to change my attitude and be more attentive towards my Mother Tongue lessons. I have always received bad grades and I wanted to make a change.

During this year's weighted assessment, I was expecting another bad grade for my Mother Tongue language. But the grade far exceeded my expectations. I actually got a grade 1, and I never expected it to happen any time soon. It was beyond my wildest imagination! It has motivated me to maintain my grades consistently. This is my success story.

Khairul Irfan
Class 4A2

“Stop thinking you cannot do it but start thinking you can. Failing is a part of success, so do not stop trying.” This quote shows that success is something you can achieve through hard work as long you do not give up. It also shows that you should not be affected by your failures and push on. This applies to me as I always fail at doing something in which I want to succeed at. I also have this strong determination - I always tell myself to try one more time.

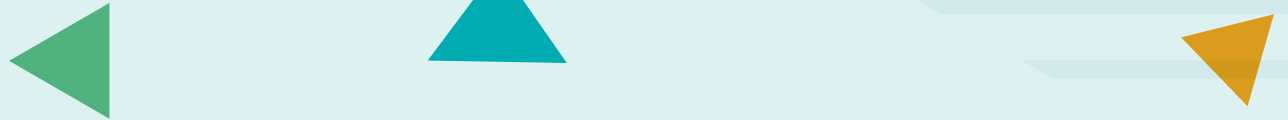
My success story is about me receiving an award for my academic performance. I once believed that transferring from Normal Technical to Normal Academic would be a breeze. I started the year with confidence. I realised that I was wrong as I could not keep up with my lessons since I was not used to topics in that stream. This resulted in me failing my exams so badly. This continued for a really long time and I felt unworthy of the Commendation-Day Award I had received in 2017. How could such an awardee be a failure?

A year later, everything began to change when I wrote a success story about my achievements in the National Cadet Corp. I realised that I could repeat that trajectory of success again. I wrote a quote which states, “Stop thinking you cannot do it, start thinking you can. Failing is a part of success, so do not stop trying.” This quote reminded me of the many times I had achieved small parcels of success before my life as a Normal Academic student and how it represented my strength.

I persevered, and a year later, this year, I received an award for being in the top twenty five percentile of my cohort for academic performance. With consistent hard work, I soon realised my strengths.

I am proud to have achieved success once again.

Daxson Tan Lin CuN
Class 4A3



Without any effort to attain success, I will not be where I am right now. Just like the saying, “Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts “. Upon getting back my report book, I was happy enough to see the results that I had been expecting. Even though the grade I got for English was still not up to what I had been dreaming of, I was still glad to have achieved four distinctions for my CA1.

Without the support and encouragement given by my one and only best friend, Cheryl , it would have been impossible for me to achieve this success. She was there for me when I wanted to give everything up since all subjects were getting harder as the day passed. However, because of her, I chose to persevere and now, I have attained grades that I had been wanting to get. Although my best friend’s support is the main reason why I am doing well right now, what really helped me was the practice given by teachers continuously and also unconditional support given by my family.

Personally, I think that I have gained some values such as resilience and also perseverance. These are values that would benefit me in the future even as a working adult. I have also changed into someone better as I do not give up easily like how I used to. I tend to do more practice papers as a habit for every subject in order to improve my studies. Even though I am satisfied with my grades, I will continue to work hard and do more practice assignments on areas, chapters or topics that I am weak at. Since my best friend is very supportive and encouraging, I can also ask her to clarify my doubts. In order to have an easier and happier life in the future, I should work hard now and attain success so that I can get my preferred courses and jobs that I want in the future. I should work hard right now or I will end up having regrets when I get back my N Level results. Such strategic effort will certainly pay off!

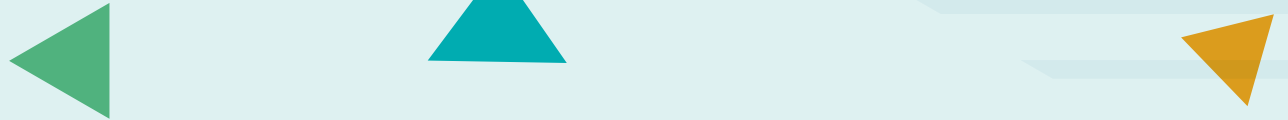
Nur Iman Bte Ibrahim
Class 4A1

Success can be portrayed in many different forms. Personally, what I see as a success is seeing my grades improve. Success comes with hard work! I choose to work extra harder on subjects I am weak at to improve my grades and knowledge. It is going to be tough but I know I have the resilience to get through it

I started to work harder on certain subjects I always failed at like Chemistry and Math. It started earlier in February, when I started to realise that I was about to take the GCE N level Examination. Time passed by really fast. I knew I had to do something. I knew I had to work extra hard in order to succeed, knowing that I could then apply to which ever course or programme I wanted. I just wanted to get it over and done with.

Currently, I am passing nearly all of my subjects, except math. I can see improvements and progress in my grades but I'm striving for higher grades for my Preliminary Examination. It might be a small success for me, but it's my stepping stone to excel. My biggest success is yet to come. It will hopefully be in my GCE N level Examination, where I will shine with flying colours. My hard work will hopefully pay off and develop my personal attitude towards a sense of responsibility.

Siti Mariam Marsha
Class 4A3



“Success seems to be connected with actions. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don’t quit “ - Conrad Hilton.

To me, success is the feeling of accomplishment over something. In my case, I received an ‘A1’ for my Mother Tongue examination. Although it was only for my CA1, I felt a sense of accomplishment as I have only obtained Bs and Cs. Knowing that my Mother Tongue is rather weak, I made the effort to do extra revision and pay attention in class. In my Mother Tongue class, I sit beside Iman, who also helps me, and her teaching has helped improve my grades!

Even though I am always spacing out in class, I tried my best to focus in class and eventually managed to do it. During the CA1, I used all the methods my teacher taught me. I did not have any expectations of even getting a ‘B’ so when I looked at my report slip and saw an ‘A1’ beside Mother Tongue, I was so pleasantly surprised. All my hard work has paid off and I will continue striving for success as the ‘N’ level Examinations are a few months away.

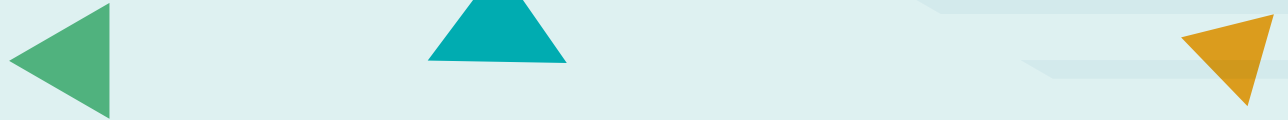
Aida Sabrina
Class 4A4

“Push yourself, because no one else is going to do it for you”. Therefore, to achieve success you have to put in a lot of hard work and continue trying even if you fail.

Last year when Greenview Secondary School and Loyang Secondary School merged as Loyang View Secondary School, I was afraid that the students in the merged school would be better than me in Chinese. In Greenview, I had a few people to compete with though I still had to study hard for Chinese. Boon Hong and Jean were the only ones who were one or two marks behind me. Therefore, I was afraid.

In the new school, I met Wilson who was very good at Chinese. His points were either one or two marks away from mine. Sometimes he would score one mark higher mark than me or we would end up with the same mark. This made me study harder at Chinese as I wanted to beat him. Near to the year end, I received a text message from my Chinese teacher, Mr Simon that I, Wilson and Boon Hong got offered to take “O” level Chinese. However, I was in a dilemma as to whether I should take up the opportunity! Then something came to my mind. “If God pushed open a window for you, just take it as you might just lose the opportunity forever” This was said by my Greenview teacher, Mdm Koh. This quote inspired me to have the courage to take up the “O” level Chinese challenge. This is my success story

Hwee E Ling Kirt
Class 4A4



When I was in Secondary 3, I often struggle in my academic subjects. I was especially bad in Food and Nutrition (F&N). It made me feel less motivated to do food and nutrition and I even felt like dropping out, and focusing on the rest of my subjects. Almost every test given to me was returned back to me with a fail. I felt demotivated to study for my F&N exams.

However, when it was almost the End-Of-Year examinations, I made up my mind to just for once, put most of my effort into Food and Nutrition. I spent most of my study time, revising my food and nutrition notes and textbook. I was even willing to skip meals to revise thoroughly. It was an intense period of time during the End-Of-Year examinations but I forced myself to not give up. When the day of my food and nutrition exam came, I was nervous yet confident in doing the paper. I really hoped that my hard work and effort would pay off, and that it was all worth it.

A week later, when we received our papers, I was really surprised but slightly disappointed as what I had seen on my paper was to me, not a very bad score! I was only a few marks away from getting a pass grade! It may not be a pass grade but I believed that it was commendable effort indeed. As a matter of fact, this showed that I could actually pass the subject if I were to just put in a little bit more hard work and sweat in studying and revising for that subject. This motivated me not to drop out, and do my best in Secondary 4. I will without a doubt, pass the subject by the time my N level examination arrives.

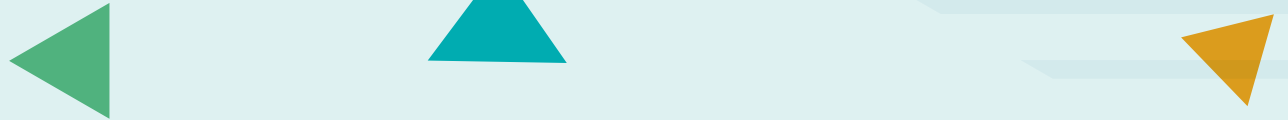
Muhammad Firdaus
Class 4A4

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts”. Have you ever felt pleased because you succeeded in something you thought you will never be able to do or something that you have always wanted to achieve?

I remember myself as a lazy and unmotivated student when I was in lower secondary. Despite the countless times I had told myself to start paying attention in class, I just could not find the motivation to do so. Looking at my results after every test, I have never once felt proud of myself because I did not bother to put in the effort to revise and to pay attention in class. When all I wanted was good grades, yet I did not do anything to achieve it. However, I told myself that I cannot continue like this as it will bring me no good but just more regrets.

After the merger last year, I would at least put in some effort to revise and I became more attentive in class. Although my grades are not the best, I am glad that I have at least put in some effort to study. This is my success story.

Ong Ling En
Class 4A4



To achieve success is not easy and it does not happen overnight. It requires us to work hard, practice and have a lot of patience. To be honest with you, I did not really apply this strategy to my studies. I am the type to procrastinate and so my homework is always done in the last minute. I know that I have to change my habits as I am taking my 'N' Level Examinations this year. Breaking my bad habit was not easy but somehow I did it.

The day I knew I had to change my habits was when I heard Mrs Ada's expectations for both Social Studies (SS) and History. For History and SS, you will be tested every week on the topic taught. When I tried studying for the test at home, I found myself getting distracted by the noises, phones and laptop and many more things. Naturally, I failed the test. After that day, I decided to study at the library with my friends as I expected fewer distractions but I was wrong. We spent more time finding a place to study than studying. So, we decided to eat and walk around Tampines Hub. In the end, we did not study much as the library closed at 9pm

I figured out that studying at the library was not really effective so I changed my venue. Instead of the library, I now study at the KFC at Downtown East as it's not crowded and busy. I find it easier to concentrate as the distractions are less, and I am able to study for at least four hours. Besides studying at KFC, after school I will go to the Community Centre to do my homework and study as I find it hard to concentrate at home

In conclusion, find a place where you can concentrate and find friends who can help in the subjects you are weak in. Hence, I succeeded in making improvements to my grades overall.

Siti Sakinah
Class 4A4

As it is stated in the Student Creed: “Within me lies the power to be the best I can be”. It tells me that everybody has the power and potential to achieve success and it all depends on a person’s attitude and effort. In my case, I was always an average student. I did not get amazing marks for my examinations but they were satisfactory for me. However, there was one subject that I hated with my guts. It was Additional Mathematics. It was the only subject I would fail every examination.

Whenever I had Additional Mathematics classes, I would not put in any effort into the lesson. I would constantly doze off or do work from other subjects. My Additional Mathematics teacher, Mr Sim, would reprimand me for doing these actions. However, everything changed one fateful day. On that day, Mr Sim gave an Additional Mathematics test to the class. As usual, for every additional mathematics test, I would not do it properly. The next day, he returned the test. When I got my test papers back, I found out that I had failed terribly for the test. Even though I felt sad at the moment, I managed to shrug it off as if nothing had ever happened. After the class, Mr Sim approached me.

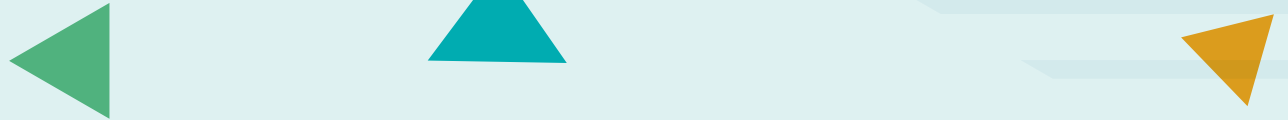
“Ahmad, I think it is best for you to drop Additional Mathematics,” Mr Sim said softly.

As I heard those words, my heart sank. I did not want to drop Additional Mathematics. When my mother found out I was able to take Additional Mathematics as one of my subjects, she was very proud of me. I did not want to break her heart by dropping Additional Mathematics. At first, Mr Sim was reluctant to give in to my pleas. However, after more pleading and a promise that I would work to the best of my ability, he agreed.

Ever since that day, I would burn the midnight oil studying for the subject. I would regularly consult with Mr Sim after school to help me with Additional Mathematics. After two months of doing this, I started to notice a difference. I was better at solving the problems, and I started enjoying it. My passion for the subject grew until I was obsessed with it as if it were a drug.

When the end-of-year examinations came, I was confident in my skills. After the examinations, when I got back my paper back, the biggest smile was etched on my face. I got an A1 for it. I immediately went to Mr Sim and thanked him for helping and believing in me. Mr Sim then congratulated me on my results. Ever since that day, my passion for Additional Mathematics has grown. I have also begun to work harder on other subjects to get the best scores. I applied the same path to success in all my other subjects .

Ahmad Tirmizi Bin Adam
Class 4E1



Everyone has his or her own definition of success. To me, success is all about being happy and creating a positive mindset. It is to give my best in everything I do, whether I enjoy doing it or not, till the negative image transforms into a positive one.

I used to hate studying. Ever since way back when I was in kindergarten, I was deemed as a playful student who did not take her studies seriously. Failing Mathematics badly and scraping through with a C for my English examinations were all old news to me. In my opinion, studying was boring and such a waste of time. Burying myself in textbooks and cramming tons of information into my head were not my idea of learning! What a dull life! I simply did not find purpose in learning, especially studying.

However, my mindset towards learning changed ever since I came into this secondary school. I made friends who enjoyed learning and they encouraged me to feel the same way too. During our examinations we would have mini-competitions between us to see who would perform the best. Due to my playful but competitive nature, I told myself that I had to win.

There were times when I did not understand what I was studying and wanted to give up, but my friends and family were always there helping me and making me forget about all the stress I had. My secondary school also gave the students mini-tests every week to reinforce our learning. These tests were manageable, and through obtaining good marks for them, I gained confidence in my studies. I have always thought that I was a failure in my studies, but now I was motivated to score in my examinations.

Through the Mathematics workshops and out-of-classroom activities, I realised that learning is not just restricted to the four walls of the classroom. Such activities introduced by the school not only broadened my knowledge, but have also made me view learning in a fun way. Furthermore, I was able to interact with friends during these enrichment activities, which made learning less boring and tiresome.

Gone are the days when I felt that learning was a burden. Although I used to dislike studying, I have been able to overcome this negative barrier. Through the positive influence I have from my friends and the improvements I have made in my studies, my passion towards learning has improved immensely. This achievement became more significant when I was able to apply this positive mindset in everything I did.

Chermaine Chia Si Min
Class 4E1

“Okay, students, it is time for us to write a success story as requested by our happy and caring school!” My English teacher announced the news in front of the class with a mischievous smile. I did not pay much attention to what he said, so I quickly went through the options and chose one that I could write the most about, which was my passion for learning, especially for history.

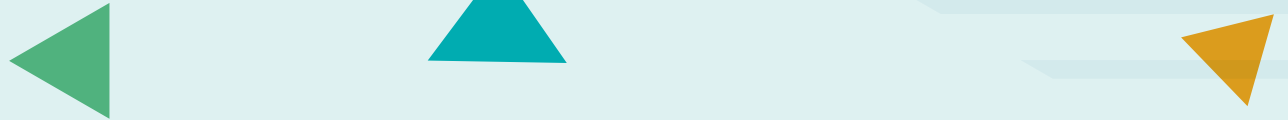
Before I came to Singapore to continue my education, I was studying at a Chinese independent school for three years. Back then, I was learning history in both Chinese and Malay. This caused more stress to me than any other subject because I had to memorise the contents in two languages with totally different syllabi, and I had to be able to identify what was true and what had been rewritten to suit the country. I did not study history with passion and I refused to change my behavior. This continued for three years before I had a chance to study in Singapore, where the majority of the subjects were taught in English.

When I first came to Loyang View, I was given a form to choose my elective subjects. I was debating with myself whether I should go for history or geography because I had learnt both subjects before. When I questioned myself whether I really enjoyed learning geography, my honest answer was a ‘no’, so I decided to take history as my humanities elective. The truth was that I was not really confident about my choice, but I was later glad that I had chosen history because my history teacher, Ms Ada, really made me enjoy history lessons. History was taught in English, which meant that I only had to focus on one language.

As days passed, my passion for learning grew. I even took the initiative of reading my textbook before lessons. I made sure that I gave my very best in not just history but also other subjects by finishing my assignments before the due date. Sometimes, I would watch interesting videos on world history, like Queen Cleopatra VII, the last ruler of ancient Egypt. Of course, there were other interesting stories around the world, but Egyptian history has been my favorite of all for some reason. I am even thinking of majoring in history at Oxford University, if I make it.

In conclusion, I think that my success story is that I have become more passionate to learn because of history. It has spiked my interest to gain more knowledge from my teachers, who put in so much effort to teach us the best they can, and also prepare us for our O-level examinations this year. If I did not have the passion, I think I would have easily burnt out when I was studying history; history is one of those subjects that requires a good memory, as almost everything comes from reading and memorizing and, of course, the determination to score well. I only hope that I will not lose my passion for learning and in the end become a study robot. I also understand that “success is not final, and failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts”. I just need to continue persevering and striving as hard as I possibly can and hope for the best outcome.

Chern Ying Ying
Class 4E1



Everyone has his or her own perception of success, be it earning a lot of money or making new friends. My goal is to be passionate about learning something new continually, whether it is related to studies or not. I am glad to say that I have been successful in learning something new. This attitude has influenced what I want my future to be like.

In Primary school, I was reluctant to try new things. I had no goal and no plan for the future. Any opportunity that was presented to me was thrown away. I found it meaningless to pick up a new skill. Whenever there were any courses or lessons about a skill that was not taught in school, I would never give my hundred percent.

This mindset of not being open to new things stuck with me, until I was in Secondary two. During one particular recess, my science teacher requested to see me personally. She advised me to be more adventurous and not be afraid of trying new things. At first, I did not take her advice. However, later, with maturity and confidence, I decided to heed her advice.

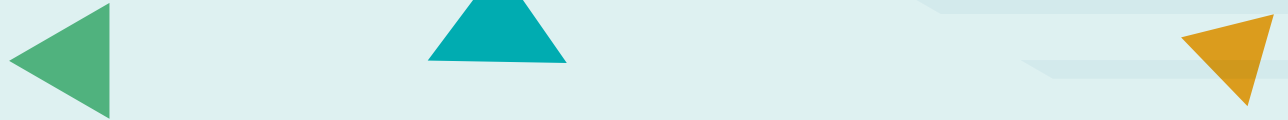
An opportunity to learn a new skill was presented to me at the end of the year. My co-curricular activity (CCA) teacher had invited a vendor to teach us the basic skills of videography for two weeks. I tried to put my mind into the course and be attentive. At the back of my mind, I thought that the videography course would be boring. However, it turned to be very interesting. I participated and gave my hundred percent. The vendor split us up into groups of six and handed each group a camera. We went out of the computer lab and filmed the required shots. I practically did not let anyone touch the camera, as if it were my precious child. That was not the most interesting part of the course. The most interesting part of the course, in my opinion, was the editing. The vendor introduced us to a professional editing software called the 'Adobe Premiere Pro', and taught us some of its basic functions. Once again, I barely let anyone edit the video, which resulted in me getting a warning from my teacher. This time, instead of being reluctant to participate, I was reluctant to give up the editing to someone else.

After the course, I went home and researched on videography, more specifically editing, instead of doing homework. I stumbled upon a trendy genre of edits, Instagram edits. They had vibrant effects and cool transitions that drew me in instantly. I felt inspired to do similar edits as well. I begged my mother to purchase the editing software that most editors use, Adobe After Effects, for my birthday, to which she agreed.

Ever since, I have been editing my favourite shows and learning how to make eye-catching transitions by watching tutorials on YouTube. After every single edit, I tried to improve and challenge myself. Although I was horrible at it, I was determined to be like the other popular editors.

Several months have passed since the day I started my first edit, I have become at least ten times better. Although I am not the best, I still try to make amazing edits. This passion that I have found through my CCA has influenced my future. Now, I aspire to be a video editor, or at least work in the film production industry. If not for my science and CCA teachers, I would not have opened my mind and discovered this burning passion I have.

Koh Wen Xun
Class 4E1



The academic report came into my hands just like a lightning striking my heart. I wished for “Apples”, but I received “Bananas” and “Cranberries” instead. I ran all the way home and threw myself onto my bed, pretending it did not happen. However, my illusions were laid to permanent rest when my parents asked about my results.

That period of time was tough and memorable to me. I considered the results as humiliation and left myself demoralised. I thought I would give up on myself until Miss Lau approached me. She talked to me during the Values-In-Action activity during the June holidays. After interpreting and discussing the reason for my failure, I found out the main problem that caused this disaster was gaming. The talk somehow buoyed my confidence as I knew that I could do better but I just lacked effort and self-discipline. It was time for me to muster enough courage and rectify matters.

Shouting at the sea hysterically while everyone looked at me with curiosity, I returned home with a fresh mindset. Since I had decided to turn over a new leaf, I deleted all my games. My roommates were surprised and tried to convince me to reinstall the games and not to be the odd one out. I knew that I needed to work very hard so as to get my desired results. I rejected them and insisted on my stand. The moment I rejected them, I felt awkward and a sense of loss. However, the “Bananas” and “Cranberries” just popped into my memory and reminded me of the humiliation that I had gone through. I promised that I would never put myself in that horrible situation again. The sense of loss escaped within seconds and I was prepared to accept the brand-new lifestyle without games. The wall in my room was pasted with quotes that pushed me to work harder and be resilient. The picture of Kobe Bryant was also pasted on the wall to remind me of the Mamba mentality: passionate, obsessive, relentless, resilient and fearless. This definitely helped me to keep my eyes on my target.

Every action has its consequence. What you get depends on how much you contributed in the past. I put in all my heart and my greatest effort, and what came back were all the “Apples” that I desired the whole time. Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out. This self-control that I have gained would put me in good stead and help me achieve success in the future.

Liu Yanglin
Class 4E1

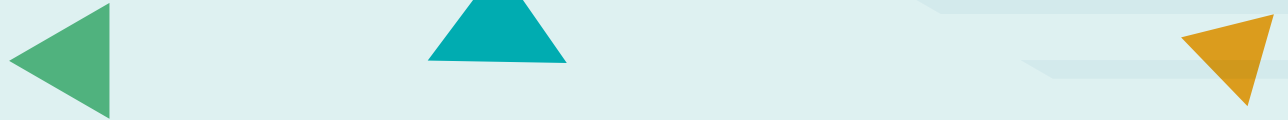
Let me tell you a story about how I gained confidence in my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA). Three year ago I was 13, just a young secondary school student. It was the day when we would try out each and every CCA there was in the school. There was a CCA that caught my attention. It was rock climbing. When it was time for our class to try out rock climbing, our class was told to reach the top of the rock wall, which I did. As I was being lowered, I kept wondering if I succeeded in being short-listed. An hour or so passed. I was so eager for the results that I went to the teacher personally and asked her if I had been short-listed. She took the list and searched for my name. I was elated when she said that I was. I was sure that I would enter the rock climbing CCA as I thought I would be a good climber.

A few days passed and it was the day when my classmates and I were individually assigned to our new CCA. When the turn came to call the people who were selected, to my astonishment, my name wasn't called out! I ran to my classmate who was selected and I asked the reason why I wasn't chosen. She said, "The teacher told me that your climbing style is different." I was puzzled. Perhaps I had messed up during try outs? Or perhaps I was just too short? Apparently, I had been placed under the "No CCA" Category. A teacher came up to those who were on that list and told us we would be joining the symphonic band. "Isn't the band the lamest and the most boring thing to do for CCA?" I thought to myself. Nevertheless, I went ahead with the allocation.

On the first day, the new members were introduced to various instruments. There were two instruments that caught my interest; they were the flute and the trumpet. However, I was placed under the percussion section, which I hated the most. "Nothing is going according to plan," I told myself. I tried to convince my teachers-in-charge and seniors to change my section, but they said during the instrumental try outs, I scored ten out of ten for percussion while my scores for the other sections were lower. Feeling doubtful, I lost my confidence and desire to go for CCA as I had no interest in it. I would skip every CCA session whenever I could.

One year passed and I was promoted to Secondary two. I started to realise that the band was like a second family to me. By then, I had been attending some sessions and I had made new friends. Everyone in the band was so friendly, caring and open towards me. Moreover, playing in the band requires a lot of teamwork and playing together at the correct beat. Even though I was scolded sometimes, I found the band interesting. I realised that not everyone could play a percussion instrument, as it required hand co-ordination. Slowly, I gained my confidence to strive and work hard in the upcoming Singapore Youth Festival. That is my success story.

Marcus Teo Qi Yang
Class 4E1



Learning takes place in everything that we do and if you have the passion to learn, anything is possible. This is something that I have always believed in and it is the key to all my successes. I believe that when you are determined to learn something, nothing can stop you. My passion for learning to play netball and my intrinsic love for the sport are the reasons I am where I am today.

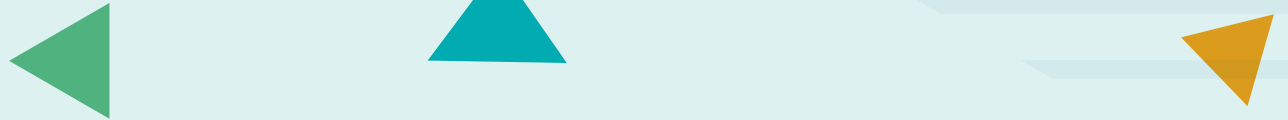
I first joined netball in Secondary 2 with no knowledge of the game. At that time, I didn't even know there was such a thing. I was part of the 'C' division team while the other Secondary 2s were training to be part of the 'B' division team. I was made to learn the basics with the Secondary 1s. To be honest, it was quite awkward at first, since I was new to the team. Nevertheless, I was determined to put in my very best for every training and learn as much as possible. For over a year, I underwent training to be a shooter and practised shooting dutifully whenever I had the opportunity.

Then, to my surprise, in the middle of Secondary 3, my coach suggested that I switched my playing position to a defender since I was better suited for it. At first, I refused because zonal selections were only a few months away, and there was a lot to learn in such a short time. However, after carefully thinking it through, I finally decided to make the switch. Initially, I was scared because I didn't believe that I could do it. Nonetheless, I didn't let my fear get in the way. So, I put my blood and sweat into this sport which has found a special place in my heart. I put all that I had into training sessions and made sure I learnt something new each time. I even tried to pick up new skills on my own by watching international netball games.

Selections came and our team had so many splendid defenders that I knew my chances of being selected were low. At first, I wanted to give up, but the encouragement from my coach and teachers, especially Ms Ada, was what gave me the determination to give it a shot. They made me believe that I could do it and motivated me to train hard. Finally, the day of the school team results came. The coach had the names of the selected players in her hand and I was certain my name was not on the list. As she began reading, I heard the names of many of my teammates and to my surprise, my name was read out too! I was overwhelmed with joy and happiness. All my hard work had paid off and I had made the school team. I was even awarded the Outstanding Contribution Award for netball!

Now, after having stepped down from my duties, when I reflect on my netball journey, I realise that I have succeeded in my own way. From someone who had absolutely no knowledge of the game to one who made the school team, I have really come a long way and I knew my passion for learning and my hunger to constantly improve have led to my success. All these could also not have been possible without the support of Ms Ada, who never stops believing in her players. My journey in Loyang View Secondary School has also taught me that there are no shortcuts to success; it is the result of hard work and perseverance!

Prithikashri Kannan
Class 4E1



Success has different meanings to different people. To me, success means that I should try my best at doing something even if I do not win a competition or achieve an award. I am successful as I have surpassed myself.

My achievement is in shooting as a member of the Air Rifle Club. As I was not one of the best shooters in my club, I had few opportunities to shoot with bullets in the past two years. Therefore, it was a great achievement when I had a chance to shoot with bullets. I used to shoot dry-fire before. I am not physically fit or talented in shooting. During physical training, I suffered a lot because I was always tired more easily than other people. It was extremely embarrassing as juniors in my club were stronger than me. Luckily, my friends and teacher-in-charge helped me during the training. My friends motivated me when I attempted to stop running. They pushed me so that I would continue to run. During the shooting practice with dry-fire, which means to practise our shot position, my coach taught me the shooting skills repeatedly and patiently when I asked him some questions. All these small things that my friends and coach did for me led to my success.

After all the hard work I had put in, I got the chance to shoot with bullets. I told myself, “I must do my best to live up to the guidance of my coach and the engagement of my teacher and friends.” At the command, my coach started the clock, and I concentrated on my shooting. At the end of the session, when we took back our score cards, I was surprised to find that I had shot a ten-ring, and many of the other rings were close to the ten-ring. That was the first time that I had achieved such a good result.

Although I am proud of my achievements, I still need to work hard. The change that I still need to make is to push myself harder during training, as I know that sometimes I do not do my best and give up too easily. Working hard and correcting mistakes constantly would lead to more success stories.

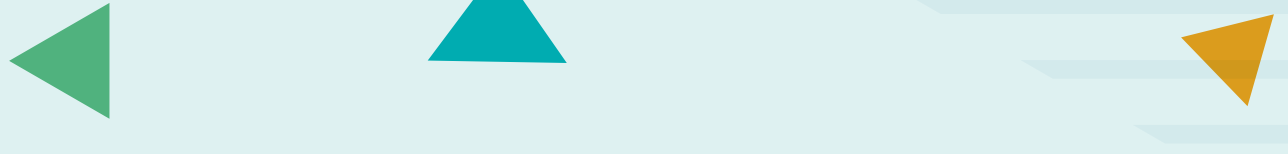
Wang Han
Class 4E1

As Albert Einstein said, “Try not to become a man of success instead be a man of value.” Many people probably have bright and unforgettable moments in their lives; so have I. There is one experience that I will never forget; it was a victorious moment in my life when I had not only felt great happiness filled with sweet achievement, but also developed a stronger character trait. I learnt the value of determination to improve myself, and I now fully appreciate the value of teamwork that had forged our success in clinching the Silver award in the National Brass Band competition.

I had the honour in representing our school to compete in the National Band performance when I was in Secondary 3, and a new member of the school band. Not only was I totally new at playing the saxophone, I was also sadly lacking in musical talents; there were mistakes after mistakes that held up the rehearsal progress in our entire section. Needless to say, the conductor was livid and I was constantly reproached at every rehearsal when I stumbled miserably on several notes and messed up the ensemble. The beautiful piece would never win with my playing and I appealed to the senior bandmates to help me to overcome my mistakes.

After watching me intently, they decided to practise with me every afternoon and without fail. The seniors began rostering themselves to stay back after school to correct my tempo and conducted repetitive drills to help me achieve the near perfect rhyme and tunes demanded by the beautiful piece of music.

Fortunately my conductor, too, stood by his motto of leaving no one behind in our quest to win the competition. He would patiently practise with me by giving me very clear cues and prompts to keep up with the mood, rhythm and cascading flow of beautiful musical sounds. I had to practise it, numerous times, day in and day out, and I was still sounding less than perfect and feeling totally petrified that I would cost the band the much coveted gold award. If not for the team’s encouragement, I would have given up, but I fought with my self-confidence every day, telling myself that I could do it, and that it would need just more steely calmness every day and just more practice sessions. In the end, I felt as if I was practising even in my dreams!



On the day of the competition, our efforts paid off when I delivered my part flawlessly. We were ecstatic when the judges declared that we had won the Silver award! We had done our school proud and I recalled our triumphant moments with everyone, including the conductor, who whooped and jumped up and down with joy!

Through this life-transforming experience, I have learnt the value of teamwork with determined hard work. If my seniors had not given me their vote of confidence and invested their time to practice with me, I would not have improved nor been able to play with them. I might have continued to make silly mistakes and robbed everyone of their victory in the competition. We had put our hearts and minds together to help one another overcome every weakness!

Xiao Shuohang
Class 4E1

The term 'success' means different things to different people. Some may think that success is easily attained while others may think that achieving success requires one to face obstacles and failures. To me, success is about reaching a certain milestone in life, regardless of uncomfortable challenges faced. I felt successful, when I completed a strenuous five-day-four-night course at Punggol.

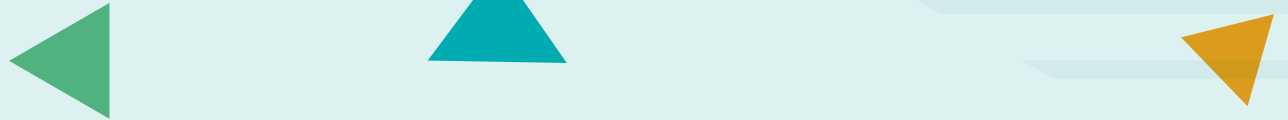
The five-day Outward Bound School (OBS) course in Singapore felt like weeks as each minute passed by so slowly as if we were frozen in time. What amused me most was being able to overcome my fear of falling while trying to balance on a bike. Granted, even kids can do that easily but it was not for me. We dived right into 'kick-bike' to kick off the first activity, as it was our mode of transport the next day. It was similar to cycling and riding a scooter as both required focus and balancing.

For novices like me at the age of sixteen, it was a complex task. My mind was flooded with questions, "What if I fall? Will others burst into laughter or will they help me up?" I snapped back into reality when a voice said, "Your turn." Petrified, I carefully put one foot on the kick-bike and quickly tightened my grip on the handles before putting my second foot on it. It started off slowly and steadily until the turning point during which I struggled. After many attempts, I finally got the hang of it.

Thus, the journey began, and everything was going well until I saw a steep slope. Panic started to rise in me as I watched the others going down the slope swiftly. I gripped the handles really tightly till my knuckles turned white and my palms were sweaty. With that, I gave a gentle kick and off I went. The journey down the slope was nerve wrecking. Bodies on vehicles were in-front of me, some were so close to me and it felt like I was about to crash into one of them. Finally, I was on flat land as I continued to kick-bike with a huge grin on my face. I gave myself a pat on the back mentally for conquering my fears in a short span of time.

Without OBS, there was no way I would have attempted such a feat. I would never have had the courage to do so. However, it made a positive change in my decision to learn how to cycle. May be some day, I thought to myself. Through this, I have learnt that in life, things will be thrown into your face and you either have to try it regardless of the outcome or walk away from it. This little achievement of mine has taught me about not giving up when challenges are thrown at me.

Adoncia Ho Shu Yin
Class 4E2



To me success is when I am able to achieve my ultimate goal or fulfill an objective. “Success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to do your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming,” said the late Coach John Wooden.

I got my first taste of success in Loyang View Secondary School when I got selected to join the Super24 Dance competition in 2018 by my teacher in-charge of the Co-curricular Activity (CCA). In previous years, I always failed to make it to the team despite trying my best every single time. It was devastating and sad for me as time was running out to show my full potential in CCA. I was scared that chances like this would not come by anymore as I was close to graduation.

I remember auditioning in Secondary One and Two, for the Super24 Dance Competition in 2016 and the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) in 2017. Unfortunately, I failed both the auditions and did not manage to enter the competition. It resulted in me almost giving up as I was almost sure that the teachers would never select me. I began to doubt my dancing skills at that point. But thankfully, my seniors in dance as well as my friends continued to support and encourage me to keep on trying. My efforts they said would be recognised by the teachers. I believed them and started to trust myself again on being able to persevere and improve my dance skills in order to get selected for any future dance competitions.

My efforts were not wasted and my potential was seen by the teachers. I was finally chosen to be part of Super24 in 2018, and that was my first ever dance competition in Loyang View Secondary School but it was definitely not the last. I was so thankful to all those people that helped me along my tough journey and encouraged me not to give up when I was about to. To me that was a huge achievement and success as being able to represent my school in Dance made me feel like a worthy and important person.

However, that success did not end there! In 2019 this year, I was chosen again for the 2019 SYF Dance Competition. I was really excited when I first heard the news that I was chosen to be part of it and this year was my last year in Dance CCA so I was really happy to qualify for the SYF before my O Levels. After four months of hard work in trying to make the dance piece as good as it could be, we finally received a gold award! It was a touching moment for me and all of the people in dance. We really did not expect to receive a gold award for our SYF Dance piece and was in tears of joy when we did. It was my biggest success in this school. It was the only Arts Performing CCA to receive a gold award in our school.

I will never forget my achievements in Dance, and this concludes my success story in Loyang View Secondary School.


Chen Tin Zhi
Class 4E2

Since Primary Six, I had never understood the true meaning of success or what it felt like to be successful. I've always thought that 'success' would only be accomplished when I start my career but no, I was way wrong. Success could be anything, and be achieved at anytime and anywhere, and I can still remember the incident that changed my whole perspective on the meaning of success.

Since primary school, I had hated Mathematics, and even the thought of the subject used to send chills down my spine. Mathematics was one of my worst subjects as I was not able to understand anything my teachers taught me, and I had always been failing the Mathematics exam, regardless of whether it was an easy or difficult paper. Even with the luxury of hiring private tutors to help me with the subject, I just couldn't seem to get the hang of it. It distressed me to watch my grades in the subject plunge, as if it was sucked into a black hole, affecting my overall examination score and morale. With all the negative thoughts about not being able to pass Mathematics swirling in my head, I decided to give up on the subject as it was just pointless to keep on trying. I was, in short, petrified of failing. Whenever I was about to do a short Mathematics quiz, fear would take control over my body and my mind would just go blank. I would not be able to remember a single thing about how to solve the problem. Fortunately, my parents and grandparents believed in me. They told me that I would succeed with flying colors, and so for their sake, I tried to stay hopeful.

At the start of my new chapter in secondary school, I felt that I needed a change, a change in attitude and a change in mindset to help me get through this new chapter in my life. Every day from school hours till midnight, I would practise solving Mathematics problems to make sure that I was able to understand the topic. Sometimes I would ask my friends and teachers for help if I couldn't solve a couple of questions. My parents also got me a private tutor to get a head start in the new Mathematics topics. Even though my fear of failing Mathematics would come up every time I did a quiz, I would try to suppress it, making sure that I would stay calm and collected when doing the paper. With this constructive plan, I felt a little more at ease and confident about my goal to pass Mathematics.

On the day of the Mid-Year Mathematics exam, it was time to put my skills to the test. As I was about to do the paper, I took in deep breaths, trying to keep myself calm and trying not to let my fear overwhelm me. Once the examination started, I began to work on the questions. Somehow, as I was doing the paper, I felt comfortable and relaxed, knowing how to do each question as I flipped through the papers. With a cheerful smile on my face, I completed the paper in lightning speed, ignoring all negativity and distractions in my head and around me. A few days later, it was time to receive our results. My hands were shaking and sweating and my knees were like jelly.



“Register number four.”

Mrs Chua, my Mathematics teacher called out with a smile. I walked in front of her nervously, took my paper and immediately went back to my seat. Trembling, I unfolded the exam paper and took a small peek at the top right corner of the first page. My eyes widened in extreme shock and tears started to flow down my face. I thought to myself, “I did it, I finally did it, I have finally succeeded in passing my Mathematics!!”

After achieving my goal of passing Mathematics, I learnt that resilience and patience is key. Passing my examination allowed me to transfer from the Normal Academic course to the Express Stream, and I was able to receive awards for my success. This is real success to me.

Kok Yik Yeng Velna
Class 4E2

“There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure.” This quote by Colin Powell could not be truer. I learnt that the path towards success would never be smooth. My greatest achievement so far has been my improvement in Chemistry, and I could never have improved in this particular subject without the values of perseverance and resilience.

“Chemistry.” This word may be unfamiliar to those students who have just started learning this subject. It is like a black hole with a mystery that can never be explored. My first chemistry class test was a disaster. I was not surprised by the marks I got when I received my test paper. I could feel my confidence dropping gradually as I looked through the mistakes I had made.

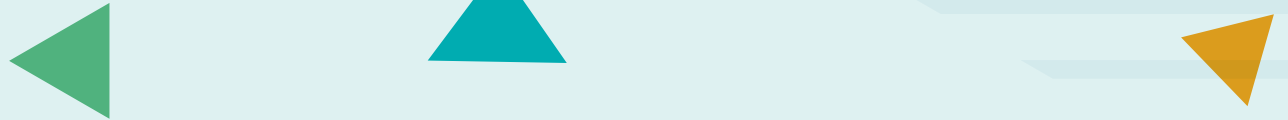
“What did you get for Chemistry?” my friend asked curiously as she stood in front of my table, holding her test paper. I could see a big capital “A” on her paper. I looked up at my friend and managed to squeeze a smile.

“I screwed up on the test,” I replied.

“The test was quite manageable and all the questions tested your basic knowledge on Chemistry. How could you not have done well?” Then she patted me on the shoulder in sympathy. At that moment, a sense of embarrassment was slowly spreading in my body. From top to toe.

“I must do something to improve my Chemistry!” I thought to myself. Thus, I decided to put in more effort into the study of Chemistry. Every day after school, I would spend most of my time on my Chemistry textbook, trying my very best to memorise all the formulae. I thought by doing this, I could get better grades in my upcoming chemistry test. However later, I was proven wrong.

The Mid-Year exam was my chance to prove that my efforts over the past few weeks had been worthwhile. The day before the Mid-Year exam, I was in a rush to memorise all the chemistry formulae. However, I realized that I was just storing everything inside my brain without understanding. In other words, I was just mechanically memorizing everything. The moment I flipped over the first page of the Chemistry question paper, my mind went totally blank from fear. Fortunately, I overcame my nervousness and tried to answer all the questions by applying the formulae I had memorised. The exam bell rang when I was still working on the questions. It was over. I felt like my life was also over.



The day after, my chemistry teacher returned the test papers to us. When the teacher handed me my test paper, I could feel my heart rate increasing. I quickly used my hand to cover my marks that I had received and ran back to my seat. I slowly moved my hand away and took a peek at the bottom right corner. A big capital 'F' was branded on the paper. Tears welled up in my eyes. All the hours spent working on memorising all the chemical formulae had gone down the drain.

"I can see you were trying very hard to do well in this test, but maybe you have used an ineffective way to study for this subject," my chemistry teacher said walking towards me.

"I really put in hard work to memorise all these, but this is all I get," I pointed at my marks.

"You should not just memorise the formulae without understanding. Once you understand how the formulae work, it will help you in your understanding. I believe that you will do better next time." I was shocked that I had been studying chemistry using the wrong method.

Over the next few months before another upcoming chemistry test, I dived into the "black hole" to explore. It was exciting and fearful for me to find out more about something that was unknown to me. In order for me to quickly understand the concepts behind the chemical reactions and formulae, I started to watch some experiments online. I watched countless videos on chemistry experiments. Besides all these, my chemistry teacher was also willing to help me.

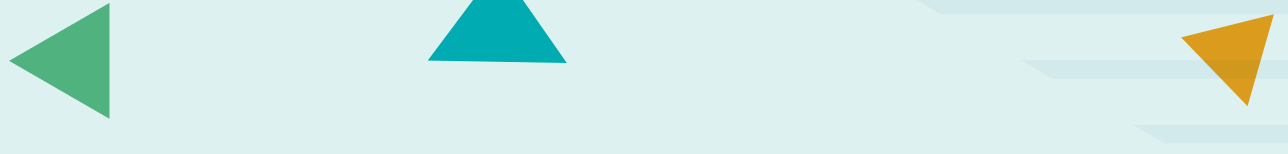
My friends and my family supported me and cheered me on when I was nearly giving up on this particular subject. Finally, when I got my end-of-year chemistry test paper, all my efforts that I put in had proven worthwhile. I burst into tears. I could not have done this without resilience and perseverance.

Kuo Zih-You
Class 4E2

Is there a formula for success? I would say success is the result of hard work, persistence, self-belief and support from others. The journey towards success is full of challenges, but with these key ingredients, success is never impossible. My biggest success throughout my fifteen-and-a-half years of my life is achieving confidence through my Co-curricular Activity (CCA), Dance. I remember every step to my success which made it an unforgettable experience.

Looking like a nerd with pink-coloured spectacles, two ponytails and a pair of weird-looking baggy pants, I entered the dance studio with no knowledge of dancing and started my first training session. A few sessions passed by with me being as quiet as a cave. The first step to gaining my confidence was showcasing the choreography taught during the session. I was chosen to showcase my skills to the whole dance club. Everyone was amazed by how I knew the steps in detail even though the whole piece was a little difficult to handle for someone new to the activity. Then, I heard loud applause after I danced and also heard people complimenting me. They must have thought that a quiet girl like me wouldn't know how to dance and I left them in shock when I performed.

From that day onwards, I started gaining the attention of many dancers and I was also confident to talk to them. My dance instructor started noticing the talent in me and I was picked to compete in a major competition that year. We entered the final round of the competition and everyone was very proud of the club as we were just a newly formed dance club when. Later, we competed in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF). We didn't do well but I was really proud of the Dance Club, as we had worked hard as a team. How did this help with my confidence? The process of preparing for the two major performances, I went through, helped me a lot with my confidence, my team spirit and my dancing skills. I got compliments from my instructor when we were practising, which made me want to do better for myself and the club. Standing in front of many spectators on the competition day itself was not easy due to my stage fright but with team support and support from teachers, I managed to get over it and dance confidently with my team. When we competed in SYF during my second year in the club, I had already expected many tiring practices and high expectations. My teacher gave the team a lot of encouraging speeches to make us believe in our team and have confidence in my dance piece. We were proud and confident of ourselves.



My dance experience taught me that no matter how tiring an experience might be, it will end up with a good result if you believe and persevere. Dance has made me confident in myself and without my confidence, we would not be strong and we would not believe that we were able to achieve success. My dance teacher and instructor played a major role in my success and I am very thankful for that. I had a lot of support from my dance friends too. Now, I am in my last year of participation in my CCA. I am part of the Executive Committee Member and I am proud to say that I believe in the club, no matter how stubborn and noisy they are. I believe that we will do well in the upcoming SYF this year and if we don't do well, it's perfectly fine because we know we worked hard. This is my success story. Everyone has gone through successes in their lives but there will be an unforgettable achievement that they will definitely experience and remember.


Rabiatul Adawiyah Bte Shamsudin
Class 4E2

2018 was a challenging yet fulfilling year for me. I had to make the transition from being a Secondary Two to a Secondary Three student, and it meant that I would be taking new subjects and getting into a new class. For me, taking a new subject meant that I needed to put in extra effort into my study. I was already struggling with Mathematics in Secondary two, and the two new subjects in Secondary three were Mathematics based. Back then, I would have been happy just to pass the Mathematics tests. I knew it was achievable as long as I put in the effort. Spending more hours on the subject did not appear to have any benefits, as I was still not getting good grades. However, I knew that it was too soon to give up because Mathematics was a core subject in school.

In order to pass Mathematics assessments, I started doing lots of revision papers and asked my teachers for help when I was in doubt. I used most of my revision time to study for Mathematics just so that I could do well in the subject. I nearly gave up a number of times but I persevered.

When I finally got my results for the Mathematics paper, I was elated. I had passed! Although the marks weren't great, I was happy that my hard work had paid off. From this experience, I learnt that perseverance and hard work will lead to success, and success is achievable if we work hard for it.

Trinyce Kuo Zhi Qing
Class 4E2



My greatest achievement in my entire sixteen years is that I have been able to overcome the difficulty of speaking in public. This means so much to me because in the past I used to be petrified just standing before an audience however small. I even had problems communicating with people in small groups.

When I first arrived in Singapore, I was not able to speak English smoothly. Even a simple sentence such as “Where are you going?” was challenging. In my home country, China, I did not study English as a subject in pre-school. Almost every resident in my home country communicated in Mandarin. In school, the medium of instruction was Mandarin. I only started to study foundational English in Primary Four. We focused mainly on the 26 letters of the alphabet.

When I came to Singapore. Everyone here used English as the main language of communication. When I enrolled in a local school, I had a very hard time. I did not understand anything in class and what bothered me the most was that I did not know how to speak in English. Whenever my classmates spoke to me, most of the time, I would give them a grim smile, showing that I respected them and then I would walk away without saying anything because I did not know how to talk to them in English. I had a language barrier with almost everyone in the class. This prevented me from doing a lot of things, like answering questions in class, and making new friends.

After sometime, I told myself that I had to learn to speak English in order to live my life in Singapore. I made my first step by starting to talk to my classmates in English again. At first, when my classmates heard my funny way of talking, they cracked jokes about me, making fun of the way I spoke English. From then, I stopped speaking in English. I became very shy and quiet. I was afraid that people were going to laugh at me again.

This continued until I was in Primary Six when I met my teacher, Ms Chua. She was very helpful and she understood my problems with English so she gave me additional support after school and helped me with my English speaking skills.

Thanks to her, I am able to speak English fluently, and I consider this my greatest success.

Wang Yimin
Class 4E2

Success is a term used to describe a particular moment or event in one's life which makes them feel proud. It is something that one can brag about to their friends or in job interviews. Success for me was when I was given the opportunity to play football for my school. Let me explain why...

I had always been interested in playing football from a very young age. I would watch football matches, player analysis, player montages and many more round the clock. One could say that I'm a football addict. It is an amazing pastime and it would always relieve my stress and allow me to work out a good sweat. However, many questioned my football ability when I was younger. Regular comments from primary school friends were, "He's not good enough" and "He's too fat". My confidence would perish in thin air. All I wanted to do is enjoy the sport, was that too much to ask for?

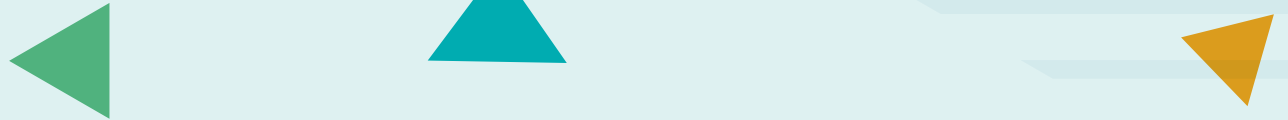
In Secondary school, I was able to transform my football abilities. Of course I was the worst. Many players in the team had football experience from their primary schools and even in clubs and academies. However besides putting me down, they carried me up. Being surrounded with so much talent helped me to learn how to play my position and where to run. In essence, I was able to understand the game which I fell in love with. What sped up my development was the training. After 1 to 2 years my round figure started to change into a figure that would resemble Dorito chips. Technically I have also improved from just whacking the ball to picking passes to play.

With the merger I only got better. I was exposed to more talented individuals that also shared my love for the game. The whole team was talented but the bonds with each other motivated us to carry on and be better. With all of this, I am able to improve my game drastically thanks to my talented team and supportive teachers.

The training did not only help me become better in football but also allowed me to make a lot of friends. Even though it's time for me to prepare for my O-levels, I would still do anything for one more football training session. Football has also helped instill core values such as discipline, determination and hard work in me.

Football was able to give me a healthy body, many friends and taught me priceless life lessons. Hence, the football experience is considered one of my biggest. I know that I would never forget the precious experiences I have had with the football team and the football teachers.

Akashdeep Singh
Class 4E2



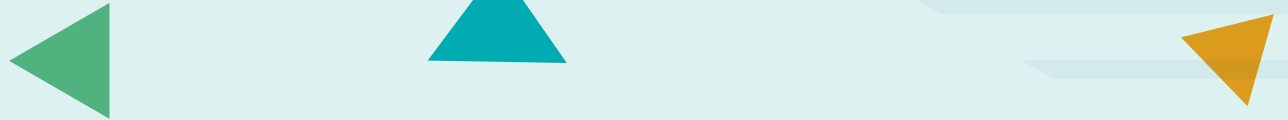
I nervously walked onto the stage as the guest of honour smiled at me and shook my hand. It was a very special and proud moment for me as I glanced at the audience to where my parents were seated. My parents were clapping and smiling and that was when I knew I had finally made it. The journey to get me this far was not easy but with determination and resilience, I had finally achieved the success I had been waiting for. It all started when I was in Secondary Two.

It was a very memorable moment as I had faced challenges at the start of the year. One of it was I did not feel motivated to study and I was feeling very lazy. I also found it difficult to focus in class as I often fell asleep being tired from late nights. During class, my head would slowly fall down to the point where I would be resting my head on the table with my eyes closed to being shut. In that position, I could not gain any knowledge as I was half dead and all I could think of was to just doze off. The reason behind me always being tired was I always went out and would come home late or I played games until it was late. This then caused me to do badly and obtain bad grades. I was heavily reprimanded by my parents and they gave me a long talk about my studies. My parents then started comparing me to my siblings. All of that was enough to finally wake me up and I realized that I needed to take my studies seriously. I needed to do well so I could choose my preferred subject combination and get promoted to Secondary Three and prove to my parents that I could do equally well or even better than my siblings.

I started to develop an interest in my subjects and my passion for learning started to grow. A few changes had to be made and one of them was I had to make sure I got enough sleep so I played my games less often and I went out less often. I began paying attention in class and also did all the homework that was given. During class, I took down notes and studied during my free time by doing a few exercises and I also would seek help from my friends or teachers when I was unsure about something. It was hard doing all these as I had to start adapting to the change and at some point I felt like giving up. I wondered to myself, what if I did all of these and still achieved bad results, it would all be for nothing. I thought about it for a while and made the decision to continue as I was already halfway and there would be no harm done if I tried. As the end of the year examination approached, I started going out more often to study in a group.

When I got my results, I was very happy as the results I got were enough for me to be able to get the subject combination I wanted. Not only that, I was informed that I would receive an Edusave award as my results had improved tremendously from the previous exam. Through this journey, I learned the value of resilience. I learnt to always keep trying and never give up and to appreciate the people who have helped me. I also learnt that if I really want something, I have to work hard for it and just because you failed once does not mean you cannot achieve success.

Muhamad Haziq B Ruthlan
Class 4E2



What is success? Is it something big that is achieved or can it be something small? To me, success is something that is achieved and from which I get a feeling of satisfaction.

When I was in Secondary One, I did not have a lot of CCA choices to pick from. Thus, I made a random selection and chose NCC, which stands for the National Cadet Corps. I had a performing arts background in my primary school, therefore I was not physically fit during physical training. I knew that I was not going to be able to cope with the subsequent physical training. I felt like giving up, but, what motivated me to push on were the seniors. They inspired me to be like them. They taught me that giving up was never an answer in NCC. They passed down not only their values but the knowledge and skills they had gained.

During the next three years of my life in NCC, I gave all my effort and dedication to NCC. Even though I had good qualities of a leader, I had my flaws as well. I was always playful when it was time to be serious and I would sometimes quarrel with my fellow platoon mates. However, as I grew older, I knew that I needed to set a good example for my juniors and through that I became more mature. I began to take more initiative, became more serious and showed compassion towards my fellow platoon mates. It was finally time for the teachers-in-charge to appoint the new leaders for our NCC Unit. I had been waiting for this moment for a long time as I knew I had contributed a lot towards NCC.

“The Platoon Sergeant for Senior Cadets is none other than Zahirul!”

I was satisfied. Being appointed in that role meant so much to me. I had changed from a physically unfit boy to a dedicated cadet. I was proud of myself. Being appointed in this role showed how I had contributed my time and effort as an NCC Cadet.

I would later go on for courses and attain a high rank as staff sergeant. I think if I had not change my mind, I would not be where I am today. This CCA has taught me to learn from my mistakes and try my best to improve myself to the best of my abilities.

Muhammad Zahirul Iman B Samri
Class 4E2

I took band as my CCA in my secondary school. I chose to be in the trumpet section as I really loved the sound that it made. I started my first practice on the same day I was put in the trumpet section.

My seniors were really good at the trumpet which is to be expected but they were really kind and patient as well. I took a deep breath and blew hard into the instrument. But the moment I tried to play something only a squeak came out.

“Whoa, that’s a high E!” they said in unison.

Over the next two months, I practiced very hard as my seniors were very diligent and persistent and I learnt these values from them.

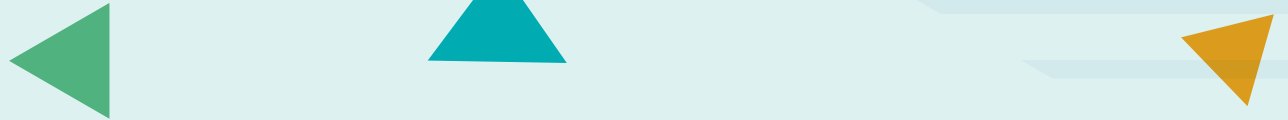
My progress was going well until I tried to hit more high notes. I could play the basic scale but if i tried to go higher, nothing would be heard. I got frustrated as the music piece we were playing then had many high notes and i could not even hit one.

Practices soon felt meaningless. i was exhausted. I was getting nowhere. Every time there was a full band rehearsal I always failed to hit the note. I felt that I had let the band and myself down.

However, I managed to persevere and continued with my practice. It took me about a month to succeed.

25 months later, I finally could hit high notes with ease and with control. It took me very long but I could finally play harder pieces. This is my success story.

Ng Chun Kit Luke
Class 4E2



What is success? Success has many definitions to many people. To some, success is about gaining wealth but to others, it may be about being healthy, or simply achieving the unachievable. The last definition is my idea of success. This story goes back to a year ago, and it is a story about my successful gardening experience.

It was a Thursday morning. I walked to the gardening corner, on the first level, beside the field, with a couple of my friends having mixed emotions of nervousness and anger but the emotion that I had felt while walking in was mostly anger. This was because, I had felt that this activity was just a waste of time as no marks would be awarded for it. To me, it was organised just for the purpose making my testimonial look better.

When the session officially began, the gardener taught us how to plant various types of plants ranging from those that were edible to non-edible. Some of them were supposed to be sold at the Farmers' Market. He told us an inspirational story about why he chose gardening as a career. Besides feeling inspired, I also suddenly felt obliged to do well in gardening.

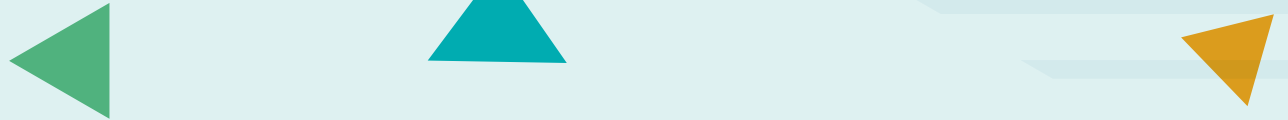
After the introduction and that inspiring story, I started to feel more positive about gardening. However this positivity did not last long as I encountered many obstacles. I struggled with pulling out weeds to even basic things like watering the plants. After the first few gardening sessions, I felt very angry and thus decided to give up, and as if that was not bad enough, I even threw a huge fuss and had a huge argument with the gardener which resulted in me kicking all the plants and crops which my friends worked so hard to plant. The next morning, during morning assembly, I was prepared to face the Disciplinary Committee for my honestly despicable behavior. I was prepared for detention but to my pleasant surprise there were no such announcements.

After morning assembly, I was very glad and felt very grateful towards the gardener. I felt that I was being given a second chance. I decided that it was only right for me to sincerely apologise to the instructor as I knew what I had done was not only wrong but completely unacceptable. During the next gardening session, I made a pledge to myself to put in more effort and make up to the gardener as there were not many people in this universe who would be so kind and willing to give others a second chance. Therefore, due to all these factors, I decided to not only do gardening during the timings required by the school but also after school so as to show my sincere apology and great appreciation towards the instructor.

At the end of Term 1, which was coincidentally the last gardening session, not only did my crops grow successfully but I was also presented the “Model Gardener Award” at the end of the programme, in front of my cohort during the CCE assembly. This made me feel proud and satisfied as I had finally managed to turn gardening from something that I loathed to something I enjoyed and was proud of.

In conclusion, I learnt that one should not give up too easily. Perseverance in the face of challenges makes one even stronger, and prepares the ground for greater achievements.

Seow Ming Xian
Class 4E2



While there are many successful events in my life, the one that was the most impactful to me was joining the Boys' Brigade. Joining the Boys Brigade has been one of the best choices I have ever made. It has taught me so much in the two years I have spent in it and it saddens me that I will have to leave soon. Even though there were some challenges, I persevered and now I have been appointed as Assistant Company Sergeant Major (ACSM).

The Boys' Brigade has shaped me into what I am today and I am very grateful for the sirs and teachers who have helped me become who I am today. The skills that I was taught during the badgework and courses have been very useful and improved my general knowledge. They have taught me how to get out of my comfort zone and try out new activities that I was either too scared to try or never had the opportunity to. I was once afraid of doing the flying fox, however, the Boys' Brigade has helped me overcome my fear and now I dare to try the flying fox.

During my time in the Boys' Brigade, I have been in two competitions. The first time was in Secondary 1 and the second time was in Secondary 2. When I first joined Boys' Brigade, I found out that there were two competitions. I was immediately attracted to Character Quest (CQ), which focused more on solving mental challenges rather than the other competition, AQ, which emphasised more on physical training. Thus, when I was given a chance to join CQ, I immediately accepted it. The first year was full of challenges. However, it was also very interesting and fun and was a different experience. We managed to achieve gold during the first year too. As I had experienced it before, the second year was easier for me. My team and I trained very hard and we were able to get third place.

Looking back at the obstacles that I had encountered during my time as a Boy in Boys' Brigade, I greatly appreciated how it has challenged me and allowed me to learn and mature. To me, being successful does not necessarily mean to be able to overcome everything but to be able to learn from our mistakes.

Yapp Darius
Class 4E2

I have successfully got to Secondary 4. I am lucky to still be in the Express stream even though I have been very playful throughout my secondary school life.

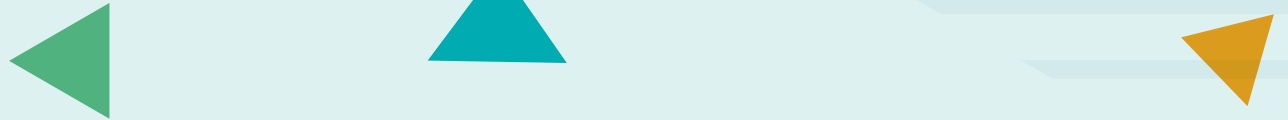
Ever since Secondary 1, I did not pay much attention in class and played a lot. My grades were never good but I still decided to continue with my lackadaisical attitude.

I thought I could pass my exams without focusing in class and not doing my homework. However, after barely meeting the requirements to be promoted to Secondary 4 Express last year, I realised that I needed to stop being mischievous and had to start putting in more effort to get good results for my O-levels.

Now, I'm trying my best to focus in class and not fall asleep during lessons so that I will not miss out on anything that my teachers are trying to teach me. I have decided to be serious and give my best to my studies in order to secure a good future.

Hence, I believe I have succeeded in working to achieve good academic results for my own good.

Zulfikar B Zainal Abiddin
Class 4E2



This year is going to be a different year for me. It is going to be a stressful year as I am going to sit for the O level examination and how I fare will determine where I will end up. However, it is also the year that I found that my passion for learning grew. In Secondary 3, I could still play around, not pay attention in class and still manage to get acceptable grades. Doing last-minute work was still acceptable, but this year I know that I need to start working harder to get my desired aggregate to get into the course I want which is Aerospace. Getting 'B's and 'C's for my subjects won't help me with anything or get me to meet my target. So since I have to improve on my studies and my attitude towards learning, I have to put in double the amount of effort I did last year to get a few 'A's and a good aggregate.

My plan to get this aggregate will be to start paying more attention in class. I also plan to finish my homework on time so I can start sleeping early and focus better in class. Also, I must try not to get into trouble and take care of my health so I will be able to go to school and not miss any lessons. As such, I won't need to spend so much time trying to catch up with what I would have missed. Instead, I can spend the time asking for consultations on topics I don't understand. For example, to get into aerospace, I must be good at Mathematics so I should ask for more practice assignments and help on the questions I don't understand. Asking what I don't understand will help me with my homework and revision. With all these efforts, I would discover the joy of learning.

My motivation that keeps me going is that I believe that dreams can be achieved if I work hard to get it. As the saying goes, "Whatever is worth doesn't come easy." I felt that I just wanted to get a good score and make my parents proud. Even if I don't get my desired grade, at least I know I have tried my best. I feel like this will help me to be more responsible about my future. By asking what I do not know would make me feel as if I'm moving closer to my goal, and hopefully I can maintain this over the next few months.

Therefore, success means trying my best, and in the process finding joy in learning what I like. With this attitude, I would succeed in achieving my passion for learning.

Leong Yi Kai
Class 4E3

Success may come in various ways. To me, small achievements can mean a lot. Being able to wake up for school on time, is already a mark of success for me. It may seem simple, but it holds a sentimental value. To me, having the discipline to come to school is also a personal achievement.

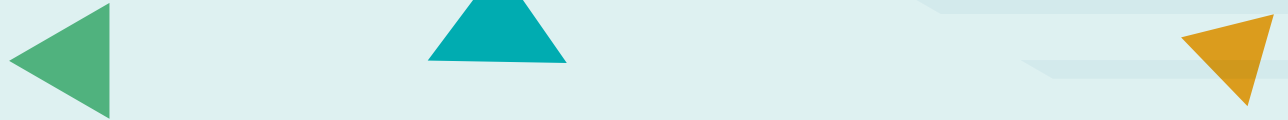
In the past, I would always procrastinate every morning, to the extent of skipping school. When I was in school, I would tend to not pay attention in class and sleep. I would always find school a burden. Even though I knew that my education was very important, I felt like school always drained my energy and I would feel mentally and physically tired. I did feel guilty for missing lessons and wasting my time and my parents'. But at that point of time, I felt really helpless thus, I skipped school.

At the beginning of this year, I was determined to get back up on my feet. With the national examinations coming up, I will not want to risk it and fail my examinations. I wanted to cultivate a passion for learning and see meaning in studying and learning skills and knowledge that will help me in the future. I realised that I really need to buck up on my subjects as my grades had dropped due to past mistakes. I do have dreams of being an early childhood educator but that would not happen if I continue my bad attitude and behaviour. To be an educator, I would need good social skills and the passion to learn and teach. Those are the things that I do need to improve.

Now, I come to school regularly and have started listening in class. When I have doubts, I will ask my friends or teachers. I also make notes to study better. I think that it is an achievement for me because I was in a bad place in the past and I have moved on.

This achievement means a lot to me because nowadays, students tend to be lazy and not come to school, which will affect their future. I am fortunate to have an education that is beneficial, and I have learned to not take things for granted. I am slowly finding joy in learning too, and see what I am doing in class and in school through a new perspective. I look forward to enriching myself even more and achieving my dream of being an educator.

Iman Dayana Bte Mohd Sani
Class 4E4



An achievement is something accomplished by effort or courage. Even the smallest achievement counts. For example, helping someone can be a small success because not only will that person feel pleased, you will also be satisfied with your actions towards that particular person. As Steve Jobs once said, “Stay hungry, stay foolish”. It is the desire to want to do something which is an action to achieve success and so to achieve something, we have to persevere so that we will be successful.

As for me, I am proud of myself as I have grown over the years. I have gradually developed a passion for learning as I persevered throughout the years in my academic pursuits. I began to ask questions when I was unclear and clarified my doubts with the teachers. I overcame my challenges, especially in Mathematics. I have been weak in Math since I was in Secondary 2. I kept failing all the tests, especially for algebra. However, as I put in some effort and practiced doing a lot of questions, from a fail, I began to improve to a pass. It was an achievement for me because I have finally passed my Mathematics test.

I became satisfied with my progress and continued to work hard to score a better grade. I felt motivated despite the challenges I faced as I knew my continued perseverance would definitely pay off. I improved by seeking clarifications from my friends when I had doubts. I stayed back in school frequently to practise the questions I had difficulty with and sought help from my Mathematics teacher.

As the saying goes, “Pearls do not lie on the seashore. If you want one, you must dive for it”. It means if you are not willing to take a risk or make an effort you will definitely not taste success. This definitely holds true for me.

In conclusion, I have achieved academic excellence and have grown over the years. It had made an impact in my life as I can now confidently answer many of the ‘O’ level examination questions. This is my success story.

Nur Syaza Nabihah Bte M S
Class 4E2

What is success? Well, my definition of success is meeting my goals. For example, if I manage to finish my homework in time or do well in my exams, I would have succeeded. I do not really have many past achievements in my life so far, but there is one achievement that I am proud of.

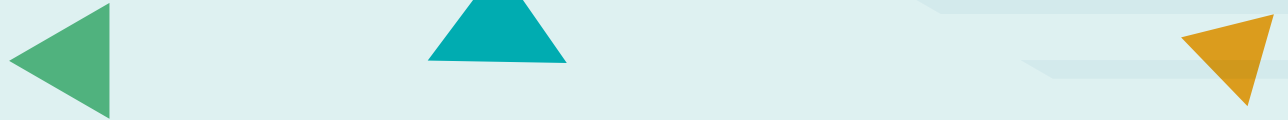
When I just entered primary school, I really loved Math. I loved to solve simple Math problems; I would be grinning from ear to ear whenever I solved the problems correctly. I thought Math was too easy. However, it got harder as time passed by. I started to be disinterested in Math. I felt like I was doing the same routine again and again. I would solve a Math problem then repeat doing it for weeks. I would just doodle in class and would put in half my effort in the work submitted to my teacher. Slowly, I became tardy. I stopped handing in my homework. I had developed a strong hatred for Math. It resulted in poor grades. I got exhausted seeing my failing grades in Math, and staring at a Math problem, unable to solve it. I was unhappy with my Primary School Leaving Examination results. At that point, I gave up on Math.

As a result, in Secondary school, I ended up in the normal academic stream. However, there were new topics in Math that spurred my interest. I became more hardworking. I practised Math and memorised the formulae. The result was unbelievable! For the first time, I obtained an A grade in Math. I also scored well in other subjects. I got promoted to the Express stream. Math became harder because I missed some topics in the normal academic stream. Soon, I managed to barely pass Math; I felt like I had deteriorated once again. In upper secondary, I had a new Math teacher. She taught really well and I could completely understand Math. My Math grade began to improve dramatically. I started to develop a passion for learning Math as I was able to solve Math problems easily and I wanted to learn more about it. I would find myself doing assessment books or learning facts about Math. I would look forward to Math lessons every day. I got a B in my secondary 3 final term examination for but I was still proud of myself. I managed to learn from my mistakes and I would not give up solving Math questions. I really am grateful to my Math teacher for making Math fun and easy to understand.

I have learnt that if I want to succeed in achieving my goal, I need to work hard at it, spend time on it and put in my best efforts. I wish I could have realised this in primary school, and I often ponder what would have happened if I had really tried my best in primary school.

Success can be anything. To achieve success, I need to stay hungry. Anyway, I guess it is never too late to learn. As long as I have the passion and motivation to do well, I am sure I can succeed. This is what keeps me going.

Yuen Xin Jie, Linette
Class 4E4



By definition, success is the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. However, there are many definitions of success based on people's perspectives and none of them are wrong. To me, to achieve success is to pursue a career in Motorsports. I know I have to do well in my studies in school to pursue a relevant course in the Polytechnic and I have chosen to enter the Mechanical Engineering course in Ngee Ann Polytechnic. As of now, I need at least sixteen points for my 'O' Level Examinations in order to enter the course.

My passion for cars started around Secondary One. I remember going to a friend's workshop to completely strip our 2007 Honda Accord CL7 before we scrapped it for the parts. Because of this experience, I suddenly developed an interest in cars and how each component worked. After that, my brother and I went back to that same workshop to rebuild the engine of our recently sold 1992 Mitsubishi Colt GLXi CA4A. This experience made me think of what career I wanted to pursue in the future. My family was also part of the reason I became interested in cars. My father and my brother both loved cars and one day my father bought a 1995 Toyota Celica GT ST202. It was a gorgeous car that would always stand out but it kept on overheating and breaking down. Eventually, we traded that car for a brand new 2016 Mitsubishi Outlander. Even though it was a family car, we still found ways to modify the car. But over time, the car was too boring for my father and we traded that car for a used 2015 Jaguar XE. Going back to the workshop, I work there in my free time. I do not gain anything monetary but I gain valuable experience for my future career.

In addition, being born in a pragmatic country like Singapore. I understand that educational qualifications are important. Therefore, I am determined to work harder in Physics, Design and Technology and Mathematics. Before Secondary Two, I was not as interested in studying. I never paid any attention, but now I am motivated to study harder and work towards my future success. However, it may not be enough. Therefore, I am thinking of going to the Polytechnic of my choice via the Early Admissions Exercise.

Because of my determination to enter the Polytechnic of my choice, I have found a passion for learning and taken a greater interest in the relevant subjects and topics in school, making my school life even more meaningful.

Kok Jun Yan Jayden
Class 4E4

I am a tuba player in the Symphonic Band, and I am proud of the fact that I play an instrument which only a small minority of the band members are skilled in. Ever since the start of the year, I have been trying hard to make improvements.

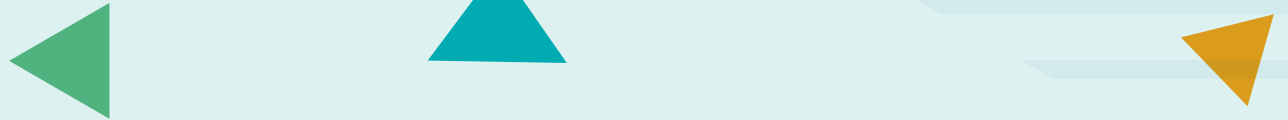
I listened to the recordings that our conductor gave me that had good intonation. All along, my known weakness in playing the tuba could be attributed to intonation and staccato. I wanted to improve as a musician and I wanted to be a senior who could guide the juniors effectively.

I put in lots of time and effort in my individual section practices. I sought feedback and worked hard to improve. Week by week, I could sense that I became a more competent tuba player. When we came together for combined band practice, I was praised for making visible improvements. It was an incredible achievement to hear such words of affirmation from my conductor.

Now, I am even more nervous as it will be the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation in a month's time. My ability to play the tuba well will reflect on my competency as a tuba player and also our competency as Loyang View Secondary School's Symphonic Band. I cannot make mistakes as the judges will determine the entire band's score based on the synthesised sound they hear from the entire band. The chain is only as strong as its weakest link. I know I cannot let my fellow band members and teachers down. I must believe in myself and trust that with perseverance, I can achieve success.

It has been four years since I joined the Symphonic Band. I want to help the Symphonic Band achieve success in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation and I also want to achieve success in my studies for my upcoming GCE N(T) level examinations. After the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation, I will do my utmost as I prepare for my examinations wholeheartedly. With effort, success is definitely attainable.

Abdul Hady Zabir B Mohd Noh
Class 4T1



The Chinese Language has been my greatest stumbling block ever since I was in primary one. If I were to ever obtain an A for my Mother Tongue examination, it is definitely by sheer luck. Luck, on the other hand, is not something I felt blessed with in my entire life.

This year, for the first time in secondary school, I had the highest score in my class in the Mid-Year Examinations in the Chinese Language. I made a drastic improvement by moving up from a U grade to a C grade. Even though it was only a borderline C grade, I was still highly satisfied with my performance. I had invested significant effort in my preparation since March, which led to my best performance ever in the Chinese Language. That initial success started me thinking about what I could actually achieve in my weakest subject.

With only a few months left before the commencement of the GCE N(T) level examinations, I decided it was time to heed my teacher's advice by putting in an intensive revision schedule on my own after school. I started by borrowing Chinese Language books from the library.

Initially, it was frustrating to read a book where the majority of words were foreign to me. Despite the teething problems, I persevered. I went for consultation lessons with my Chinese Language teacher. Over time, I made gradual improvements. Before long, I realised that Chinese Language was not that hard to comprehend after all.

I would spend about thirty minutes reading Chinese Language books on a daily basis and proactively took the trouble of finding out the meanings of every word I did not comprehend. I had set a target for myself that I would learn ten new words every day. My initial success in the Mid-Year Examinations buoyed me with hope. With my initial success fuelling me with hope, I am looking forward to my actual GCE N(T) level examinations in September. My initial success will definitely translate into a far bigger success. I will continue to persevere. Just 10 words a day. Just a little more effort needed before I cross the finish line. I will attain my desired success!

Chia Jun Yong, Grandon
Class 4T1

In my schooling life, I have always had one major stumbling block, my studies. Since Secondary One, I have always faced tremendous problems coping in my studies. I did not have the motivation to study. I had a rather negative attitude when it came to studying. I preferred to spend my time on sports and electronic games, which were far more rewarding and stimulating to me.

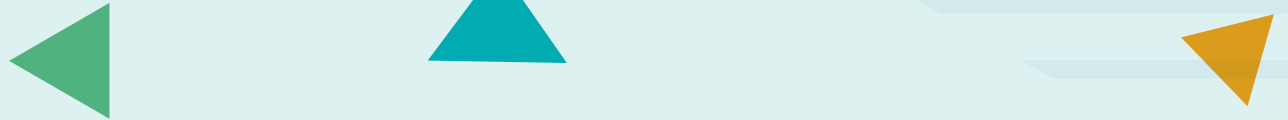
It was only in Secondary Two when I started to change a little by paying attention in class during lessons. Even though I was still heavily involved in my pastimes, I made some improvement in my studies. However, the turning point came only when I was in Secondary Three. I seemed to have woken up by shutting out distractions. I also set myself a target of attaining a B grade in all my subjects. It was quite an impossible dream to my friends and my old self, but to me, I had to start somewhere.

My biggest break came in the Mid-Year Examinations in Secondary Four. I attained 4 Bs and 1 C in all my subjects. I felt so ecstatic that I went home and announced my results to my family members once they were home that evening. We celebrated by having a meal together. My family members declared that they were very proud of how far I had come.

However, there was still one subject I needed to work hard on as that subject had traditionally been my Achilles' Heel. It was Mathematics. I would perform my self-revision after I came home from school. I was so self-directed in my revision that I soon developed a love for the subject. In a few months' time, I would be sitting for the biggest examination in my life, the GCE N(T) level examinations. I wanted to attain grades that I had never achieved in school to date, a string of B grades. I also wanted to do well in Mathematics. With my new self-belief and the target I had set for myself, I would continue to put in effort for my future.

When I look back, I want to be able to tell myself that it had been a most fulfilling and rewarding journey. But for now, I am looking forward to the biggest fight in my life.

Ian Lim Jin Long
Class 4T1



Everyone has tasted success in his or her own way. For some, it is academic. For others, it is non-academic. For me, I have tasted my greatest success in my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA), The Modern Dance Club.

The Modern Dance Club has never ever achieved any outstanding award in all its years participating in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation. In 2019, we made history for the first time ever. We achieved a Certificate of Distinction; the highest ever accolade, for our efforts in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation. Despite not attaining anything in 2017, we worked hard. Not only did we have our CCA practice sessions every Tuesday and Thursday that would only end at six in the evening, we even had additional morning training sessions every Monday and Wednesday morning that required me to report to school by 7:15. At first, it was tiring, but I soon got used to going home late and waking up for school earlier than usual. Initially, I felt like giving up especially on days when I felt tired but my instructors, my teachers and my peers encouraged me and motivated me to keep persevering for success.

Through my experience in The Modern Dance Club, I learnt that giving up is not an option. How I see challenges in my CCA is very similar to how I should see challenges in my studies as well. From now on, I should always believe in myself and not give up when faced with challenges. My upcoming GCE N(T) level examinations will be tough. But, I will persevere, just as I had in The Modern Dance Club. I will work hard in my studies and make my parents proud so that I can go to my desired course in the Institute of Technical Education next year.

Nur Nusratina Bte Sairee
Class 4T1

Success to some people means becoming rich, owning a car and staying in a landed property. Success to me means having a defined goal and being aware of the number of steps needed to attain the goal. Success can be either academic or non-academic. Mine relates to an academic success. Let me share my success with you.

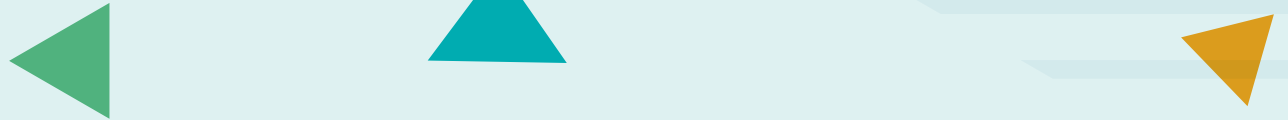
From Secondary 1 to 2, I always failed my Chinese Language tests and examinations as I could not recognise the Chinese characters and enunciate the pronunciation of the words. I had always received a D grade for as long as I could remember. I tried in vain to improve. Over time, I became despondent. I thought of giving up. Soon these negative thoughts bugged me on a daily basis like a persistent earworm.

Things changed when I read a news article stating that European countries, especially the United Kingdom, were starting to adopt the Chinese Language as one of their official second languages. After reading the news article, I decided that I could not lose out to the Europeans. I decided to be more focused in my Chinese Language class. I am a Chinese. I should be proud of my culture, my mother tongue language and my heritage. This initial change in mentality paid off as I attained a high D grade and a 5 mark improvement in my Secondary 3 Second Semestral Examination after much effort invested in and outside of class. That might not have been much in the eyes of others, but to me, that was the turning point.

In Secondary 4, I resolved to learn five new Chinese words daily and learn idioms to better express myself. Soon I advanced to a C grade in my WA1 assessment. I had passed Chinese Language for the first time in my life! That was a tremendous achievement for me. I attributed my success to my fortitude, my learning environment and my Chinese Language teacher. Ever since, I have been more confident in speaking, reading and writing in the Chinese Language.

If I could overcome the obstacle of passing my Chinese Language, I feel that I can surmount all other obstacles in my life. Life should always be forward looking and I am looking forward to performing well in my GCE N (T) level examination in the Chinese Language.

Phang Choon Howe
Class 4T1



The subject that I have been trying very hard to improve this year is Mathematics. All along, I knew that Mathematics is one of the hardest subjects in secondary school. Despite facing tremendous challenges in the subject, I will still try my very best to show improvement in it.

In class, we will usually do textbook and workbook exercises to practise applying the formulae in multiple scenarios. We also have mini tests on a regular basis to help us consolidate our knowledge of what we had learnt.

Since young, I had discovered that the mistakes I had made in Mathematics were largely due to a lack of active questioning. I had failed to consult my siblings who were actually quite skilled in Mathematics as well as my Mathematics teacher. My frequent absenteeism from school in the past also compounded the problem. Once I returned to school after my long period of absence, I found out that I could not catch up with the topics that I had missed in class. No matter how much effort I put in on my own, I still lagged far behind. This led me to feel depressed at times. I doubted my ability to actually handle the subject.

When I started Secondary Four this year, I knew I had to have a plan. I decided to start small. I started to look through my old notes and worksheets and I revised what I had covered previously. Now, whenever I encountered difficulties, I would seek help proactively from my siblings and we would go through the questions slowly. Since I am more comfortable voicing out my doubts in a smaller group setting, I agreed to a remediation schedule after school with selected students on a weekly basis so I could catch up in areas which I was lacking in.

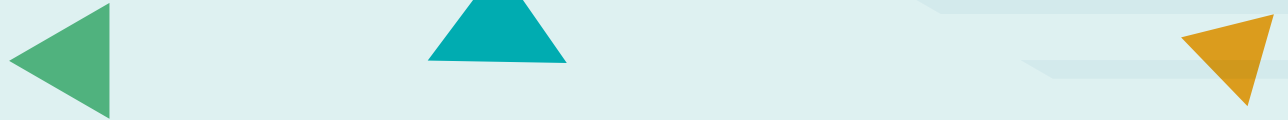
Gradually, I made improvements. Step by step, I scored higher marks in my Mathematics tests. I felt a sense of achievement. I learnt that making mistakes is part and parcel of life. I should not be embarrassed by my shortcomings. I will continue to persevere as I move closer towards my national examinations.

Sheiha Bte Omar Yusoff
Class 4T1

One success story in my life was the successful completion of my N levels. After I had been demoted from Secondary 3 Express to Secondary 4 Normal Academic due to poor performance, I had lost most of my motivation to study or even put in the effort during lessons. I tried to settle down into a new environment with new faces and I also had to relearn some of the key topics.

Nevertheless, I slowly gained the motivation to try and work for better results. This was a fresh start for me, so I took the most of it and made new friends who helped me look forward to lessons and also were a source of encouragement to do better each time. Thanks to this and encouragement from teachers, my grades started to pick up and I found a love for Mathematics at the same time. At the end of Secondary 4 was the N-Level examinations, and I entered the examination hall with confidence. It paid off! I cleared the examinations with 18 points which were good enough to go to Secondary 5 where I would see a new chapter beginning for me as I prepare for the 'O' Level Examinations.

Amirul Asyraf B Abdullah
Class 5A1



2018 was a year full of challenges because I had to balance my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) and GCE N Level Examinations. Last year with the merger of Loyang View Secondary School and Greenview Secondary School, I had to cope with the teaching styles of some of the teachers from the new school. It took me a few days to forget the old methods used by my previous teachers.

I struggled with Additional Mathematics last year and during the GCE N Level Examinations I still failed. This year I am planning to get at least a B4 for all my subjects. This is because the course I want to do in the Polytechnic is Marine Engineering and its requirements indicate that I need to score 20 points and below.

Last year, I totally had no motivation to study even though the GCE N Levels were close. This year, I have to change my attitude because the GCE 'O' Level Exams are harder. Last year the most successful thing that happened to me is that I got 19 points and below for GCE N Levels although I studied in the last minute. I did not apply for Direct Polytechnic Admission (DPP) because I knew that I would not be selected because of my points. Therefore, I applied to do my 'O' levels in Secondary 5 instead.

In Secondary 5, I need to start working harder than last year and to manage my time properly to qualify for Marine Engineering at the Polytechnic. It will give me a good means to support myself in the future. It will pay off in the end if I have my GCE 'O' Level Certification. I will therefore persevere and continue studying hard till I succeed.

Asrul Aqil B Rosli
Class 5A1

Success to me means achieving a goal that I had really worked hard for, and having the satisfaction of achieving the goal I had been thriving for. Such a success really makes me feel proud.


I used to be horrendous in Mathematics in Secondary One. I always failed the subject terribly. I felt that I had let my mother down as compared to my siblings I was always the one who got the worst grades. My mother hired a tuition teacher who was recommended by my close friend. It was a one-to-one lesson every Saturday. This helped me to be more focused, as I felt comfortable studying with just the tutor. The tutor would diligently run through each of the steps thoroughly and made sure I understood everything.

My understanding of Mathematics improved. Although my marks started getting better right before the examination, it was still not good enough. My grades were only touching the passing mark.

This only spurred me on further and I started studying more diligently every single day. When I got back my end of year examination results, I had gotten a B grade. I was so happy that I had achieved my goal and had made my mother proud.

Mathematics has now become my favourite subject in school and I have been getting good grades ever since I got a better understanding of the subject. My passion for Mathematics has been ignited. I do not need any more help from my tuition teacher and my mother keeps telling me how proud she is with my huge improvement.

Lorem
Class 5A1



have made significant improvements in both Mathematics and Mother Tongue. Although my eventual academic results did not turn out to be as good as I had expected, the improvements I made have boosted my confidence and piqued my interest in both subjects.

The school helped me to learn better as we had invited speakers who spoke about how to study better and cope with stress. Additionally, I also sought the help and advice from teachers and scheduled to meet them after school for consultations.

The road to success is not always smooth sailing. I encountered many obstacles namely the distraction from mobile devices, massive amounts of stress from demands made by other subjects and not having the proper attitude towards learning. When I was assigned homework and assignments, I completed them for the sake of completing them and not for the sake of learning.

As an attempt to overcome these obstacles, I sought the help and guidance of my parents and subject Teachers with whom I arranged consultations to clarify my doubts. I also learnt to manage my time better and efficiently; setting aside time for revisions and studying. Furthermore, I had to sacrifice time spent on playing video games and my hobbies.

In conclusion, I personally feel that if one wants to succeed or achieve something, they have to sacrifice time and effort in order to accomplish it.

Gerald Khoo Wei Siang
Class 5A1

“Our passion for learning... is our tool for survival.” - Carl Sagan.

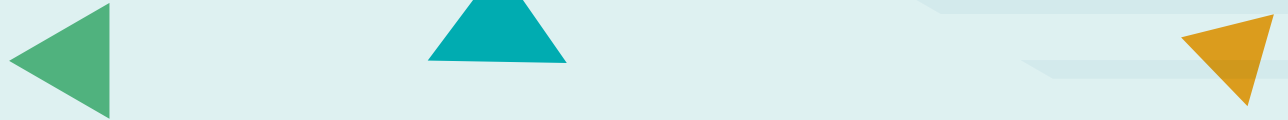
When I was in primary school, I did not have the passion and motivation towards my academic work. I was like one of those children who did not study at all despite knowing that the school examinations were just around the corner. I would stay up all night playing video games even though I knew that there was an examination the next day! However, one particular examination made me change my attitude towards studies. This was the Primary School Leaving Examinations, also known as PSLE in short. Every parent in Singapore, including mine, would feel as much pressure as their children taking these examinations.

My parents tried various ways to motivate me to study for the examinations, but it did not work. As the examinations ended, it felt like any other examinations that I had taken previously. Anxiety started to kick in when the day of the results was announced. In the days leading to the results announcement, I wondered whether I could have made my parents proud if I had put in more effort for my examinations. I knew that there was nothing I could do but to wait.

Finally the day arrived when I was to receive my results. When I stepped into the hall, pressure started to build up in me. I could not stop thinking about my results and how my parents would react. My form teacher handed me an envelope. I opened it slowly and saw my results. For the first time in my life, I felt really disappointed with my results. My parents' faces showed signs of dismay as well.

When I got home, I went straight to my room and started to reflect on what I had done. It made me realise that I needed to change my attitude for the better and I wanted to make my parents proud.

The next chapter of my life began in secondary school. During the first few months, I paid close attention in class and revised my work after school. My passion for learning began to be aroused. I was so eager to learn new things not only academically but also real-life lessons as I even applied to volunteer in church to teach younger children about its teachings.



At the end of four years in secondary school, I had to face another national examination that would decide my tertiary education. I started to study harder in my third year of secondary school. I stayed back after school to study with my group of friends and met my teachers who would explain my mistakes. Although there were some days when I struggled to juggle my academics and co-curricular activities, I persevered and reminded myself that it would be worth it.

After studying for four years, it was finally time for me to tackle the “N” level examinations. The days passed so quickly and soon enough the whole examinations were over. I waited eagerly for the day of the results.

On the day of the results, I went to the school hall and received again an envelope containing my results. It was really nerve racking as I was about to receive another set of national examination results. It brought back memories of my PSLE results day. I opened the envelope really slowly. I could not believe my eyes! I had done astounding well for my “N” level examinations as compared to my PSLE. I jumped in joy. My parents were really proud of me. It made me realise that as long as I have the passion for learning, I will be able to achieve what I want in my life.

John Renber Sancon Fabellon
Class 5A1

Success is subjective. Mine is just a simple story of how I overcame my fear for Mathematics and Science. It all started in primary school and continued as I took Foundation Mathematics and Science for my Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) when I was in Primary Six. I just could not do well in those two subjects.

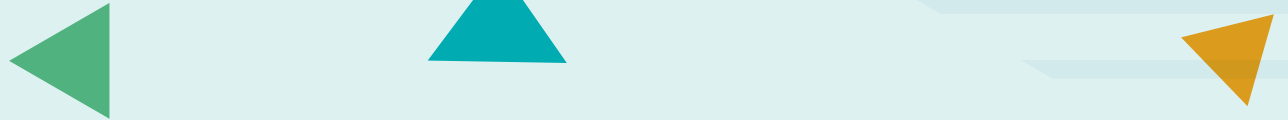
My PSLE results were sufficient for me to enter the Normal Academic Stream in Greenview Secondary School. During my Secondary One year in 2014, I struggled with Mathematics and Science just as I had previously in primary school. I had the mind-set that I would do badly for both the subjects in secondary school.

After completing my first Mathematics and Science mid-year examinations in Secondary One, I felt disheartened because I was sure that I had done very badly. I cried when I received my results as I had indeed done extremely badly for both subjects! In fact, I was last in the entire Secondary One cohort. At that moment, I convinced myself that I was hopeless in those two subjects and that I would fail my future examinations too.

Thankfully that did not happen! For that, I have two teachers to thank namely Mr Chung and Ms Kang. Not once did they put me down and not once did they give up on me. I am eternally grateful for that. After the examinations, both my teachers approached me and told me that I should not give up that easily. Instead, they said that I must have the confidence in myself and encouraged me that I could pass both my subjects. From that day onwards, Mr Chung and Ms Kang would always help me with whatever doubts or questions I had regarding the subjects. They would always adopt different approaches to explain to me so that I could understand the topics easily. They did not give up on me although it took me some time to understand how to answer the questions.

After my Secondary One final-year examinations, I was elated, as my grades for both subjects had improved tremendously. My desire to do well in both the subjects was ignited. I began to look forward to Mathematics and Science lessons. I participated actively. I was confident of myself. This was all due to the help of both my teachers who did not give up on me and were even willing to stay back after school to help me. Although both of them left Greenview Secondary School when I was in Secondary Two, I still appreciate what they had done for me! I am forever grateful to Mr Chung and Ms Kang for their help and believe in me! Most importantly, for igniting the passion for learning in me!

Jordan Png Fu Wei
Class 5A1



I always have the desire to learn everything and anything but I realise that it is 'impossible' as there are just too many things out there and our brains simply cannot store all of the information life could provide. Having accepted that, I would start removing old stored information, and replacing them with new knowledge. This is my journey thus far to learn everything.

How do I learn? My favourite source of knowledge comes from people who have achieved higher standards of knowledge or those who have more experience in a subject. I feel that talking to experts is so enlightening as they could share all their experiences and knowledge. Also, when speaking to an expert, one can ask questions directly. For example, when you are reading a book, you might end up with several unanswered questions in your head.

My second favourite source of knowledge comes from books. Books are the most common source of knowledge for me as it is very convenient. Books can be read anytime and anywhere and can be purchased at bookshops or borrowed at libraries. Reading books can also be done on a daily basis. People tend to use books as a daily source of knowledge as they are very convenient. For example, I tend to read at least 40 pages or more a day in order to maximise my learning efficiency. Many people tend to head to search engines such as Google when they want an answer to a question. Websites tend not to provide the full information that books do and it is sad to see that people are always using Google to solve their queries as books are the proper way and contain the necessary information written by professionals. A website could also provide false facts or information as it can be anyone writing the articles on the websites.

While gaining tons of information, I also have a way to maintain all of it. I use a journal to store all of it. A journal is versatile and can be brought anywhere as it is not big or bulky to bring along on my daily commute to school or an event. Whenever I learn something new or have an interesting question to be researched on, I write it all down into my journal so that at the end of the day when I go back and read my thoughts for the day, I will remember and start working on them.

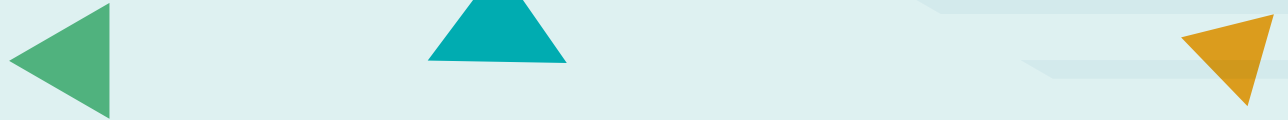
So far, I have learned multiple things along my learning journey for example, learning techniques on how to run faster, how to learn faster, how to fight with different fighting styles like Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, boxing and Muay Thai. Through all these things, I have learnt that I tend to find a formula or principle from the subject to be applied somewhere else in a different subject. That is why I find learning many aspects is important as it can broaden your perspective and you can use that knowledge to improve but on a different topic. I am now still learning new ways to improve my passion for learning.

Khng Wei Chong Justin
Class 5A1

Few months before the start of the examinations which fell on September 2018, teachers pushed us to study harder. I was relieved when the final paper had finally ended. However, in the end, when I collected my results, I had the choice to go to higher NITEC in ITE or come back to Secondary 5 to do my 'O' level Examinations. I chose the latter as I felt that the GCE 'O' Level certification would provide me with better opportunities to do courses of interest to me. I did not regret my choice.

When school reopened this year, many teachers told my class that if you really wanted to stay in Secondary 5, you have to work twice as hard. During the first Additional Mathematics lesson, our teacher taught us new topics that at first many of my classmates could not understand, including me. However, after my teacher went through the lesson with us many times we were able to understand the topics better compared to the first time. In the end, we managed to clear certain tests that were given to us to see whether we understood the topics. Like what Colin Powell quoted, "Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty, and persistence". This quote resonates with me. I would have to go through all kinds of sufferings and challenges in order to achieve my goals. I believe that with resilience, I am going to succeed in doing anything in life.

Knq Jia Ying
Class 5A1



Having a passion for learning is not easy. It requires one to do things step by step. Having patience and resilience are very important as my mother once said, “You can never focus on things you want to do unless you are patient!” I have such a deep impression of that sentence, it has stuck in my head for years. Yet, every time I face something difficult, I wish I could just run away from the problem and live a carefree life.

However, I know if life was that simple, I would not be independent and strong as an individual. When trying to solve complex Mathematics questions, I would always calm myself down first before beginning to solve the question. Sometimes when I am not able to solve the questions, I would still persevere.

To be honest, I had always been a lazy person. I was always so unwilling to do my revision and homework. All I thought about was playing my games and having fun. However, during my N Level examinations, I told myself to get back on my feet and study hard. At the start of my revision, I would always dread doing it but after some time of constant revision, it got better and I began to like studying. I was so impressed with myself, for being able to study without anyone reminding me. Although my results did not improve a lot, I could see that I understood the topics better. My Mathematics teacher once said, “You can never become smart overnight.” I totally agree with what she had said as Mathematics is a subject that requires a lot of practice and consistency in order to do well.

When I was at the finish line, seeing my national examination results made me happy. I could see that it was the outcome of my labour. In the past, when I received my results, I would always be so worried and nervous. Working hard to achieve the dream grade we want is possible as long as we are passionate about learning, and have a proactive mind-set of wanting to learn something new and ask questions when in doubt. I have started my journey.

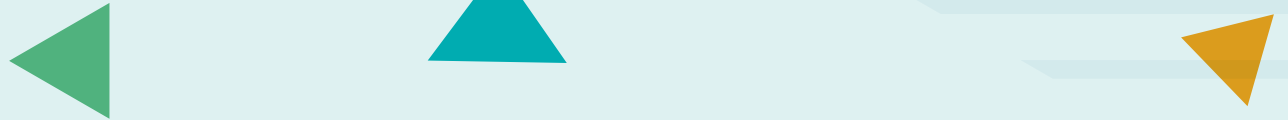
Lee Rui Siang
Class 5A1

2018 was a year full of challenges and moments that I have struggled with. There were some ups and downs that I cherish, as I have learnt invaluable lessons from them. I will never forget the year, as there were memories that were being made and successes that can be told as a story.

In 2018, it was my first time taking a major exam, GCE N- Level. It taught me not to procrastinate, and if I did I would pay a heavy price for it. I have learnt that I should start my revision earlier so that I will be well prepared. Even though I did quite well with 19 points, I feel that I could have done so much better. I tend to have high expectations of myself but sometimes am not able to match it with disciplined effort. Let's put aside those negative thoughts. My mother promised me that if I passed all of my subjects which I did for my GCE N-Level, she would treat me and my family to a trip to South Korea. I felt so relieved that I achieved what I promised my mother. I am looking forward to visiting South Korea a land of my dreams.

This year, I have a good chance of getting promoted to Secondary 5. I will try to change my attitude and be a better student that I picture myself to be. I will stop procrastinating and start studying smart. I will stop being distracted in class and start listening. The motive of me going to Secondary 5 is to get my 'O' Level certification that will help me qualify for the course of my choice in the Polytechnic. It will be an easier yet challenging pathway to the Polytechnic. I hope 2019 is going to be another interesting success story.

Muhammad Effilqir B Effendy
Class 5A1



The Preliminary examination was nearing. In fact, it was only two weeks away. I still had the same mindset and attitude despite the stern warnings and scolding from my teachers to the whole Secondary Four Normal Academic cohort.

To be honest, I was a very lazy person. I would procrastinate before starting on my homework all the time. I would get constant reminders from my subject teachers, and I would usually complete the homework at the very last minute. I did have a habit of going to sleep at around midnight even during school days which definitely was a reason why I could not pay attention on most days during lessons.

I had not started studying or revising for my examinations as I still had not understood its importance and how the results would gauge how I would fare for the actual N level examination. I only began to study a week before the start of the examinations which led to many late nights. Coming to school with barely five hours of sleep, left me physically and mentally exhausted.

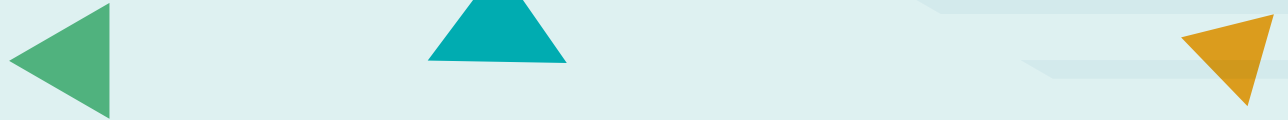
Not long after, the examination was over. I completed it feeling half-hearted and unsatisfied. I was not sure whether I would be able to do well or even get decent scores especially for the two subjects I was weakest in, Mathematics and Principles Of Accounts. I have known to fail these two subjects ever since I was in Secondary Three.

Two weeks passed, and it was time for me to receive my report book. I felt pressured and nervous waiting for my turn as my form teacher called out my classmates' names individually to hand over their report books. After I received my report book, I was disappointed to learn that I had failed in three subjects. My 'EMB3' score added to twenty-two points which was alarming and risky. That was a wakeup call for me as I knew that I would not be able to meet my desired results with my current lifestyle. I also reminded myself that I should not disappoint my parents next time with my N level results.

From then onwards, I decided to change my mind-set and to have a goal in mind which was to do well and get less than twenty points for my national examinations. Every day after school, I would make an effort to study two subjects, an hour for each subject. On weekdays, I challenged myself to complete exercises in assessment books that my parents had bought for me at the beginning of the year. My friends and I also made an effort to stay back in school until 6pm to revise and seek consultations from our teachers. I worked twice as hard for the subjects I was particularly weak in. I felt like a completely different person.

I completed my N level examination feeling confident and satisfied compared to the previous round. I finally had the passion for learning. I did not feel fully confident but I did not have my hopes too low as well. A few months passed without me realising, and it was already the day of our results. I could not believe that that day had finally arrived! I felt extremely nervous going to school and I was literally shaking when my form teacher handed my result slip. I was really afraid to open it, I regretted not starting to change earlier. Eventually, I mustered up the courage to open my result slip and to my surprise, I did better than expected! After a long time, I finally passed all the subjects and made quite remarkable improvements in the Prelim examination. My grades went up for all the subjects and I truly did not expect that. My parents were proud and congratulated me and that motivated me to believe in myself. The moral of the story is to possess a good learning attitude and always to have a target in mind. Having the passion for learning also motivates us to work harder to achieve success.

Nur Aliyah Thaqifah Muchtar
Class 5A1



One who has passion for learning often overcomes challenges with perseverance. One would also avoid anything that could bring themselves down. 2018 was a year full of challenges especially when Greenview Secondary School merged with Loyang Secondary School. I had trouble trying to adapt with the new changes in school. However, the main hurdle I had to face was the GCE 'N' Level examinations.

It was stressful and the topics for each subject were getting really challenging. However, I did not use that as an excuse to not do well. With the remaining months that I had left before the GCE 'N' Level examinations, I had requested extra assignments and extra remedial lessons from my teachers to clarify my doubts. That way, I could familiarize myself with the chapter and not have to struggle with it on my own. 2018 was the year when I dreamt of applying for PFP or the Polytechnic Foundation Programme.

However, I did not meet the criteria. My GCE 'N' Level Examination results were not below the required 11 points. I had no other option but to proceed to Secondary Five because I was not allowed to attend the ITE. I tried to think positively and consider the 'N' level as a stepping-stone to success. With the experience that I had gained and motivation from teachers and friends, I am confident of doing well in the GCE 'O' Level Examinations.

Nurinsyrah Bte Abdulrazah
Class 5A1

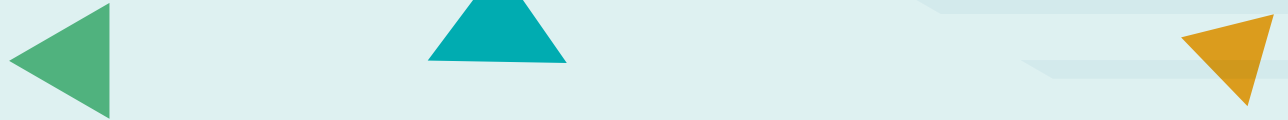
2018 was a year full of obstacles and challenges that I had to go through. I did not have any motivation at all and often had mental breakdowns. My results for the Mid-year-examination and Preliminary examinations were extremely bad to the point I was not even sure if I could do well enough to make it to Secondary 5.

Although it was a journey full of ups and downs, my family were the ones who gave me strength and motivation to keep me going until I completed my GCE 'N' Levels examinations. My grandfather especially had a one to one talk with me on the phone every night, giving me a lot of advice and support.

When I got my results, I broke down in tears of happiness. My parents smiled widely. Seeing them happy, gave me a sense of accomplishment as I felt that I had made them proud. The subject that gave me a shock and made me proudest was Principles Of Accounts. I had been struggling with that subject since Secondary 3, and did not once manage to get a pass. My class and I had been blessed with four amazing teachers who continuously motivated and guided us to do well in the GCE 'N' Levels examinations.

Since I had made the decision to take my GCE 'O' Levels examinations, I had to be more optimistic in my studies. Rather than thinking negatively all the time, I decided to be well prepared for the challenges ahead. Secondary 5 will not be easy but with a positive mindset, I believe that I can do well. My family members were the ones who talked things through with me and gave me all their motivation and support. My goal is to make them proud and do my best to achieve my dreams in my desired course at the Polytechnic!

Nursahirah Atiqa Bte Noor A
Class 5A1



Have you ever heard of the saying, 'A leopard never changes its spots'? If you believe so, then I would beg to differ. Without a doubt, I personally believe that with sufficient perseverance and proper guidance, a change in attitude is very much possible.

During my days in Greenview Secondary School, I was notoriously known as the delinquent who always got himself into hot water due to my misconduct and mischief. I was always paying visits to the Principal's office, and receiving a seemingly endless number of strokes from the cane. I had no interest for learning whatsoever. Before I realized it, I had been laterally transferred from the Express stream, to the Normal Academic stream. However, I still had not learnt my lesson. Due to my complacency, I believed that the Normal Academic stream was inferior as I came from the Express stream. Ultimately, I failed my 'N' level examination and was retained. Being the only one who was retained, I had no friends as all my friends had moved on to tertiary institutions. With a heavy heart, I realized how education could make an impact in one's life. Having no friends made a deep impact in my daily life. As a socially awkward individual, it was especially difficult for me to leave my comfort zone and make new friends. That was when I decided that I was not going to relive the past mistakes again.

In the beginning, I encountered numerous disciplinary issues with the school due to my recalcitrant behaviour. Even after painstakingly forcing myself to change schools, it was difficult for me to adapt to the new rules and regulations. However, I persevered and still, impelled myself to score well for my examinations. I often studied alone, but sometimes, I arranged meetups with old friends. I also pushed myself to complete the tedious Ten-Year-Series books for each subject. I solemnly vowed to myself that no mistakes would be made this time. Soon after, the examinations were a day away, but I was full of confidence this time round. I found every paper manageable if not, easy.

As a result, I scored a total of 11 points with 4 distinctions. I was not surprised but still, I was overwhelmed with joy. It was my first taste of success; my first ever experience of doing well for my examinations. This had taught me that a passion for learning is significant if I want to excel! Even after failing my previous examination, I realized that with enough hard work and dedication, a failure can be turned to one's greatest achievement.

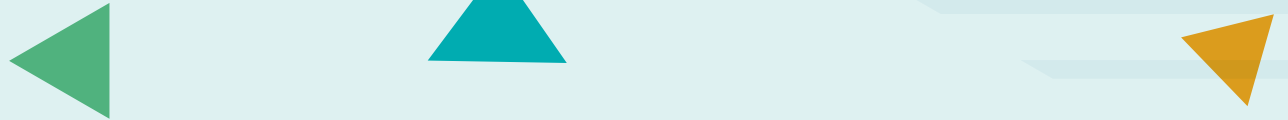
Wilderic Chan Weibin
Class 5A1

I did not enjoy learning new skills that required me to step out of my comfort zone. As much as I was fond of learning new skills that excite most people, personally I feel that they were a sheer waste of time. However, learning subjects like Geography is great for our contextual knowledge because we are able to apply what we learn in school in certain situations. Rather than being stubborn and not trying out new things, I decided to give it a shot. As the saying goes, “You learn something new every day.”

Geography is an eye-opening and fascinating subject. While going through the chapter, “Weather and Climate,” I was able to learn when Singapore had its monsoon season. Learning this, I was able to predict the weather. It is a very useful skill as I am able to plan ahead of time in case of heavy downpour. I even learned that the “plates” under each country or continent move constantly and we experience multiple earthquakes but more than half of them have low magnitudes that we are unable to feel. While it may not help us in our daily lives, it is great to have as contextual knowledge. Besides Geography, Character & Citizenship Education (CCE) lessons help cater to my needs by providing me with soft skills such as team building. As numerous CCE lessons go by, I am able to work strongly with others and interact well with my friends. For example, instead of working alone and doing projects on my own, I decided to take the initiative to seek help. Doing the project with my friends helps to reduce the time taken for it to be completed. I learnt that there was no shame in asking friends for assistance. Doing so allowed me to be less stressed about getting things done as I become more and more confident.

Learning new skills has allowed me to step out of my comfort zone and be more open to exploring unique ideas. While still in secondary school, I continue to equip and add more skills to my arsenal while I still can so that I am able to apply what I have learnt as I venture through tertiary education and soon, the working world.

Wungkana Gabriel Tuama Waranei
Class 5A1



To me, success is when I have achieved something that I have dreamed of. For example, I consider myself successful if I am able to live a carefree life without any financial problem or regret.

That would be my long term plan, however, thus for, my greatest and proudest achievement was when I scored a B4 for my Additional Mathematics, N level examination. This is because I had always failed my Additional Mathematics tests and examinations since Secondary Three. Thanks to my Additional Mathematics teacher, Ms Gwen, who continuously motivated me to practice more on the questions I was not good at, I was able to improve. As mentioned in the student creed, “With resilience, I will succeed,” that was what I did! I persevered and worked hard. As I received my Preliminary Examination results, I realised I had finally passed my Additional Mathematics paper. I was really relieved and delighted. However, due to my weak foundation, I still was not able to get the basic questions right. Motivated by my Examination results, I restarted from the basics and continued working hard by doing additional practice papers from top schools. I completed my Ten Year series within two months so that I would be able to do even better in the final examinations.

Before long, the day finally came to receive my ‘N’ level Examination results. Upon receiving my result slip, I realised that I had scored B4 for my Additional Mathematics. I was really glad that my efforts had finally paid off. Ever since, I have been more interested in the subject, and willing to learn and do the next chapter and homework ahead of time. I would say that Additional Mathematics is my favourite subject now.

At the end of 2019, I will sit for my GCE O level examination. Even though, the start of the year kicked off with many challenges, as I could barely understand anything, I persevered. I believed that I could do well if I continued to work hard and work smart. I sincerely hope that I would be able to pass my O level examinations with flying colours.

I would like to end my success story with a favourite quote by Stephen Hawking, “Be brave, be curious, be determined, and overcome the odds. It can be done.”

Yeo Hui Qi
Class 5A1

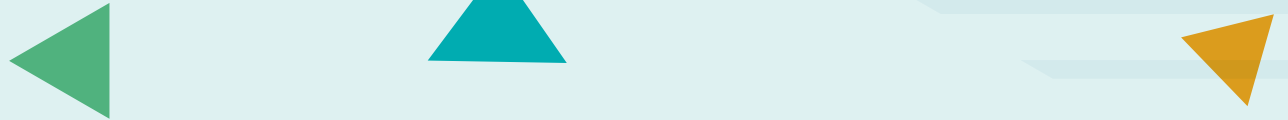
I am still stunned that I managed to get promoted to Secondary Five, as I had zero confidence in myself. Looking back in 2018, I truly regretted not putting my best in my studies. Although I had no confidence in myself, my family and friends gave me lots of encouragement and power to persevere and not choose to give up on my studies. 2019 will be a demanding year, but I will give my best.

I actually wanted to give up on my studies as I couldn't cope with all the stress but I soon realised that I should not make my selfishness affect the people around me. If I do not do my very best, I would not get the dream salary that I always wanted. Hence, I did some self-reflection and thought to myself that I ought to turn over a new leaf. I am going to do my absolute best so that my family can be proud of me.

“Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.” This quote really teaches me that challenges are just obstacles that need to be cleared if not you would be forever stuck on the same problem. I will go up and never stop. I am aiming to go to Ngee Ann Polytechnic where I plan to pursue my dream course: Nursing.

In a nutshell, I am pleased that I managed to qualify for Secondary Five to start a new anew. I will try my best to show people that I can do it. 2019 here I come!

Blyss Tay Jia Huan
Class 5A2



2018 was a year full of challenges. I was retained in Secondary 4. Honestly, it was extremely difficult as I had new classmates. It was a struggle fitting in firstly because I was older and they looked at me differently, but as months went by I made a few friends who helped me get adjusted to the class. I faced a lot of obstacles, as I had several disagreements with a particular group of people. However, I decided to put my problems behind me and make GCE 'N' levels my main focus.

Even though I had already learnt everything the year before, I completely spaced out. I then decided that I really needed to work hard and progress to the next year. I studied every day and took breaks in between so as to not be drained out. In school, I asked for consultations from teachers to clarify my doubts and we would study in the fish tank area that was conducive to learning. In class, when teachers completed a topic, they would usually give us mini-bites tests to check on our understanding of specific topics. This helped them understand the approach they needed to take with every student. Even though it was difficult, I persevered despite having my own problems. Now I am in Secondary Five. Honestly, the first few days of being in Secondary Five was fun. I felt so eager to learn new things and was grateful to spend my remaining year with my friends. When I finally got started it was so intense. The jump from GCE N levels to GCE O levels was really huge and the stress levels got higher each day.

Luckily, I have friends and teachers who are extremely supportive. They often stay back to help me in order to make improvements in my weak subjects like Mathematics. When I clarify my doubts I just have this sense of satisfaction that I was able to accomplish something that is important to me. This makes me want to come to school to learn newer things.

Cassilda Bernard
Class 5A2

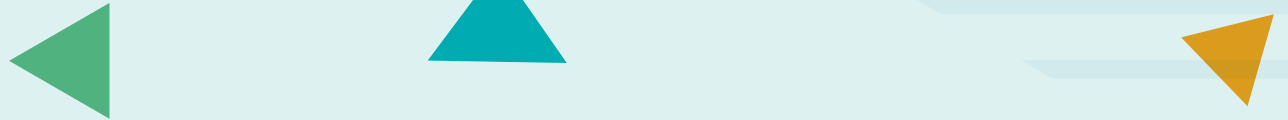
2018 was filled with many challenges. I had gone through GCE 'N' Levels and it was the most stressful time of my life. Looking back, when I was in Secondary 4, I think the teachers did their best to train us for the big milestone, GCE 'N' Levels. It was a very interesting and tiring year. In late December, I got my GCE 'N' Level results. I looked forward to getting my grades and going to the Institution of Technical Education (ITE).

My grades however were abysmal. I was heartbroken and lost. I also ended up ranting and vented my frustrations at home to my parents. I expressed my true feelings to them. They felt awful and comforted me. They helped me a lot and encouraged me, to pick myself up and shed my lazy attitude. My parents were the ones who supported me and suggested I go through the GCE 'O' Levels as it offered a wider variety of subjects. So, here I am in Secondary 5.

I have always wondered if it was worth taking a Pharmaceutical Course considering I am not one who enjoyed studying. I think it will be difficult for me as the studies can be very tiring and hard. I ended up deciding to follow my passion for the Arts but I am also doing Food and Nutrition that has a science base. I am up for that challenge. Life is all about challenges and I look forward to overcoming it.

In 2019, I will definitely work hard and get into an arts related course that I want to do in the Polytechnic. I hope to study at Nanyang Polytechnic. It is my dream Polytechnic because it offers courses that interest me. It is also close to my house and I would love to join the Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) there.

Fatinah Bte Mohammed Izad
Class 5A2



Success to me means achieving or overcoming a goal I have set for myself, no matter the size of the goal. A small goal such as being able to successfully complete a Mathematics paper without guidance or a substantial one such as being able to make millions later in life. Success is something that fills a person with joy. Mark Cuban, a famous billionaire once said, “To me, the definition of success is waking up in the morning with a smile on my face, knowing it is going to be a great day. I was happy and felt like I was successful when I was poor, living together with six guys in a three-bedroom apartment, sleeping on the floor.”

2018 was a fruitful year for me as I successfully completed my “N” level examinations and was able to move on to Secondary Five to attempt the challenging “O” level examinations. What I achieved in my “N” level examinations was the most successful thing I had accomplished thus far. A few months before my “N” level examinations, I took my Preliminary examinations. I received a poor score of 23 points. I was disappointed with myself but at the same time I knew that I deserved it for not studying. This lit a fire in me and the very next day, I began to diligently study and revise my work. My passion for learning had been ignited!

I organised study sessions with my friends every day after school. We would walk to Downtown East, a nearby establishment with many cafes, to study. At times, it was challenging to even sit myself down and focus on revising my work. Whenever I began to lose motivation, what got me going was thinking about the dreadful 23 points I had received for the Preliminary examinations and the constant encouragement from my friends. I knew that studying after school was not enough and soon I began consulting my teachers on the subjects that I was weak in such as Mathematics and Geography.

Fast forward to the “N” level results collection day. I was as nervous as a gambling addict betting his last dime. However, when I saw my results, I was filled with joy as I had gotten 16 points. This was a huge achievement for me personally as I did not expect to get such good results! It convinced me that success is not about being the best but about the feeling one gets from overcoming an obstacle or doing better than previously. In this case, I had indeed succeeded!

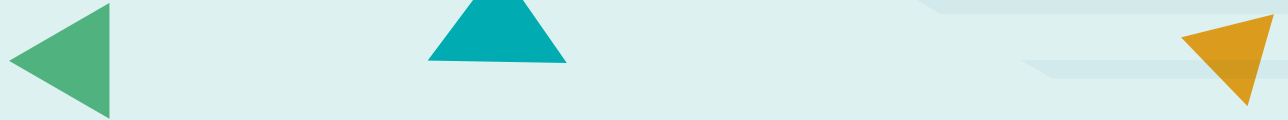
Han Ting Xuan Sam
Class 5A2

To me, success means to accomplish a goal one has set for himself. As for myself, the goal I set in the year 2018 was to improve my English Language grade as much as I could. I knew that my English Language was not very good to begin with, despite being my most used language. I had resolved to study the English Language to my best ability and then further improve with guidance from my English teacher, Mdm Nazrene, that year.

Based on my results for the past three years, my grade for English has been hanging on the borderline mark, which meant that my mark was always around 50%. It has never once exceeded 60% from Secondary One to Three. Even during the Preliminary examinations in Secondary Four, I had only scored a grade five. I knew that with such a horrendous grade for my N level examination, I would never get anywhere in life. Hence, I decided to study really hard after my Preliminary examination in the hope of increasing my results by two grades. The worst case scenario would be that, I would have to settle with a grade four for N level examination.

Success also meant that I had to seize every single opportunity to get better results. Opportunities and chances are like animals and I being the hunter. Fire at the wrong moment and my chance would forever be lost. With such an ideology in mind, I had to strive and take any chance I could get just so that I could pass my final exams. When my results came, I could hardly believe myself as I had scored a grade three for my English Language. Finally, my efforts had paid off and I could see success after three years of being an average percentage scorer. My passion for learning has ignited!

Martin Tay Kai Jin
Class 5A2



Throughout my sixteen years, I had never faced an obstacle so challenging. It was beyond my expectations despite what everyone else had said. N level examinations was a nightmare. The tremendous amount of pressure and stress I faced was nothing like I had ever felt before. Even so, I still made it through!

The N level examination was very important to me and my classmates. It was something that would decide our future path. I could not afford to fail after getting so far. I persevered through all the obstacles I encountered. However, midway through the year, I lost my motivation to study due to laziness. I started to slack and took things lightly. Eventually, this led to my downfall.

Due to the lack of effort, I did very badly for my preliminary examination. I was very disappointed and started to feel demoralised. I just felt like giving up, but I told myself that there was not enough time, and that I should start taking action if I wanted to do well. My preliminary examination was an eye opener for me as it showed me some of my weaknesses in the individual subjects. I began to learn from my mistakes and started to gain the motivation to study again, so that I would be able to do well.

I had to exceed my limits to make sure that I was prepared to sit for the N level papers. I had to push through the long nights and stay up to study. My passion for learning grew as I did not want to have any regrets. Although I was tired, I had to force myself to study. Even when I was on the verge of giving up, the support from my family and friends helped me to endure the difficulties I faced.

As days passed, the N level examination drew nearer. I was afraid but at the same time, excited that this would all be over soon. I sat for every paper, giving my best and applying what I had learned. In a blink of an eye, the N level storm was over. I was glad to have made it thus far. Even though I am unsure of my results, I have no regrets as I know I did my best, and to me, that is success. It is the will to give of my best to achieve a personal goal.

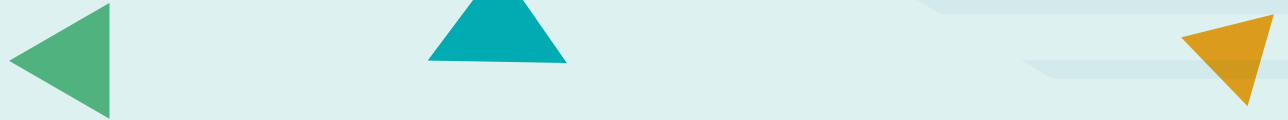
Muhammad Amshar B Mohamed A
Class 5A2

My success story is actually not a success story but more of a “what I want to do in life” story. Ever since I was young, I’ve always wanted to be a pilot flying for the prestigious Air Emirates. As I love travelling around the world, I want to find a job that allows me to travel to different parts of the world from Rio de Janeiro to Madrid. I thought by getting outstanding results for my GCE N Level examinations, I could apply for the course that I wanted which is Aviation Management.

However, 2018 wasn’t a good and memorable year for me. I studied extremely hard for the major examinations but my results weren’t good enough for me to qualify. But luckily, my results were good enough for me to do the O Level Examinations in Secondary 5.

I hope to do very well in the GCE O Level examinations and get a score that would enable me to attend a course of my choice, to fulfil my dream as a pilot. No matter what other people say, I’ll still try my best to achieve my dream.

Muhammad Ikram Hakimi B Mohd A
Class 5A2



2018 was a year full of challenges, but the biggest challenge I faced was my GCE 'N' Level examinations. In 2018, I was in class 4A5. Prior to that I was in the express stream in Secondary 1 and 2. However, because of bad company along with other unsavoury influences, I started going sideways. I stayed out late, slept in class and was absent from school, but some teachers still believed in me. Unfortunately, I was transferred to the normal academic stream in Secondary 3. Despite being looked down upon by my ex-classmates, there were still friends and teachers who were there for me like two of my Mathematics teacher.

Thinking back, my life resembles a short story I came across. A popular speaker started off a seminar by holding up a twenty-dollar bill. A crowd of two hundred people had gathered to hear him speak. He asked, "Who would like this twenty-dollar bill?", and two hundred hands went up. He then said, "I am going to give this twenty-dollar bill to one of you but first let me do this." He crumpled up the bill. Then he asked, "What if I do this?" Then dropped the bill on the ground and stomped on it with his shoes. He picked up the crumpled and dirty bill. He asked again, "Now who still wants it?" All the hands still went up.

I see the twenty-dollar bill as me and the two hundred people in the crowd as my teachers who constantly believed in me, helping me achieve an A1 from an F9 in Mathematics examinations. This is only possible with the help of my teachers as they encouraged and supported me every day and helped me in my Mathematics by giving me extra morning and afternoon classes. With their constant help, I was then able to achieve an A2 for Mathematics in the GCE N level examinations. I want to take this chance to thank all the teachers who have helped me. They believed in me in spite of me being that crumpled dirty bill. Thank you truly for still seeing the value in me.

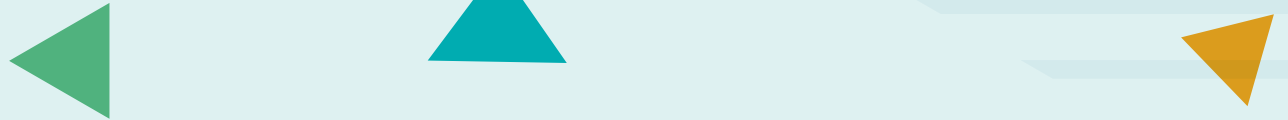
Neo Jun Yang
Class 5A2

Different people have different perspectives on being successful. Success to me is being in a position in life where I am happy and contented with what I have. It does not necessarily mean having a lot of money. It is about appreciating what I have around me because what I have now might not be there forever.

It occurred to me last year that I lacked the confidence to sit for the N Level Examinations. I was so afraid, I doubted my ability to pass my National Examinations. Last year, I started to question myself, "Why is school even important to me anymore?" That happened after my Preliminary Examinations. I nearly gave up. After words of advice from people around me, I finally got the courage to pull myself together and started to focus on what was important to me. At that point, I felt that I could make it if I pushed myself without having second thoughts on passing.

I was not afraid of failing because I knew it was my fault for having started the revision process late. It was an eye opener for me. When I received my result slip, I was not satisfied with what I got but I had to accept the hard truth. IT IS WHAT IT IS. I finally realized that hard work is inevitable. My success is very much dependent on myself, and the effort I put into my studies. I know I am capable of going through Secondary 5 even if it is hard. I will keep reminding myself that success comes with hard work and strategic effort.

Nur Faiqah Bte Roshaimi
Class 5A2



My success story is about how I overcame the challenges leading up to the GCE 'N' Level examination. It was a bittersweet journey. It was a major year as Loyang Secondary School and Greenview Secondary School merged into Loyang View Secondary School. We were getting new schoolmates and teachers. My mind was set on going to the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) after my GCE 'N' Level Examinations. Being in the Normal Academic (NA) stream comes with a lot of pros and cons. The pros are that we have so many more pathways to take after the GCE 'N' Level examinations. However, we needed to endure people stereotyping us. As a result, it affected our self-esteem, and we believed that we would not make it because we were not good enough. I did not think I would make it in Secondary 5.

I performed badly in both my Mid-year and Preliminary examinations. All my teachers kept reminding us that our end goal was the GCE 'N' Level Examinations. It was for our own benefit. My teachers made it a point to highlight our failures to remind us to do better in our next test. There was not much support from my family either as they looked down on me. The Preliminary Examinations were a wake-up call for me.

While GCE 'N' Level examinations was going on, my parents talked to me and gave me the motivation to not give up. I begged my parents not to consider me for Secondary 5, as I was too worried I would bring home a whole report book full of U grades. Now that I am in Secondary 5, I realise that it is another chance to redeem myself. Even though being in Secondary 5 is tough, I am willing to put in the effort and work hard to get a decent grade.

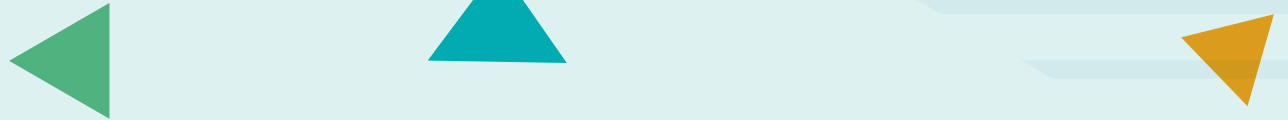
Nur Sarah Abdullah
Class 5A2

2018 was a challenging year as there was the GCE 'N' Level examinations. The biggest challenge I faced during the GCE 'N' Level examination was trying to complete my Art coursework. We were given the question for the exam only 2 weeks before the submission date. Thereafter, there was a 3-hour paper I had to complete.

When I did my art preparation, I found it challenging to finish my art pieces as I had very limited time to draw, as I had to study for my other subjects like Science and Mathematics which were both my weakest subjects. Mathematics and Science were both subjects that I needed to pass. However, in the end I was able to finish both my Art pieces, and study for the Science and Mathematics examinations to score an A2 for art and at least a grade 5 for both my Science and Mathematics papers.

Peer pressure was something that I have to learn to overcome during the process of taking the GCE 'N' Level examinations, as my grades were not as good as my friends. I may have had a few mental breakdowns while trying to study but in the end I was able to convince myself to think positively and try to seek help from my friends and sometimes teachers who helped me a lot in understanding the topics I couldn't grasp initially.

Pang Pei En
Class 5A2



Success to many people is to get a dream job and earn lots of money but success to me is when my drive reaches my destination. Being successful is not an easy task and it requires lots of hard work and perseverance. I personally think that striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest when you have not planted anything yet. Success would not just come to you without effort!

My success story is something I am actually really proud of because I believe I have come a long way in order to make this happen. Passing Mathematics was just like asking me to fly because it was so difficult for me then. All I thought was I would not be able to overcome this hurdle. I used to fail my Mathematics tests and examinations in primary school hence, I had lost all hope in passing that subject. I couldn't do simple Algebra nor could I understand what the question wanted of me. Hence, I had to work extra hard compared to the rest.

After almost four years, that was the first time I stared at my paper in astonishment because I finally passed my Mathematics test. Yes, it may just be a test but to me, I felt a sense of accomplishment and I was really amused. After that test, I decided to use it to motivate myself to work even harder in order to do better for my future Mathematics tests and examinations. I personally believe that failure is part of life. If you do not fail, you do not learn. If you do not learn, you will never change.

I believe all of my hard work has since paid off. I have finally done well for my End-of-year Mathematics examination and I received lots of compliments for the tremendous improvement. I think this would not be possible without the help I had received from my teachers and friends on numerous occasions. The encouragement given was one of the motivations I used to push myself to work harder. I did not take my improvements for granted and I kept telling myself to do better each time and an "A" was never enough for me. When I received my N level results last year, I was quite happy to score a B3. Although I was quite happy, I told myself that I could do better the next time.

At the end of the day, success does not just come to you; you have to work hard to achieve it. I guess "practise" was the key for doing well in Mathematics and I am really proud to say that it has become one of my favourite subjects. I will continue to keep the passion burning and continue to break my own record!

Tan Zhun Xun Jeral
Class 5A2

Success to me is not just about grades but also about how much I have improved throughout the learning journey, and how much effort I have put into my studies. I was once a very lazy student who wanted to be ignorant as I felt that there was no meaning in studying.

In 2016, one day before my end of year examination, I was with some friends: Jonah, Ashley, Eldina and Cassandra. They studied a lot and were very much full time 'muggers'. Hence, I was the odd one out. During one of our study sessions, I gave up as I could not take it anymore. Ashley took the initiative to ask whether I was all right and whether I needed help. I felt so hopeless back then. However, she kept insisting on teaching me Geography so I accepted her offer. She taught me ways to study and showed me how beautiful and interesting a subject can be which motivated me in wanting to study even more. All my friends then offered me their help, and this made me even more excited to study and learn as I knew that that there was always someone who could help me with my studies. Even though I did badly for the examinations, my friends nevertheless, did not give up on me and still continued to motivate me.

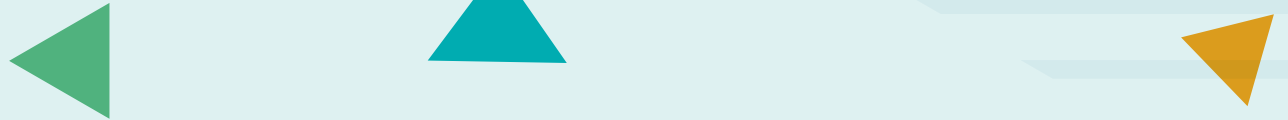
The following year, I tried my best to study for three to four hours every day after school so that I could get used to studying and getting into the flow. This gave me an advantage during lessons as I knew most of the theories beforehand so I continued doing that for the whole year. The final year Secondary Three examination came. During the examination, I knew how to answer most of the questions. When I got my results, I did significantly well and my teachers were proud of me. Most of all, I was proud of myself.

In 2018, to my surprise, I actually won the GOOD PROGRESS AWARD for Secondary Three. I also achieved the Bursary Merit award which is awarded to students who are in the top 25 percent in the cohort.

That day, I really felt like I had achieved what I wanted in my life for once as it was my first time being this successful in my academics. Before, I always had a negative mind-set that I would never be able to experience such achievements but now I know that even the worst has the chance to shine as long as one puts in the hard work and effort.

In conclusion, I realise how interesting studies can be! We have to cultivate a passion for learning throughout life. That's what matters, and with consistent work hard we will achieve our goals and dreams. I did!

Tee Ming Feng
Class 5A2



2018 was a memorable year. It was the year I sat for my GCE 'N' Level examinations. It was a really tough journey. At the beginning of the year it was not as stressful but towards the end it was. However with amazing friends and teachers, it was much more manageable. It was a very scary year for me, especially with all the pressure. I am thankful for the uncle and aunty that come to our school every Tuesday and Thursday to sell ice cream and smoothies, as it really helped me get through long hours of afternoon lessons. The ice cream and smoothies helped me stay awake during lessons and trust me when I say that staying awake in class was a constant struggle.

I very much appreciate the conducive learning environment and especially the air conditioned classrooms. I am also very grateful for the amazing teachers for constantly pushing us and guiding us to reach our maximum potential. There were also times when they would scold and nag at us, but we know they are doing it for our own good. I am also thankful for my friends for the endless encouragement. All the consultations, afternoon classes, mini bite tasks and assignments really paid off. I would reminisce about the time I would stay back into the late afternoon with my friends in order to revise. I am glad I overcame the hurdle with my friends and loved ones by my side.

The jitters got to me the night of the Mathematics paper 1 and Humanities paper 1. I was so stressed, I cried a lot that day due to all the pressure of doing two papers, the next day. On top of that, my worst subject was Humanities. I had a lot of revision to do and I couldn't seem to stay focused at that point. I cried to my mother saying that I don't think I can make it. However my mother, being as understanding as she is, asked me just to give my best. She knew I had put a lot of endless hours, studying. She believed that I could do it and that made her proud at the end of the day. I overcame my nerves and got a decent grade for my Humanities paper and Mathematics paper. All in all, I realise that with hard work, dedication and determination anything is possible.

Ufairah Bte Ali Bafana
Class 5A2

**PUBLIC
SPIRITED**


As soon as I heard that we were going to perform a play in front of the students, parents and other guests, I panicked because I did not have enough confidence to perform in front of them. I was terribly scared as I felt that it would be so embarrassing if I messed up. I tried really hard to convince Mrs Sing to let me be part of the props and makeup team as I was really good at those tasks.

A few days later, it was announced that I would be a props and makeup artist! I was really happy because Mrs Sing trusted me to do the tasks well. Meanwhile, my friends were practising their lines at the back of the classroom. I could tell that they were really good because in just a few days they had managed to memorise their lines.

As the day of the performance arrived, I got very excited and I could not even wait to get out of my house. As soon as I arrived in school, I started helping the teachers decorate the classroom so as to transform it into a living room. A few minutes later, my friends arrived. They rendered their assistance. Before long, the classroom finally looked pretty cool.

My next job was to apply makeup on the actors and actresses. It was a lot of fun doing it especially on the boys. They looked pained when having the foundation and powder slathered on them. All in all, the drama production was an enriching experience for me.

Nurul Hanis Faqiha
Class 1A2



One of the most significant memories of my Secondary 1 life in LVSS was the trip to VIA. On 21st February, our class went to VIA to visit the elderly. It was an amazing experience as I met some very nice and friendly people.

On that day, at around 2 p.m., we arrived at the old folks' home in the afternoon. The person-in-charge of the home said that each time when the elders knew we were coming, they would sit on their chairs and look forward to meeting the children. They would smile joyfully when they met these young children, bringing them a full day of happiness. When we went to the lobby of the nursing home, we quickly got into our groups, took out the game props, and chatted with the old people while playing the game.

During the interaction, I talked to a very nice lady. She said that she originally came from China, and moved to Malaysia to work when she was about 20 years old, and met her husband there. They got married and had two daughters. But her husband passed away when he was 40 years old and she was alone. Even though life wasn't easy for her alone to raise two daughters, she didn't give up. She continued to work hard and raised her two daughters. After her daughters grew up, they moved to Singapore.

After hearing her story, I felt that she was very tough and she never gave up. I remember our school had always taught us that with resilience, we will succeed. I think that she really lived up to this quote and I will also try my best to do the same.

After playing for a while, we handed out goodie bags to the old people, which were snacks we prepared carefully, to representing our care.


Next came the group game. We took out our prepared bingo props and played with the old people. To help the old with poor eyesight and hearing, we sat beside them and assisted them to play the games. At the end of the game, five old people won prizes. Everyone enjoyed themselves and laughed from time to time.

The next part was the performance. First a Chinese song “song for no one”, then a Malay song, and finally a school dance performance. I was worried that I would sing wrongly because I was also singing the Chinese song but fortunately it went well. The students’ performances were full of youthful spirit, and the old people enjoyed themselves.

Time passed quickly. Two hours passed in a flash. Before we left, we took photos with the elderly. Sitting on the bus, I told myself that I would visit these kind old people again next time.

Looking forward, I hope to get more chances to go on memorable trips like this, in order to gain knowledge that I can’t learn in classrooms. LVSS has moulded me into a more wholesome individual through making me more socially confident when talking to people that I don’t know. I am also able to do a lot more things that I couldn’t do in the past.

Jiayi
Class 1E2



It was my first day of school, I was really unfamiliar with the place, the teacher and my classmates. Luckily through the bonding activities organised by the teachers and Student Councillors, I got to make some friends. I felt that it would be too lonely if I did not make friends, so I decided to talk to them and asked them what their names were. At first, I could not really remember their names and I was afraid I might offend them if I called their names wrongly, but after hearing their names more often, I started to remember their names.

There was also a hike arranged for us in the afternoon, and through that, I got to make even more friends, and I really enjoyed talking to them. When we came back from the hike, we had lunch. My friend ate a lot. He even took food off our plates. After lunch, we had to practice the mass dance for the performance that our parents were coming to watch and I had butterflies in my stomach as I could not dance that well. I was afraid of making the wrong dance moves. After practicing the mass dance, we went to the parade square where we saw our parents. When the performance was over, there were pizzas for us.


I ate the pizzas with my friends and talked to them. After that, we had to sleep as it was getting late. We had an enjoyable day, and I hope we can always have a day like this!

Kester
Class 1E2

It has been a few months since I've settled down in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS). So far, everything has been going better than I had expected. The school welcomed the secondary one students with open arms. When I first stepped foot into LVSS, I saw the school motto: 'A Happy and Caring School'. I was initially doubtful about that but after the secondary one orientation, I held positive thoughts. The school orientation programme provided me with a significant experience.

The secondary one orientation happened from the 2nd of January to the 4th of January. On the first day, we were introduced to the student councillors, teachers and other staff members of the school. I was delighted to see the school student councillors entertaining us and cheering us up as some of us were feeling uneasy in the new environment. I smiled and talked to some of my new classmates, thinking that I would be making friends and that I wouldn't feel a sense of loneliness. As soon as we started the bonding games, our feelings of nervousness and uneasiness faded as we enjoyed ourselves throughout. The joy, the laughter, the cheers made me have a sense of ease and happiness. I didn't expect to have so much fun on the very first day.

The student councillors were very friendly, they showed us around the school so that we could get familiarised with it. After that, we had lunch and I hung out with one of my new friends that I made that day. After lunch, the secondary one students learnt the Loyang View Mass Dance. The dance was a lively type. The beat to the song of the dance sounded somehow exciting and fun. It was an easy dance--well that's what people say. To me personally, the dance was easy but I just couldn't get the steps right. We then played more games after and went home. My new friends and I had already exchanged numbers so that we could catch up more. That was the end of day one.



Day two was actually a camp. We got to sleep overnight in school that day. The first activity we did that day was hiking at Southern Ridges Hike. I have to admit though, the experience was really tiring! Along the way, I talked to some of my classmates and some other secondary one students from other classes. It was fun but mostly tiring. After the hike, we took a class photo along with a cohort photo on top of the hill where we could see a beautiful view of the city. We then went back to school and ate lunch. After lunch, we had talks done by CCA teachers and the Heads of Departments. We were told more about each CCA in the school and also more about the school rules and regulations. Then, we played more bonding games, learnt new cheers and practiced the mass dance again. After all that, we prepared for the campfire.

The campfire was awesome! The principal ignited the flame and soon the campfire began. We did the cheers that we had been practicing the day before. My class did cheers that we created ourselves. One of my classmates could beatbox and so he did, and my class won the award for best cheer! It was such a wonderful experience! After the campfire, the school treated us to pizza. The pizza was scrumptious. I'll never forget that day. Day two was over and soon we went to sleep in our respective venues. I'll never forget this experience. It will forever be etched in my mind.

Nurin Hazirah
Class 1E2


My heart beat faster with each step I took to my new school as it was the first day of school. I entered the school and took a quick glance as a student councillor led me to the school hall. I started having mixed feelings of anxiety and excitement as I did not know what kind of friends I would make or how fierce my form teacher would be, but as I walked towards where my classmates were seated, I was relieved to see a bunch of primary school friends that I knew.

We played games to know each other better and from the games, I made a few friends. At first I was shy to speak up but started getting along really well with one of my friends called Tiffany. We realised we shared the same interest and had mutual friends. After the ice-breaker games, we were told to create a class cheer and learn the school mass dance. I got really excited as I like dancing.

After 30 minutes of procrastination, and with the help of the student councillors, we made a cheer with the song baby shark. We were asked by our student councillor if any of us had special talents to add to the cheer. One of my classmates told the class that he could beatbox and I was really fascinated by it. When it was about 6.30, we were all told to gather at the parade square. Our parents were invited to watch us perform, and that was what made me nervous.

Time flew by and the first day of camp was over already. We won prizes at the campfire and many of our parents were really proud of us. It was a great way to bond with my new classmates.

Sarah Tan
Class 1E2



Time flies. It does not feel like I have already spent half a year at my secondary school. Currently, my school life is enjoyable. I have learned a lot. The most precious thing that the school has taught me is to be public spirited.

In the first term, my class VIA programme was to entertain a group of elderly. Being mindful of their age, we planned some easy games that were suitable for them such as card games and bowling. Naturally, we modified the bowling activity by adopting one of our classmates' idea which was the use of rubber balls to hit empty plastic bottles. Some of us even bought two or more bottles of drinks daily from the canteen so as to build up the number of bottles we needed.

On the day of our VIA programme, we tried to enliven the atmosphere by interacting with the elderly. From the conversations, I realised that many of the elderly were from different countries. Some of them had come from China, some from Malaysia while others were local. Even though they were from different countries, they were living together harmoniously.

At the end of the event, our whole class performed the mass dance for the elderly. After our performance, they clapped and cheered for us.

From this VIA programme, I learnt that the elderly do not long for a luxurious life or countless money, they just need the company and respect of people.

Huang Yanhan
Class 1E3

My school organised a VIA project for the Secondary Ones to visit the elderly of the Lions Befrienders Club. The purpose of this project was to build up our confidence and to contribute to the community. The Lions Befrienders Club organises activities for the seniors so that they can interact with one another.

When we arrived at the Lions Befrienders Club, we saw many senior citizens there. We greeted them and proceeded to place down our bags. We discussed what we were going to do and split ourselves into groups of four.


We started off with Karaoke and some of the elderly started singing along with us, while some enthusiastically joined in and danced around. After a while, more of them started to open up to us and joined in with the singing. We sung a variety of Malay and Chinese songs. There was lots of fun and laughter.

While that was going on, the elderly who did not want to sing, bowled and played board games. Those who bowled never gave up despite missing the bottles sometimes. That inspired me to not give up easily when faced with difficult challenges and no matter what happens, we have to embrace those challenges with a positive mindset.

Seeing all those happy faces around me made me feel happy as by spending time with them, it made them happy as all the senior citizens could interact and enjoyed talking to us. For the next part of the activity, we gave out goodie bags that we made in class which consisted of plasters, tiger balm, a piece of paper with the emergency contact numbers, snacks and drinks as well as some inspirational quotes for them.

Overall, I really enjoyed this experience and hope that we can have more opportunities like this in the future because this was a really fun and engaging activity. Through this activity, I learnt a lot of new values and hope that we can come back soon.

Ian Lee Yee Yang
Class 1E3



Our teachers announced that there was a VIA programme coming soon and that we had to prepare for it. The programme required us to spend time with the lonely elderly who have no one at home to talk to. All of us were excited. Madam Jo appointed a leader to take charge of the programme. She gave everyone an envelope and we were supposed to collect donations for the elderly. Everyone had a positive mindset about it and tried their best to collect as much money as possible. Raising funds was very fulfilling as it allowed us to demonstrate confidence in every decision we made. It also encouraged us to talk more to our neighbours.

After that, we tried our best to collect all of the materials needed for the games. On the day of the event, there were many elderly folks sitting around the table. Our leader took charge by being the emcee and we greeted the senior citizens. We started by playing games. We played charades first. Everyone put their heart and soul into it and we really enjoyed it. During that time, half of the class were busy setting up the other gaming booths.

After charades, we brought the elderly to the different game booths. I was taking care of the bowling booth. We had three booths in total, bowling, Jenga and card games. At the bowling booth, I was surprised to see that many of the elderly were so talented that they scored strikes. In the Jenga booth, the elderly protected the blocks as they were eager to win.

After all that fun, we provided the elderly with light snacks. The elderly then requested a dance and karaoke session. They started singing. Their voices were amazing, and their dancing too. They were so energetic which made me glad to be there. At the end, we did our energetic school mass dance. Everyone enjoyed it. We finished with a group photo and said our goodbyes.

Qaisara Farisha Binte Mohamad Fadli
Class 1E3


It was a bright and sunny morning. White, fluffy clouds drifted across the sky. I was walking to my new school looking at the blue sky since it was my very first day at school. I felt nervous, my heart was beating as fast as a cheetah and it felt like it was pounding out of my chest as I walked to school. I was really afraid that I could not make any friends or that I would be bullied in school.

When I arrived in school, I had difficulty finding my classroom and I felt like a fish out of water because I did not know anyone there yet. As I walked down the narrow, dark hallway, I saw a girl wearing a pair of black, round, and huge spectacles. Her hair was tied in a ponytail. Her name was Victoria. She told me she approached me because she thought I was lost. She helped me find my class. She told me that she was in the same class as me and I was really happy to have someone as helpful as her around .

When we arrived at our class, I sat beside Victoria. We both sat at the very first row in the class as we wanted to concentrate better during lessons. She told me that she was really having problems in her studies and asked me if I could help her, so I agreed. In class during lessons, I would always help Victoria with subtraction and multiplication as Math was her worst subject. I tried helping her and encouraged her by telling her that she would improve in her Math and she really did.

My first day at school wasn't that bad after all. I had thought I wouldn't be friends with anyone in school as I was shy and quiet all the time but it did not turn out like that. I was really glad that I had helped her and become friends with her eventually. She was really kind, helpful and was not the type that usually gets into trouble which I really liked about her. We became friends, really good friends.

Glydys Tan Ke Xuan
Class 1T1



What does it mean to be Public Spirited?

Our class had to do programmes such as the Values In Action (VIA) project. The VIA project required students to go out of school with their teachers to socialise with people outside the school community. We were assigned the Lion Befrienders Old Folks' Home at Tampines. We wanted to understand the elderly and help them feel at home with us. We decided to sing a song and play musical instruments to entertain them.

We took turns to sing and strum the guitar and a cajon. They really loved `Elvis Presley's - Can't Help Falling In Love`. We were appreciated a lot more after the rendition.

We were doing the VIA project because we wanted to contribute to the public and help the community. It was a great experience that took us out of our comfort zone. Some of the elderly have no grandchildren so it was interesting and fun for them to bond with people other than those in the Home. It was very satisfying for us to see them enjoying themselves.

Our school prepared us for the project by arranging an opportunity for us to brainstorm for ideas and what to do once we got there. For example we had to bring origami paper to make shapes with the old folks. It helped us to bond with them. We also bought them food from the budget we were provided. There were four groups in our VIA team and each was assigned different tasks. Some contributed to games, food, performances and other activities.

It was a complete success as the old folks had a genuinely happy time bonding with us, students. Moreover, for us it was an eye-opener. We learnt that one of the greatest challenges faced by the elderly was loneliness, and how we should always try to reach out and make them feel cared for.

Aidan Rahil B Mohammed Naziree
Class 2A2

What does it mean to be public spirited? Well, to me it means that we help and contribute to the public, especially the needy, no matter how big or small. Being a public spirited person means I will go the extra mile to help the community. For example, helping those in need. By doing so, I learn to be public spirited.

Every year, all classes are supposed to carry out the Values-In-Action (VIA) programme and our class was no exception. Last year, we organised a trip to Lion Befrienders at Tampines as our VIA activity. This trip also allowed us to develop a sense of empathy for the elderly in the home.

The purpose of going to the Lion Befrienders at Tampines was to give us the opportunity to step out of our comfort zone by bonding with the elderly as some of them were single, divorced or married without children or grandchildren. I felt that many of them seemed lonely. So, to bond with the elderly and interact with them was a great challenge, as most of us were not keen to socialise with people other than our immediate neighbours or family members.

Prior to the visit, our class brainstormed on what we should do to entertain the elderly during our visit. We were given some cash to spend on the prizes that we needed in order to carry out our activities there.


Our class was split up into groups. Each group did something different like for example, one group was to play the guitar and sing while another was to dance. One group was also in charge of buying the prizes, while another was to come up with some simple games to play with the elderly.

As the group leader for the activities, my group worked on origami. We prepared the pieces of coloured papers required for the activity. We also came up with step-by-step instructions which had both words and pictures. We also planned to play some card games like 'Old Maid' and 'Donkey' with them.

The whole trip was a success! The elders had fun and so did we. Although there were moments when I was nervous and a little bit irritated when things didn't go as expected, in the end, we persevered and we pulled it off. It helped me gain confidence and patience when talking to the elderly. I understood them better. I also learnt to be more patient and understanding, attentively listening to them as they shared with me their lives, joys and sorrows.

I enjoyed the trip as it was a success and it made me learn things that I would not have learnt otherwise. I learnt to express my empathy, and was able to reach out to my elderly grandparents at home much to their delight.

Hannah Hino-Hino Ho
Class 2A2



Do you know what success is to me? Well, success to me is accomplishing an aim or a purpose. Success comes in many different forms, such as winning a competition, completing a difficult task and so much more. Being in Loyang View has made a lot difference as it has helped me attain my success today. I went through about five months of hard work for ‘The Schools Challenge Singapore’. This is the success that has impacted me the most.

When the teacher selected me, I was delighted to be a part of it. It was my first time in this type of challenge. During the first session, we met our mentor and we needed to find solutions in “My Tampines Hub” that would benefit the residents living there. They told us that we were supposed to present it at the final presentation. It was exciting. We were told that we had around five months to prepare for it. We went for workshops that were really helpful for our presentation. After the workshops, we had more time to prepare. In the blink of an eye, it was already the final presentation.

It was really hard trying to juggle between school work and the challenge but my team and I made it. During the presentation, we had to present in front of some groups that were also presenting. It was really exciting to present it to the groups and the judges and it really brought out my courage.

Looking forward, I believe that this has brought out my public spiritedness and made me more socially confident to achieve my goals. It was really meaningful and that is why this success is the one that has impacted me the most.

Edmund Quek
Class 2A3

What is success? Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful. Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about learning from experiences. In my Secondary 2 camp, I learnt a lot of things which I would like to share with you.


When I first knew I was going to camp, I was excited because I had only one camp when I was in Primary 5. It was a good experience for me and that was my first camp. During my Secondary 2 camp, we did a lot of interesting activities like high elements, rock climbing, low elements, outdoor cooking and hiking. It took place right before our March holidays and we were camping at Labrador Park. I prepared a lot of things for this camp. I had to carefully pack things like shirts, pants, towel, socks and other things.

At the end of the Secondary 2 camp, I learnt that a team is always stronger than one person. I feel this camp was very exciting and enjoyable and holds a lot of special memories for me. I also know that teamwork is very important for a team to succeed. In a team, everybody plays different roles and have different jobs to do. Some people may ask if I enjoyed my Secondary 2 camp. My answer is of course! I enjoyed it very much. It was an intense learning environment but we managed to have a relaxing time. It made me become a better person. It also made my friends and I closer to each other.

This experience has made me a more wholesome individual as it has nurtured my public spiritedness. I have more friends in school now. I have also realized that in school some people may be more active but in camp, they may be too tired.

This is my experience of the Secondary 2 camp. What is yours?

Zhu Wei Qi
Class 2A3



I like to sing. I enjoy singing Chinese songs. When my teacher asked me if I could sing at the Lions Befrienders Home to entertain the old folks there, I was happy to give it a try. I got three other friends of mine to help me. They were Jing Wen, Yiting and Boon Tick.

First, we chose the songs. We deliberately chose folk songs because they were easy to sing. After that, we worked on our actions. As we sang the songs, we carried out the actions. We wanted the old folks to join us in the singing and follow our actions.

We wrote the lyrics on a piece of paper and we memorised them. We stayed back after school to practise. We spent a few hours every time we stayed back to practise. We kept on listening to the songs and practising them in front of the mirror.

When the day came, we were all ready. We played the minus one CD (compact disc) and sang to the tune of the songs. We were so happy to see them smile, and clap their hands, as we sang the songs.

Soon, as they warmed up to us, they sang along with us happily. After the first song, they clapped their hands happily and waited for us to sing the second and third song. Altogether, we sang three songs. Although we were tired, we were happy.

We enjoyed the sing-a-long session so much that we did not realise the passing of time. We felt a sense of purpose and satisfaction to do our part to entertain the old folks. We hoped to do more of such activities for the elderly when the opportunity arose. For us, it also provided a way to showcase our talent.


Wang Ke
Class 2T1

My greatest achievement for last year was when my band members and I won a silver medal for the Singapore International Band Festival. It was an event where bands from different schools would play their musical piece in a concert.

When our band was next, I was a little worried about how well we were going to do, considering that we were rushed. After that, we went to play two musical pieces. We made a few mistakes playing those two numbers. Soon our performance was over, and we waited with baited breath for the results to be announced.

Most of the band members were afraid that we were merely going to get a certificate of participation or a bronze medal. Surprisingly, we got a silver medal. It was so unexpected, we celebrated and cheered one another. It was not only my effort that led us to a silver medal, it was the effort of everyone in our band. It was a success for everyone involved in the Singapore International Band Festival. This has motivated us to raise the bar and perform better at the next competition.

Muhammad Khalis Bin Mohamed Sallim
Class 3A1



Success is achieving a goal that you set out for yourself. I experienced success when I finally spoke up as a senior member of the Dance Club in school. It was a great achievement as I had always been very shy as a senior to talk to others. This prevented me from sharing some of my experiences and knowledge with the juniors. So, one day, driven by the need to help my juniors, I just opened up and reached out to them.

I stepped up and led my juniors in what they had done wrong and discussed ways to improve their dance steps. At that moment, I realised that I was not as shy as I was previously. I thought in my head that speaking up was not that hard as I thought previously.

However, some people may have thought that I was acting 'big' and showing off as a senior sometimes. I realised that was what prevented me from speaking up and helping others. Every time, I really wanted to say something I just could not. I also thought that my juniors would rant about me for saying the wrong things. I pondered on all these negative points for a very long time but when I actually did it, it felt like I had succeeded for what I could always not do. For once, I didn't care about what others thought about me, I just focused on helping my juniors. That day, I experienced success.

Therefore, when you change your attitude and be open to helping others, you will succeed in everything you have dreamed about. Within us lies the power to be the best we can be.

Poh Rui En Ashlyn
Class 3A1

The desire to reach out to people in need, especially the elderly, has always been burning in me. This is exactly what Loyang View Secondary School offered me through its outreach programme, that rendered assistance to the elderly.

When my form teacher mooted the idea of visiting an elderly day care centre, I jumped for joy and proposed that we go to Lion Befrienders at Tampines. I volunteered to take the lead and in a matter of seconds, I formed a committee to work on this virtuous project.

As the chairman of the committee, I formed three sub-groups to make this visit meaningful and interesting for the residents there. Firstly, I formed a mini concert committee. I got them to think of the songs that we were going to entertain them with. We had solo, duo and trio performances. I also suggested that we get the elderly folks to join us in a sing-along session. We thought of some songs for them to sing and came up with a song sheet.


I also had a games committee. The members in this sub-group came up with very simple yet interesting games for us to play with the elderly. We had card games like 'Old Maid', 'Happy Family' and 'Donkey'. My classmates also proposed 'Jenga' and 'UnoStack'.

There was a surprise item that we thought would be good for them. We planned to celebrate the birthday of the elderly, if it happened to fall on the day of our visit. We shared our plan with the officers who were working there and they gave us their consent.

On that day, we entertained the elderly with our performances and engaged them in some games. They enjoyed themselves so much. I could relate with them very well because I had grandparents who lived with me. They were stunned when we sang the birthday song for the two great-grandpas who celebrated their birthdays on that day. We brought the cakes out for them to blow the candles. They were overwhelmed and emotional, so much so that they broke down and expressed their happiness, crying tears of joy.

At the end of the day, we got back to school exhausted but satisfied. I was overwhelmed with a sense of fulfilment, recalling the smiles and laughter painted on all their faces, beaming with happiness. I had achieved what I had set out to achieve. I found success and joy in undertaking this meaningful task. I look forward to being entrusted with similar tasks involving the elderly.

Nur Nazurah Aqilah Binte Yusof
Class 3T1



Success. It comes in many forms, be it big or small. Whether it is purchasing your own meal without the assistance from your parents or getting an 'A' for your major exams. I had my first taste of success when my unit received a Gold Award in the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

The NCC received the Gold award for three years in a row. It was an impressive record that we achieved through the unit's hard work. This year, we are slated to receive the Gold award once again, making it four perfect years, in my CCA. Sadly, I am going to step down this year and I may not be invited to the ceremony. Soon, the juniors will take over from the Seniors, and lead the platoon to another few years of victory and great achievement. It has been a long time coming since the very first day I started the CCA. I have grown from a timid and little Secondary 1 student to a soon-to-step-down senior with four years of knowledge and experience. Never did I think that I would actually make it! I went through many rigorous and adventurous journeys with my team mates to build NCC to what it is today.

Speaking of my journey, there were lots of ups and downs in the path of becoming an NCC cadet. Some of the best parts of the many activities we did were the laser tag and live firing exercise. These exercises were a real step up from the school's enrichment programmes. The live firing exercise was the most entertaining programme that I had ever been through, putting aside the really long and time-consuming waiting time for the queue as there were many other schools that were also partaking in the event. The less enjoyable ones were going for camps, specifically the one in Secondary 2! It was completely outrageous! The cadets were running around, not listening to commands and not meeting the standards of the Cadet Officers who were in control of the camp.

In the end, all the activities and struggles were bound to happen one way or other. Life is not always that kind to anyone but it does have its fair share of enjoyable moments. As such, I continue to draw inspiration from the following quote: "The journey is more enjoyable than reaching the destination itself"

Hyder Harris
Class 4A3


I was prying through my old lockers in the attic when I pulled out an old rusty trophy. After wiping the grime off the plaque of the trophy, I was greeted with the words 'Inter-class champions'. By those words alone, memories came flooding back to me in tidal waves. I felt that I was in a drift in time as I came to realise that I was reliving my memories first hand.

"Hey you alright?" my teammate asked me as I stood still daydreaming. I managed to break out from my trance as I heard the referee calling out to the next team. I got ready and ran out to the scorching field. I stood in position and prepared myself both mentally and physically while waiting for the referee to blow his whistle. "In the final match, maybe I will win something for once," I mused to myself. My train of thoughts were interrupted when the deafening sound of the whistle was sounded.

Immediately, both teams started to chase the ball in all directions. I stood there dumbfounded as I was practically standing in a warzone. I gathered my wits and ran towards the ball to support my team. Even though this was a game of football where every player should have a position to hold, the game was chaotic as all the players were running around like madmen and the referee did not look like he cared. After a long and tiring stalemate, I saw that the clock displayed half a minute remaining. That alone was enough to give me a last burst of energy as my teammate crossed over to me. It was do or die and against all odds, I scored as the clock ticked down to zero. It was unbelievable! I felt that I was in a daze as my teammates surrounded me and cheered me on. The teacher in-charge came over and headed me a beautiful shining trophy. I held it high in the air for everyone to see.

I stood there in the attic, blinking as reality crept back in. I gripped the base of the trophy harder, wishing to relive it all over again.

Mohamad Nur Rusydi
Class 4A3



“Your positive action combined with positive thinking results in success.” In other words, a positive mindset is one way to be successful. Well, if you want to be successful, maybe you can start by changing your mindset into a positive mindset. A little bit per day is the only way to make it through. Never feel that it cannot be done as it is proven that it can be done with persistent and consistent action. I for one, believe in having a positive mindset. That is how I succeeded.

Well, I completed Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) last year. It was hard but I have worked hard in achieving it. My heart was not sure about it, hearing horror stories from my seniors' experiences before me, making me ambiguous about my feelings even more after I stepped into my school the next day. “Am I going to survive in Outward Bound Singapore?” A thousand thoughts ran through my mind, as the camp day got closer. I cannot help but wonder if I should back out from this camp and walk back home. I never had experienced going away from my family more than 4 days and OBS camp was a 5 days 4 nights camp. This is because I am a homely person. I do not like outdoor activities, even going out with my friends take longer for me to decide. Then there was already no turning back. I had made a decision to go OBS.

During the camp, I did not believe that I will have great team members as I expected. Even if the camp was mixed with different schools and classes, I had a great team members as one of the members is a member that I was comfortable with from the start. We started with introducing ourselves and we played some games that will help us know more about our team members. “Yes, it a great start, I got a feeling that this camp going to be fun, as long as I have kind friends, I can.” I had that thought in my mind at that moment.

The first day was a great day. We did not do much activities but we started with some rules in the camp that everyone had to follow. As the days passed by, it got harder and harder. We had to kayak, trek and only eat can food like a normal camper always did which all my members and I were not used to it but it was something good. I get to experience something that I had not even thought about doing. I did cry during trekking. It was the hardest for me. I felt like giving up at that moment but thankfully my friends kept giving me the moral support and changed my mindset back into a positive one. When I realized it was last day of the camp, I was happy not because of going back home but because I managed to survive in the Outward Bound Singapore. A moment lasts all of second, but the memory lives on forever.

This to me is success. So do not wait for opportunity but create it!


Nur Shafikah
Class 4A3

“Your positive action combined with positive thinking results in success” - Shiv Khera. Success is achieved when an aim or purpose is met. Also, success can come in many forms. Success can be an accomplishment by a score or a goal. Also, success can be an ongoing journey towards a goal. My success story centres around getting recognition as a marksman in the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC).

NPCC has been my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) in the past two to three years. Every secondary two and three student has to go to the shooting range at the NPCC headquarters for target practice. Before we go to the shooting range, we have to do a marksman air soft by using air soft pistols and shooting cans. During these sessions we practice our aiming skills and marksman skills. The instructor will teach us the correct strategies and what to do and not to do in using the airsoft pistols. It was harder than I thought. The airsoft pistol is heavier than a normal pistol and also harder to shoot because the pistol keeps on jamming and destructing our aim.

During the real marksman’s test, my heart was racing and I was nervous because firstly we were using real pistols and real bullets, and everytime I fired a shot, the sound was deafening. Secondly, I was afraid that I would not get the role as a marksman. Before entering the shooting range, we were given a big sheet of a shooting target. When I entered the shooting range, the smell of gun powder was very strong. When shooting, the impact of the recoil of the pistol made me fall almost but luckily I was in a standing position which prevented me from falling. But in the end, I got used to the recoil and the loud sound. I was, also, given extra bullets of eight that gave me an advantage. The estimated points to make it as a marksman was twenty, and I got a point of twenty. I was satisfied with my marks but even happier with the bonus points that brought my total to twenty eight. It was sweet victory!

Ruzdy Effendy
Class 4A3



Success is the achievement of something that you have been trying to do. It comes from the satisfaction of making something work well or has the intended result. “It is not about perfection. It is about progression. When you bring that effort into your task every single day, transformation begins to happen. That’s how change occurs”- Jillian Michaels. I find this quote relevant because it reflects on how we put in the effort to put our school Band on the map at the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF).

We practiced our pieces tirelessly and hard for the Singapore Youth Festival competition every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. The rehearsals were intensive! We made sure that all pieces were played well. It was tiring because we had to listen attentively to our conductor and do whatever he says. It allowed us to learn from our mistakes and fine-tune our performance.

We were, thus, well prepared for the competition. We went in, sat down and played our pieces. After we played, we went outside the hall and sat down to hear what our conductor had to say. He was very happy with our performance. I felt that we had accomplished our goal. A few days later, we received news of our silver medal. Although it didn’t meet our expectations, we did our best to put forth our best performance ever.

Salve Sean Luis Tecarro
Class 4A4


A positive action combined with positive thinking results in success, a quote from Shiv Kera. Success is all about the achievement of something you have been trying to do.

In my previous yearbook write-up, success to me was about my academic results. However, for this year's book, I am going to write about success in regard to my character. My CCA has been the Girl Guides for the past four years of my Secondary School life. At first, my intention in joining the Girl Guides was that it was not going to be hectic. With the passing years, the love that I have for the Girl Guides has increased day by day. The Girl Guides has taught me many good values, helped improve my character and lastly taught me to be caring and loving towards each other.

The close bond that I have with my fellow Girl Guides is unforgettable. It has brought me closer to my CCA mates. It has become more than a friendship. It has taught me to accept them as my sisters. The Girl Guides has had a strong influence on me and has given me the values that I will carry into the future.

The last CCA graduating day was one of the toughest moments I have experienced. The Girl Guides has taught me so many things and has left many invaluable memories. The feeling of no longer being in the CCA that I have come to love the most is not easy for me. I promise to always cherish the memories and to never forget the values I have learnt and the bonds that I have developed. That is my success.

Subasri
Class 4A4



Success means achieving something that I want to accomplish. My success story is about an event that helped me become more public spirited. It was this year's Chinese New Year (CNY) Values-in-Action (VIA) project. It helped me gain more confidence when talking to the residents, and maintain a cheerful voice and friendly disposition.

Before we started the VIA project, I was quite anxious and shy to talk to the residents, but soon I gathered enough courage, and told myself that I could do it without any problem. Some of us were still feeling quite uncomfortable talking to the residents as some of us were not used to it. In my group of four, a few of us were very shy and not very willing to talk to the residents. After talking to a few residents and giving them the CNY gifts we had prepared, we managed to overcome our fear of talking to strangers. Their friendly smiles encouraged us to continue our interactions with them. Most seemed happy with our presence, and even gave us some goodies and CNY blessings. Some even wanted to give us red packets. These residents were kind and caring.

However, some were quite rude. They refused to open their doors or accept our gifts. "Good afternoon Sir! We are from Loyang View Secondary School and we are here to give you some gifts for Chinese New Year," my friend said. Right after he said that sentence, the resident nodded his head and closed the door on us without a single word of "Thank you". After that demoralizing treatment, I told my group mates not to feel discouraged as there were still many other residents who were kind to us.

The VIA project also helped me to learn to be more easygoing and I learnt how to maintain a cheerful voice and a friendly expression while talking to strangers or when giving strangers things. Initially, many residents did not believe that we were students from Loyang View Secondary School giving away CNY gifts to the residents for free. Many of them were doubtful. A few residents also thought that we wanted them to give us red packets in return for the gifts and were not willing to take them.

After much effort, we managed to convince them that we were from Loyang View Secondary School doing a VIA project and that we did not need anything in return. It was only after we convinced them that they took the gifts we prepared and thanked us for it.

This VIA project was truly an amazing one which engaged each of us and gave us a chance to do good deeds for the community. This was a big success for me and my success through this VIA project will definitely benefit me in the future when I am making new friends or when I join the workforce.

Chua Zhuo Hao
Class 4E2




What is success? In the Oxford dictionary, success is defined as the feeling of accomplishment towards an aim or purpose. Achieving fame, reputation or an outstanding image can also be a person's desired goals. However from my perspective, success is being able to voice your thoughts, being able to open yourself to others and having the ability to execute plans for the best of everyone

I have had only a few unforgettable memories in the 16 years of my life so far, but one of the most unforgettable positive experiences I can think of is my experience of achieving the role of being the class chairman. It is one of the most challenging experiences, because of how much I learnt from it. Approaching this role as a first timer was also considerably time consuming but the experience was that much sweeter.

Two months ago, during the 2018 December holidays, I planned to contest in the next election for the role of class chairman. I had plenty of ideas to improve the class unity and dignity. My plans ranged from helping my classmates individually to voice their opinions and doubt. I had always believed in the spirit of helping each other in the class. I thought it would be a smooth sailing "administration" once I grabbed hold of the chairman's position.

One month ago, on the very first day of school, I decided to contest in the election for the role. At that time, with a heavy heart, I was fearful of the challenges and embarrassment I would face if I lost the election miserably. Cold sweat start forming on my palms but with trembling hands, and clenching my black long pants, I stood before the whole class, waiting for them to vote for their chairman. "Raise your hands if you are in favour of Nicus," my form teacher said. I saw only a few raised hands but I was uncertain how many. The whole class went silent after the voting process; the suspense was killing me!



My form teacher told us to get ready for the final results. By a puny margin surpassing the other runner up candidate just by three votes, I had won! My form teacher announced that I would be the chairman. Although I had a wide grin on my face, deep down in my heart I knew it was not going to be an easy task. The fact that I had won by a small margin made me realize that almost half of the class was not really in favour of me becoming their chairperson.

In my two months as class chairman, I have understood my classmates' needs and tried to ensure that everyone is able to enjoy learning with each other. But not everything would be smooth sailing. I tried carrying out different plans and realized it was not favourable to everyone and certain issues that were raised cannot be tackled due to restrictions. Not being able to meet the needs of my classmates stressed me out. It was not all gloom and doom though. I was able to solve certain issues like misunderstandings between friends and the student management team. The issue was the very first case I manage to successfully handle, through speaking out and clearing the misunderstanding. The origin of the issue was just a small case: my friends were playing with one another and they started shouting. However, the teachers from the school discipline team misunderstood and thought that a fight may break out if such acts were to continue, so they were sent to the Student Management (SM) room. I went to the SM Room to tell the discipline masters the whole story and assure them that it was just a misunderstanding. As a result, they were allowed to attend lessons. This is one case, I vividly remember succeeding at mediating on behalf of my classmates.

In conclusion, I believe that more can be done to improve the class atmosphere. I will try my best!

Nicus Ting
Class 4E2




SOCIAL CONFIDENT

I was picked to be a foot soldier in our school's English drama production, and I was supposed to perform in front of a lot of people. However, I was overcome by stage fright so I asked the teacher if I could be excused from performing.

However, my teacher did not allow me to drop out so I was forced to perform. I was scared and I didn't want to but my friends and teacher said that I must learn to not be afraid of performing on a stage.

Therefore, I tried out the part. Instead of it being scary, it turned out to be fun. Going through with the drama production had taught me not to be afraid to perform on stage.

Ang Wei Cheng
Class 1A1



Every Friday, I was happy to be going back home but every time, there were enrichment classes. I felt lazy to attend these classes. Surprisingly, the drama enrichment class was an eye-opener. The drama instructor made the class interesting. Hence, every Friday I looked forward to attending the class.

The drama instructor was a kind and beautiful teacher and every time we answered the questions correctly or performed with effort, she would reward us. She always made it interesting by rewarding us. Sometimes, she would get us to play games.

Although at times I feel bored of sitting in a circle and listening to her, she made it fun so that we would concentrate. We would always participate because the activities that she planned always made us feel the joy of drama.

By the last day of the drama enrichment class, we had learnt a lot about drama and about courage. At the end of the class, it was our turn to perform on our own in front of an audience. I now felt more confident about performing.

Hasbih Iman Bin Muhammad Hasan
Class 1A1


This year, I entered Loyang View Secondary School and there were a lot of activities and events planned. After the first two weeks of school, the Secondary one students had to put up a drama performance. I was excited, not because I loved drama but more so that it would help me to speak confidently in front of a large audience. Having stage fright was my worst fear and I wanted to overcome it.

My drama team had to rehearse for months because some of my team mates could not memorise their lines. Also, we had to do a drama test. Luckily, I could memorise the lines easily after a few weeks. When the day of the drama test came, I felt nervous as I was afraid that I would pause in the middle of a sentence. I had put in a lot of effort to remember my lines and I wanted to do well.

Fortunately, I breezed through the test. My other group members were not so lucky. They had to do their lines again. All these constant training sessions were part of the build up to the actual drama performance. So, our efforts in learning the lines were not in vain.

When the day of the actual drama performance arrived, we had our seniors as the audience to watch my team's act. I was fortunate to have very few speaking lines but those were important ones as they set the tone of the play. I was slated to act as one of the children, together with Hariz. Somehow, the two of us clicked and our sibling roles never failed to liven up the performance. On the final night, we gathered at the hall and danced the finale. Our drama production ended on a high note. All of us were very proud of our performance. This event made me change my feelings towards drama because I realized that I loved to make people laugh, and I especially loved doing drama with my friends.

Muhammad Hazim Bin Samsidi
Class 1A1



“Every success starts with failure.” That is the thought that I have daily. When I started ballet classes in kindergarten, I messed up most of the moves. However as the years passed, I started to improve.

Then primary school came and I did dance as my co-curricular activity (CCA) and continued with ballet. I then quit dance in Primary 2 but joined back in Primary 3. However, ever since joining dance officially in Primary 3, I have continued all the way to Primary 6. Unfortunately, I had to quit ballet in Primary 5 due to the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE). Sometimes in between dance practices, I would feel like quitting as it was hard work and I would always reach home only at 5:30 pm. Also I had to overcome my tiredness to complete my homework.

I apparently improved as my dance teacher and school teachers encouraged me to continue to dance once I was out of primary school. My school counsellor told me to find a school that had dance as a CCA. That was one reason I went to Loyang View Secondary School. Another reason I came to Loyang View was because my primary school teacher had called my dad to put Loyang View as one of my choices for secondary school as she had once studied there and felt that it was a good school.

In Secondary school, I chose dance as my first choice for CCA and got shortlisted for it. However, dance in secondary school is way harder than primary school but I have been able to manage it. I am glad my parents signed me up for ballet when I was in kindergarten or else I would not have chosen dance as my CCA.

Isabelle Tan
Class 1A1


What is the definition of success? Success is the accomplishment of an aim or purpose or the achievement of a desired goal. My current goal, aim or purpose is to finish writing this story. Sadly, I have no clue how to.

Greetings, my name is Lara. I am an average girl who wears a jacket wherever I go, rain or shine. It actually feels cools. This is probably the reason why many of my friends do not see me sweat. Going back to the story, I thought that writing this story would be easy. But I was wrong. I was out of ideas, and so there I was, writing on the sofa, in front of the television while I was being spammed on the phone placed next to me. "I guess I could write about my tiny accomplishments?" I told myself. Oh boy, where do I start?

"Aha! You're a scary cat! Why are all the boys so scared? Scary cat!", I shouted to my friend from across the field. I remember the friend to be a real scary cat. My friends and I did not really like him, despite that, we all played together. "I'm not scared! The ball was fast!", our chubby friend shouted back. Then my best friends, Elly and Qyara, showed up. They were fun to be around. Qyara then told me "We shouldn't be playing now. We have a competition to win!". I nodded and followed them to their "Super-Secret Hangout Place Thingy", leaving our chubby friend behind in the field.

There were three girls and four boys in the competition. I ran as fast as I could. As I drew closer to the finish line, my heartbeat became very loud. I was getting tired. A whistle blew to announce the end of the competition. It turned out that I had passed the finish line in first place without realising it! I had won a gold medal which I wore with pride. When I got home, I showed it to my mother. She was really proud and she hugged me. We were both happy. Now that I think about it, I do not think that I have made my mother any prouder since that day.

The next story takes place when I was about nine years old. I had transferred to a different primary school, along with my younger siblings. I was nervous, partly because most of the people in my class looked older than me. Within a few minutes of class activities though I had made friends! Everyone was nice and friendly. My goal in school was usually to have good grades. However, for this year, my goal was to have a best friend!



During a mother tongue field trip, all the primary four Malay classes went on a field trip near the Esplanade. In another class, there was a new girl. I decided to introduce myself to her. I made dumb jokes that cracked her up. We did not see each other often as we were in different classes. But as the year passed, we were put in the same class. We became good friends. All was good, I had many friends but average marks. Everything was fine until she started drifting away. I did not want to lose her, so I tried my best to not talk too much. I started feeling like a third wheel whenever my best friend was with a group of girls. She started getting angry and annoyed easily. I heard from some of my friends that she did not want to be my friend anymore. I was worried but kept my cool. The only time I talked to her was when I texted her about school. Then, one day, she decided to ask me about a fair in the canteen. She asked me if I wanted to come along. You know what my answer was.

“Oh, look at that loom band! I want it!” I told my best friend as I tugged on her sleeve jokingly. She had been saving her money to buy a book. I did not realise that she had taken me seriously. She stomped to the loom bands section, paid for the one that I had stared at and handed it to me. Then she left the canteen. I felt so guilty. Luckily, she did not make a big deal out of it. I still remember what she said to me when I asked her if she was mad at me. She said, “It’s okay. I didn’t need the book. Just take care of the loom band, don’t lose it. We’re best friends forever!” We are not best friends, we are super best friends! I still wear the loom band to this day.

I am finally done with my success story! Now, I can go to sleep. However, something does not feel right. It is like I have not succeeded in finishing my story. Maybe my goal was not to just finish the story. I think my goal was to write about how grateful I am. I think I now know how to end the story.

What is the definition of success? The accomplishment of an aim or purpose. However, I have learnt that successful people have failed before. It is a matter of learning from your mistakes and applying the lessons learnt. I try my best every day to remember that as I believe that it will help set me on the path to success.

Sharifah Presya Larasati
Class 1A1


When I joined Loyang View Secondary School, my first aim was to join the Dance Versity, because in primary school I had been in the dance ensemble. I went for the dance trials and had to do a simple choreography so that the teacher could choose who would get into the CCA. I was surprised but pleased to be selected.

For our first session, we did a lot of bonding games to get to know each other better. We also learnt a lot of basics like rotating our shoulders, stretching and much more. Suddenly there was an announcement that we were going to perform for Commendation Day. We were all very nervous and excited at the same time. We had to learn this dance within one month. It was not that easy.

The date of the performance was getting closer and the instructor had to put us in the different positions. The day performance arrived, and we had to leave early from class to assemble at the computer laboratory to do our hair and make-up. We had an early dinner but most of us could barely eat. Our nerves were tight and we had to constantly remind ourselves to keep calm. As our performance was only at 7 pm, we decided to rehearse one more time. Most of us had butterflies in our stomach though some of the others were ok.

When it was nearly 7 pm, we gathered at the backstage to get ready. As I got on the stage for the first time in secondary school, I felt scared and almost fainted. However, while I was dancing, my anxiety melted away. I was confident and did not make any wrong moves. When I got off the stage, I felt really proud of myself for doing my best in the performance. Now I eagerly await the next dance performance.

Nasya Fitrysha Binti Muhamad Shafie
Class 1A1



One Friday afternoon, I was walking to school for my drama enrichment programme. I was not really that excited because I disliked acting although I was happy to do it with my friends.

While I was walking past the canteen, I saw some unfamiliar faces. I guessed that they were the drama instructors. When the programme was about to start, a teacher walked in with a smile. My friend whispered to me that the person who walked in was our drama instructor.

First, she went through the basics of drama and whoever answered her questions correctly would get a candy. After that, we were asked to act. I was nervous at first but realised that it was just my friends that I was performing for, so it became less frightening. In the end, it was fun watching my friends bring their stories alive.

After a few weeks, our English teacher took over the drama programme. This was in preparation for the upcoming performance in July that involved the Secondary one students.

After many weeks of practice, it was finally time for the actual event. We had to perform to a different audience. I was nervous but as my role was just to be the narrator, I did not feel as stressed as my fellow teammates. However, when I saw the audience in front of me, I started to breathe deeply to calm myself down. As I was the first on stage and responsible for setting the stage, I knew I had to do it right. I gave it my best starting line and this was followed by my teammates' performance.

After the performance, I was happy to finally go home and have a long nap. My self-confidence had certainly been boosted. Hopefully, I will now be brave enough to take on other challenges in the future.

Shaqiff Hazeeq Bin Shaffiq
Class 1A1


Confidence is a key to success in our lives; we can't be shy or we would lose it. After I had enrolled in my new school, I felt nervous just looking at the names of students in my class because I was not ready to meet them. My father was disappointed with Loyang View Secondary School because he did not want me mixing with wrong company. I remember the day when I got my examination results, my father was not happy with my t-scores because they were too low, and it would be difficult for me to find a school of my choice. I felt that I had let us down. My confidence disappeared, and I was afraid to make my own choices because I did not know if it was right or wrong.

On the first day of school, I was confused and lost. We had a bonding session in the hall. We had to introduce ourselves and I was pretty nervous because I was scared that I would humiliate myself in front of everybody. Everybody was friendly, of course, as it was the first day of school.

Days passed and I got a little bit more confident. Sometimes my friends don't understand my problems and we quarrel with each other. After getting the Co-curricular Activity (CCA) allocation results, I was pretty upset that I had been placed in the Girl Guides (GG). I wanted to join Netball because I thought it would make me popular in school. I cried a lot and a few people laughed at me. I know it appeared funny to some people but sometimes we need to understand what others are going through. However, I did not let that stop me from enjoying my CCA and I am proud to be a Girl Guide now. I was shy at first but after getting to know all the girls in GG, I feel like they are my sisters. I was shocked that I could talk to people who are new. Sometimes I feel that I need to make a change in my attitude. I had some problems with my friends lately but I am confident enough not to care if they want to say bad things about me.

One day, my classmates invited me to celebrate Hari Raya together. I did not expect that to happen because they were not very close to me. I am fine now because I have close friends. I have grown in confidence. I can do anything I want because no matter what people say about me, I can ignore negative comments as there is always a positive side to everything.

Aisyah Umairah Bte Sukoor Muhammad
Class 1A2



Ever since the first day of school, in primary 6, I started to feel extremely shy and awkward, and that was because I was actually absolutely terrified. My grades deteriorated as I suffered from anxiety attacks. I did not have the motivation to go to school every day. I skipped school as often as I could.

At that time, I felt like I was not treated well or taken care of properly and I was being blamed for getting lousy grades for tests or exams. During my primary school days, I did not really have a lot of friends who understood my situation. They went around telling their friends about my condition. However, my parents would always support me no matter what happened as they wanted me to be a successful person.

I asked my parents how I would manage in a Secondary School. Life would be completely different when I am in another school. School would be harder, and rules, stricter. However, when secondary school started, I turned over a new leaf. I started going to school every day, and paying attention in class attentively. The discipline helped me achieve good grades.

I had promised myself to be a new person in secondary school. It was hard, but I knew I could do it if I persevered.

I would like to thank my family members for helping me throughout my primary school days. I'm always struggling with everything and I don't do the right things. I will make sure I will strive to do my best when I am in secondary school.


Elly Ufairah Binte Roslan
Class 1A2

On 1 January 2013, I became a Primary 1 student. I was so afraid to go to school as I was alone and my parents were not with me. I was not a sociable person who was very excited to make new friends. I always had trouble making friends as it was hard to start a conversation with strangers. We gathered in the hall to go to our classes with our teachers. I was so afraid that I cried because my parents were not with me.

A few years later, however, I made more friends. I had a few best friends named Amanda, Dyan and Sumayya. They also helped me to conquer my fear of making new friends whenever I felt nervous. When I graduated from primary school and started Secondary One, I felt that I had actually made myself confident enough to talk to someone and make friends with them. When other people are having the same feelings as me, I will help them by teaching them to be confident and believing in themselves.

Now, I'm in Secondary 1. I have become much more confident. I'm not a shy person anymore. I am more talkative, and I have shared with others what my life was like when I was in primary school. Confidence can make you feel better as you are able to help others. When I was in Secondary 1, I tried to help most of my friends to not be afraid of making friends. For example, I helped my friend, Dini, not to be afraid or shy when making friends. She became more confident and made more friends.

Hilwah Binte Mohamad Zulkifli
Class 1A2



What is success to me? Success is achieving happiness for yourself and others. I do not have anything that I can really call a success, but there is one thing that is close to it, my Art.

I have had this hobby for a while now and I love doing it. I remember that I would bring a big sketchbook to Chinese tuition, get a pencil, and just start drawing. I drew people, animals and other things till it was time to leave or the teacher got mad about something. I still have that sketchbook to this day and can see how much I have developed my art just by scribbling a few things. Of course when I see them, I cringe. Although I loved doing it, I lost my motivation at one stage. There were people who would ask me to teach them how to draw, but I would just panic and do nothing to actually help them, which made them kind of mad at me. Apparently, my little brother looked up to my Art and decided to draw too. He used my pens until he bought his own from Popular bookstore, though he sometimes steals mine.

I have now managed to get paid to draw for people, so I am basically doing commissioned work. Right now, my art is pretty decent, and I am happy with it, but still I have to practice and try new things. This is my success story.

Leanda Jheraymiel Odviar
Class 1A2

Success has always been a big part of me in school. Ever since Primary school, I have been a leader or to make it simpler a class chairperson. I have upheld the duties of a chairperson and I was awarded with three medals and a trophy for character excellence.

Ever since entering Secondary school, I thought maybe I should carry on being a leader. Coincidentally, I was chosen as my class chairperson. I knew that more work was coming my way.


After four months as class chairperson, it felt good to do some meaningful work for the class such as updating the file and signing in for the class key. I was recognised as being the most responsible person in the class. Even when I had to keep up with school work and daily life, I really enjoyed being the class chairperson.

Being class chairperson requires discipline and being responsible. As time passed, I discovered more values and responsibilities to uphold. A class chairperson had to participate in various events such as Youth Day, Teachers Day and more. In secondary school, my vice-chairperson was a mischievous student. He was the kind that curses a lot and does a lot of misdeeds. I could not tolerate this so I decided to report it to the school's disciplinary team.

Hoping to be a better class leader, the teacher-in-charge of Class Chairpersons organised a meeting for all chairpersons to improve their work attitude and their studies.

Hence, success is a big part of me. I am honoured to be a class leader and I am willing to serve my class and importantly the school.

Muhamad Nafiz
Class 1A2



When I was young, I longed for a trophy. I did not have one then, but my mother was a member of a community club which let me participate in events. Then one day, my mother told me to join the Art contest.

The Art contest had 20 people participating all of the 20 would be in a room in the community club. As a short Primary one student, the place looked huge to me. I looked around and then sat at an empty seat. We were supposed to draw a playground with kids playing. I did not really know how to draw but I wanted to win a trophy. We were given ample time and when they made an announcement to put our materials down, I put down my colour pencils. I finished my drawing just in time. The organisers collected the art pieces. I saw some of the drawings when it was being collected. They looked like dream playgrounds which made me think why I had not drawn that as well. But time was already up. I had done my best and I hoped that the judges liked it.

I went to sit with my parents and told them what I had drawn. Later, an announcement was made, saying that the results were out. I was on the verge of biting my nails. My mother was squeezing my hand so hard that it actually hurt. All I wanted was a trophy. Gold, silver, bronze did not matter to me. They announced the name of the person in 1st place. It was not me but a girl that sat next to me. She drew a really nice dream playground which I had to admit was creative. I congratulated her as she sat down with her parents. I started to feel that I would not stand a chance anymore but that changed when they called out the name for 2nd place. I heard my name. I was ecstatic! I heard people clapping. I felt happy and proud that I had succeeded in getting the silver prize which waiting for me on stage.

Shajitha
Class 1A2

“All Dreams Are Crazy Until You Make Them True.” This is a quote by Dirk Nowitzki, one of the best shooters in the National Basketball Association (NBA). What does this quote tell me? It tells me that I am able to achieve my dream and I that I should stop at nothing!

I love basketball. It is my favourite sport and I aspire to be like the NBA All-Star, Kevin Durant who played for the Seattle Supersonics and the Oklahoma City Thunder. He is currently with the Golden State Warriors. Everyday I think to myself, “Oh, how I wish I had his talent.” But I know my dreams cannot happen just like that. So I trained very hard by myself every single day. When I came to Loyang View Secondary School, I heard that there was a basketball team. So I gave it a try.


I got in the co-curricular activity (CCA) but not in the school team. A few of my friends got in the school team but I did not. I tried my best to get my coach to put me in the team but it did not work as I was not good enough. I pondered to myself, “Why can’t I get better?” I continued to train really hard. Every single day, I would put on my shoes, grab my ball and train. I could instead have stayed home and watched the NBA on television but watching would not help much. I trained harder than before. I sacrificed my television and playtime to train. I asked for just one game. Just one chance to give it my best.

There were some things that kept me down. People called me names like “Travel King” or “The Airballer”. Sometime they would say that I cannot dribble and that I cannot drive to the basket. They said that I was the only trash player in the team while everybody else was good. So I asked myself why I continued to I do it. It was because I loved the game! So I did not give up. I continued to do my best. Then the time came for my first game. It was Loyang View against Temasek.

We lost the match with Temasek. But I was happy as I had achieved my goal to play for the school team and also to have been able to play the game with my friends.

So I am ending with this quote again. “All dreams are crazy until you make them true.”

Shane Sim
Class 1A2



Before I came to Loyang View Secondary School, I was a very quiet and lonely girl. I would sit alone at recess breaks and did not have a partner during physical education class. I was basically the girl without any friends. Throughout my six years in primary school, I did not have many long-lasting friendships, and coming to secondary school, I was not expecting much.

On the first day of secondary school, I arrived at school with my headphones plugged into my mobile phone. I was standing near the canteen, slouching against the wall, busy scrolling through Spotify looking for new songs. Then I noticed a peculiar-looking girl. She had long, brown hair tied in a ponytail. She looked at me and smiled. For some reason, I smiled back at her. She had this likeable vibe that instantly caught my attention. I went up to her and talked to her. I found out that she was very much like me, someone who was used to being on her own. Her name was Jasmine. We were both lacking in social confidence. After that first encounter, the two of us were inseparable, even though we were not in the same class. Surprisingly, I became more sociable, and even managed to make friends within my own class.

From this experience, I learnt a very valuable lesson which was that sometimes a person has to step out of his or her comfort zone to overcome their fears. I believe that if I was able to do it, anyone could too.


Lim Zhi Hui Kayla
Class 1E1

When I first stepped into Loyang View, I was scared to interact with anyone. The only people I knew there from my primary school were Kayla and Nadia. However, Nadia was not assigned to the same class as I was.

By the second day of the orientation camp, I began to gain a little confidence from the previous day when we played a lot of bonding games as a class. I felt that I was ready to start making new friends. During the hiking activity, I managed to make some new friends namely Alya, Miqhaila and Darwisyah. After that day, we started spending a lot of time together.

Five months have passed since our first meeting, and they are the friends who have been by my side all this time. I am really thankful to them for that. Although we had misunderstandings from time to time, we always managed to resolve our differences. I feel that I have become more confident in myself because of their friendship, and this has led me to make even more friends. I am looking forward to spending the rest of my secondary school life with them.

Zara Tanisyah Binte Ismadi
Class 1E1



On the first day of school, I was very nervous and perspiring especially on my face and hands. As it was my first day, I walked into the hall to see so many strangers except for one. Yasmin. She and I came from the same primary school and the same class. I was shocked and relieved to see her there.

On the first day, the class had some bonding activities, and the first ever friend that I made was Jazlynn. She was very kind. I got to know her better as the next day, we had to stay in school overnight. We had so much fun and it felt like we had known each other for a long time. In the morning, we went hiking. We were all so worn out and it started to rain in the middle of our hike. We had to share umbrellas because some of us didn't bring any. It was quite memorable walking in the rain with Jazlynn, and huddling under an umbrella with my classmates. Once we reached school, we had our lunch and headed back to class.

When we were back in class, we had to create a unique class cheer and learn how to do the Loyang View Secondary School Mass (LVSS) Dance. The boys in my class were not participating except for Syuqree and Umar. The boys had to be talked to by our teacher before they started to participate.

We took hours to perfect the dance and the cheer till we were satisfied with what we did. It was finally dinner time and we were all starving from our mass dance practice. Once we were done with our dinner, we were briefed on what was going to happen and we even got our own orientation shirt. We excitedly took our shirt and dashed to the toilet to change into them.

We had butterflies in our stomach and I was nervous about how we were going to perform in the dance. But I was even more nervous about the cheer because Alfi, our Chairman was very good in beat boxing and we all agreed to let him start the cheer first. When our class got called out, I could see that we were all so nervous. We did the LVSS Mass Dance first, and then we gave the 'cheer' the best that we could and ended up doing pretty well. The beginning of the cheer took everyone by surprise. They were shocked to see Alfi beatboxing. I cannot forget the expression on everyone's faces!

At the end of the day, I made a lot of new friends and learnt how to speak up for myself because I am usually a timid person who sometimes gets taken advantage of. But now, I shall never be a timid person anymore and strive to be better in the future. LVSS has made me become a more socially confident person with a passion for learning.

Amirah Syakirah
Class 1E2


It was my first day in Loyang View Secondary School. We were going on a hike as a bonding activity. I didn't really know anyone from my class as many of my good friends went to other schools. And when my teacher told us to find a partner, I was by myself as there was an odd number of students in the class. Sitting in the bus alone felt quite boring. Normally, it would be very noisy but not today. It was very quiet and full of unfamiliar faces.

When we arrived at our destination, we got off the bus. And I was alone. Again. But once we started the hike, I started talking to people and made friends with them. But, I made a friend during the short break in between the hike. When I first saw him, I thought he was a weird guy. But after I got to know him, he turned out to be quite nice. We started sharing our experiences in primary school. He's my best friend now. We go to recess and out for lunch together. And through him, I got to know more people, mostly his friends from his primary school.

During the sleep over, we slept side by side with his other friend who became my close friend. The hall was very stuffy and the amount of dust accumulated during the school holidays was gross. The floor was hard but somehow, we still managed to get a few hours of sleep while our other friends slept through the whole night.

The next morning was our last day of bonding activities. We had lots of fun and the most important thing is that I made many new friends.

Yeo Bing Yi
Class 1E2



It was my secondary one orientation camp. I was nervous as there were so many unfamiliar faces. My friends in my primary school, had advised me that I needed to smile more in front of my new classmates, my fellow schoolmates and teachers. They told me that I looked scary if I did not smile, and that it made me hard to approach. With that in mind, I followed their advice and smiled more in front of everyone. At some point, I smiled so much, people thought I was crazy.

After the briefing, the student leaders organised ice breaking games for us to bond with the unfamiliar faces in our class. Every other class got into their circles and had already begun playing the games that got them closer, unlike my class. My classmates were all shy and did not really talk much to those who were unfamiliar. They stuck to those who were familiar and ignored the student leaders trying to make us all get along.

The student leaders tried their best to persuade us to open up and break the ice between us and their hard work eventually paid off. But the games they made us play to break the ice were really silly. We really did not want to continue playing the game but the teacher threatened us by saying how we needed to know all our classmates' names before tea break. So, we were not left with any other choice but to play along since we were all hungry and wanted to have our snacks.

We made use of the remaining time to get to know each other's names and know each other better before our break time arrived.

I still remember the day vividly being forced to remember everyone's names. Today, I know everyone in my class and, frankly speaking, I can't stop talking to some of them!


Chew Jie Xuan
Class 1E2

Hmm... let me think...It was my first day of school. I was very nervous and scared. Then I realized that I had two friends I knew,Alfi and Haazim. I knew Alfi from the same swimming lessons that we attended, and I knew Haazim from the same religious studies class. I finally found my first friend, Naufal, while playing a game called 'splat'. He was very kind actually. Then when the circle got smaller, I got to know more people like, Iskandar, Bing Yi, Umar, Amory and so on. Gradually, I ended up getting to know the whole class. The feeling of knowing everyone by their names was great as I could finally make friends with my classmates!

The student councillors (SC) were fun, energetic and exciting. Kieran was one of them and he was so funny and dynamic. Geneve was another who was filled with surprises and care. Quraishah looked like she was ready for a marathon. Sumayyah was a kind leader of the Student Council in our class. Erwin was the first ever Student Councillor I actually met. We had a chat about some games which I didn't know about like (PUBG, Minecraft, ect). The Student Councilors were very funny, and now I meet Kieran and Geneve every Tuesday and Thursday for CCA.

LVSS is a fun place to learn and be in. I enjoy my CCA and the friends that I have made here.

Elhan Shariq
Class 1E2



One of my most significant memories of Secondary 1 life in Loyang Valley Secondary School was of the Secondary 1 camp. For me, my friends made the memories significant. Our first activity together was the hike at Mount Faber but it started to rain unexpectedly. The sound of the pitter patter of rain became more and more audible as we kept walking. It got louder and louder. Everyone started making a fuss. The teacher screaming was of no good as everyone's focus was to find a shelter. Fortunately, after walking for a few minutes, we came across a shelter. After wearing our poncho, we were supposed to continue our hike in the rain. However, one of my classmates did not bring his poncho. Fortunately, one of my friends shared a poncho with him. I burst out laughing looking at them because they looked like two chickens with no heads walking. It was a strange sight to behold.

As we continued our walk, I felt so tired. With the words of encouragement from my friends, I continued the walk with all my energy. I felt so overwhelmed with their support.

When we headed back to school, my stomach started to grumble. Fortunately, we were going to have our meal soon. I sat on the bench in the canteen together with my classmates. It was silent. So I decided to break the ice. As soon as we got our food, I started off by saying, "Let's eat!" All of a sudden, everybody started cheering. I was pleasantly surprised by their reaction. While we ate everybody started having conversations with each other. We made use of the time to talk about our families and our likes and dislikes. It was a great meal after all.

In a nutshell, the time we spent together, on that day, hiking and dining will always be etched in my mind. I realized also that food connects everyone.

Haazim
Class 1E2

As a Loyang View Secondary School student, I learnt many different skills, both in the academics and in Co-Curricular Activities (CCA). When I first stepped foot into this school during its open house, I just had a feeling that my future would unfold in positive ways. There were so many different facilities here which I had no access to in my primary school. It was a pleasant surprise.


I remember, how I felt that morning before school. I dragged myself out of bed to have a shower. I dreaded what was to come, but of course I could not do anything about it. On the way to school, I felt absolutely lost. I remember walking between the foyer and canteen. I was expecting to be met with hostility. So, I prayed not to meet bullies and I hoped to see a familiar face. Fortunately, I found a friend, but we were nowhere close to being comfortable. Morning assembly felt different and walking to class felt weird. It was all different. Of course, I had to adapt. My new classmates proved to be interesting. I was happy to meet them and open to growing an ever-lasting bond of friendship. Then came the camp.

Well, I wasn't excited. Not at all. Every time there is a camp, I would have no chance of getting a proper shower. However, I ended up having an amazing experience hiking outdoors. I'd say, it was a way to build up my stamina for secondary school life. After the hike, we had a nice lunch to replenish our 'dead souls' and head back to class to practice the Loyang View mass dance. It was one of my favourite activities! The song was very catchy, which is a reason why I was excited to dance. Even though there were issues and a group of boys misbehaved, my class and I overcame it. We had the campfire. Believe it or not, we had a blast. After dancing in front of the whole secondary one cohort and some of their parents, we had pizza! I wasn't hungry, so, sadly it was a wasted opportunity for me to eat free pizza. The camp ended on a good note and I began liking this school.

Second week came, and it was CCA trials time. My goal was to get into the Air Rifle Club but I struggled to even carry it. You needed steady hands to fire the shots. I felt really frustrated. Floorball was not an option as I thought I was too short. But strangely, I got into the basketball team later.

Overall, this school gave me opportunities to be a wholesome, confident and responsible individual.

Iskandar
Class 1E2



I will always remember my first day at Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS), and the secondary one orientation camp.

On my way to school, I kept perspiring profusely, and for some reason my heart kept beating fast. It was an anxiety attack. When I got to school, I realised that I did not recognise anybody. It was a good thing as I did not want to meet anybody from my previous school. I used to be quite timid in my primary school and was bullied. But I hoped to learn to be more confident and outspoken in my new school.

I was quiet at first and it was pretty uncomfortable. After a while, the class got to interact with each other. We got to know everyone's name but I was still alone as everybody was either in pairs or in a group.

This has gone on long enough I thought, I had to break out of my shell. I decided to talk to a girl as she too seemed lonely. I mustered up the courage to say 'hi'. The girl I talked to was Nurin. We eventually became friends, we liked the same things and had the same opinion on things.

On the second day, I had made more friends. They were all very nice and welcoming and so were the student councillors. After interacting with my classmates for two to three days, I liked how they were loud and friendly.

Furthermore, the orientation camp helped me to be more outgoing and confident. I am still very good friends with my classmates and even have best friends, Yasmin and Amirah!

I have grown to love my secondary school life so far. I will strive to be the best I can be in the future. LVSS has made me more socially confident and has given me a passion for learning.


Jazlynn
Class 1E2

It was a beautiful day. I woke up feeling excited because it was the first day of secondary school. I woke up and quickly got dressed into my new school uniform and left the house. When I reached school, I felt a bit nervous to see so many unfamiliar faces. I tried finding my way to the canteen. I finally found the canteen and saw my primary school friend. I walked up to him and we walked towards the hall where we needed to assemble. When we arrived, we both stopped in our tracks to see a large number of students congregated in the hall. It was so crowded, we did not know where to sit. After looking around for about a minute, we finally found our class and went to sit with them. We did the normal routine in the morning which was the same as the one in primary school. Once finished, we were finally able to start the fun part.

First, they started off by introducing us to the student councillors who would be taking us through the next 3 days of camp. After that, we played games. The objective of those games were for us to bond with each other and know each other's names. After about an hour or so, we were finally able to have our lunch and I was starving! Once we got our food which comprised biscuits and drinks, I ate like a pig. I even asked my friend if I could have his. I actually forgot what happened after lunch but I think we had a school tour. The school was bigger than I expected. I knew that I would get lost in this school everyday. The school was definitely a maze to me. The tour lasted for about half an hour. We went back to the hall to continue our second set of games.

Through the games, I have learnt to open up and speak to others in my class. Today, I can proudly say that I have too many friends in Loyang View Secondary School!

Nayli
Class 1E2



I had a very memorable experience during the Secondary One orientation camp!

I was thrilled and nervous at the fact that it was my first day of school. When I first reached the hall, my mind went completely blank. I broke into a sweat. My heart pounded, and my hand began to feel clammy against my bouncing knee. I forced myself to move from my spot so I could stop causing unwanted attention upon myself. Fortunately, I caught a glimpse of my class in the front. I briskly walked towards my designated location and yanked out my story book I brought to start my silent reading. I looked up just to take a quick glance at my classmates and recognized some familiar faces from my primary school.

A voice interrupted me from my reading. We were introduced to our form teacher and student councillors who would be our guides throughout the day. They were really friendly and pleasant! I was quite grateful to have them as they were trying to soothe my uneasiness as it was written all over my face. All the tension disappeared as soon as they encouraged us to participate in some games. These games were supposed to help us to recognise and remember my classmate's names. We also had to play other games which I really enjoyed. I mustered enough courage and started conversing with some of my classmates. We got along pretty quickly which was extremely surprising because I have always thought making friends was difficult. I mean, it was extremely awkward at first but those feelings disappeared. Afterwards, the student councillors taught us the school's mass dance. It was quite unique how we had our very own school dance. I was thrilled and the steps were easy to follow. It was a heartfelt moment. It was mind-blowing to see some people dancing to the school's mass dance flawlessly. Although I messed up a lot of steps, I had an enjoyable time! I thought the day was over when we had to walk to our class. I was barely functioning. I was restless and I was craving for some food.

When I reached our class, the student councillors told us about the campfire the next day and how we had to prepare a cheer. We all procrastinated because we wanted to do amazingly well. After lots of procrastination, we decided on a cheer. I could feel a wave of satisfaction flowing through me. Finally, the day had ended and we had to prepare to go to sleep. I placed my sleeping bag in the music room. I was grateful that we would be sleeping in an air-conditioned room. We had to share the music room with some classes but I was scared to socialise with students from different classes. I grabbed my necessities and went to the toilet. My mouth hung wide open when I saw how long the queue was. It was quite unfair and selfish how some people took their time to bathe, leisurely. Some of us were upset.

I finally got to bathe and by the time I did, it was already ten. I rushed back to the music room as the school looked quite scary at night. I placed my sleeping bag near the friends I made that day. Some of the girls from other classes were talking loudly while the others were trying their best to sleep. It didn't take any effort for me to fall asleep.


I was awakened by my friends, they were rushing me to get up so we could be the first to shower. We were practically sprinting to the nearest toilet. Fortunately, the queue wasn't long. I didn't waste any time as soon as I stepped inside the shower stalls.

That day, I was just too tired to hike, I continuously woke up in the middle of the night. Maybe, the hike would help me bond with my class. I dreaded when I noticed that it would be a long and tiring day. While we were hiking, it suddenly started to drizzle. I didn't bring my poncho or umbrella because I didn't think it would rain. I guessed I shouldn't have thought that way. Lucky for me, my friend offered to share her umbrella with me. I smiled and thanked her. I wasn't completely soaked but it was nice sharing an umbrella with her. We got to be even closer than before.

By the time we reached the top, it stopped raining. The view was absolutely breathtaking. I wished I had my phone with me to capture the view. It was all worth it for this view. All the classes took turns taking pictures, with a huge tree in the background. It was our very first picture together as a class. The bus came to pick us up from our tiring journey and I slept soundly in the bus.

I gobbled the food as soon as we did our 'makan cheer'. We practised the cheers we created. Time flew by so fast and I just couldn't believe the fact that this was my last day of the Secondary One orientation camp. We would be ending this off with a campfire. My parents would be there watching me, and I was excited to show them what I had learnt. I had to admit that I was missing them very much, the past two days but I would definitely miss this orientation camp.

I looked around, trying to spot my parents. My excitement faded away as I couldn't find them. I thought they were too busy to come when I heard my parents calling out my name from behind. I plastered a goofy smile and turned my attention back to the teachers who were talking. We were all hyped and



excited as the other classes came up to the front to present their performance. It was creative. Finally, our class was asked to come up to the front to present our cheers and the school's mass dance that we learnt. Perspiration dripped down my forehead and I could feel my palms becoming clammy again. I looked at my parents and the friends that have been there for me for the past two days. All my anxiety and uneasiness vanished. I danced and cheered with my class. The student councillors were hyping us up to encourage us to be confident. That was definitely an emotional night.

I had a hard time at first adjusting to this school but look where I am. I had a ton of fun and I didn't want this to end. We won for the most enthusiastic award. We did great job, and I was proud. At the end of the campfire, we were allowed to go home but I felt so overwhelmed and emotional. I didn't want that moment to end. The environment here in LVSS makes me feel so loved. I was happy and don't regret coming here.

Nur Umairah
Class 1E2


As a Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) student for five months, the most interesting thing that happened to me was when we first went for the Secondary One Camp. The activities were fun. We went to Mount Faber and hiked all the way to the top. I also made new friends like everyone in the class, I guess... One of my friends was Bing Yi. I met him when we were on the way to the top and it started pouring! Bing Yi did not have an umbrella, so my other friend, Kester, offered to share an umbrella with him and we started talking to him and somehow became very close friends.

After the camp, I was super tired and hungry and I nearly passed out. When we went back to school, there was food on the table, and fruits and jelly! I was so hungry that I ate three servings of rice! After that, we went to the hall to do the school mass dance. When I was dancing halfway, my nose bled. The student councillors came to help me. Although I was bleeding, it didn't stop me from enjoying myself for the rest of the camp.

The highlight of the camp was the campfire. Our class won the most creative class cheer award because one of my classmates added his beatboxing moves for our class performance. Although it was not easy for the class to decide on a performance, we eventually came together and pulled it off.

I feel like I have become more confident in this school and more open to others too. I hope to achieve more skills and accolades in my time here.

Sheng Jie
Class 1E2



It was my first day at the Co-curricular Activity (CCA) of my choice. I was, however, not excited as I did not like my CCA. One reason why I chose that CCA was because no other CCA wanted to accept me. My CCA was Girl Guides. I have often heard people say that it's fun to be in the Girl Guides as they get to go to camps, sell cookies and many more but I did not believe them!

Another reason why I did not like my CCA was also because I thought that being in a uniformed group, and wearing the uniform would be too warm for my comfort but I decided to think positively. I had a lot of great seniors from my primary school in Girl Guides.

On the first day, they split us into groups with names of different flowers. The first thing we did was to march. I did not really like it as it was tiring. The commands were in Malay so I did not really understand them. I was really confused but my seniors were really nice and taught me how to remember them. My seniors were patient with us and taught us slowly. Gradually, I began to get the hang of it, thanks to my seniors.

After more and more CCA lessons, I began looking forward to my CCA as there were many fun and exciting activities such as camps and many more. Recently, the Girl Guides had an overnight camp and it was really fun. We got to know more about each other and played many games such as dodgeball, laser tag. We had such an enjoyable time there.

Recently, the Sec. 4s had to step down because they had to study for their 'O' level examinations. We had a picnic in the canteen as it was raining outside. The teachers also gave the seniors a framed picture of the entire pack. The picnic was great. Before they left, I took pictures with some of them.

After spending about two terms in my CCA, I realised that girl guides is not that bad and I would really enjoy my 4 years in girl guides. I will always look forward to every CCA session with my seniors. I learnt to never judge a CCA by its looks and first impressions.

Looking forward, I hope to achieve more badges in my CCA. LVSS has moulded me into a more wholesome individual by making me socially confident.

Si Ying
Class 1E2


It was my very first day in Loyang View Secondary School. I was excited and of course nervous. My mother and father were late for work because they wanted to send me to school.

When I got to school, I found myself alone, I was so much more nervous than before. I was confused as to where to go so I followed behind a group of girls that led me to the school's foyer. Then I bumped into my primary school friend. We made our way to the hall. She sat in front of me and my other primary school friends sat in front of her. Morning assembly took place and although I am familiar with morning assembly, everything felt so different and so new in LVSS.

Later, Mr. Nasir introduced the secondary ones to our respective student councillors. We played games and I introduced myself to my class and made a new friend named Jazlynn. At first, she was very quiet but when I got to know her better, she actually turned out to be really loud and cheerful. Then, after all the games, we had teacher bonding time.

For our last activity of the day, we played more games! I enjoy getting to know my friends better. I was also very tired having to go back at 5 o'clock in the evening. Loyang View has moulded me into a socially confident student and has instilled a passion for learning. This school welcomed me with open arms and made me feel comfortable in it. The atmosphere here is calming and I look forward to coming to school every day.

Yasmin Amelia
Class 1E2



“Is anyone interested to try out for the role of emcee for Commendation Day 2019? Those who are interested, please raise up your hands now so that I know who you are. You will also need to go for an audition next Wednesday,” Mrs Sing asked the class.

I really wanted to try out for the role. However I was scared that I might not be chosen for the role. But I knew at that point that I had to decide whether I wanted to try out for the role or not.

I thought to myself that this was an opportunity for me to do something that I love to do. At the very last minute just before Mrs Sing stopped taking down names, I raised my hand. It was a close call.

I was waiting outside the audition room with the script from the previous year. We had to read the script when we were called. Moreover, we had to read it like how it would be read on the actual day. Waves of anxiety raced through my mind and my hands started trembling. I just hoped that I would get through the audition with flying colours.

“Ge-o-graphy...” Mr Long was teaching me to pronounce the names of the subjects. I felt silly because everyone else was doing better than me. I hoped that I would not stumble on any words and make a fool of myself. I am very happy that I did not. The entire event went smoothly and I did not stumble on any of my words. I felt elated and proud. This event helped to build up my self-confidence. Now, I am ready to face the audience for the next event.

Nur Adilah Bte Hazley
Class 1E3

I was very excited on the day that I entered St. Patrick's School to participate in a Literature quiz against other schools. The moment I reached the venue, I was amazed by the large crowd. Inside the hall awaited many students from various primary schools. They looked smaller but were definitely smarter than us. We were not prepared because we had not done much research.


The moment the quiz started, we were not allowed to switch with the reserves so Harith, one other guy and I just sat quietly looking at Ian and Kantbo suffering from 'boredom'. Harith and I knew most of the answers and begged the game master to let us switch places with Ian and Kantbo but they would not allow that since the quick fire round had started. It sounded like the questions were very difficult and they also asked the audience questions.

After the first round, I went over to Adilah's group to see how they were doing. It looked like they were doing much better than Ian's group. Adilah asked me something on Harry Potter so she could win something at least. We were given some refreshments such as cake rolls from Polar for the reserves and a bento set each to the representatives.

After the break, the quiz started again with tougher questions. This time, Ian looked more awake and helped the group more. I answered one of the audience questions about what the most popular newspaper in London was. Unfortunately, I did not answer it correctly. Despite this, I was game to answer more questions.

After the quiz, we headed back to school and wished we could have had more time to prepare for it. Unfortunately we could not turn back time. Oh well, better luck next time.

Nur Qurratu' Aini Binte Mohamed Najib
Class 1E3



At least half of the girls in this world are likely to be shy and not socially confident. The definition of social confidence means feeling confident in social situations.

Shyness may lead to loneliness. By being shy, you would not be comfortable socialising which would mean that you are not able to make friends. This would lead to you being lonely. I am basically a shy person, but I was able to overcome my shyness and anxiety in social situations. Let me tell you about how I overcame it as this could help some people who are not sociable due to their shyness.

It was my first year of secondary school life. We had the Secondary One Orientation Camp, but I did not participate in many activities as I was not confident enough about my surroundings and always felt awkward about everything.

After the orientation week, everything was back to the usual school life and my co-curricular activity (CCA) was Drama Club. I always felt nervous about going for the Drama Club because it was a CCA where you need to speak in front of everyone and that made me even more nervous.

As the days passed, I felt that the more time I spent in the Drama Club, the more I gained in confidence. My Drama teachers and some of my friends also helped me to build up my confidence. I started to participate actively in each activity that was organized either by my Drama Club or the school.

In my weighted assessment (WA) 1, I got an A1 but in my WA2 which included something that was related to social confidence, I got an A2. I was quite disappointed with my WA2 grade because it was lower than the previous one but I felt that I had gained in confidence.

Now I am more socially confident, and I am able to make more friends and also am able to advise them. Being socially confident is not only for us to make more friends or to just enjoy socialising, but it is also for us to motivate others who are feeling down and who are in need of help.

If something is your favourite but you did not get the opportunity to have that, it is not the end of your life. All I can say is that throughout the past five months in my secondary school life, I did not only learn about the different types of characters but also experienced something new for the first time.

Social confidence is a quality gained through constant practice.

Dhivvya G Narayanasamy
Class 1E3

Have you ever gone for a VIA programme before? Well I have and this was what happened when I attended one a few months back.


“Class, greet the teacher,” said by our class chairman, Harith. “Good morning, Mrs Tan, and how are you today?” “I am fine, please have a seat,” said Mrs Tan. “Ok class, next Monday after school, we will be going for a VIA programme and we will be visiting the Lions Befrienders Club. So I am going to give you the consent forms and let your parents sign and return to me tomorrow. On Monday, all the co-curricular activity (CCA) will be cancelled as we are going for a VIA program, school lessons are as per normal and after having your lunch, report to the foyer.”

On the day that we were going to the Lions Befrienders Club, my partner, Ian, and I prepared the first aid kit for the elderly. Inside the first aid kit, there was a packet of chrysanthemum tea, a snack, a note with all the emergency numbers and a packet of plaster.

After school, we went for lunch and then we assembled at the foyer to wait for the bus. The journey there took about twenty minutes. When we reached, we shook hands with all the elderly, and gave them the first aid kit that we had prepared earlier. Besides the gifts, we had planned three activities to entertain the elderly, namely bowling, a sing-along session and a performance of the LVSS dance. After all the activities had been completed, we took a group picture together with the elderly.

I was very happy to be part of this VIA programme and I have learnt to be more confident when speaking to the elderly.

Goh Jun Yang
Class 1E3



In the past, I used to be timid and could barely stand in front of a crowd, let alone lead a group. However, through events such as co-curricular activity (CCA) bonding or camps and enrichment classes, I have learnt to be more confident.

A specific example happened during the fasting month. Since we were not allowed to do physical activities, we had Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) instead. What we had to do was to pick a card and answer the questions on the card. The question on the card I picked was “Do you think communication is important?”. Instead of saying yes or no, I chose to explain to my platoon (members of my CCA) in a story form. It was an edited version of the Tower of Babylon.

The most recent experience was during the Term 2 celebrations. After our games, the 1E2’s class chairman gave a speech. Hidayat, a friend of mine, insulted my pride when he said that “He’s a better chairman than you”. Those six simple words gave me the drive to stand up and give a speech of my own. My speech was short as I had no time to prepare for it, but the words kept coming out of my mouth. I said, “Thank you for playing with our class and it wouldn’t have been possible without you, as it takes two hands to clap and our class would not have had this much fun without you. Thank you and have a nice day”. With that, I felt a wave of relief as I felt that I had redeemed my pride.

Another characteristic of mine is that I am willing to stand up to lead, if nobody else volunteers. As I have done during student council bonding, drama rehearsal and as a class leader.

In the recent drama production, I was appointed the stage manager. My partner and I were to ensure that the performance ran smoothly. Some of the problems we faced were the students not wanting to participate, the actors not memorising their lines, students interfering with other groups and breaking the glass props by accident. Eventually, we figured out solutions to the problems such as encouraging


them, giving them time and helping them to memorise, and separating the groups in an orderly manner and giving them feedback on their strengths and how to improve.

Personally, I feel that to be a good leader, one must be a good listener. If you want to lead well, you must first be able to listen to requests and complaints. This will help you find solutions to the problems in a way that will make people happy.

But everything I have said about before would not be possible without support from everyone around me. I see my classmates as rivals who constantly motivate me to be better than them. I see my teachers as the ones who support me with the knowledge and the skills that I need. Lastly, my family, who give me everything and more.

The most important thing is to be thankful to anyone who has helped you get to where you are as that will make you a better person.

Harith Danish Putra Juraimi
Class 1E3



The term socially confident is different for everyone. To me, socially confident is the term I use to describe the type of confidence that concerns social situations and dealing with other people. Unfortunately, I am the type of person who is socially awkward. I dislike the idea of talking to people I barely know, and I am only comfortable talking to people whom I really know and have no reason not to trust. That is why I joined a performing arts co-curricular activity (CCA), in the hope of learning to be more socially confident.

Out of all the performing arts CCA, I decided to join the school's symphonic band. I joined the band as my siblings were also from the same CCA and moreover I am interested in music. After a few months in the CCA, the school decided to let us perform at Victoria theatre with our seniors and alumni. We were given a form to confirm whether we were going to perform or not. I thought that this was a good opportunity to try and be more socially confident so I agreed to perform.

When the day of the performance came, I was only a little nervous knowing that most of the audience were the secondary one students from our school. Also since I have performed on stage before, I knew what to expect and how the atmosphere would be. When it was our turn to perform, I spotted a few of my classmates before the spotlights focused on the stage and the other lights dimmed. After the performance, we left for the bus after packing up the instruments and stands. Everyone was exhausted and fell asleep on the bus.

Looking back, I was glad that I performed. Even though I am still a little socially awkward, I am trying to be more socially confident.

Kirsty Chan Yeng Yan
Class 1E3

My school's annual Cross Country Run this year was perhaps the most memorable. I would not consider myself an active person as I was not keen on exercise in general and I was not a fast runner by any standard either.

However, what happened on March 15 was probably a game changer. It was the day of our annual Cross Country Run. I was really excited and extremely nervous. I was to compete in the Lower Secondary Boys' Division which meant that I had to run a distance of 2.4 kilometres.


When the race started, I blasted off from the starting line. When I started running, weariness set in and before long, I began walking. However, as I was determined to finish the run within a time limit of fifteen minutes, I did not stop along the route.

Whereas some of my peers actually stopped for a water break along the way, I kept moving on. The faster runners whizzed past me in a flash. Before long, I saw a whole line of much faster runners before me. Step by step, I plodded on as I was only focused on finishing the race.

When I finally reached the finishing line, I was filled with pride. I did not finish the race as a winner but I finished it by running along the entire race route without ever stopping. It was a blazingly hot day, but I did not give up. I persevered for the successful completion of the race. For my effort, I was awarded a Certificate of Participation.

Life is all about the manner in which we do things. We can choose to give up. I did not ever entertain the thought of giving up when I was running, even though I was among the last few runners. After this experience, I believe I will go on to be mentally stronger and tougher. Who knows? Perhaps, I would even be able to improve in my timing in the annual Cross Country Run next year.

Abdurrahman Bin Mohamad Fadli
Class 1E4



Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) are a very important part of one's secondary school life. Whether one likes it or not, a student has to be in one CCA for the duration of his or her secondary school life. Of the multitude of CCAs available for me to choose from in Loyang View Secondary School, Rock Climbing intrigued me the most. I was most determined to get myself into the Rock Climbing team. I looked at the photos on its noticeboard and read up more about it on the school's webpage. That fuelled my desire even more to have nothing other than Rock Climbing as my CCA of choice.

During the CCA trial week, I looked forward to the day when I could try out Rock Climbing. I was focused on doing my best and impressing the coach with my agility. Little did I know that everything would not go on as planned.


At first, I thought that rock climbing was an easy sport as it was just using rocks as hand and foot holds to manoeuvre myself upwards. I was obviously wrong. During the trial, I tried holding onto the rocks on the Boulder Wall but I kept losing my grip on the rocks. They were very slippery. I lost my grip on the hand holds and almost fell down. That gave me the first indication of difficulty. I was left shaken by my first defeat.

Next, I was to try climbing the High Wall. Surprisingly, I did pretty well, ascending the vertical wall of obstacles with relative ease. However, the ultimate challenge was ascending the fourth lane, which was the toughest as there was an imposing and steep uphill incline. I was not expected to merely reach the incline. I was expected to surmount the incline and keep on going until I reached the summit. It was incredibly tough. I flexed and strained all my muscles, clinging on to the hand and foot holds with all the strength that I could muster. I eventually made it, with blisters and aching muscles all over my body. I shed a tear or two after my arduous climb in celebration of my triumph.

The final challenge was to perform pull-ups as well as push-ups to test our physical strength. The number of push-ups I could do was pretty decent, however my pull-up count was pathetic. I only managed six before I gave up! I started to tear at the thought that I would not be admitted into the Rock Climbing team given my pathetic performance. Sadness and self-pity filled my mind and my heart felt like it was shattering into smithereens.

When the CCA results were announced, I practically screamed with exhilaration. I could not stifle my surprise and curiosity so I looked for the coach. What she shared with me was most uplifting. She saw me stumbling and failing several times during the trial. Despite the obstacles, I had the tenacity to keep on going. While some girls bemoaned the bruises and wanted to give up, I just brushed those concerns aside and kept pushing myself. I may not be an accomplished climber now, but what she saw in me was the fighting spirit of a champion. Buoyed by her words, I thanked and assured her I would live up to her expectations. That is my success story as a budding rock climber. What is yours?

Afrah Sulthana Arsath
Class 1E4



Success means many things to different people. For me, it does not need to be a big accomplishment. It can simply be as simple as finishing a task. For me, it was putting in my fair share in a Symphonic Band performance at the Victoria Theater and Concert Hall.

In the Symphonic Band, I played the French Horn. I was proud to play this instrument as only some of us in the Symphonic Band were skilled in it. The ultimate test of my skills came when we were told we would be playing at the Victoria Theater and Concert Hall. That was a big shock then as we would be performing in front of everyone in only nine weeks' time. Once I got over the shock, I put in lots of practice on my own, with my fellow French Horn section mates and the entire band during the combined band practices. Over time, I was able to perfect my playing of 'The Saints Go Marching In'.

On the actual day, I had butterflies in my stomach while waiting for our turn to perform. By the looks of the rest of the junior band, I guessed everyone had the same feeling as well. Once it was our turn, we cast our worries aside and simply did what we had done all along and focused on getting the pitch of our piece perfect. To our surprise, when we ended our piece and stood up, we received a thunderous applause from the audience.

Upon reflection, I managed to overcome my self-doubt and put in my utmost that led to the success of the Symphonic Band's inaugural external concert, playing to the whole school and paying members of the audience. In life, there are always challenges. We need to overcome them by meeting the challenges head on bravely. I was glad I was able to play the French Horn well and support the Symphonic Band in its first public concert. I may only be a mere player in the entire ensemble. But, as the saying goes, the chain is only as strong as its weakest link. I believe in time to come, I will be ready to face any challenge that comes my way.

Chum Hao, Paz @ Chum Dao Long
Class 1E4

Success is only attainable if the person trying to attain it has self-discipline. In addition, success can only be attained when one works hard for it. My success story is being able to forge meaningful friendships with my peers.


I entered Loyang View Secondary School with keen anticipation as it was the school of choice for many of my primary schoolmates. However, it was also nerve wrecking as I wondered how my peers and teachers would treat me. As a transfer student, I joined Loyang View Secondary School only in February. In a way, I had lost out on two months as compared to my peers. That also meant that when I entered my new class, I would be a total stranger to everyone. Thinking about that made me feel very uneasy. However, on my first day in Loyang View Secondary School, my new classmates, Teck Leck and Daniel came to fetch me to class. I felt so honoured that Mr Wong, my new Form Teacher, had sent them down to accompany me to class. When we walked along the corridors to my class, I was already feeling more settled than when I first entered the imposing school gates.

Teck Leck and Daniel became my first two friends as they were the ones who helped me to settle down and get accustomed to the new school environment. My other classmates judged me quietly and were more reserved. However, over time, the gap between us melted away and soon we became friends as well. I then realised that my Form Teacher was only strict during lessons. Otherwise, he was funny and very approachable outside of class. We could joke with him and he would respond as though we were friends.

Now, if one were to look at me, one would never be able to guess that I was a transfer student who entered the school only in February. I am able to mingle with my classmates and be seen as one of the valued students of Class 1E4.

My success is the successful assimilation into a new school environment, one which I now call home.

Kaushal SO Saravanan
Class 1E4



In the middle of the first semester, the school organised a Cross Country run. The Lower Secondary cohort would be running a distance of 2.4 kilometres. There were also prizes to be won, besides medals. News of receiving sports vouchers and sports goods for coming in among the top twenty-five runners created intense excitement among the Secondary One cohort. I told myself I would put in my utmost. Who knows? That Adidas Ultra Boost sports shoes may finally be affordable after all with the voucher subsidising the price of the highly expensive pair of shoes.

The run was held at the Pasir Ris Park. Our principal blasted the air horn and off we went. I jogged at the start, trying not to waste my energy sprinting as I knew that I would not last that long if I expended all my energy at the onset. My friends and I were jogging rather casually before we heard the second blast of the air horn. We guessed the girls had started running. My friend told me to speed up so we would not waste too much energy sprinting at the end of the race.

For some unknown reason, I started to slow down as my heart was beating unusually fast. I was sweating far too excessively. I felt a little uncomfortable so I slowed to a slow jog. My friends sped up, leaving me behind. As they sped off, leaving a cloud of dust behind them, I thought my medal hopes were also dashed, gone in a cloud of dust too.

After a while, I regained the ability to jog faster. I felt a little frantic when runners who were behind me overtook me. At several points along the run, I wanted to give up. I felt like it was pointless running a race whereby I would end up among the last few. However, a voice in my head urged me to keep moving my legs and dispel all negative thoughts. I just kept running and running. Before long, I was striding past runners ahead of me. I thought of nothing else but to cross the finishing line in the shortest time possible.

When I crossed the finishing line, my friends congratulated me as I made it among the top twenty-five runners. I was in a state of disbelief. I was very satisfied with my performance and placing among the top twenty-five finishers. Upon reflection, I learnt that giving up is not an option. I should always believe in myself. There may be obstacles, I may stumble and fall, but as long as I do not give up, there is always a chance for me to prove myself. This time round, I have proven that I am a victor – ranked among the top twenty-five finishers. It was an incredible feeling.

Layth Gadahfi Abdat
Class 1E4

To many people, success is about becoming rich or being the best in a sports competition for example, but to me, success is about being the best that I could ever be.

The day came when I participated in a Basketball competition. I had a mixture of feelings in me. On one hand, I was excited to don the colours of the school's Basketball team and represent it as one of the elite players. On the other hand, I was nervous. We were going to meet players from the opposing team. We had no idea how skilful they would be. That added to our anxiety. All of us were going to our competition venue, the Bedok Heartbeat, to determine which team would emerge champion.


Along the way, we kept refining our strategy. Once we were there, we watched the players from other schools competing against one another. We discussed each team's strengths and weaknesses. We took notes. We tried to incorporate their moves into our strategy. Before long, our coach joined us and gave us more tips as well as a pep talk.

We had two games in all. I did not compete in the first game, but I was chosen to play in the second game as the first position, a Point Guard. That was one position which I was very well acquainted with. I have been practicing moves and throws related to that position for a very long time.

In the last few seconds of the second quarter, I took the ball which was passed to me and executed a long range shot. It flirted on the hoop by moving rings on it before it dipped into the netted hoop. It was a three-pointer! I was on cloud-nine. When I looked at the time, there was only zero point four seconds left. We did absolutely nothing while we waited before the time for the game was up. My whole team lifted me up and threw me into the air like a stuffed toy, in celebration of my incredible three-pointer shot. They were all amazed by my incredibly precise long range shot, which was probably the best throw that afternoon.

Our score was 40 to 12 in our favour. That incredible victory would always stay in my memory for as long as I live. It taught me an invaluable lesson. I have to be always ready for challenges and opportunities. Once the opportunity knocks on my door, I must meet it bravely. With my readiness and preparedness, I am ready for whatever challenge that comes along my way.

Lemuel Chiang Wenle
Class 1E4



To me, success is accomplishing something that I have planned to achieve. However, accomplishing success on one's own effort is highly challenging. I would not have been successful if I had not received the support and encouragement of my friends and teachers. I thank them for their support in helping me to attain success in my school's annual Cross Country run.

I stared at the calendar counting down the number of days left to my school's annual Cross Country run. I was never good at running. I failed my physical proficiency tests in primary school. I was resolved to improve my fitness level in secondary school. If I were to finish my run under twenty minutes, I would get a medal...my first ever medal. If I were to be able to clinch it, it would be a huge accomplishment to me.

I sought the advice of my Physical Education teacher on how I should train and improve in running so I could realise my medal dream. He encouraged me to run every day for an hour and eat healthily. My family also supported me and gave me tips. I became more and more determined and confident as my training regime progressed. Day after day, I could feel that I was running faster than the day before. Before long, I started to enjoy running, which was an unintended effect of training to realise my medal dream.

The day of my school's annual Cross Country run arrived. When the race started, I ran quickly. The run felt like it went on forever but I persevered. Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, I saw the finishing line ahead of me and I used my last bit of energy to sprint to the finishing line. I received a special finishers' ticket which meant that I clocked a time of under twenty minutes. I felt so happy that I was on cloud nine for the rest of the day.

With the support of my family and teachers, I accomplished something that I never thought I would experience. My determination also boosted my morale. I am awaiting more challenges in the future. I know that with perseverance, I will attain success, just as I did in my school's annual Cross Country run.

Li Yisheng, Eason
Class 1E4

To me, success is accomplishing what you have always wanted to attain. It may not be a big deal to some people but as long as you have the desire to attain it, you will eventually accomplish what you have set out to achieve in the first place. My success story is not really a big deal to most people, but to me, it was a game changer in how it had impacted me.


All along in my life, I had never been able to sit down and focus wholeheartedly on a given task. When I entered secondary school, taking on a new title as a teenager, I made the resolve that I would for once, deal with my procrastination and get my work done efficiently and focus wholeheartedly on whatever I did.

It was not an easy task to accomplish. Despite my resolution, there were still many occasions when I had actually left my homework to the very last minute and kept myself distracted with the playing of video games, sleeping or even simply using my mobile phone idly. I would normally not look at my work until as late as ten or eleven at night, or sometimes only in the morning on the day the work was actually due for submission.

My wakeup call came somewhere in Term Two, when I realised that I could do more things and enjoy my free time more if I finished my homework before I started to play or do things that I enjoyed. It has only been a mere term since I made the change in my attitude. But, till now, I have been sticking to my decision prodigiously. I am proud of how far I have come as a teenager who is able to think and make a positive change in my life. I look forward to more wholesome developments in my life.

I am Lim Teck Leck, a motivated and confident individual. I am proud of how far I have come ever since I stepped into Loyang View Secondary School. I look forward to be able to share more uplifting developments in my life.

Lim Teck Leck
Class 1E4



Schools are not just places to learn. They are also places to socialise. I have problems making friends in life. One of the main difficulties for me was to tell if the person was someone with whom I should befriend. My success in Loyang View Secondary School was making new friends by the end of the orientation week, at the start of the year.

When I first stepped into the school, I was astonished by the facilities in the school. It was a vast upgrade from what I had experienced in primary school. I entered the school with apprehension. I wondered if I would be able to have friends in a rather intimidating environment.

I had a pretty good impression of my form teacher, Mr Harry Wong. He led me to my class seated in the school hall on my first day. I noticed the students had informal conversations with Mr Wong. They laughed and joked with one another. That put me a little at ease. It was then that I saw someone I knew. It was Ashlyn. Before long, I spotted another friend, Abdurrahman. While I only knew two friends at that point in time, that soothed my apprehension. However, I still had doubts in my mind. How about the rest of the classmates? Would they be friendly and approachable too?

Our Secondary One Orientation Camp ended with a pizza treat. That was really most unexpected. All of us gorged ourselves with pizzas. That was a most scrumptious treat after enduring packed food all the time. We bonded over the delicious food and reminisced over the highlights over the three days we spent together. We teased each other mercilessly. Before long, I realised that I had a sense of acceptance by the class already. I felt that the orientation camp bonded our class together by making us go through fun and games in a less formal environment with our teachers. I knew I could count on Mr Wong for support. Over the three days and two nights, we learnt a lot about one another. We soon had nicknames for one another. That paved the way for us to start the year by knowing each one well. The orientation camp enabled me to start my secondary school life on a positive note. I am looking forward to greater interaction and bonding between my classmates and myself.

Muhammed Shayaan Ameerullah Bin Muhammed Ikramullah
Class 1E4


What is success to you? To some of you, it may mean making new friends. To others, it may mean making it into a prestigious school team or a desirable sporting activity. To me, success is to be able to perform in front of an audience, showcasing my talent in public speaking or acting in plays without ever faltering in the process. My passion and flair in drama as well as public speaking have always given me great pride. I knew I could count on them to give me an edge in society.

About two weeks before school ended on a day in Term Two, my drama teacher in charge asked me if I was interested in serving as an emcee for our school's annual Hari Raya concert. I replied positively without hesitation. I went through the auditions and breezed through the selection process. Thereafter, we had intensive rehearsals thrice a week to help us familiarise ourselves with the script.

My two other emcees and I have great passion in drama as well as public speaking. However, as I am a foreign student, with a naturally acquired foreign accent, I was worried that I might not be on par with my compatriots. I practiced daily after school. After each practice, my teacher gave me her feedback. I reflected on her comments and sought further improvement. I even consulted my English Language teacher, Mr Long, for his insights on my vocal performance. He correctly pointed out my tendency to speak quickly, which may make the audience confused as to what I was trying to deliver. In addition to this, he advised me to calm down and enunciate my words with clarity, as my pronunciation, if left unchecked, might alienate the audience. Noting these comments, I put in more hours of practice, wanting to meet their expectations.

On the actual day of the Hari Raya concert, I was a bundle of nerves. However, I knew I could not fail my teachers and my fellow emcees. I had to do my utmost and make the concert a success. I stepped out onto the stage on cue and delivered my lines with intonation, poise and confidence. I gave my best in what I was tasked to do. When the concert ended, my teachers related to me how well I had performed, far exceeding their expectations. This public service to the school gave me a tremendous boost in my stage confidence. Now, I stand tall in the presence of my peers, knowing that I will not falter in the future if there are other opportunities for me to take on more public speaking roles.

Muralikannan Dharmesh
Class 1E4



There are many forms of success. Some include acing tests while others relate to the ability to make new friends in different social settings. To me, success is about overcoming my old self and becoming a better and reformed person.

My Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) in school is the National Cadets Corps (NCC) which is an all-male physically draining and mentally taxing commitment. I have to march and do lots of physical exercises, which are rather daunting to me.

Some of my NCC mates had passed derogatory remarks commenting that I was not a good fit for NCC. They claimed that I was not putting in enough effort and I was actually ruining the reputation of the unit. Stung by their remarks, I started to put in more effort in whatever I did. I started to be more involved in sports so I could be fitter. Unknown to them, one of the reasons why I joined NCC was to combat my obesity and become fitter in the process. I realised that while I joined NCC to meet my own personal needs, I should be mindful of the fact that my fitness level could impact the unit's attainment of awards. With this in mind, I invested effort in drills and physical training. I wanted to win the acceptance of my NCC mates and I also wanted everyone to be proud of me.

Two terms passed by and I had already lost some weight. My weight loss had an unintended effect. It helped me to concentrate in my studies. I did not feel as sluggish as I did in the past. I felt more energetic and had more energy and enthusiasm for everything. That unknown perk boosted my self-confidence and I seemed to have transformed into a new person.

While a failed attempt may make some feel like it is the end of the road, we need to remember that there are countless successful men and women in the world today who are enjoying success only because they had decided to push past the inevitable bleakness of failure. I am Surya. I am proud to be in the NCC. In time to come, NCC will be proud of me. I am confident of that. What about you?

Nattanmai Rajkumar Surya
Class 1E4

Defining 'success' may be different for each and every person in the world. Some people may think that passing their Mathematics examination may be a form of success. Some people may think that creating a world-changing invention may be another form of success. I define success differently.

My success story all began with a mistake. The teacher in charge mistook someone's voice as mine. She asked me whether I wanted to be the emcee for the upcoming band concert. I answered without hesitation, as it was such an honour to speak on behalf of the Symphonic Band.


To date, I really did not know why I responded positively to my teacher's question back then, as I was really shy in the presence of others. There were four of us who were up for the audition of the emcee role. Ultimately, I was chosen alongside another secondary one girl. The moment I received my script, I was already shaking like a nervous wreck. A lot of 'what if' questions were clouding my mind. The more I tried to dispel them, the more fresh doubts popped up in my mind like mushrooms.

The day I was dreading was inching closer every single day. I was still not fully prepared. I was lucky to have a teacher take me through the delivery of the lines in my script to build up my self-confidence. Before long, I could memorise my lines effortlessly. That really boosted my self-confidence.

During the actual performance, I performed up to my teacher's expectations, despite messing up in one line at the very opening of the show. My teacher's encouragement calmed me down. I was not even blamed for my fault. Determined, I proceeded with the rest of the show seamlessly without any more errors. I ended the night with pride welling up within me.

Upon reflection, I had behaved like any other person in a stressful situation. The encouragement from my teachers and my first ever emcee performance somehow boosted my self-confidence. I was sure if I ever had to serve as an emcee again, I would be better prepared. The journey to be an emcee was largely memorable and I wait to serve in the Symphonic Band and other areas in the future. I will continue to grow as an individual and as a self-assured student of Loyang View Secondary School.

Parayno Francis Joseph Filoteo
Class 1E4



What is my success in life? I have been asking myself this question ever since I started to ponder over the bigger things in life in primary school. I may have never found out the answer to this question until the day I entered Loyang View Secondary School.

I have always been an introvert and I was very shy in front of everyone. I dared not make friends in school. The reason for my social ineptness was due to a most embarrassing incident that happened years ago on my first day of primary school. I had gone to school cheerfully, exclaiming to my parents that I would make the best of my life in school. But when I got to school, I was so excited by my new environment that I actually peed in my pants. Everyone in my class started laughing and teased me mercilessly. Till this day, I guessed this was the main reason why I became an introvert.

My primary school life was also marked by another depressing episode. I was targeted by bullies and was often called by my nickname, 'Friendless'. I tried making friends, however, my efforts came to naught. Repeated rejections intensified the hurt and despondency. I was so hurt by those incisive comments that I resolved not to make friends when I progressed to secondary school.

The day I entered Loyang View Secondary School, negative thoughts clouded my mind. I was so traumatised that I thought that I was going to wet myself again. I steeled myself never to let my past haunt me. I stepped into the gate, fighting back the inner demon within me.

At first, no one talked to me. They were probably shy like me, I thought. Things moved up a notch for the better when we played icebreaker games with our form teacher. I felt that everyone else was nice and approachable. In fact, they were probably waiting for someone to make the first move, just as I was. Before the end of the day, I managed to expand my social circle and befriend a friend. That was a miraculous change to my cursed schooling life.

A few weeks passed eventfully. The introvert label which I used to categorise myself with was already history. Now, I have transformed to be an outgoing and socially confident individual. This personal transformation in my character and mindset are my personal successes. I am glad that my entry into Loyang View Secondary School gave me hope and a new beginning.

Tan Chun Kiat
Class 1E4


Now that I have been in Loyang View Secondary School for about one semester, my perspective of how I see life has changed quite drastically. When I was in primary school, I used to think that some of the most challenging things a new secondary one student would have to face would be being in a totally alien environment and being bombarded by all the massive changes. I had heard how huge secondary schools could be, with multiple blocks and flooded with a horde of Co-Curricular Activities. Do not even get me started on the nine or ten subjects that I would be forced to manage. Back then, it was the all-intimidating Primary School Leaving Examination. I barely survived when I was only tasked to handle four subjects but, nine or even ten now was unimaginable. It was immensely daunting to say the least.

But, at the back of my mind, I had one more reservation. For me, the only major thing I was worried about was making new friends in a new school as only two of my primary schoolmates were enrolled in the same school. I was so traumatised that I might not be able to talk or even say hi freely to anyone for a while. I had this paranoia of being judged by other people. I am definitely not someone who would be able to lay claim that I was gifted in socialising. I was the type of person who would go through a different hallway just to avoid meeting people. I was definitely not expecting to make a friend in the first few months unless someone came up to me – chances are, that would be pretty slim, in my personal opinion.

Unexpectedly, I was able to be make a new friend on the first day of school. It was highly unexpected, but the reason I went over to talk to her on my own accord was because my curiosity was piqued by her hairstyle. She basically had a ballet bun on her head and I was desperate to know if she was a ballet dancer. I yearned to find someone who shared the same hobby as me. I sucked up all my courage and went over to ask her. What a transformation my first move made in my secondary school life. From my initial move, we progressed to having lunch dates together and we actually sat next to each other in class.

My best friend was not a ballerina. However, I was so thankful to be able to make such a kind, patient and thoughtful friend. My success does not deal with wealth, social status, glamour or anything that some may yearn for in life. It had to do with making connections on a very warm and intimate level with another teenager who shared my joys and insecurities. What more would a teenager want? I am so blessed in making such a gem of a friend on my very first day in Loyang View Secondary School.

Yuna Caliana Plank
Class 1E4



My success this year was representing my school in the Taekwondo inter-school competition. Although my results were not exactly the best, it was the journey that I considered a success.

I had been training painstakingly for the past few months, preparing for the competition. I went for trainings thrice a week on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. That was over and above my secondary school workload, which was already mentally and physically exhausting. As the competition drew nearer, my training sessions intensified. While I became more confident of my sparring ability, I was also getting very tense. It was the day for me to meet my opponent whom I would overcome or who would banish me forever from the ring with the ignoble title of being an underdog or loser.

The day finally arrived. I stretched and warmed up, practising my footwork and hand reflexes. I changed into my uniform and wore my guards before sitting down on the bench in front of the ring. A figure sat down beside me. I turned my head towards it and got intimidated by my opponent. Fear engulfed me. He was much taller than me and had a bigger body than me. I immediately thought of all the terrible things that would unfold in the ring.


When the fight started, I swung and took a shot at my opponent's unguarded body, managing to get a free point. I immediately went back to my previous position and tried to analyse the situation. I knew my opponent was stronger than me but I felt I could beat him by leveraging on speed.

Unfortunately, before I could react, he delivered three solid hits to my body in quick succession and closed the distance between us, not allowing me to regain distance by using my kicks. He pushed me and I nearly lost my balance. Before I could even realise what was happening, I was pummelled by yet another kick. The scoreboard reflected the updated score of one to eight in a matter of ten seconds. I was caught off guard and had reacted poorly to my opponent. When I retreated to my corner for a short break, my coach gave me tips on how to counter my opponent and dodge his powerful kicks.

Round Two started and I performed better this round, managing to land four successful kicks on my opponent while he landed only one kick on my body. While he continued his onslaught, I kept blocking his kicks with my arms and legs. My arms were numb and my legs were hurting badly. I persevered by protecting myself from my opponent's attacks while trying to get my free kicks and punches in. After what seemed like an eternity, the match ended.

Although I did not receive a medal, it was a close match. While I was disappointed that I did not win, I was also proud that I managed to represent the school and perform well during the competition by not giving up in the face of a stronger, more skilled opponent. The journey that I went through training and preparing for the competition was very rewarding. It taught me the value of perseverance, fair play and sportsmanship. I did not win, but I left the competition as a tougher competitor who honoured the sport and who would go on in life to always persevere for success, never admitting defeat even in the face of adversity.

Zeshon Lau Ziheng
Class 1E4



It was a day after school. Everyone was going for their lunch to eat. I'm sitting in the foyer with my friends talking about the Student Council interview. We were discussing what to say for the interview because we were nervous that we would not get through it.

The bell rang, and lunch was over. We had to gather inside the Dance Studio as that was the holding room for the interview. One by one, each of our names got called out for the interview and we were getting so nervous as there were fewer and fewer people left in the room.

It came to my friend's turn and then it was my turn. I entered the interview room which was at one of the computer labs. I couldn't remember which one but it was one of the computer labs. During the interview, I was shaking in nervousness and shyness. It felt like I was presenting to the whole school because in front of me was Ms Hazel Lim, Mr Koe and two of the Vice Presidents of the Student Council.

During the interview, they asked me questions like, "What would you do if you were to become a Student Councillor?" That question was a hard question to answer as I had never thought of it before we went for the interview. Nevertheless I said all the words that I could think of. I was nervous because I thought that I would not pass the interview.

After the interview the teachers said I did great and so did the two Vice Presidents. I was happy after I had left the room because it turned out to be successful! I was just really happy that I had passed the test. I'm now a Student Councillor and I'm happy.

Cruz Kryesha Ushaney Katigbak
Class 1T1

When I first walked into Loyang View Secondary School, I was quite nervous since this was a whole new school to me. I didn't know anyone here so I was a nervous wreck.

I walked up the steps to the hall, and peered in through the doors and then stepped in. I tried looking for my class, not knowing where it was. I took some time but eventually found it. I sat down and tried not to get any attention. I didn't really talk to anyone since I didn't know anybody except for my old primary school friends who were in different classes.


I still kept to myself. After the first day of school I did not have a lot of friends until a boy started talking to me during Orientation Camp. I was surprised when he started to make small talk. I still wasn't really fond of speaking but I managed to reply to a few questions and then I kept to myself again. I managed to make two more friends but we rarely talked and they were two more boys.

I felt quite lonely during the camp since I didn't really have any females friends so I slept by myself. A few days passed and I still didn't have many friends and I was extremely shy.

During the science lesson two girls called me to come over to sit with them. I silently walked over and sat with them again without really talking. They started trying to make some small talk and I tried to reply to their questions. It was then we started sitting with each other all the time. However, one of them sat with other girls and I was left with the other girl. We ended up talking a lot and then becoming really good friends and now we are always stuck together.

I also managed to introduce her to my other old primary school friend and they seemed to get along well. After that I slowly started feeling happier in school and I am managing to get used to it.

Goh Bei Jia Chloe
Class 1T1



I first came to Loyang View Secondary School feeling scared because I had no friends. I was the only student from Eunus Primary school in the Secondary One cohort. As I entered the school through the front gate, I felt nervous. However, I tried to hide as well as overcome my fear and nervousness by acting cool.

When I was inside the hall at the first morning assembly, a girl named Nurin came up to me and asked whether we could be friends. After nine months of friendship, we are now very close. We also study hard together. We would ask each other questions for things that we did not understand. We usually study in the National Library at White Sands but at times, we would be doing so at another friend's place. Of course we prefer to study at the library as it is spacious, quiet and peaceful, a conducive environment. It was due to this studying together that I managed to pass all my tests.

Apart from studying, Nurin and I do other things together too. We like to take "wefies" together. We take breaks together. Sometimes we even go to the toilet together! No matter what happens, we will always be there for each other.

Thus, I would say that I was really successful in making a friend in Loyang View Secondary School. In fact, she has become my best friend.

Syaza Syauqina Binte Hidzer
Class 1T1

I have always found Science to be an interesting subject. Every time during Science lessons, I always felt drawn to the subject. One day, I went to Science class as per normal and suddenly, my teacher called out 4 names, including mine, and told us to meet her after immediately after class. I thought that I had done something wrong.


During the whole lesson, I was so worried that I could not concentrate. Finally, an hour passed and the lessons ended. I immediately went to see my teacher along with my other classmates whose names had been called. When we walked up to her, she told us that we had been selected for the Schools Challenge Singapore, a Science competition. When I heard the news, I was so delighted to be selected. After that, we went to a meeting to learn more about what it was about and what we had to do. My classmates and I were selected for the JP Morgan Competition. The teachers told us that it was a four-month long commitment and that we must be willing to prepare for the competition properly and seriously.

The first session was on Saturday when we met our mentors and the organisers of the competition. At first, I was really shy but after a few weeks, I started getting more comfortable around them. There were a few interesting learning modules that they taught us like microbit, 3D printing and Scratch. During the four months, we had to plan for a project that would improve the life of people living in the East. My group decided to make an application that helped with education.

The four months were really crucial for us as we had to make a prototype and present in front of the judges and other contestants. The date that we had to present was 25 May. A few weeks passed. It was getting closer to the deadline and I was getting very nervous and scared because it was my first time on stage presenting. Months went by and suddenly, it was the actual day. I woke up early and tried to be confident because I wanted to do my best as we had put in a lot of the effort for the past four months. When we presented, my group was very confident and we explained our project clearly to the judges. When we were done, we felt happy as we had done our best but sadly we did not win.

From this competition, I learnt how to work in a group and how to present confidently, although it was very tough and nerve-wrecking. I was happy that I had overcome my fear of presenting in front of a huge audience.

Lovelle Joseph Lim
Class 2A1



Secondary 2 camp was one of the highlights of 2019. I got to experience new things that I would not think of doing in a million years. I faced my fear of heights, got to know more about my classmates and learnt many new things. I also became more public spirited and the camp was an adventure that I will never forget.

When we arrived at the campsite, a few selected people and I helped to serve lunch to the rest of the cohort. After that, we went to our bunks to get ready for our next activity which was the high elements.

I was not really looking forward to the high elements as I was afraid of heights. The instructors helped us to put on the safety harness and showed us the different ways to complete the daunting rope course.

When I stepped on the first “element”, I started to panic because it was much higher than I thought. I was shaking with fear when the object that I was standing on started to shake. Once I was on a ledge, I hugged the nearest thing that could support my weight. I looked at the other different elements that I needed to complete, and I felt like giving up.

I told myself that I could do it and started to proceed to the next element. It was as hard as the previous one. I fell twice but luckily the safety harness was there to prevent me from falling to the ground. When I reached the last element, I had to zipline down to safety. My heart pounded erratically. I got goosebumps thinking about all the possible way I might fall. My classmate was waiting behind me so I had no choice but to jump. It was not as bad as I thought when I was halfway through the zipline. I had actually enjoyed it.

Once I was done with the elements, I sat down while waiting for my other friends to finish. I was proud of myself that I did not give up and conquered my fear of heights. It was an experience I would never forget, and I would definitely do it again.


Nurul Hidayah
Class 2A1

Our school organised a majestic musical in 2018. The main objective of this event was to introduce the first batch of students of Loyang View Secondary School to the public. To make sure the musical would be successful, our school Drama Club decided to help out. The Drama Club members helped the Secondary one students improve their acting skills.

To discover the talents in every student, special activities such as workshops and auditions were held. We learnt a lot of useful and beneficial skills through those workshops. For example, accurate voice projection, pronunciation and also the expression of characters. These were the most powerful skills that were needed for a musical. Besides that, through the auditions, we also gained crucial experience. The objective of the auditions was to choose suitable Secondary one students to be the cast in the musical. During the auditions, we had to read the script at the appropriate time, and also, pronounce accurately so that the teachers could select certain students to become the characters in the musical. We also needed to express our emotions in various scenes so that the audience could be involved in the situations. The auditions lasted for three days. All of us tried our best as we felt enthusiastic about the musical and wanted to show our best in front of the public. Finally, after some hard work, some students were chosen to sing in the musical and I was chosen as one of the characters. I was on cloud nine as this was an opportunity to showcase our talents and also the school in front of the public.

After all the characters had been confirmed, we began to practise for the musical. Our school even invited a well-known director to teach us how to get into our characters and to show different aspects of characters. At first, some of us were too shy to perform in front of people. However, after some time, we gradually became more comfortable. The school allowed us to rehearse at the Festive Art Theatre before the date that we were going to perform.

We were awed by the theatre's magnificent space and facilities. Our rehearsal was successful as all of us cooperated with the teachers and paid full attention when the director gave instructions. Finally, it came to the day of our performance. We felt anxious but excited as this was our first experience at



performing in public. During the musical, most of us were well disciplined and put on our best behaviour to make a good impression on the audience. We performed the stories between friends and also showed the different types of jobs in Singapore. Our musical ended up with a wonderful dance performed by students who wore traditional Malay costumes.

Through the musical, I have made friends of different races and from different classes. In addition, my social confidence has also improved as I was able to overcome stage fright as the musical progressed. Furthermore, I have also learnt that we need to respect different jobs regardless of the salary as without these jobs, Singapore will not improve and become a leading nation in the world. After this musical, I look forward to the upcoming activities that will be organised by Loyang View Secondary school.

Wong Jing En
Class 2A1

Splashed across the news was that it was compulsory for all Secondary three students studying in Singapore to go for the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. When I read that, I vividly recalled an experience I had that is similar to the OBS camp.


The day finally came for our Secondary two camp. I was not looking forward to the camp as I had been assigned to a class, 2A3, a task that all student councillors had to do. I was not familiar with that class and did not really know anyone from that class. When I heard that I was tasked to be in-charge of that class, I was terrified and scared as I did not know what their class was like. However, after thinking it over, I decided to take the challenge and overcome my fear of the unknown.

I was also afraid of taking charge of that class because I was fearful of heights. I was afraid of being judged and criticised. When we reached the outdoor adventure camp site, we had to split into the classes that we were assigned to and begin with some “ice breaker” games and some bonding activities. Soon, I made friends with some of the students there. They were very welcoming.

The next day, we had to do the high elements, the activity I feared the most. I did not want others to know that I was afraid of heights. I wanted to pretend that I was not feeling well, therefore, I was unfit to do the high elements. However, I decided to face up to the challenge. When I told the instructors and classmates of my fear of heights, they did not judge and make fun of me. Instead, they encouraged me and also cheered me on and told me to take my time to complete the elements.

During the camp, I learnt that it is important to speak up. This camp taught me how to be socially confident as I was very shy and awkward towards the class at first. It also made me move out of my comfort zone to step up and lead the class. Now, I look forward to other opportunities that would help me grow into a character of substance.

Gisele Yeo
Class 2A1



“Good morning Principal, Vice Principals, teachers and students. We are going to start the morning assembly.” Every morning, whenever the student councilors said that during the morning assembly, it would remind me of the time when I was the school parade commander.

I remember when I first became parade commander, I faced a lot of difficulties. I was shaking a lot while standing on the stage. At one point, I thought that I would mess up the commands and wanted to give up.

That was when I started to build up my self-confidence. I convinced myself to just get it done and over with. With that, I shouted at the top of my voice, “Sekolah Sedia!” Once the National Anthem, the National Pledge and the school’s student creed ended, I shouted again, “Sekolah Senangdiri!” Once I went backstage, I was shaking because of the fear I felt earlier. Nevertheless, I felt proud of myself as I was told by my friends and teachers backstage that I had done a fantastic job.

This experience of facing the entire school requires one to be courageous. It is the first step I took to build up my self-confidence.

Haiqal Aqil Bin Suparman
Class 2A1


When I looked at my new timetable and saw enrichment, I had no idea what it was. I was in Secondary 1 so I had never seen that subject in my timetable. I even told my mother about it. When it was time, all the Secondary 1 classes were asked to report to the hall after their break. We were told that we would be doing a musical.

“A musical!” exclaimed my classmates. The thought of dancing and singing in front of an audience was not something I was looking forward to. We had to dance to a song about Singapore. I instead chose to be the photographer along with my friends. I did not really like the experience. I could never remember my position on stage as it was a whirl of confusion for me.

After numerous enrichment lessons, we finally got to wear our costumes. Mine was light brown jeans, black coloured T-shirt with white spots and a waterproof black cap. I also brought my own camera. I was beginning to like the enrichment sessions. We were transported to a concert hall and the teachers told us that this was our new practise area.

We practised for days. Finally, the day of the performance arrived. I was excited and nervous. When we got on stage, I saw a huge audience. It was so much fun. After the performance, I took some pictures of the class with my camera. I was so happy that I got to act with my friends. That was the most fun time I had last year. I was glad that I pushed myself to participate in the production.

Muhammad Mikhail Bin Mahmud
Class 2A1



Success? What is success? I have experienced success only once. It happened during the Secondary 1 production of “Love”. I was excited but devastated at the same time as I have stage fright.

For a few Fridays, I was scared to go for drama practice. Whenever I went on stage, I would freeze with fear. I was pretty sure that no one had stage fright as bad as mine. However, one of my friends encouraged me by saying that it was normal to feel frightened while on stage. I felt comforted and decided to give it my best.

As the days went by, my confidence level started to increase due to the support of my friends. I finally had the confidence to face the audience. After continuous practice in school, we finally get to rehearse on the actual stage. It was smaller than the school hall. The entire rehearsal was very tiring as we had to move here and there into our positions within a specified timing.

Soon, the actual day of the performance came. I sprung up from my bed and got ready. I grabbed my camera and tested it out before I set off from home. When I reached school, I was caught up in the frenzy of preparation. I discovered to my horror, that I had to put on stage make-up. It was truly uncomfortable and many a time, I wished I could have washed it off.

Finally, it was time for our class performance. I got into position. However, once the bright lights came on and I saw many faces staring at me, I froze in fear again. Fortunately, my friends nodded and smiled at me. They were relishing the attention they were getting. This brought my focus back and I went on to execute my role as the photographer on stage, moving around like Peter Parker on a hot news trail.

After the event was over, I felt a great sense of accomplishment. I had managed to overcome my stage fright. I had persevered on stage and became part of the group that contributed to the success of the musical.

Muhammad Nur Akmal Bin Zainal
Class 2A1

What is success? Well, to different people, it means different things. Success does not necessarily mean being rich in life. Success also does not have to be about the big things in life. It could be the small things like donating money to a local charity, giving food and water to the poor and helping an elderly person carry their bags. Unfortunately, people who do not put in the effort and hard work, will never experience success. Hard work, dedication and resilience will lead to success. Those who have those qualities and possess perseverance, will achieve success.

For me, having successfully completed the LOVE musical last year was a form of success.


During the June holidays, everybody was enjoying their holidays, except for us. We had to come back to practise for our musical. The whole Secondary one cohort and some drama students were involved in this musical. The drama students were the main characters, along with some Secondary ones. My class, 1A1, was involved in a ribbon-cutting scene where the main character suddenly collapses. Some of us played the customers while others were the waiters and waitresses. When we first arrived at the theatre, we were shocked. We saw many seats that would be filled with people whom we did not know. Personally, I was a nervous wreck. I could not stand still.

Luckily, I had my friends to talk to and the whole school was supportive of us. When we first acted our scene, it was not as good as the instructor wanted. After he gave some feedback, we improved. Dedication, effort and hard work led us to have only three practice rounds, after which the instructor said it was almost perfect.

Our musical lasted for one entire day. It was exhausting, of course, but fun. The first time we had to act out our musical was when the whole school, including our Principal and Vice-principals, came to watch us. We felt pressured but remained calm when it was time to perform. Naturally, I felt butterflies in my stomach looking at all of those guests who expected a good performance put up by a secondary school. Also, they would get to see up close how Loyang View students performed under pressure and what a Loyang View production was like.

After the event ended, I felt a great sense of relief. No doubt it was an extremely tiring process but I gained much from it. It sharpened my skills and helped me to be more socially confident. It was an amazing experience, learning and forging new friendship while bonding with old ones. When our juniors go through this, we will share with them our personal experience and the mistakes we made.

Rizq Zhariff Bin Bahrom
Class 2A1



Success to me is about achieving your goal. I have achieved some things in my first year in Loyang View. I put in a lot of effort in whatever I do. I represented Loyang View's National Cadet Corps (NCC) in a Frisbee competition. My team and I went for morning training every Monday and Wednesday. It was tough for me as I had to wake up early to get ready. I also had insufficient time to eat my breakfast as I had to rush to school so as not to be late for training. We also had to train very hard to get selected as the official first 5 players. While training, we sometimes argued amongst ourselves because of some disagreements about how to play. We trained on the field and I, to be honest, dislike training on the field as it was always wet in the morning and I would always slip while running and hurt myself. We trained all the way up till the competition. After weeks of training, it was time to choose the official first 5 players. I was so nervous because I was scared I would not be chosen. I closed my eyes as the teacher slowly read out the names. Then, the next thing I knew, my name was called out by the teacher. I was so shocked and at the same time very happy.


Then the following week came and the competition drew closer. Days passed in the blink of an eye. The day finally arrived. All the other schools came over to Loyang View. I was shocked to see that some of our opponents were very big and tall. That did not bring my spirit down. I was still motivated to play. Not long after, our first match started. There were some tall players in the other team. Within a few minutes, my team scored. Followed by another one.

When the match ended, I was shocked that we had trashed the other team. The tall players were nothing compared to our players as we could jump higher than them. We then played our second match, followed by our third and fourth matches. I was very proud of my team as we had trashed all the other schools. We made it into the finals where we played against a Chinese school. All of them were tall and fast. When the match started, they got the Frisbee first. They were so fast that they managed to score 2 goals within a few minutes. My team was very tired. We took a time out. Our teacher told us that we had another 10 minutes to play. We were told to not give up and give our very best. We were motivated to keep on playing.

The match then restarted. This time we got the Frisbee first. Incredibly, we managed to score 2 goals within a few minutes. The match was tied. We were so nervous. We passed the Frisbee as fast as possible and tried to score. We ran as fast as our legs could carry us. I went inside the scoring zone. There was a tall guy defending me. My friend then threw the Frisbee towards me. I jumped as high as I could but all I remember was ending up on the ground sitting. My eyes were closed. I then opened up my eyes to see what had happened.

The Frisbee was in my hand. I shouted in excitement. I could not believe that we had won first place in the East District. We received our gold medals. From then on, I learnt that no matter how big our opponents seem, we can still beat them. Similarly, we can always overcome our problems, no matter how big they seem.

Muhammad Amran
Class 2A3



My definition of success remains the same to this very day. It is accomplishing something that was really hard for me to accomplish. I was in awe when I heard that I got selected to be a leader in my co-curricular activity (CCA). I didn't know how to react as I was happy but nervous at the same time. The first question that popped in my mind was "How am I supposed to lead a large group of people whom I'm not close to?" I had to train to become a leader which means I had to shout in front of everyone which was nerve wrecking. Becoming a leader in my CCA meant that I had to train more than the others.


My second year in Loyang View has really moulded me into a wholesome individual. My social skills have improved as I can open up to people whom I may not know. For example, Air Rifle had an open house over the December holidays for the new batch of Secondary 1s that were joining Loyang View Secondary School. I could interact well with the parents without feeling nervous as compared to last year when I was really timid. Air rifle also had a Chinese New Year VIA where the elderly came to our school to watch the CNY performance our school had prepared. We had to escort them down the bus and each student had to take care of one elderly. I felt really happy as I could open up to them and they were really friendly. It made me happy knowing that the elderly person I took care of on that day enjoyed herself though she couldn't watch the performance.

Recently, I attended a NUSIS competition to represent my school in air rifle. Though I was selected, I was really nervous as I was scared I wouldn't get the score I wanted and true enough, I didn't. While I was shooting, I made many mistakes but I couldn't do anything about it as it was already done. I air shot which basically means I pulled the trigger when it was in dry fire mode instead of it being in live fire mode. I was too nervous and I couldn't shoot properly as all I could think of was me not achieving the score I had wanted. After the results were out, I was disappointed in myself as I could have done way better. My other friends who were representing the school got better scores than me and I felt like I was a let down to the school team. My friends and seniors encouraged me to work harder for the next competition.

For me, shooting is not easy. People may think it's just putting the pallet inside, aiming and then firing the shot but there's more than that. The ability to be a good shooter is having a positive mindset despite whatever is happening in your personal life. Physical training plays a big part too. Standing in the same position for one and the half hours while carrying a rifle with a maximum weight of 5.5kg is physically draining.

This one and a half years in air rifle has definitely moulded me into a different person than I was a year ago. I've learnt not to give up easily despite whatever is happening around me. I've become more vocal as I have to speak up in front of people and I wouldn't have met my best friend if I had not joined air rifle. I hope I can improve in the areas I'm weak in, get the scores I want when I'm representing my school and become a good role model to my juniors.

Durrah Zulkifli
Class 2A3



Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about not giving up on our dreams. We can avoid being friends with people who blocked us from chasing our dreams. It is also about learning from our mistakes. If you realise that you are making a mistake, think and reflect before fixing it. For example, when you studied really hard for a certain subject, but in the end you failed the examination. Instead of being hard on yourself, you can just reflect and learn from your mistakes on what you did wrong and what you could do better in the future.

This year, there are two significant events that I think I have succeeded in. The first was the Secondary 2 Camp. I managed to be more sociable during camp and I managed to overcome my fear of heights. It took place on 14 March to 16 March at the Labrador Campsite. During camp, I realised that I talked a lot more to my classmates. I am usually very anti-social and my mother was worried about me not talking to anyone. So I felt proud that I managed to socialise with my classmates this year and mostly during camp.


The second was the Girl Guides co-curricular activity (CCA) camp. I learnt how to be more independent at doing things such as cooking. It was also a lot of fun as we played laser tag and bubble soccer. During the night, I realised that on that day, I was really supportive of my members and that I was really participating in all the activities. Even though some of the activities were very tiring, I still had fun. It was a very memorable day.

Eva Natasha
Class 2A3

My definition of success has changed a lot from last year. Being in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) for about one and a half years, has made me realise that I have received many opportunities. It really helped boost my confidence and helped me interact more confidently with other people. Being in my current co-curricular activity (CCA) made me realise that I love playing sports and has improved my stamina along the way. It has taught me that teamwork is really important when playing sports. It has also taught me that I should not give up easily and try to persevere. Even though we have lost many matches, we know that failure is not the alternative to success. It's something to be avoided, but it's only a temporary setback on a bigger, more significant course. We know that as long as we try our best, great outcomes will prevail. I'm really grateful to have such helpful and supportive teammates as they are always helping to improve my netball skills.

Being in netball has really improved my stamina and this showed during the Road Run held on 12 April. I managed to be in the top 10 and ran under 20 minutes. It was really one of my best moments this year. I was thrilled when I received the medal. Words can't describe how happy I was when they announced my name in the top 10 as I thought that I would only be in the top 20. Netball has definitely built up my stamina and I am proud that I have won a medal. Looking forward, I hope to attain many more achievements in the future. In short, being in this CCA has made me more socially confident and makes me want to try other physical activities like handball and many more.

Krishna Aryny
Class 2A3



You might ask, have I ever changed my mind about what success means to me? Well, truthfully, after spending a year in Loyang view, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about having an experience of victory in various activities. For example, one of the most significant events happened on 13th April 2019. I went for a co-curricular activity (CCA) performance at Home Team Academy (HTA). To ensure this performance went perfectly, we had to go through countless training sessions during the March holidays, and on weekends as well. In the first training, we had to meet different people from various schools such as Raffles Institution, Catholic High School and many more.

Without a doubt, I struggled to speak to people that were practically strangers to me. Our trainers, or Cadet Inspectors (CI), as we called them, came and introduced themselves and, after their introduction, we had to introduce ourselves with our school and our names. Then, we had to practise our drills as a contingent. We made lots of mistakes as a squad but in the end, we never blamed it on others. Instead, we faced all of the gruelling trainings together. Every day, we had to train at least 7 hours a day and for us to have a water break we had to execute drills and team synchronization up to our trainer's standard. Sometimes, we were shouted at for messing up things or not being able to perform up to our trainer's standard.

When the selection day came, we were very nervous and worried that we would not make it. After the result, luckily I was able to make it, and was proud that I was able to make it. I got to make friends from other schools and even became best friends with one of them. We even made a group chat consisting of the contingent members and the trainers. When the actual day arrived, we felt proud and astonished to be able to survive the trainings. The outcome of the parade went perfectly and many were amazed. From the parade, I learnt the true meaning of public spiritedness, knowing that being independent may not lead to success but a team is able to accomplish much more.


Looking forward, I hope to achieve more in future by being able to join either the Guard Of Honour (GOH), the Mass Flag (MF) squad or getting the Best Cadet Award. I would also like to try out the white uniform which is also known as the number 1 uniform. Having the Best Cadet Award will make me proud of my accomplishment as it is a rare opportunity to receive such an award.

Levon Tan
Class 2A3

Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about the experiences. I recently had my Secondary 2 Adventure Camp at MOE Labrador Campsite. The camp was held from 14 to 16 March which is 3 days and 2 night. I was really nervous and excited when I heard that we have camp on that day. That day was the first time I had camp with my Secondary school friends. Most of us were really scared because many people told us that Labrador Park was haunted. When my classmates and I arrived at the campsite, we were all surprised that it was a scary looking place.

I overcame my fears by having fun with my friends, not thinking about the negative thoughts or feelings. On the bright side, it was really nice weather to enjoy too. Before the camp started, I packed my belongings and told myself not to always live in my comfort zone, like sleeping on the bed all the time. I also exercised regularly.

There were a lot of activities during the Secondary 2 camp. We had rock climbing and other high elements activities. All of my classmates had to climb the rock wall which was really high, so all of us had to wear our safety gear in order to climb safely up the wall. As I was climbing the wall, I tried not to look down as I am afraid of heights. While I was reaching for the other rock, my hands were shivering with fear. On a side note, I did my best for the other high element activities. Both of the activities taught me a lot as I really overcame my fear of heights and also it encouraged me to be braver and stronger. On the second day of camp, we did our low elements and we also hiked at Labrador Park which is where we learnt some of the history of the Japanese Occupation. It was a really long hike but all of us persevered by putting our energy into it. The hike was really adventurous and historical and I loved the part where we all learnt about the Japanese invasion of Singapore during World War II. There was also an outdoor cooking activity which was really fun and exciting because I have experienced cooking outdoors in my Girl Guides co-curricular activity (CCA). Outdoor cooking teaches me to be more independent and responsible as I am not that type of person who likes to cook for someone else. Hiking also teaches me to be more active and have knowledge of the history of Singapore.



The Secondary 2 cohort also had our campfire on the second day. All of the different classes had to come up with our own cheer or performance. It was really challenging but our leaders were smart and they thought us the 2A3 cheer. We practiced it until dinner as we had to make it perfect for the audience to watch. We did not give up on the practicing of the cheer though we had to go through a lot of challenges. On that night itself, all of us were ready to do our class cheer. We did our best when it was our turn to do the cheer. I was really nervous but I did my best. The cheering gave me a lot of self-confidence and made me more sociable with my classmates as I built closer friendships with them. When it was the last day of camp, all of us were happy yet sad that we had to leave. On that day, all of us were tired and proud that we had completed the whole camp together as a Secondary 2 cohort. Overall, the Secondary 2 camp experience was a fulfilling one.

What have I learnt from this camp experience? It was adventurous and fun because it taught me to be more outstanding and to be more courageous. LVSS has taught me those values too, they teach all of the students to be unique and worthy. These values will be useful for me when I leave this happy and caring school as I can use all those values in the future. This Secondary 2 camp experience has taught me to be a unique and worthy student. I have learnt to be braver, more independent, and responsible in all of my duties.


Daing Mahirah
Class 2A3

Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about overcoming fear. About two months ago, before my March holidays, we had our Secondary two camp at Labrador Park. I was very scared to stay without my family for three days and two nights.

The day before the camp I packed all the things needed for the camp. The next day, I went to school in a taxi because I had a big camping bag which I could not carry to school. After we reached we went to the hall to assemble there before we went to our rooms. First, the teacher told us all the activities that we were going to do in those three days which was zip line, rock-climbing and some other high elements. I was so excited upon hearing of the fun activities but at the same time, I felt very scared. Our first activity was rock climbing. I was not so scared because you do not need to look down, you could just look at the rocks that you are climbing. And by seeing all the safety gear in place, it made me feel better. When it was my turn, I climbed up very easily to the top without looking down. Then I got scared and nervous to let go of the rock because I am scared of heights. So the trainer asked me to close my eyes and let go of the rock. So I did what he said. I let my hands go, the trainer pulled me down slowly and gently to the ground. After reaching the ground I felt my heartbeat and it was pounding. Then I went to eat and have some fun talking to my friends.

After that, we went to sleep. That was where my other fear came which is sleeping alone in the dark without my parents. But I managed it because my friends were sleeping with me but I was still scared to go out to the toilet alone.

The next day, we woke up and showered and got ready for breakfast. Then we went hiking where we learnt about Singapore's history. After that we went back to the campsite and ate our lunch. The trainer brought my class to the place where we did abseiling and zip line. There was another class with us so we took turns, first we did zip line. The trainer told those who were confident to go first. Some of my friends went but I did not want to be first. I saw them swinging down to the ground. Then I felt motivated so I went up.



When I looked down, my leg immediately turned to jelly. The trainer told me to step forward a bit and he knew that I was scared so he pushed me down. I was screaming when he pushed me down. Because of that, I never want to try abseiling again.

The rest of the day was preparation for the campfire and some of the students' parents came to see the campfire. After the campfire, we ate our special dinner which was pizza. Then we went to sleep for the last night before we could go home.

The next day, we packed our things and said goodbye and took the bus back to school. While on the bus, I was thinking of all the things that I had been scared to try and I laughed at myself because I managed to overcome my fears. All the challenges and fears which come through our life need to be faced. I had managed to overcome many of my fears during the camp.

Ninmalan Selvam
Class 2A3

Success to me is about gaining experience. Having been in school for one and a half years, I realise that success to me is not important but it is the experience gained from the lessons and enrichments we have after school that matters. Last year, I was too bothered by achievements and wanting to achieve awards for recognition.

I always wanted to be listed for my co-curricular activity (CCA) achievements in a performance although I cannot play my instrument well. It was always my dream to have some achievements because I have not gotten chosen for any CCA awards since Primary school.


When I was informed that we were going to have a concert, I was happy but when we were told about the number of people coming, we were upset as the concert hall can hold up to six hundred people but we sold only about 99 tickets. I was surprised that our teacher said that if there were not enough people attending, all the Lower Secondary students would come to watch our performance. Nobody would want a performance which was so empty so I was definitely happy but nervous too.

The performance was on the 28th of March, which was a Thursday. I was curious about the concert hall as I had never heard about Victoria concert hall before. I thought that it must be a grand place as the name sounds grand and it is also one of Singapore's tourist attractions. That period was an extremely busy time for my CCA as the seniors were also preparing for the SYF competition while we were teaching the Secondary one members and also preparing for our concert in just four weeks! It felt like it a mad rush for all of us.

We all had an enjoyable time as the waiting room was decorated beautifully and we had many memorable moments with one another. It also helped boost our confidence as we were performing for so many people. It was a truly indescribable feeling of happiness combined with nervousness being able to perform on stage and finally having an achievement for my CCA.

The performance has increased my confidence and helped me overcome my fear of being in front of an audience. It has helped me to be socially confident.

Ong Jin Leong
Class 2A3



Being in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) for more than a year, I realised that success is more than a prize or award to be won. I believe that success is a skill or an achievement that will be cherished as I grow older and that achievement is LVSS Secondary 2 Camp. The achievement that I have achieved was completing high elements. After the rock climbing session, the class took a break and made our way to the high elements course. There were two levels. The first level was easy but the second level was much more difficult than the first.

The instructor was explaining how to use the cable and how to disconnect and connect it to the rail connector but I was thinking if I could even finish the obstacle course. Then our turn came. We were split into groups and went group by group. Our group went first. We went up the stairs and started doing the high elements. There were many obstacles that required balance and endurance. It was really not as hard as expected and I was able to complete it. The second was not the one that I was looking forward to. It was much more challenging than I expected it to be. However, through perseverance and my classmates' encouragement, I managed to complete the obstacle course! It was a great achievement for me personally as I have never been the kind who enjoys the outdoors.

Such experiences in LVSS has made me more confident to achieve greater heights.

Pravineshwaran
Class 2A3


“Comfort Zone”, for me, is the thick wall that separates me from what I want to do and who I want to be. The person that I want to be is a person who can mix with anyone and not judge other people just on first impressions, in particular. Being a responsible person is also one of the characteristics I want to have.

At the age of only eleven, I had to step out of my comfort zone. Almost all the people I knew for my eleven years of life lived within the radius of 50 kilometres from the place I was born. I had spent my entire life there and at the age of eleven, after finishing primary six, I had to continue my education in a country overseas called Singapore. I knew it was coming but still I did not prepare myself for the big change.

When I arrived in Singapore, I thought that everything would be prepared for me. The thinking that I would get into a school so easily was a mistake. I definitely was not getting into any actual school in Singapore right away. In fact, I was then sent to a language school. I was very nervous. I had to make new friends and the language barrier was a huge wall that blocked my communication with others. I could not speak any English back then. I learnt to speak English within six months just by forcing myself to cope with the discomfort and making new friends. Whether it was success or failure I took it as a part of my learning experience. I slowly adapted to the local culture.

By the time I felt more comfortable around my new friends, I had to again move to a new school. My parents encouraged me to move because the school fee was slightly cheaper than the previous one and it was an international school this time. Again I blended in with my new friends easily. We were all international students so we understood each other better to a certain extent. I was not worried. At this point, I did not feel the need to call home to my parents every night anymore. I felt very comfortable around this group of friends. In fact, up till now I still hang out with them at least once a week.

After two years at the international school. I had to again move to a government school, which was entirely different. I was out of my comfort zone once again, making new friends with different age groups, family background and a lot more different things. There was also the fact that the school did not provide air-conditioning for students in the classroom. The heat and humidity bothered me so



much that I could not focus on what was going on in the class. It was a great challenge for me. I almost gave up to return to the international school but I did not. I again brought myself into the difficult environment, and coped with it. In just one month, everything turned out just fine and the fact that the classroom had no air-conditioning did not bother me so much anymore. By this time, I was able to mix with the new group of people pretty well.

Stepping out of my “Comfort Zone” till this day has not been bad for me. There would still be a lot of obstacles in my life but now I know that just letting myself into the “Discomfort” would help me to adapt to my new environment better.

Boonmee Thanaphat
Class 2E1

“Please put your hands together for the next speaker, Hafiz from 2E1!” As the audience applauded I walked out feeling much more confident about the competition than I thought I would be. It was the best moment of my life. I could not have done it without the support of my teachers, family and friends. It all started like this...

It was a Monday morning. I was really restless and could barely open my eyes. After the morning assembly in school, the first period was English. I thought it was going to be as usual, boring and will make me sleep. Everything changed right after we greeted our teacher, Ms Yong. She started with a recap on what we did last week to refresh our memory. After all that, she explained that we had a new assignment that would be graded. I sighed as I knew that it was going to be hard and not something that I would have an interest in.


“Public Speaking!” Our teacher exclaimed.

I started to worry as I had really serious stage fright. I knew that I was going to fail this graded assessment. I didn't even bother to try. However, I told myself that I would never know if I never tried so I decided to put in some effort to prepare for it.

She gave us a whole week to complete the assignment. The topic was on our dream job. I started to brainstorm and I managed to come up with a script within one week. Ms Yong then put our names in a random name generator. I was praying really hard that my name wouldn't get called out first. Unfortunately luck wasn't on my side that day.

“Hafiz!” Ms Yong exclaimed.

I was trembling with fear. It suddenly got hot in the room. I was perspiring as if I had run a marathon before the speech. My legs were shaking. I told myself that it was okay if I did not do well as I would be given a second chance to present if I wanted to try again. I began my speech. In the end I was really surprised by my performance. I then smiled and was proud of myself. It was the first time I had to present in front of my friends. I did well but by the end of my speech I was drenched with sweat.



There began my interest of public speaking. I practised more and got much more confident. My teachers saw my talent and started picking me for presentations. My biggest presentation was in front of the whole school. I gave a presentation about a paralympic athlete who had won a gold medal for Singapore. After that presentation, I received lots of compliments from a lot of teachers.

The applause from the audience brought me back to the present. I waited for the results and got second place. I was not too disappointed with myself as I told myself that I had done my very best. That was how I overcame stage fright.

Hafiz Bin Azid
Class 2E1


I was rummaging through old photo albums on my phone like any other day. There were my old baby photos, fun memories with my friends, and pictures with my family. I was grinning from ear to ear looking at all those little moments with loved ones. Suddenly, I stopped at this album. They were pictures of my secondary 2 camp! I scrolled through and re-lived all the moments I had with my classmates. I remembered that it was my first ever camp that was out of school. We did so many fun things like outdoor cooking, abseiling, and many more! Then, I came across the picture of me high up in the elements doing the obstacle course. It was also the day I successfully managed to get over my fear of heights. Memories of that day came flooding into my head one by one...

It was a bright and early morning. We got woken up by a morning call. Of course all of us wanted to go back to sleep, but since there was a busy day with lots of activities planned ahead for us, we decided to get ready. Once everyone was in the canteen seated, we had our breakfast. I was really satisfied with it! Right after that, we had to try the elements obstacle course.

At first, I thought low elements would be easy and we would finish it without a hassle. However, when we got to the area, I had butterflies in my stomach. I didn't think we would have to climb so high on the obstacle course.

I was very thrilled yet nervous. As we got geared up, we each got divided into different groups based on our level of confidence. I thought that maybe the feeling would go away once I got right to it. Our classmates went first. It was so much fun to see them out there! We cheered endlessly for them as they were the brave ones to go first. Then, it was my turn.

When I started climbing the stairs, my legs were trembling with fear and my hands were shaking. Wild thoughts were running through my mind, and all I could think about was getting it done fast. I wanted it to be over soon. Fortunately, we got to go in pairs, which comforted me. As I walked the tight rope, I thought to myself: maybe it isn't going to be so bad! I was wrong. In the middle, I started to panic and the rope became wobbly. I kept shouting and screaming, and when my friend joined me, the rope got even more bouncy. I felt as if I was about to fall. Actually, I had a harness attached to me, but at that point of time I was feeling too nervous to think.



We were almost halfway through finishing the course when I realised that for some strange reason, I was shouting because I was having fun. Yes, I still felt nervous but the feeling slowly subsided. My friend and I were laughing and cheering each other on. But, it was at the extreme end of the obstacle and we had to go through a similar course to the first one. The last one seemed so unstable. I was stuck on the last one for a long period of time but with the help of my friends and instructors, I managed to pull myself together and finish it. After that, we had to take the zipline down and it wasn't a problem for me. I was glad I had managed to finish the whole low elements obstacle course without giving up. I also realized that my fear of heights had definitely decreased.

I had no regrets attending the Secondary 2 camp. It really gave me a chance to try out new things that I might never try again! It boosted my confidence! I hope to try more of such activities in the future as they develop strength and character.


Matilda Matthew
Class 2E1

It was a beautiful Monday morning and I was ready to go to school as usual when I remembered that on that day there was a class presentation and I was selected to represent my class on stage in front of the whole school, including the Principals. I was so nervous, I had butterflies in my stomach, and I went to the toilet several times that morning. I didn't want to go to school as I was scared to mess up before the audience and make a laughing stock of myself. I told my parents and begged them to allow me to stay at home that day but they told me that I should go to school and do the presentation. They told me that overcoming this hurdle would bring about a great boost to my confidence.

Thus, I went to school and met my teacher at the hall before the start of morning assembly to rehearse for the final time before the actual talk. I made sure I knew my lines. During the final rehearsal, I could talk properly and confidently and my teachers and friends said I did a good job. Hence, I went back stage to wait for flag raising to be over to give my talk. When I was about to come out from back stage, the butterflies in my stomach started to come back and I was nervous again. I felt sick to the stomach till I almost wanted to vomit and that was how scared and nervous I was to go up on stage while people were looking at me.

When 2E1 was called to deliver the presentation, I took a deep breath and walked out looking as calm as I could but deep inside I was scared. However, I calmed down and mustered enough courage to continue and give my talk. I persevered in spite of my fear to finish my talk. When the talk was over, I felt so relieved and was so happy that I had managed to overcome my fear to complete my speech. From that day onwards, I became more daring to volunteer for presentations, share my opinions and to speak up. I have learnt that we can accomplish anything if we are willing to try and work hard for it, and that is what I did.

Mohd Faiz Mohd Fauzi
Class 2E1



It was right after lunch. We were told to assemble outside the Performance Theatre. As usual we took quite some time to settle down completely. Before the classes from different streams arrived, Mr Tum made us watch a short video on impromptu speeches. Being the lazy person I am, I did not pay close attention to the video.

Mr Tum then started asking for a volunteer to do an impromptu speech. Everyone kept quiet, except for my class. Everyone was chanting my name to “sabotage” me into speaking about a topic on the spot. My heart rapidly increased its beat. I was relieved when Mr Tum went to the class list and started looking at other people’s names. As soon as I started to relax, Mr Tum called my name. I was angry with my class for choosing me as I was nervous about speaking about a topic I had not prepared for. Mr Tum then asked me to draw a number, I chose number 5. I was given a topic. Mr Tum then gave me only a minute. I spoke without much thinking. I had several ‘dead air’ moments where I paused too long due to a lack of ideas. After my speech, Mr Tum asked the Express classes if I had displayed any bad habits while speaking. Many of them pointed out my mistakes. I was quite embarrassed.

When the Normal (Academic) classes arrived, Mr Tum asked if all classes had a representative for the competition. Our class was the only class that did not have a single representative. My class chairperson, Shaikh, encouraged me to give another speech. I memorized the format and thought quite negatively at first. The representatives from the classes were selected at random. I was rather relieved when my class wasn’t the first class to be called out so I could see how the other classes did their speeches. I realised that only 1 or 2 of them were serious. As it was my turn I took a few deep breaths to make sure I wasn’t too tense on stage. I didn’t want a repeat of the earlier performance. Many ideas came popping in my head! During my speech I saw Mr Tum looking at me like he was very impressed but at the same time I wasn’t sure if it was just my imagination. When I went back to the seating area, after the delivery, my peers congratulated me. I couldn’t believe I had done that well. We were all tasked to vote on other speakers and so we did. There were two grand prizes for the best speaker in the express and normal academic stream.

I was over the moon when I learnt that I had beaten my competitors to win the grand prize. Though it was a small competition, it was a huge success for me! I went from being a nervous wreck to a confident prize winner!


Muhammad Haashir Islam
Class 2E1

I never thought that I would be able to have confidence in myself again. I am glad to have had the opportunity to build my confidence again. One morning, my teacher announced that we were to deliver a presentation about our dream job to the entire class for two minutes. That was when it hit me. My anxiety started to take over even though it was not the day of the presentation. I was feeling scared the whole day thinking about how I was going to present to the whole class with me having stage fright since young. My teacher then went on to talk about preparing our speech. I felt a little calmer knowing that we would have guidance before the real thing but still felt as if my life was going to end.

When I got back home, I started working on my speech. Since I already knew what I wanted to be in the future, writing the script was not difficult to me. After working on the script, I started rehearsing my lines in front of the mirror to have a feel of what talking to the audience was like. It was not as bad as I thought it would be. Then, I decided to challenge myself further by presenting to my whole family. It was a little intimidating and I did not manage to really give a speech to them but instead joked around and had weird conversations. It really felt as if I was talking to a live audience. My heart was racing even though I was just speaking to my family members. I tried to calm myself down but I just could not. I rushed through my speech as I wanted to get it done and over with.

After I gave my speech, my father talked to me and gave me some advice on how to overcome this fear of public speaking. He told me to just breathe and relax and to think of it as talking to my friends or even my family or anyone whom I am really close to. My father also told me to have some confidence in myself as I was lacking in it. I felt much better after the talk and started rehearsing over and over again. Days passed and I was only left with a couple of days to prepare myself for the presentation. I decided to invite some relatives over to present my speech. I started to regret my decision as I was shocked at the number of people who were waiting patiently to hear me talk to them. I then thought that I should just give whatever I had to make their visit worth while.

It was the big day and I got so nervous that I started biting my nails. My teacher then made all of us nervous by using a random name generator to see who would be the first one to present. My heart skipped a beat every time the needle on the wheel of the generator spun close to my name. After thirty



minutes, my name was chosen. I walked up nervously to the front of the class. I could feel that I was not ready but something hit me. I remembered what my father had told me during one of the rehearsals at home. I gave myself a few words of encouragement. I took a deep breath, smiled to the audience and delivered my speech.

At the end of the speech, I felt so proud of myself. Not only did I overcome my fears but I gained confidence in myself. I was so thankful, for that day, as now I am able to give speeches to audiences boldly. I am glad that I did not falter. I never knew that you always need confidence in whatever you do but luckily, I discovered it now. Confidence is what supports success.

Munirah Safwah Binte Zuraimi
Class 2E1

Everyone has a moment when he or she feels insecure, and so do I. The day started like this ...

It was nearing our Weighted Assessment 2, and despite all the preparation, I still felt that I was not well prepared. Miss Yong, our English teacher, told us that we were going to be graded by a speech that everyone was going to make. Our topic was “My Dream Job”. It had never crossed my mind to think about what my dreams were. Did I have a dream? I guess it was the right time to think about it now.


My dream job since childhood was to be a chef, unfortunately my parents disagreed. To them being a chef is a tough job. They had their own ideal job for me, and that was to either be a singer or a musician. Well, I like both occupations but I still rather be a chef. My father helped me to write my script like correcting my grammar mistakes and helping me to memorise the main points. We were given two days to present our scripts in front of the class. Miss Yong said that the first day was for the students to present to the class for a warm up. The second day she made us redo our speech to let us gain more confidence. Even though I had memorised my speech I still felt that my mind would go blank anytime.

Miss Yong used the random name picker application to choose the student to go in front of the class to present. After a few moments my name was called out. I felt cold sweat go down my spine. I held my cue card in one hand very tightly and walked up to the front of the class. My legs immediately turned to jelly, and my heart was pounding. Even though I tried to stay as calm as possible, I muttered and spoke in a monotone. I had tried my best to memorise my script with the help of my friend, Syarah, before I went in front of the class. All my hard work went down the drain.

I was given a ‘B’ and I felt a little disappointed in myself, because I had flopped despite my hard work and I did not want to see a ‘B’ for my English in my report card. Upon reaching home, I immediately recited my speech in front of the mirror over and over again to make sure I did not mutter but speak with expression. The next day, I gathered my courage, and told Miss Yong that I wanted to redo my speech. This time, I felt more confident and calm. I prayed hard that I could speak calmly throughout the whole speech without having to look at my cue card or hesitate. I took a deep breath and started my speech and thankfully I got an ‘A’. In my heart I was screaming: I did it!

Through this experience I learnt that confidence cannot be gained overnight. It’s hard work and experience that helps us to get better and better.

Natalie Lee Yan Xi
Class 2E1



I logged out of my Instagram account today and planned to limit my activity on it. Logging out of social media meant, I was logging out of everyone else's life. I often compared my life to others and how I looked to other girls. How they had perfect skin, good hair, pretty eyes, fair skin and a perfect body. Social media can lower your self-esteem, exaggerate your problems and make you feel worse about yourself. I have pretty low self-esteem and when I compare myself to others, I feel even less beautiful. My mind was filled with what I could be rather than what I am doing now. Whenever, I played the song, 'Beautiful', by Christina Aguilera and start singing and dancing along, all my worries would disappear, and my mind would become clear.

I told myself that nothing in this life will ever be easy; we will cry, laugh, scream and be silent when we encounter problems. What you do to get over these obstacles is what defines you.

Thinking positive thoughts makes me feel more confident. I put down the phone and started doing things that made me feel beautiful and competent.

School days can be tough, especially in secondary school where everyone is so obsessed with putting on makeup, having a good hair day, wearing fashionable clothes, having perfect skin and just looking good to impress everyone around them. I was a victim of bullying. I was bullied when I started Secondary One because of my size and I was pretty hurt. I am very thankful that I have great friends around me who would stand up for me when I need them. When I got bullied I always went home crying but after I saw a video of a woman who did stand-up comedy, I realized that her life was pretty much like mine. She, too, was bullied. Thus, I decided to just ignore all negativity even though there was still some that affected me.

Now all my classmates know each other's boundaries, and when to keep a respectful distance. If I were to hear a mean comment about others I would just advise them to apologise and not do that again. I understand the feeling of helplessness and the feeling of being looked down on by society and people around me. Therefore, I have decided to move on, make improvements to myself and prove them wrong.


Nur Fa'izah Binte Mohammed Yacob
Class 2E1

This year has been a memorable and surprising year for me. When I got informed that I had been accepted as a student of Loyang View Secondary School, I was filled with extreme happiness and satisfaction as getting into a government school was my greatest wish and also that of international students generally. I was thrilled and I kept imagining how my life would be in a completely new environment. 'Will it be very different from my country?', 'Will I be able to cope with my studies?', these questions kept floating around in my head and somehow this made me feel nervous and fearful.

The first few weeks in school were exhausting for me. I am quite a shy and timid person and this personality has given me a big disadvantage. I have difficulty talking to strangers. Hence, I had difficulty communicating with my classmates and teachers and I felt unwilling to study in class. It was a hard time for me as I was very stressed out and despondent all the time. However, my classmates turned out to be very friendly and they welcomed me. My teachers were very nice, too, and conscientious. They helped me and gave me a lot of encouragement.

On one occasion, our class was given an English task of describing our dream job which required us to deliver a speech in front of the class. I was filled with fear as I kept thinking that I would mess things up and embarrass myself in front of the whole class. Although I had prepared carefully and practised my speech over and over again, it seemed like I couldn't overcome my anxiety. I asked my teacher and guardian for advice, and they said it was just a simple matter and that I should just give it my best shot without worrying overly about the consequences. That advice helped me overcome some of my fear. I stood in front of the class, and concentrated on presenting my speech as best as I could. I was confident and expressed myself with clarity. I felt proud so proud of myself. What I have learnt from my own experience is that I will never know my limits if I do not try. At the end of the day, I felt grateful to my teacher and guardian who had given me the advice. They encouraged me to focus on doing well and let things take care of themselves. I have become more confident than I thought I would ever be.

Pham Hang Trang
Class 2E1



Everyone needs a little bit of self-confidence. Some people say that having confidence in yourself makes you seem arrogant but I believe that self-confidence is what helps you along the way when you're afraid of doing something.

Last year, I joined rock climbing as a Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) and have been very fortunate to be able to go for competitions. A competition is usually held in a venue which is spacious and open to public; this means that anyone in a mall will be able to spectate and look at you climb. That makes me feel even more stressed out. The girls in my category are all under seventeen years old, which means I'm competing with anyone from the age of around nine to seventeen years old. There are many other girls who are very strong and therefore, very good at rock climbing, which means that my competitors are stronger and much better than me. Looking at them climb makes me feel nervous and I usually feel that I am not sure if I would be able to do well.

I did not do well in the first competition, in fact, I got last place in the entire category. This motivated me to train harder for the next competition. This time I did better but I was still not happy with the results. Once every few weeks, besides CCA training, my seniors and I would go to a few climbing gyms to train. They would give me tips and tell me how I should do a certain move. They really helped me a lot and they are really nice to me. This year, I participated in my first competition of the year which was the same one as the one I was placed last in the previous year. I did better than expected and topped 4 out of 6 routes. I could have been ranked 5 out of 6 if I had held on to the tile a little longer but sadly I did not hold on long enough.

My second competition is coming up in a few days and I'm very excited about it. I believe I can do better than I did in my previous competitions. I will continue to train harder and with the support I have from my friends and teachers, I think one day I'll be able to get into the finals.

Rennell Kayla Khong Jho Ing
Class 2E1

Success is an accomplishment of an aim or purpose. Success can mean different things to different people. My personal success relates to the time when I did well in public speaking. I have always been a reticent student my entire life. In class, I do not talk to my peers in the presence of my teachers. I do talk to my peers privately, but only when my teachers are not around me. I do not even ask teachers questions in class. Speaking in the presence of others was extremely daunting to me.

Can you imagine the reservations I had, the fear and anxiety I experienced when I was tasked to deliver an oral presentation by myself? I would be assessed by my English Language teacher in the presence of all my peers. That was highly disconcerting.


To ensure that I could perform well in the presence of my classmates and to not disappoint my parents and even myself, I prepared myself for that crucial speech. First, I researched on the points I could use to create the content of my speech. Thereafter, I rehearsed every single night to get the enunciation of the words right. I even worked on the rhythm to make my speech sound entertaining. It took me countless hours and lots of effort. Steadily, I became more confident in what I was to do. However, I did not rest on my laurels.

The day of my oral presentation finally arrived. I was a bundle of nerves. Fear engulfed me. Doubts started to present themselves to me. I even started to question myself if I was indeed prepared for the presentation. Would my peers judge me for my squeaky voice?

I stepped forward in front of my class and gave it my all. I started a little clumsily. But, as I spoke, I became more confident and I was even enveloped by joy, finally able to deliver what I had been practising all along. When I concluded my speech, I was stunned by the rousing applause from my classmates. A huge burden was lifted off my shoulders. I had a greater shock when I received an A grade for my attempt from my English Language teacher. I beamed with joy and teared silently in my heart. My hard work had paid off handsomely. I related my success to my family who shared in my joy and congratulated me for performing well.

I learnt some important life lessons. When push comes to shove, I should just cast my worries, self-doubt and anxiety aside and focus on getting the job done. I did not merely exceed my expectations, I even enjoyed the process and overcame my fear of speaking in the presence of others.

Ahmad Afiq Irfan Bin Sulaiman
Class 2E2



Success is the experience of positivity after the attainment of our targets or goals. Success can be small or big. My personal success relates to how I managed to get myself into the much desired soccer academy.

I was very ambitious to want to get myself enrolled in the coveted soccer academy. Soccer has been my favourite sport, my passion and a part of my life. I have been playing Soccer since I was a young child. The dream has never faded from my memory. On the other hand, with the passing of time, its voice within me grew louder and louder. I would not give up on my dream. My success story also relates to the values I have learnt and upon reflection, those values have led to my character building.

I have been playing Soccer for six years, and I have never once regretted my decision to pursue that path. It started when I was in primary school. I was originally supposed to be part of the Malay Dance Ensemble. However, I decided to give Soccer a go by going for the trial selection test. I was inspired by my seniors in the Soccer team. I managed to get into the Soccer team quite effortlessly. Before long, I developed a passion for Soccer and fell in love with the sport. I wanted to continue to play Soccer for as long as I could. Not only that, I wanted to represent Singapore one day in the near future.

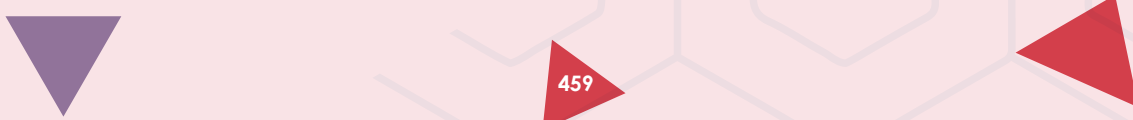
Then, one day, I had a bigger dream. I wanted to go professional by entering a Soccer academy and playing it at a competitive level. However, I failed the trials repeatedly. Despite my failures, I did not give up. I trained even harder. Surprisingly, the coaches did not look down on me. Instead, they motivated me by giving me advice and guided me along.

The trials were arduous and highly intensive. Soccer academies have high standards and exacting expectations, which was why it was a struggle getting into the Soccer academy. I focused on the advice given and trained hard to work on my weaknesses. All this while, I had to manage my time effectively, juggling the training for the trials, my studies and family commitment.

Eventually, after an extremely long time, I finally managed to qualify. I succeeded! My route to success consisted of lots of hurdles. There were more failures than successes. However, in the process, I learnt values, especially resilience and determination. I succeeded because of my unwavering passion and ardent interest in soccer, the sport I fell in love with.

To sum it up nicely, Robin Sharma's quote has been my driving force all this while: 'Obstacles are the cost of greatness.'

Amirah Qistina Binte Abdullah
Class 2E2




To others, success relates to one owning a large house or achieving something big. However, success can be something very small, such as riding a bicycle or passing a test for the very first time. One of my success stories in my life is winning my first medal, a silver medal in a swimming meet.

Ever since I was four, my parents enrolled me in swimming classes as they felt that I had a gift for the sport. I practised the different kinds of strokes that were taught in the curriculum. Soon, I mastered them and became a rather competent swimmer. However, when I advanced to competitive swimming, training became tougher and expectations became higher. Before long, I realised that I was not up to speed as compared to my peers in the same swimming class. I was constantly made fun of by them for being slow. They compared me to a tortoise, which hurt my pride.

When I found out that a swimming meet was taking place in July, I immediately registered for it. I knew that it was a good opportunity to challenge myself and compete against the other students, who were stronger and faster than me. I made a solemn promise to myself that I would not let my coach and myself down.

A month before the meet, I trained much harder than any of my peers. I turned each session into a grueling training session where I worked on my weaknesses. I even sought my father's advice on how to improve my strokes, to attain maximum power in the water. I listened attentively to my coach's advice during classes. During my free time, I went to the pool on my own to practise and improve on my swimming strokes. After a few training sessions, I realised that Backstroke was the fastest of all my strokes. It dawned on me that I would have the biggest advantage over my opponents if I used Backstroke in the swimming meet. I steeled myself by practising Backstroke wholeheartedly for the fifty-meter Backstroke event.

Time flew, and soon, it was the day of the swimming meet. I waited for my turn, and when my name was called, I made my way to the swimming pool. Even though I had trained hard for the swimming meet, my heart was pounding rapidly like a drum and my legs turned to lead. I trudged towards the starting lanes, slipped into the ice cold waters and crouched in a fetal position, looking at the ceiling, preparing for the inevitable. I calmed myself down and got into position before taking a deep breath. The shrill sound of the whistle pierced the silence as I exploded off the wall, with waters churning behind me as I made headway in my lane.



The icy cold temperature of the water pierced through my skin like daggers as I swam. My arms were swinging wildly while my feet were slapping hard against the frigid water. I cast a furtive glance around me, and saw the third swimmer catching up. I was drained of energy and my legs were screaming in protest. Each metre conquered in the waters was a hard fought battle. I had a huge gap to close between the fastest swimmer and myself. I thought of giving up at the halfway mark. However, I thought of my coach's disappointed face and my parents' expectations emplaced upon me. I knew I had to do it, regardless of how I felt. I kept on with my strokes, repetitively and unceasingly, moving swiftly across the waters.

Once I touched the wall and made my way out of the pool, my mother rushed up to me and hugged me, beaming from ear to ear. I had secured the second place! That was when I squealed and punched the air with my fists, tears of joy streaming down my cheeks in jubilant joy. During the prize ceremony, I made my way up the podium in a radiant smile as I received the silver medal with pride. I had done it! All of my hard work had paid off handsomely.

This is my success. I know there would be more successes heading my way if I continue to strive and do my best in swimming and also in everything that I do.

Choey Yi Juan, Clarisse
Class 2E2


What is success? Success, in my opinion, is accomplishing something that is not easy, such as attaining your goal or doing something that you have reservations in. Being successful can be viewed positively by the individual. Success, to me, is like a candy which is highly enticing. It encourages and motivates me to want to achieve greater goals in the future after my first taste of success. My success story is truly unforgettable.

On 12 February this year, my class was tasked to do an oral presentation individually. First, we had to do research on the content we wanted to include in our speech. Then, we had to rehearse the pronunciation of the words and recite it eloquently and fluently in the presence of our classmates. That created anxiety in me. All my life, I hated being the centre of attraction. I have never loved the idea of speaking in the presence of others. I feared making a fool of myself. People can be very hurtful with their words. However, despite my fears, I still held on to hopes that I could attain a good grade for my attempt.

I rehearsed to get the enunciation of the words right. It took me a lot of effort. While I had prepared myself adequately, at the back of my mind, I still entertained occasional thoughts of a disastrous performance in front of everyone on the day of my oral presentation. I decided to give it my best shot on the day of my oral presentation.

When it was my turn to speak, I walked out slowly before standing still in the centre of the room. I took a deep breath and stepped forward. I looked at my teacher and my peers before I delivered my speech slowly and confidently. I ended it within a minute and sat down. To my surprise, I scored an A2 grade for my maiden attempt. I managed to overcome my fear of public speaking. I felt as though a huge burden was lifted off my shoulders. I was able to breathe easily. It was the first time ever since I heard of my oral presentation assignment. Upon reflection, I agree wholeheartedly with the saying 'success is not what you have, but who you are'. I am Shan Jing, from Class 2E2 and I hold the key to success.

Chua Shan Jing
Class 2E2



Have you ever wondered what success is all about? Success relates to the feelings of incredible excitement of something that you do, persisting in what truly matters even in times of difficulty and living a life that you can be truly proud of. Success is the achievement of desired visions and planned goals. How does one measure success? That is a thought provoking question. Different people define it differently. To the business minded professionals, it could be clinching a million dollar business deal after endless rounds of intense negotiation. To a housewife, it could be the first successful cake she has baked for her family without it getting burnt. To a student, it may relate to academic success with a list of straight A grades. My personal success relates to the time when I was forced to step out of my comfort zone and move from the shadows into the limelight.

I have always been an overtly cautious person, who preferred to avoid risks. I would gladly drift with the flow and be counted as part of the crowd. I would never ever stand in front of others and take up a position of responsibility where all eyes would be looking at me. I would be scrutinised, judged and commented on by others. That would be unimaginable. It would be utterly terrifying. However, deep within me, I craved the excitement, the rush of exhilaration and the thrill of being out of my character. Perhaps, that is what people define as the 'YOLO' (You Only Live Once) moment where we should always try new experiences at least once in our lives. How can we claim to have lived a full and enriching life when we do the same things over and over again without taking a bold step forward to try something new? While that was one secret desire I nursed deep in my heart, I never had the audacity to carry it out and see it to fruition.


In the Girl Guides, I kept to a close inner circle of mine. I knew everyone and everyone knew me; Dyllis. However, it was merely Dyllis; the sweet natured but reticent girl, the Vice Chairperson of Class 2E2, whom the Form Teacher had entrusted to execute administrative tasks. Other than that, Dyllis was merely living and hiding in the shadows. Who exactly was Dyllis and how much more could Dyllis do? Sadly, I have never really known the answer.

This year, I made a bold resolution. I would open up to more people and take up positions of responsibility in the Girl Guides if I was tasked to. That opportunity came along when we had our Girl Guides camp. I made a small but definitive step to be more vocal, to volunteer my services and to take up positions of responsibility within my squad. Day by day, I felt more assured and comfortable in the little steps I

had taken. Perhaps, nobody noticed. Perhaps they did, but they did not voice their observations. I felt that definitive moment when I volunteered to share my worries and concerns with my squad during our campfire night. My little quavering voice was now heard by everyone. It was in a small and intimate setting, which eased my concerns and allowed me to open up without reservations. It might not have been obvious, but this was Dyllis taking centre stage, performing her personal sharing in the presence of her peers, juniors and seniors. When I ended my sharing, I could see that everyone was mesmerised by what I had shared. In that moment of silence, I felt that I had just crossed a chasm by myself. What an incredible moment!

Upon reflection, I had succeeded. I had broken out of my shell and stepped out of my comfort zone. I am so grateful to have the support of my seniors and teachers to have transformed to become a more vibrant and effervescent student. Is this a success story in your eyes? It might not be to you, but to me, it meant a world of difference. I shall go on further to chart new and unexplored territories and continue to develop my character. I am only a fourteen-year old. How successful I will become in the future is truly a mystery. But for now, I take delight in the positivity I have experienced and tasted.

Dyllis Yap
Class 2E2



A successful person is someone who has achieved desired outcomes from planned goals. His or her success can mean an upgrade in social status that is perceived to come from increased fame and wealth.

At the start of the year, Mr Sim, my teacher in-charge of the Infocomm Club suddenly announced that we would have to undergo a test of our competency. This was to assess if we would be able to handle the different aspects of Audio Visual Aids that included operating the audio mixer, the strobe lights, setting up the portable mixer and testing as well as troubleshooting the equipment.

That was a surprise as he had never done anything like that before. Many of my peers received the news and reacted nonchalantly. It was a non-issue to them. However, to me, it was like receiving a blow from a sledgehammer. I had all along been playing only a mere supporting role in the Infocomm Club. If I were asked to do the proper start up and shutdown sequence for the mixer and amplifier, I would be flabbergasted as these technical aspects totally confound me.

However, there was light at the end of the tunnel. We had sufficient time to prepare ourselves prior to taking the test. Our seniors helped us by going through the steps from scratch. This time, I took mental notes and remembered how each aspect of the mixer worked. It was mentally daunting. I thought of giving up at times, but I persevered as I did not want to let Mr Sim down.

The series of tests came and concluded in a flash. Soon, the results were announced. I did not manage to ace the test with flying colours, which was to be expected as some of the operating mechanics of the audio mixer were rather profound. Till now, I still could not figure out why tuning the sound involved the High, Mid-High, Mid-Low and Low frequencies. However, I took pride in passing the test with a decent score. I was also proud of the fact that if I were tasked to operate the audio mixer from now on, I could do it with a fair degree of competence without resorting to have to ask my seniors. For me, it was a step up in my mastery of the equipment that I was very proud of.

With continued dedication and encouragement from my peers, I know that I can definitely accomplish bigger things in life. All it takes is time. I may take much longer time than my peers, but I am confident that I am able to do whatever they are capable of. I am already looking forward to the next challenge.


Elgin Lee Zheng Wei
Class 2E2

What is success? How do we define success? Success is the achievement of your goals. It can be a significant success or a small achievement. Success brings a smile to your face and happiness in your life. To become successful, it is necessary to persevere even in the face of odds until one's goal is met. Different people define success differently. My success relates to the time when I managed to overcome my anxiety by speaking in the presence of an audience.

I am an introverted person by nature with an immense phobia for public speaking. For as long as I could remember in my life, public speaking has been my Achilles' heel. Be it standing in front of an audience in an auditorium or even my own classmates, I can barely get words out of my mouth due to the anxiety and stress which I partly suspect to be self-inflicted. I have always admired people with a flair for speaking. They are able to speak without a trace of anxiety in their voice. My moment of truth came when I was tasked to make an oral presentation in front of my peers.

Instantaneously, once I heard the announcement of the task requirements by my English Language teacher, I was overwhelmed. I knew I had to overcome my fear in order to perform well for the oral presentation assessment. I gritted my teeth and embarked on my research of 'My Dream Job'. The entire process of researching relevant content to form my points took me days before I had a polished draft of my speech. I rehearsed multiple times to perfect my presentation skills. I stood in front of the mirror and recorded my voice with the use of my mobile phone before I listened to the recording to try to identify flaws in my speech. Deep within me, I had the cognisance that I had to acquire techniques, take action and challenge myself by going through the oral presentation. No matter how daunting it would be, it would be just one of the numerous obstacles in my life that I had to surmount all by myself.

Finally, the day of my oral presentation arrived. While the scene was familiar, the unfamiliar sense of panic and paranoia within me was surreal. I stuttered at the start, fumbling awkwardly over words which were strangely simple. I stopped for a long time as I froze with fright. As I peered over the top of my eyes, I could sense the room was silent and everyone was looking intently at me. My English Language teacher noticed my discomfort and embarrassment, so he advised me to take a break before I resumed.



When I stood before the class a second time, I was determined to give off my best without fumbling. As I stood there, readying myself, I received lots of encouragement from my peers. I took a deep breath and spoke. Sentence after sentence, I grew in confidence. I could even hear my voice in the room. Within two minutes, I managed to finish my oral presentation without making a single mistake. It was really surreal. If it was not the best oral presentation in my life, I really do not know what I just did.

The encouragement from my English Language teacher and peers made that moment a turning point in my life. I had conquered the inner demon within me. In two minutes, I had transformed from a shy and reticent girl into a confident student who could be empowered through her voice, to share about her dream job with the audience.

It was a defining moment. I would never ever forget this highly memorable experience, and the taste of success that changed my life. Till now, I am able to taste the inexorably sweet taste of success on my lips.

Giam Weng Yi, Geomine
Class 2E2

Success. What does it mean to me? To me, success means achieving the best of whatever I undertake. It may not be something astounding in the eyes of others but as long as it brings satisfaction to me, and the person(s) I am doing it for, I would consider it a success.

My personal experience of success was learning how to raise and lower the Boys' Brigade flag deftly. Now, while this might sound very easy, you just need to try it once to know how daunting it could be. The cord is easily tangled and when the tangled portion reaches the pulley at the top of the flag pole, the cord may not pass through the pulley. That is when we need to exert force by yanking on the cord, but this will usually result in the flag moving in abrupt jerky movements. In the eyes of the Boys' Brigade Company, it would have been considered unacceptable.

In order to achieve the gold standard of raising a flag, I volunteered to put in extra hours of practice to master the finer art of performing a seemingly simple task. With the assistance of my officers, I was encouraged to persevere for success.


During the Boys' Brigade camp, I practised even in the night, in spite of the poor lighting and my fear of dropping the flag on the floor. I persevered and went through the routine repeatedly. This went on for a very long time in the night before I managed it effortlessly. When morning dawned, I had to face the ultimate challenge. The stress was real. The slightest and simplest mistake would waste the Boys' Brigade Company's precious time, and that would delay other activities for the day. Fortunately, I managed to calm myself down, and raise the flag with ease as though I was the only one there.

Upon reflection, I wholeheartedly understood the true meaning of success which I experienced on the last day of my camp. I was even asked to lower the flag to officially break camp. I lowered the flag smoothly just as I did before.

After the parade, the Camp Commandant came up to me and offered me his words of appreciation. He even entrusted me with more duties thereafter. When I heard that, pride welled within me. It was a moment that was difficult to express in words.

That is my success story. Life goes on with more challenges awaiting me. I am ready to meet them boldly for I know that with perseverance, I will definitely succeed.

K Divakar-Teo
Class 2E2



Success. What does success mean to you? Success could be the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. Success could be rather minute or something hugely significant. It differs from person to person and my personal success is to be viewed from a macro perspective.

Softball is a game highly similar to Baseball. We were taught how to play the game by our Physical Education teacher. After our second Softball lesson, we were informed that there would be an inter-class Softball competition coming up in a few weeks. Instantly, our curiosity was piqued. We questioned our teacher if prizes would be offered. We cheered when our teacher confirmed that prizes would be awarded, however, we grimaced when we heard that prizes would be offered only to the winning classes. That would be tough. While we played in separate groups, our scores would be totalled and tabulated. In addition, participation in the inter-class Softball competition would count towards the Best Class Champion Award and would even lead to the attainment of the National Youth Achievement Award.

As a class, we made the resolve to win. Our class consisted of three groups. We trained hard as we were determined to emerge as the champion class of the Secondary Two cohort. In every match we played, we won. That boosted our confidence and raised our hopes. However, we would soon meet the strongest competitor yet, players from class 2A3.

The whistle was blown and the game started. As soon as our first player, Natasha started to bat, the opposing team started intimidating her with crude remarks. This shook her confidence but she did not hesitate to hit the ball as hard as she could on behalf of the team. Other than Natasha and Amirah, Ashlynadeep also managed to hit the ball. However, the opposing team kept on heckling us, concentrating their physical abuse on the girls. We were defeated as a team. The bullies walked off arrogantly with a smirk on their faces.

While our team lost, our class emerged the champion of the inter-class Softball competition. Two other teams came over to offer words of encouragement when we played. Similarly, when our classmates competed against other classes, we stood shoulder to shoulder with them and demonstrated a united front.

My team may have lost the match. However, the victory of my class is also my victory. I stand proud as an inclusive member of the class who is always ready and committed to fight for my class. As a sportsman, I am proud to say that my victory extends beyond the field as the spirit of fair play exists in my heart.

Mohammed Syafiq Bin Mohd Salleh
Class 2E2

Success is a powerful word. It can be seen from many different perspectives. Success is the achievement of desired vision and planned goals. I am a rather vocal and sociable person in general, however, I have a secret which many of my peers are unaware of. I have not been able to conquer my fear of speaking in the presence of others. I fear making a fool of myself. I fear humiliation. I fear how others would view and judge me performing such a socially awkward activity.

It was a few weeks before my examinations when my English Language teacher told the whole class that we had to complete an assignment whereby we had to prepare a speech about our 'Dream Job'. What made it worse was that we had to present it to him in front of the whole class.


When my teacher said that, I panicked. I was afraid that I would not have the guts to do my oral presentation. Ever since I was young, I always had problems with public speaking. I was not even brave enough to do 'Show and Tell' when I was in kindergarten as I was scared people would laugh at me when I made mistakes with my enunciation.

It took me three days to finish writing my speech. Writing the speech was the easy part. However, memorising the speech was the hard part. As the days went by, the day of my oral presentation finally arrived.

I watched everyone present their speeches while waiting for my turn. I was surprised how they could stay so calm while presenting their speech. Finally, it was my turn. At that moment, my heart skipped a beat. Cold sweat dripped down my forehead. I got up from my seat and walked to the front of the class. I took a deep breath and presented my speech.

When I concluded my speech, all my classmates started clapping for me. That euphoric feeling was my taste of success. I managed to conquer my fear of public speaking. While I did not attain an A grade, I managed to pass with a decent B grade, which was highly satisfying. When my English Language teacher shared with me the strengths of my oral presentation, I was pleasantly surprised. It turned out that I had latent strengths within me. All I needed was the opportunity for these strengths to be discovered. Since that day, I learnt to be more optimistic in whatever I did.

Muhammad Haziq Bin Sulaiman
Class 2E2



How do you define success? Research shows that success is the achievement of something that you have been trying to do. For instance, Walt Disney formed his first animation company and raised a small fortune. Despite getting that large sum of money, he was eventually forced to close 'Laugh-O-Gram', the fruit of his labour. Desperate and out of money, Disney found his way to Hollywood and faced even more criticism until finally, his first few classic films started to skyrocket in popularity.

My definition of success is like a flower blooming gradually. I was the team leader of the Urban Farming Ambassadors in my class. The job was physically tiring, as we had to pluck weeds deeply embedded in the soil. Then, we needed to plant the seeds after tilling the soil. It might sound easy but it was a process whereby we needed to be meticulous and consistent in whatever we did on a regular basis. Without the help of my teammates, I would have given up at times especially when we seemed to be performing mundane tasks repeatedly with no end in sight. However, they encouraged me to not give up. My experience as an Urban Farming Ambassador taught me to be more resilient and patient.

As a team, we made lots of sacrifices. We were out in the sun at times, using our physical strength to dig up the weeds and carry heavy farming implements. Although it was tiring, I enjoyed seeing students, parents and teachers buying our vegetables with beaming smiles at each instalment of our school's Farmers' Market. I started out as an Urban Farming Ambassador with no expectations, but along the way, I had gained so much. It shaped my character and taught me values which were in line with the school values of resilience, compassion and trust. I am most thankful to be able to see beyond my role as an Urban Farming Ambassador.

Natasha Iman Binte Roslan
Class 2E2

Success can be perceived differently by everyone. Some see success in terms of major accomplishments, while others perceive it as the minor things that they have done right. My success was about how I viewed my disqualification from a game and yet I felt that I had gained something in return.


It was the third day of the Boys' Brigade camp in the afternoon. We were about to partake in Archery Tag. The aim of the game was to hit an opponent with a foam arrow to eliminate them from the game. The objective seemed to be rather easy. However, winning the game required strategy and effective communication between team members and perhaps a healthy dose of luck. We were split into two groups before the game commenced.

When I heard who my opponents were, I panicked as they were my seniors. They had experience playing the game multiple times while it was only my second attempt. In that sense, my team with a high number of juniors were outclassed by our opponents, who were more skilful and who had the decisive advantage. As soon as the game started, I fired an arrow with an overhead shot from where I was hiding and to my amazement, I hit an opponent across the line.

My seniors were feeling incredulous. They retaliated by firing back at us forcefully. Soon, we were inundated by a barrage of arrows. We tried to take cover and it was certainly not easy. However, we were still determined to win the tournament so we did whatever we could to stay away from arrows raining down on us. Emboldened by my initial success, I thought I would make another move but luck was not on my side. As soon as I popped out from my boulder, I was shot. I became the first person to be eliminated from my team, which was an utter embarrassment, considering that my juniors felt that I had betrayed them and brought shame to the team.

While I was ejected from the game and could only watch the rest of the game from the side line, I learnt about fair play and sportsmanship. Through this experience, I had learned to do my very best in whatever task I was assigned. That was all that truly mattered. I could not control the outcome. I had no say in whether I would indeed be successful. However, the most important learning point was that I had put in my utmost effort. I would apply this in any situation in life as I knew that in life, team players who are go-getters and committed will always be welcomed in teams they serve in, much more than talented people with very negative values or mindsets.

Naufal Zubair Bin Mohamad Rizal
Class 2E2



Everyone has a different perspective of success. Some think that success should be something grand and awe-inspiring while others see it as something simple. Success is to achieve a goal that you have set out for yourself. The goal does not have to be something stupendous. As long as you persevere and overcome all the obstacles in your way to achieve your goal, it counts as success.

I have always been an introverted person and loathed to speak in front of a large group of people. I have not been able to conquer my fear of speaking in the presence of others. I fear making a fool of myself. I fear humiliation. I fear how others would view and judge me performing such a socially awkward activity.

However, my English Language teacher had all along known that I was a good speaker. I was able to bring life to passages I read in class and he felt that I had the potential to be a superb public speaker. While he saw possibilities, both he and I were also aware that because of my highly reticent nature, there might not be any positive outcome to my innate talent. Little did I know that when an opportunity came along this year, he nominated me to audition as one of the emcees for the school's upcoming Commendation Day, where he was the main teacher in-charge of the emcees. He wanted me to push my limits and realise my true potential. Yet, as he was my English Language and Form Teacher, he did not want to invite criticism from other competing students with allegations of favouritism. He had confidence in me and wanted me to speak in front of everyone to silence my critics.

Initially, I was astonished that Mr Long would nominate someone as introverted as me to be the emcee for such an important school function as there were other very qualified emcees as well. However, with much encouragement from him, I decided that I would not disappoint him and just gave it a shot by going for the audition.

The audition was truly nerve wrecking. All the other nominees seemed to be completely calm and sure that they would ace the audition. On the other hand, my palms were already getting sweatier by the minute because of my nervousness. When it came to my turn to read the script, I stuttered a few times at the first few paragraphs due to my nervousness before I steeled myself to read it confidently without making any more mistakes. I was able to read the rest of the script calmly and flawlessly. Although I had made a few mistakes initially, my composure, diction and intonation as well as stage presence won the day.

The sense of euphoria I felt when Mr Long and Mrs Sing announced my name was truly amazing and unforgettable. I was on cloud nine. That indelible feeling of success would be forever etched in my mind for all posterity.

Phyu Sin Thet Naing
Class 2E2


Success can be viewed in many different ways. One can be happy, own a massive house or be extremely wealthy. There are societal perceptions of success. However, to me, it means setting a goal for myself, planning the steps required to achieve it, executing the steps and finally attaining the goal. Success can be academic or non-academic. There are no better feelings of positivity and joy when you have finally accomplished your goal that you have set out for yourself in the first place. My personal success is not something which others may find significant, but to me, it is nonetheless an achievement.

My form teacher started off the first day of the year by getting the class to vote for the Class Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. I have never craved for that position as it entailed immense responsibility. As luck would have it, I was amongst the list of nominees that the class had voted for. We stood outside the class when my form teacher carried out the voting process in confidence. None of us knew how many votes we received or who had actually voted for us. It was a strangely exciting moment for the seven nominees yet I was somehow feeling rather placid.

When we were ushered into the class, we stood in front of my classmates before we looked at the whiteboard. I was greeted by thunderous applause and a cacophony of discordant noises when my form teacher announced my name, Cedrick Quinones, Chairperson for Class 2E2 in 2019. I was dumbstruck. From that moment, my life changed.

I was assigned a multitude of tasks to carry out as the Chairperson. In a sense, I was the leader of the class. I needed to acquire the ability to communicate, motivate, encourage and rally the class together when we had communal activities. A leadership role entails the possession of the aforementioned qualities. Do I have these qualities? Perhaps not. However, after I attended my Secondary Two camp, I felt that I had gained a lot from the team activities and had learnt to see issues from various points of view. Gradually, I became more comfortable taking on the role of the Chairperson. It was never an easy position to be emplaced in. I learnt on the job and became more efficient, confident and decisive when it came to situations which required me to think on my feet.

One of the poignant moments of my Secondary Two camp was when I led the class to form our own class cheer, to be presented in front of the Secondary Two cohort during the campfire night event. Everyone looked up to me. It was hugely unnerving when everyone all looked at me at the same time. Even Mr Long gave me a questioning look. I steeled myself and crafted a simple class cheer. Then came the



moment of truth. Everyone did not like it. They all felt it was lacking in creativity. I improvised on the spot with my form teacher and a small group of more vocal students. Within minutes, we came up with a class cheer which borrowed elements from commercials, had a dose of comedy and involved even the physical action of stamping our feet, clapping our hands that ended with a boisterous “Yo”! The end product was hugely satisfying. Though we took one hour, which intruded into our bath and rest time, nobody minded. It was an hour of fun and laughter. I shouted until I became hoarse. My classmates laughed again. This time, we laughed together with one another.

“E2, are you ready”? That was my battle cry before the class moved into synchronised fashion to wow the judges and intimidate the other classes. In the end, our class won the award for the Most Creative Cheer. We celebrated in unison. Deep in my heart, while the whole class rejoiced by hugging one another, I was welling up with indescribable pride within me. I had done it. I managed to rally the class together as the class leader.

Through this journey, I learnt how to be a successful leader. Great leaders do not set out to be a leader. They set out to make a difference. It is never about the role, it is always about the goal. My next vision? I want to help the class to clinch the coveted Class Champion trophy, an accolade which we had won thrice in a row over two years. If we manage to clinch it again, we would be Class Champions four times over, an unprecedented record in the school’s history. Do you think I can help the class make history? Only time will tell.

Quinones Cedrick
Class 2E2

Success is the achievement of desired dreams. Whether the achievement is big or small does not really matter as it is still considered a success. One such example was when I was chosen to participate in the 2019 edition of the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation.

I have heard much about SYF, but I have never once taken part in it before. This year, I was given the opportunity to perform together with my fellow drama members in the School of the Arts. When we heard the news of our impending performance, we all had different reactions.


To some of my peers, success was related to a huge achievement that can be flaunted, like having a million subscribers on YouTube or winning the Nobel Prize. To most of my social media crazy friends, they probably define success as gaining two thousand followers on Instagram. However, to me, I see it differently. The very fact that I was actually chosen to participate in the SYF was already a form of success to me. I reasoned that at the very least I had a role, unlike a student delegated to carry props or merely help in guarding our belongings at the rest area.

Our performance lasted fifteen minutes. To be able to ensure that my lines were uttered correctly, without me fumbling over them and causing the whole drama club to be disgraced was no easy task. It required intense preparation until I was able to utter my lines with conviction effortlessly. I committed my lines to memory and tried my very best to support the delivery of my lines with confidence, poise and expressiveness.

Many people choose to see the end product as the definitive way to determine success. I see it differently. I see the process of becoming more polished in my stage craft and my ability to stand tall in front of the judges and the audience as an indicator of success.

I, Reshma Rahilah Banu is a committed and passionate drama member. When I stand on the stage, I see myself as an accomplished performer with mastery of my stage craft. I am already successful in that light. The opinions of the judges are secondary to how I view myself and my self-worth as a stage performer.

Reshma Rahilah Banu Binte Mohamed Noshad
Class 2E2



When I was in Secondary One, I went for Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) auditions to choose the desired CCA I had in my mind. The CCA auditions were also carried out to permit the CCA teachers and coaches to determine if the student was the right fit for the CCA. I chose Basketball as I thought I could get to exercise on a highly regular basis, which seemed to be a very crucial activity for teenagers to be engaged in at this particular phase in their lives. I joined Basketball with no prior experience in playing the game and had no knowledge of the mechanics of the game. However, I enjoyed the sport immensely.

Initially, I struggled to master the basics. Overtime, I made progress by watching National Basketball Association games on television. The instructional YouTube videos, teaching the techniques of performing a pass, a three-pointer shot or even a slam dunk were also helpful. As I watched, I took notes and visualised how I should stand while performing the manoeuvres.

This year, my big break came when I was given a chance to audition for the school's 'C' Division Basketball Tournament. Once I heard the news that I could be selected to compete, I intensified my personal training sessions and even practised passing and shooting during my recess breaks. That was how fired up I became, wanting to do my very best to get into the school team. I wanted to help bring back the trophy for the school.

After the audition, I discovered that I had failed to make it into the school team. Strangely, I was not disappointed. I felt that I had gained something from this episode instead. Perhaps, my belief in my favourite quote helped me to see the light at the end of the tunnel. I saw 'Failure as the key to success'. I had already done my very best. That was all that truly mattered. I could not control the outcome. I had no say in whether I could make it into the school team. However, the most important learning point was that I had put in my utmost effort. For now, I would take this very important life lesson learnt as a form of my character building. Who knows? Perhaps, one day, I will don the school colours and compete as a member of the school's Basketball team. That day will definitely become a reality.

Tan Jun Jie
Class 2E2


Success can mean different things to each one of us. It can be something small or something significant that can change one's life. What does success mean to you? To me, it relates to the accomplishment of something significant or entering a prestigious competition.

When I was young, Dance was not one of the activities that appealed to me. I only became aware of Hip Hop, a particularly high energy, high intensity style of Dance when my friend introduced it to me. Out of curiosity, I gave it a try. Before I knew it, I was hooked. It appealed to the sporty side of me. I was mesmerised by it and intrigued that through my dance moves, I could astound the audience. I set my sights on joining a dance club in my secondary school to pursue my passion in dance.

This year, in my second year in the Modern Dance Club, I received the biggest challenge to my life yet as a budding dancer. I might be chosen to be part of the elite group of dancers representing my school for the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation. We would have to compete with the other schools for the top honours in dance. Being selected to represent the school was already an immense honour. To be given the responsibility to bring glory back to the school was beyond description. First, I would have to pass the audition.

Thereafter, we proceeded to train intensively. Even though our rehearsals intensified, I still pumped in two hours a day rehearsing the dance routines on my own. The choreography was rather complicated. I had a hard time trying to remember all the dance steps and move in sync with the music, while looking confident on stage. Many a times, I questioned myself, with persistent self-doubts seemingly clawing away at my confidence. I was worried I might not be chosen. If I missed this opportunity, I would have to wait for another two years. That was something I did not want to miss out on. I persevered despite all odds and kept on practising day by day, in relentless pursuit for excellence.

As time went by, I became more confident. Soon, I was ready for the biggest test of my life. Then, the audition came. It came as a surprise as we were not informed of the exact date beforehand. We were to be tested in small groups. I watched each group before me and was getting more and more anxious. My heart was pounding and I was almost hyperventilating. However, I steeled myself and calmed my nerves. Then, I heard my group's name.



In the presence of everybody, we moved in sync to the music. Our lithe bodies gyrated, contorted and swayed in perfect coordination with the music. In the span of a few minutes, we had demonstrated all that we had been fervently practising for months. We heaved a sigh of relief when the music came to an end.

When the results were announced, I glowed in jubilant joy on hearing my name. I secured two successes by passing the audition and making it to perform in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation. The indescribable feeling of positivity would always be remembered by me for posterity. If I could attain success through my own effort at such an early age, what other challenges in life could I not surmount? It is all within me. I look forward to my next challenge.

Zelia Chan Jing Yi
Class 2E2


I had always found it difficult to lead a group of people and interact with them confidently. It was not until one particular experience that I became a more socially confident person.

Some months ago, I participated in the Values-In-Action activity for the National Police Cadet Corps. The goal was to introduce rock climbing to the Secondary one cadets and let them have an opportunity to try the sport. I was surprised to be put in charge of teaching the cadets how to wear the harness. I thought, "Why me?" However, with the support and encouragement of my team members and teachers, I decided to give it a go.

On my first attempt, I was rather soft when giving the instructions, and some of the cadets could not hear me nor understand my explanation. I felt discouraged and blamed myself for not being a good leader. I wanted to give up, but I then told myself that I had to do my duty well and treasure the chance that had been given to me to lead. I mustered my courage and tried again, and this time, I succeeded! I was over the moon and felt a sense of accomplishment. Seeing the cadets enjoying their climbing experience and smiling brightly when they completed a route made me happy. This was not just an individual's accomplishment, but a team's. Without the help of everyone, this activity would not have been a success. Not only did we succeed in helping the cadets, but we were also able to share our love for climbing with one another.

This experience has made me a more socially confident person, and taught me the value of sharing my joy with others. Now, I look forward to more leadership opportunities that may come my way in the future.

Tan Angelina
Class 2E3



One fine Monday, my classmates and I were rehearsing for a presentation for morning assembly. We were working on a presentation about the multi-talented performer Dick Lee. During the English lesson, the class went to the dance studio to choose the song and plan the choreography. We took a long time to decide on the songs. Finally, we chose Fried Rice Paradise, Our Singapore and Home.

We had the last three days of the week to practise. It was stressful but we had a lot of fun throughout. I also had the opportunity to bond a little bit more with my friends whom I was not close to. We took all the time to practise until the teachers were satisfied.

It was the final day of the week and we rehearsed on the stage in the hall to see how it was going to look like doing the actual performance. It was quite tiring for me as it was the fasting month. However, I managed to handle it quite well as I was used to it. We did a lot of rehearsals and a lot of re-scripting until it was perfect enough for the performance the next day.

The next day, the whole class had to report to the backstage early before the morning assembly started. We waited patiently for our performance but were feeling nervous. During the performance, I was a little frightened and my hands and legs were shivering. I saw that three of my friends holding the microphone were also trembling, but it was good that they did not stutter, and everyone did a good job playing their parts.

After the performance, we were all relieved because we did not have to worry about performing anymore. In class, I heard a lot of positive feedback from my teachers who said that we did a marvelous job on stage and that we were the best class, even better than the express stream classes. We had performed well and had been confident. Our teachers praised us for it. I felt like the class had achieved something special that day and I felt proud about our success.

Elyse Sofea Binte Mahmoud
Class 2T1

“Madam Suhaila, Mrs Rohana and Mr Rahim, may I be one of the presenters for our class assembly presentation on 29th May?” I sheepishly asked my teachers if I could be one because it was my dream to stand on the stage and deliver my lines. I must admit the fact that I had stage fright but I would not allow that to stand in my way. I remained undeterred as I wanted to prove to myself that I was capable of taking on the task. Only then, could I prove to the rest that I was capable of contributing to the class.


“Yes,” I shouted with joy when all of them allowed me to do it even though I knew that I faced many challenges, one of which was that there were so many contenders for the task. With my three other co-hosts, we worked all the way through in order to do an impressive job. Our training sessions were held in the dance studio. I also volunteered to write the script, which I later shared with the others, apart from the teachers who helped vet it.

Our training sessions were tough, challenging but interesting. I learned the ropes of what made a good presenter. I must be very accurate with my pronunciation. My tone must vary and most importantly, I should not read from the script but maintain eye contact with the audience and ‘smile’ with my voice. I took all these at my own stride. I picked up the skills bit by bit. At times, I was reprimanded by my teacher for failing to deliver my lines well, but I remained undaunted and forged my way ahead.

When the actual morning came, I stood on the stage, faced my audience and ‘boomed’; my voice resonated in the hall. I delivered my lines slowly but surely. I smiled with my voice and maintained eye contact with the audience. I timed my lines so well that they synchronised with the powerpoint slides perfectly! Yes! Finally, I made it.

“We’ve come to the end of our presentation. We trust that all of you must have enjoyed it as much as we had on stage, here! Thank you for being a wonderful audience and have a pleasant day and week ahead!” What I knew was that, after delivering those closing lines, we were met with a round of thunderous applause, unexpectedly. I had presented to the best of my ability. I had delivered on my promise to my teachers and friends, and it made my day! I felt I had succeeded!

Gan Teck Yong, Ayman
Class 2T1



“Grace, you’ll be Little Red Riding Hood and you must wear a red jacket with a hood on the day of our group performance,” my group leader spoke to me gently and eagerly, after the roles had been assigned to us.

I took the script from her and rehearsed the lines that I had to deliver. Though I did not have to memorise them, I tried as much as possible so that I could act well. As a member of the drama group even in my primary school, I wanted to always do my best.

I imagined that I was the real Little Red Riding Hood. As I carried the basket of loaves with me, I made my way happily to my ‘grandma’s house, stopping by to smell and pluck some flowers.’ When I reached her house and knocked on the door, I opened it myself and saw her on the bed. What shocked me was that, my grandma had long ears, big eyes and sharp teeth.

Through my facial expressions, I showed how shocked I was, so that my audience could sense my emotions and thoughts. When I tried feeding her, she sprang into action and ‘swallowed’ me alive. I hid behind the metal cupboard in the classroom, pretending as if I was in the wolf’s stomach. I waited for the hunter to come and rescue me. The moment he ‘cut open’ her stomach, I sprung out from behind the metal cupboard and quickly ran back to my house.

I acted so well that my classmates and teachers praised me for doing a good job. Although we did not have much time to practise, I had done my best to be Little Red Riding Hood. I felt that I had done a good job and succeeded in bringing her character to life.

Grace Naomi Duran Quintero
Class 2T1

I should say that I was the quietest boy in class. I was passive and the thought of taking part in class discussions bothered me. Sometimes, my teacher would ask me to share with the class the answers to some of the questions. Even though I knew that I got the answer correct, I would just keep mum. However, deep within me, I knew that, one day, I would speak up and be heard!

“Haziq, you will organise the sing-a-long session for our seniors when we visit Lion Befrienders, next week. Think of some simple songs that we can sing together with them, and you shall take the lead,” my teacher instructed me and left the class immediately after that.

I was at a loss! “Why me?” I asked myself. She must, surely, realise by now how utterly quiet I was. I barely spoke up in class. How was I to lead the class in singing! However, it did not deter me from trying. Through the help of my friend, Micha, who loved singing, I started working.

After school, we sat down and listed some simple songs that we could sing with the old folks. I then borrowed some music CDs from her, took them home, listened to them and wrote down the lyrics on a piece of paper. She even suggested that I look up some music videos on ‘YouTube’. This went on for a few days.


“Haziq, please share with the class what you’ve come up with,” my teacher instructed politely. I plucked up the courage, stood in front of the class and shared with them the piece of homework I had done, despite feeling shy and speaking softly. It did not occur to me that I had the courage to do so.

“This is simply wonderful!” my teacher exclaimed. You’re indeed capable of leading!” I blushed and went back to my seat.

When the day came, I instructed my team members what needed to be done. We stood in three rows, facing the elderly residents of Lion Befrienders. At the count of three, we started to sing and clap. We got them to join us in this merry making moment! They stood, clapped and smiled all over for the whole duration.

I was amazed at their response and wondered how I could have gone to that level despite my quiet and passive nature. If not for my teacher, I would not have known that I was capable of taking on a great task. I had succeeded to break free from what I thought I could never do. As time went by, I gained more confidence and courage. I learned to open up and I realised that there were many opportunities for me to grow and glow.

Haziq Iman Bin Shafarudin
Class 2T1



“We’re going to divide you into groups of five and you have to think of the story you want to dramatise and work on the script,” my English teachers gave a very clear instruction, as we embarked on our dramatisation lesson.

I seized the opportunity by asking the teacher if I could be the group leader for this programme. “Of course, Micha, you are more than welcome to take the lead,” my teacher proudly acknowledged as he left the class.

I swiftly got into action and chose the members of my group. There were two of us (girls) and three boys. We brainstormed for ideas and finally, we chose to dramatise a children’s story, ‘Jack and The Beanstalk’.

We worked on the script and after we got it done, we showed it to the teacher who passed it and gave us the green light to start working on the acting. I appointed a boy in my group to be the narrator and another to be the ‘giant’. On top of that, I doubled up as Jack’s mother and the other girl to be the giant’s wife.

For the next two weeks or so, we had our lessons in the dance studio. The mirrors on the walls proved to be useful because we used them as tools to improve on our acting skills. We acted our roles and by looking directly into the mirrors, we could tell whether we acted out our roles well or otherwise. We shared our feedback and looked at ways as to how we could have acted better.


We also kept on improving on our script as we went along. Likewise, as a narrator, I had a one-to-one coaching session with the teacher who shared with me some tips on how to make myself an effective narrator. Especially useful were ways to maintain eye-contact with the audience while delivering my lines and smiling with my voice.

When the day and time came for us to present our story to the class, we brought along some props to make our presentation more interesting. We equipped the giant with an axe and we got one of our group members to be the cow on all fours. We also dressed the part of the characters in the story.

We acted to the best of our ability. My group members executed the actions and movements well, as directed and instructed by me. At the end of it, my classmates gave my group a standing ovation, and the teacher judges praised us for an impressive display of acting talent.

As I went up with my group members to receive the prize, I grinned from ear to ear, feeling a great sense of achievement and success.

Decipolo Micha Elia Marie
Class 2T1



What is success to me? Success to me is to think positively of myself in the face of criticisms. Success to me is also to have the confidence to achieve my dreams with little steps. With hard work, I know, I will succeed.

I continue to contribute relevant ideas and thoughts to class discussions in spite of my fear of criticism. This is my success because usually the ideas and thoughts I contribute are brushed off by my classmates as off point or not as good as others. There was a time when I felt very discouraged. I stopped contributing my ideas and thoughts, and I would instead just follow my classmates' instructions.

After a few weeks, my teacher realised that I was very quiet and agreeable during class discussions. She asked me for the reason. I shared with her how my friends thought my ideas were inferior most of the time. She convinced me that no idea was a bad idea. All ideas contribute to great ideas eventually. She would then motivate me by giving me opportunities to speak and contribute to class discussions.

With my teacher's support, all my classmates started to listen to my ideas, and began gradually to agree to what I said. From that day onwards, all of my classmates were more open to listening to each other respectfully. We would then choose the best idea out of them.

Such an attitude, has helped our class win competitions, trophies and medals. With my teacher's and classmates' support, I am no longer afraid to speak up and contribute my ideas.

Cady Tan Ee Xuan
Class 3A1

In the book, Harry Potter, one of the characters, Dumbledore, says this to Harry, “It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities”. For my success story, I am writing about being socially confident. You may be wondering, how does this quote relate to being socially confident? Well, I believe that anything that concerns you is a choice. Whether you are shy or not, is a choice. Many think that their little foibles are something they are not able to ordain. When in reality, you can easily improve yourself with just the right attitude.


The year 2018 was a year where I had tons of opportunities to transform myself into a better person. There were numerous times where I had to do public speaking. At the start of the year, my heart was set on avoiding public speaking. Not because I did not like speaking, but because I disliked being in front of large crowds. However, my desire to stay out of the limelight was refused as we had to start on making speeches as it was a part of our syllabus. We had to write a speech and present it in front of the class.

Seeing that the speech was graded, I had no choice but to comply with public speaking. Although, I did have a choice on whether or not I wanted to do well. While my other classmates presented, I was highly on edge. Then, it was my turn. I ignored the heat crawling up my face and my palms. I was hot with perspiration. I decided that I wanted to ace this speech. Once I started speaking, I relaxed. I realised it was not as bad as it seemed.

In the course of time, my love for public speaking slowly unfolded. Thanks to the school, I had a chance to participate in the ‘Toastmasters Club’. The club helped me to flourish in public speaking. Now, in 2019, I have already spoken in front of the whole school and it felt like a blast!

In conclusion, from my very own personal experience, I believe that everything comes with a choice. You can do anything as long as you set your mind to it. I would like to express my gratitude to the teachers in this school for guiding me along the way.

Chua Raja Nicole Gerolaga
Class 3A1



What is success to you? Probably to most, success is an accomplishment of an aim or target. To me, however, success does not come easily. I have to strive very hard with resilience to succeed. Supported by my school's student creed that I recite every day: "willing to work hard, you will succeed", I plan to persevere.

I am someone who is always lacking in self-confidence. I am afraid to present in front of my teachers and my classmates. I am always afraid to stand on stage. When I was in primary school, I accidentally made a mistake, and I went off crying as it was my first time presenting. I thought I had made a huge mistake but actually it was small.

Since then, I have had stage fright. One day, something happened...my company leader, Renee messaged me that I had four days of commander duty. When I saw that message, my mind went as blank as a sheet of white paper! I stared into space for a few minutes. I told Renee that I did not want to do it, but in the end, I really wanted to thank her for giving me the opportunity. She motivated me.

On the first day I tried to carry out the commander role, I was shaking really badly. I was nervous about making the same old mistake again. I was afraid. "What if I do wrong will Mr. Ryan punish me?" I wondered. When the student council walked out and said, "good morning, principal, vice principal, teachers and students!", I began to shiver again with fright. On my cue, I walked out with my sweaty palms and anxious face. I stood there on stage firmly and stared at the clock ticking second by second, until Mr. Ryan give me a signal, "Yo!". I breathed in and out before giving the command for the school to stand to attention. "Sedia!".

After two quick commands, I ran as quickly as I could with tears running down my cheeks to the right side of the hall. Shahirah and Shin Yee quickly ran towards me, trying to calm me down as I was nervous and scared. I was scared that Mr. Ryan would scold me because I knew that it was not my best. Finally, it was the last day of my duty. I take a deep breath and I did it with my loudest voice.

At the end of the day, I learnt something new and finally overcame "stage fright". Some people may probably not consider this success, but for me it was a great achievement!


Gwee An Qi Angi
Class 3A1

My greatest achievement this year were my improved grades in English. At the start of the year, I was disappointed when I received my English results. I know, I was playful, and did not listen to my English teacher.

My brother kept asking me what I had done in school. I was speechless. I did not know how to respond. So, my brother decided to help me improve my knowledge and vocabulary in English. My brother tortured me by asking me to repeat words over and over again during the Semesteral Assessments (SA). There was a time where I shouted at him but he simply laughed at me. He did not understand the struggle I was going through. After a few practice sessions with him, I managed to complete one booklet.

Soon, I was getting ready for the examinations. I found the English paper easy, and not as difficult as the last time as I knew more words now. When the results were out, I was over the moon as I had achieved A2 for English which was a good grade. I have to thank my brother for helping me to achieve an A for English.

Mohammad Irfan Agil
Class 3A1



My success story revolves around passing my National Cadet Corp specialist assessment course, and in particular the push-ups. 'Specialist assessment course' or 'specs assessment', in short, is a course all secondary 3 NCC Ranked Corporals have to go through in order to get their 3rd Sergeant rank. There are different categories for the specs assessment course and one of them is physical fitness. There are two different tests, sit-ups and push-ups. A month before the specs assessment, I realised that I was not ready for push-ups. The minimum number of push-ups you needed to do to pass the test was 25, under 1 minute, and I could barely do 1

During that time, I decide that I was going to train every day because if I did not do anything, I was going to fail. At first, I tried to do four sets of 5 every day. It was very tiring at first, but I persevered and I could finally do 10. The training got more intense as I progressed since doing the same number of push-ups everyday would not be effective. You needed to increase the number of push-ups incrementally in order to achieve your goal.

A month passed yet I was not confident of doing 25 because I did not know how many push-ups I could do in a minute. Since the environment of my house was always cold, it was harder for me to do push-ups when compared to me doing it during NCC training. My goal was to just be able to pass my push-ups. Finally, it was time. My heart was beating fast as I was feeling anxious that I was going to fail.

I managed 30 push-ups in a minute. I was pleased with the result though I regretted not training much earlier when I had more time to prepare myself for this challenge. I learnt that in order to achieve something, you must sacrifice your time to practice or train. We are all born equal. It is not a matter of talent or genetics, it is about how much sacrifice and effort you put to achieve something. Even if you were discouraged or had no one to support you, you will need a will as strong as iron to push you through every obstacle.

Mohd Haziq Afiq Bin Sanip
Class 3A1


Success to me is identifying what I want to achieve and in the end being able to achieve it. It is also what I have accomplished so far. I am glad that I am on track to achieving the physique I wanted. When I was in Sec 2, I was a fat boy. Stepping on the scales, one day, I was shocked at my weight of 65.5 kg. at a height of 165cm.

Ever since that day, I wanted a big change in my life. I started working out to lose weight and in the end, I lost an impressive 8 kg.

When my weight dropped, I was happy to see my 4-pack. I was ripped but it was not enough so I started to do 100 push ups as I also wanted chest muscles and triceps. However 100 push ups is not enough to build a proper chest muscle so I decided to start going to the gym and till this day from the weight of 57.3 kg, I have gained some muscles and I am 62.3kg with the body fat percentage at 9% and muscle mass at 32.0 kg.

I have been gaining more muscles gradually as I push myself by increasing the weights. I am finally satisfied as these achievements have made me more socially confident..

Muadz bin Mohd Farid
Class 3A1



“If you find a path with no obstacles, it probably doesn’t lead anywhere,” said Frank A. Clark. It means that if you do not encounter any challenges in your life, it will probably not result in any kind of achievement.

What is success? Success to me is to complete a goal with difficulty and accomplished what I desire. Success has different meanings to everyone.

Everybody has different goals in life. I would like to speak about how I achieved the goal I set myself when joined my school band. It was what I chose to do to meet my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) requirement in school. My goal was to receive ‘Gold with Distinction’ at the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) where the school band will perform. I had to work harder than ever to achieve this challenging goal as the competition was tough.

The Band had to make it a meaningful competition as the secondary four students would be stepping down from their CCAs to prepare for their O-Levels and N-Levels. It would be their last performance before they graduate from Secondary school. I was thus motivated to give it my best shot. Our CCA leaders made the band member do drills in order to instil discipline and a responsibility. It helped us to be more productive and punctual for practice sessions.

During sectionals, we would practice harder at difficult sections of a piece. I would usually help out my section mates on the parts that were a struggle. Similarly, they too, would help me if I encountered difficulties with a particular part. This attitude of helping each other assisted us to make improvements that would benefit the band as a whole. As a result, we got a step closer towards a gold distinction at the SYF. Occasionally, if my other bandmates are willing, we would run through the whole piece from top to bottom and we would brush up on our mistakes.

In conclusion, we must work hard and support each other, in order to achieve our goals. Nothing is free in life for us to enjoy the benefits.

Muhamad Nazhan Bin Mohamed Zulfakir
Class 3A1

Success comes when you make your dream a target, and achieve it with hard work and dignity. Success leads to happiness as you would have done whatever it takes to reach the goal. I vividly remember my own success story about three years ago.


I was playing Basketball during Physical Education (PE) and my PE teacher, Mr Lee, gathered the class as we were about to finish our lesson. When we got together, Mr Lee told us about the cross-country run which was a 2.4 km run. I was shocked as I realised I always failed because I was fat and lazy

I decided that I wanted to change my lifestyle of eating oily food such as fries and nuggets, and start having healthier meals. On that day onwards, I vowed to eat more vegetables and fruits. I also started to jog back home instead of taking the bus, apart from making regular trips to the gym. After a month of working out and eating healthily, I looked at the mirror and saw a big difference. I lost 5.2 kg.

On the day of the cross-country run, I was confident and focused. When one of the teachers blew the horn to start the race, I sprinted as fast as I could to be fastest runner. Every runner was shocked to see me win the race and receive my medal.

I was so proud of myself, and so were my parents who had been supporting me throughout my entire build-up for the race. I had achieved my own success story with a lot of hard work.

Muhammad Fardeen Bin Mohd Faizal
Class 3A1



What is success? Success to some people is getting an 'A' grade or getting what they have always wanted. But to me, success does not have to be a big achievement. It could simply be working on making improvements to something you were not good at or achieving something you yourself are proud of.

One of the biggest achievements I made was in 'Dance'. When I first joined dance, I was not physically fit enough to dance well. I always slacked and did not do my Physical Training properly. I was also the slowest at running. When I danced, my steps were heavy and I did not look graceful. However, things changed when I kept training and running. While dancing, I could control myself better and remember all the steps. Even though I was not chosen to participate in competitions, I was still happy to dance for school events.

I am proud of my achievements though, I cannot take all the credit for them. My dance seniors were always there to help me at every training session. They would always cheer me on and push me to do better. They were there to make Physical Training fun instead of tiring. Other than my seniors, my mother helped me emotionally. She would always let me talk to her about my CCA and would always encourage me to never to give up whenever I said I wanted to. She always listened attentively and always gave me feedback about whatever problems I encountered. She made me happy after every rant. I am grateful to be surrounded by people who have made me want to improve my CCA. Now I have more confidence in my CCA. I am looking forward to my turn in helping my juniors in my CCA. Then I would have even more success to be proud of.

Most people may feel that they have not had a taste of success yet if they keep taking baby steps, and keep working hard and persevering, they will experience success eventually.

Nasreese Binte Mohammad Nasir
Class 3A1

The meaning of success to me is when you achieve something like a goal or a challenge that you overcome on your own. Many have their own success stories to share but it is my turn now.


My success story has been amazing and hard to forget. It is about my Co-Curricular Activity, Floorball. This is a sport that I would willingly continue to play for many more years to come. My teammates in Floorball have been so much fun. I have journeyed with especially my seniors for three years. We have brought honour and glory to our school in unexpected ways.

In the toughest, most grueling Floorball tournament of the year, we went into the semi-finals. Eventually, we managed to beat East Spring Secondary in the B-Division, this year. It was one of the hardest schools to face in our groupings. The bond that we shared, during our demanding but enjoyable training camps and bonding camp, made us strong. Though we lost in the finals, we grew as a team, and as individuals. We are proud of one another, and happy to have contributed to our reputation and sense of identity, as a merged school.

The time has come for the graduating seniors to step down to prepare for the N-Levels. We will miss them but memories of our achievements and the time we spent together are unforgettable.

In conclusion, it was a pleasant experience playing for the Loyang View Secondary School Floorball team. Sadly, I only have a year left to play but I will put in my absolute best effort to bring glory to the team and school.

Qamarul Adli
Class 3A1



Failure is normal. “Success is the ability to go from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm.” People can be successful only if they want to. Once they set their goals, they are usually willing to put in hard work and effort, and people who succeed usually have the momentum to go on striving for better results. The more they succeed, the more they want to succeed, and the more they will find a way to succeed. Similarly, when someone is failing, the tendency is to get into a downward spiral that can even become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

I began to skip basketball training, as I thought I was not good enough. I felt, I would never make it to the school team though I trained hard. I almost decided to give up and change my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) to something else, as I felt I would not never make it to the school basketball team. But one day, while watching the sports channel on television, I came across a basketballer named Kyrie Irving. He talked about his career and being a successful basketballer. He said that he used to have doubts about his ability and almost gave up. After hearing his speech, it inspired me to have faith in myself.

From that day onwards, I trained really hard and went to extra basketball training sessions. Eventually, my dream came true. I made it to the school team! Not just that, being in the team made me more confident. It spurred me on to train harder. I am now the star player of my team. Therefore, this is my success story.

Reuven Yeo Xuen Han
Class 3A1


I believe everyone has tasted success whether small or big. However, everyone's mindset about success is getting a big house and a big car. Success does not fall from the sky. Success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination to give of your best: win or lose.

I wrote my success story last year about getting nominated as a student councilor by my Teachers. That was my biggest success last year as it was my dream. Fortunately, this year my success is bigger. I have become the Head of Administration in the Student Council Executive Committee.

When I was just a normal student councilor, I did not think anything more than becoming a student councilor as other student councilors were more determined and disciplined than me. As days went on, we had to prepare for Teacher's Day. We had rehearsals, and my seniors were put in charge of the 'Teachers Day' appreciation video. Sadly, Mr. Ryan was disappointed with their effort. Surprisingly, he approached a group of my friends and asked, "Who is good at editing videos?" My friends volunteered my name. Mr. Ryan did not waste any time looking for me. He asked me if I was able to make a Teacher's Day appreciation video. I was scared as I had not done anything huge as a student councilor. But then I realised that I should try, and it was fine to make mistakes as I would eventually learn more from the experience.

It was a hectic experience. I slept at around 3 am working on the video. Mr. Ryan was also putting pressure on me to complete the video for Teachers' Day which was just round the corner. Ultimately, the video got done, and everyone enjoyed it. Most importantly, the teachers were very touched. From then on, the teachers in-charge could see how hardworking I was, and they slowly began to give me and my team more projects. That was how I ended up being selected to serve in the executive committee. I was very surprised because there were many other student councilors who were better but I accepted the position with humility and prepared for the interview. Though I was not selected for the role of President or Vice President, I was very happy and proud to have made it to the Executive Committee of the Student Council. I learnt from the experience that it was fine to try something new, and that we should always be positive.

Siti Syahindah
Class 3A1



“Put your heart, mind and soul into even your smallest acts. This is the secret of success.” I personally believe that these are the three important factors to have success in life. If you put all this together success will gradually come to you. Here is my story.

During my primary school days, I was shy and a quiet student. I did not speak up whenever the teacher asked a question. I would always keep quiet. I always had this fear that if I said something wrong, the other students might judge me or laugh at me, and that would make me have less confidence in myself. It was my biggest challenge that I faced as I grew up. Even if I was sure of the answer, I would just keep quiet.

In Secondary School, however, my self-esteem got a boost. I became more confident. The school has helped me in a lot of ways, by asking me to join the Student Council. I found a beautiful family in the Student Council. When all the Student Councillors get together, seeing them talk would give me the confidence to talk like them. Not only that, the student council also helped me to become a responsible student.

My CCA has helped me grow in a lot of ways. By being disciplined, and shouting the commands on the parade ground during assembly has helped me to further believe in myself. In conclusion, I realise that nothing must stop me from doing anything. I need to overcome my fear and learn how to face it.

Tharshini
Class 3A1


My success story starts with the transition from Primary six to Secondary one. To most students, it is a frightening experience as you are forced to spend either the next five or four years with people you have never met before. Compared to other people's accomplishments, mine might be less impactful.

First day of Secondary life was challenging for me as I missed orientation day which made it harder for me to make new friends as many were already part of groups. When I first stepped into the hall, I was greeted with new faces and familiar ones. Unfortunately, most of the people I knew were in a different class except for one boy. His name was Manish and he was from my Primary school. He was the very first person I talked to. Manish had found new friends which I had to accept. So, I had to step out of my comfort zone and try to start a conversation with a person I had never talked to nor seen before.

Out of the blue, a boy next to me started conversing with me, to my surprise I was shocked and replied with a slight grin. After a few hours, we got to know each other and got closer. After this incident, I felt more comfortable in my class, and started making new friends.

What seemed like an impossible feat turned into a skill. It's funny to think that I used to be really scared and afraid to start a conversation with someone when now it feels like a hobby. Sometimes to achieve something meaningful to you, you have to step out of your comfort zone and continue from there.

Mark Angelo Verceles Tabiano
Class 3A3



My success story is about a time when the secondary ones joined NPCC [National Police Cadet Corps] and the secondary four cadet leaders in charge had to interact with the new comers.

At first, we had to partner with one of the secondary one students but the thing is I barely even knew any of them so I panicked. Thankfully, a bonding game was organized to break the ice. We had to sit in a circle and call out our names aloud to play the game. So, as we started playing I got less awkward and more confident and more down to earth.

After some time, I gathered my strength and talked to one of the secondary one girls and realized it was not that hard or scary. As time passed, I got more and more confident with other people, and now I feel very thankful for the opportunity to interact with the secondary one cadets. I no longer feel stressed interacting with people in different social situations, as a result. That is my success story.

Qistina Bte Zulkiflee 3A3
Class 3A3

Everyone has different ideas of success. Being successful can be looked upon in many different ways. It could be achieving good grades or being rich and winning in competitions. To me, success is accomplishing something that you have set your heart to. My success story is different; it is not the typical achieving good grades story but, how I was able to become a more socially confident person.


It is not simple to talk to others confidently and comfortably. Growing up, I had always been reserved and quiet. I was an introvert. I despised public speaking, be it in front of the class for presentations or oral examinations. I just hated speaking in general. It was difficult for me to make friends in primary school which explains why I only stuck to a small circle of friends. I never had the courage to talk to those who I was not familiar with.

Everything changed ever since I entered Secondary One. Since I was separated from all my close friends, I knew I had to make new ones. It was difficult for me and it took me a while to make friends. I realised I had to build up my confidence level. It was tough to open up and talk to my new classmates as they all looked intimidating. I had a lot of anxiety attacks as I could not adapt to the new surroundings. I felt hopeless because I thought that I would never step out of my comfort zone. However, my form teacher, Ms. Lin, changed all that. It felt as if she was a gift sent from God. I opened up to her and told her all my worries whole-heartedly. She gave me many pieces of advice and was constantly encouraging me to make sure I do my best. Slowly, I got more comfortable and tried opening up to many more people. By the end of the year, I got closer to all my classmates and eventually adjusted to the surroundings. I even got top marks in English and it boosted my self-esteem. I was really grateful to Ms. Lin as she guided me throughout the year.

When I was in Secondary Two, there were many public speaking opportunities in store for me. The school offered many programmes involving public speaking and I was selected for some of these programmes. Some programmes were the Toastmasters Club, Young Ambassadors, Public Speaking Workshop and the Kuantan Exchange Programme, just to name a few. These programmes really helped me to become more socially confident. It allowed me to forge new bonds and really pushed me out of my comfort zone. It gave me the courage to be able to speak well in front of others.

By the end of the year, I was more open and sociable. I no longer had the fear for public speaking. I really enjoy it now and it has helped to improve myself. If it was not for Ms. Lin and the school's assistance, I do not think I would be able to write this success story.

Ain Shahirah Binte Mohamed Azrin
Class 3E1



I waited tensely behind the stage curtain.

My eyes were glued to my script as if magnetically attracted to it. I desperately tried to focus, but it was futile because people on stage insisted on delivering their eloquent orations to the judges. It drove me insane.

Two weeks before the competition, I was told to speak in front of my class as a warm-up in order to be prepared for the competition. I was really nervous. I was wrecked with this self-conscious thought that I was going to mess up and forget my lines. My tongue was in knots and my face flushed to beetroot. I wiped my sweaty palms on my skirt and tried to start my speech. However, I failed. Due to the pressure and stress, I broke down. “You cannot handle this!” I heard a voice from deep inside. It ended in total failure.

“Next, let’s welcome Li Jinghan from Loyang View Secondary School!”

I faced the curtain, half waiting it to retract so I could finally rid myself of this peculiar adrenaline of anxiety that was forcing my heart into the deepest bowels of my gut. On the other hand, I wanted it to simply not open, for fear of the consequences.


I stood dazed and confused. My legs began to totter and my feet experienced some surreptitious movement. My vocal organs were paralyzed and no voice was produced. A film covered my eyes. Everything seemed to swim before me. I was on the horns of a dilemma. Nevertheless, I did not leave the stage.

Taking a deep breath, the speech loomed in my mind. Practice makes perfect. I looked at my rigid gestures and awkward expressions in the mirror, repeating my lines over and over, until I was letter-perfect. In addition, my Chinese teacher, Dr Sun, assisted me in perfecting my script, correcting my cadence and even demonstrating to me. She is thoughtful, never gives me pressure and always talks about optimism and enjoyment. “The result doesn’t really matter, as long as you try your best and enjoy the journey.” These words were inscribed in my mind.

The audience began to cheer and encourage me. I glanced at the audience and spotted my friends. They were there and gave me a gesture of encouragement. My nervousness began to disappear. I felt inspired. I felt a new life and a new courage in every limb. All fright was gone. I was the master of the situation. The audience listened to me with rapt attention. I felt a strange aesthetic pleasure.

My speech went like clockwork and ended up well. Although I did not win the competition, I have achieved my success as I overcame my inner fear and transcended myself. This is success to me.

Li Jinghan
Class 3E1



“There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure.”

The quote has remained with me until this very day. I believe that in order to achieve success, one needs to experience failure. Failure is important. Failure guides us from making the same mistakes again. Moving on from failures sounds like a simple task, however, human beings continue to feel an indescribable type of sadness, defeat and disappointment for themselves especially when they have worked incredibly hard trying to achieve their goals and aspirations. When one fails, they would feel bitter, thwarted and inundated. Everything they have worked for can be simply disregarded or gone to waste. This applies to anybody even to me.

Public speaking is one of the many activities that has struck fear into the hearts of many. As a child, I was always reserved. The idea of presenting in front of a group of people frightened me. That is why it really surprised me when I volunteered to join a public speaking competition when I was in Secondary Two. Throughout the entire year, my class was given countless opportunities to develop self-confidence in ourselves and to be more outgoing. I remember when my English teacher, Mr Norman Long, introduced the public speaking competition, Plain English Speaking Award (PESA), he explained that the school would be sending students from our school to join the competition and it intrigued me. At that point, I did not know what went through my mind, however, I knew that I really wanted to try out new things and gain experiences, especially something that was really out of my comfort zone. I decided to do the one thing that terrified me. I participated in the PESA competition.

Mr Long was supportive of me. I had to prepare my own speech. However, in order to enter the competition, we were required to submit a video recording of our speech, without looking at our script. Although we recorded it multiple times, I was still unprepared and was unable to memorise my script. Due to my unpreparedness and anxiety, I was not really confident and was unable to send a good recording to the organisation. Therefore, I could not make it past the selection round. This failure disappointed me and I felt really humiliated. I thought I could do better but it only made me realise how inexperienced I was as a speaker. However, during the planning of the script and filming, I learnt a lot and built lasting connections with the other two contestants.

Although I moved on, there was always that feeling of failure that resided in me. The feeling only fueled me to work harder and practise being more confident. For every new assignment related to speaking in front of an audience, I tried not to be too obvious about my nervousness and persevered to make my speech natural and appealing. Finally, a few months after the contest, Mr Long invited a few of my classmates and I to enroll in a public speaking workshop called, 'Toastmasters'.


During the workshop, skilled public speakers taught us the ways of public speaking. Throughout the workshop, many of them highlighted that as a child, they really struggled to communicate with others and growing up, they had put in a lot of hard work and dedication to become the brilliant speakers they were then.

We were really inspired to become better speakers and to improve our public speaking skills. Unknown to us, it was revealed that at the end of the workshop, the speakers would judge our skills as we would be having a contest.

I could still remember the day of the contest. I recalled my chest feeling tight, my whole body was on fire and my heart was pounding quickly. We did not have to prepare a script as it was an impromptu speech. We had to pick lots to assign the order of who would be going first. When I saw my number, I immediately crumpled the paper. My hands were shaking. I was the first to go. I remember seeing a dozen eyes staring at me, waiting expectantly. My heart squeezed in fear. However, without hesitation, I took a deep breath and stumbled through my speech. When it was over, I practically ran back to my seat, my cheeks flaming hot. This time, unlike the PESA competition, I was able to get through the finals. Despite losing again, I was satisfied and really thankful with the experience I had gained with the workshop and there was no feeling of disappointment.

Today, I may not still be the best at public speaking, but I am able to learn from past experiences and failures. Although I still get agitated during public speaking, I realised that I had improved from the moment I had started being interested in public speaking. This is what success means to me!

Nur Ain Binti Azman
Class 3E1



Everyone has different perspectives and opinions of what success is. In my opinion, being able to overcome a fear or being able to complete an activity is success. Last year, I overcame one of my fears by taking the opportunity to help out with the Loyang View Open House during the holidays.

A few of my classmates and I were tasked to share our experiences of Urban Farming at the Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) Farmer's Market booth to the parents and students. However, we were not taught how to share and interact with visitors. The first few minutes after the commencement of the Open House went by slowly. It was a struggle as none of us took the initiative to share about our experiences. We had the tendency to push the most experienced and sociable person forward.

I really regretted and kept wondering why I decided to volunteer myself when I knew that I was a quiet and socially awkward person. I wanted to give up and go home. Just then, one of the teachers who was there decided to come by and help us after observing how much we were struggling to communicate. She gave us tips and advice on what we should do and say to visitors which gave us more courage. When she left, we took the time to plan what each person should share, which improved our teamwork. I also took the time to calm myself down and think about the tips the teacher gave us.

I decided to be the first one to approach and talk to the visitors with the skills the teacher had taught us. Everything went smoothly after that as I was more confident to speak to people. It was a huge improvement! Looking back at it, I am glad I took the opportunity to talk to the visitors because that is the reason why I do not feel scared anymore when approaching strangers. It also got us, classmates closer than before as we had to work together to present the right information to the parents and the Primary Six students who wanted to know more about the school.

I have successfully improved my social skills and thus have become a socially confident person.

Nur Eryna Falisha Binte Muhamed Herry
Class 3E1

Success. What is the meaning of success?

“It is an accomplishment of a goal or purpose you have set,” that was the response I would always receive. Everyone I have met has had their own successes, in either the academics, sports or aesthetics.


Yet, years passed and my hope of attaining a success story began to diminish. I looked at my fellow peers, attaining their own successes. Tears of happiness that rolled down my cheeks, soon turned into tears of envy and bitterness. Silently I cursed myself, “What have I done wrong?” The hollow bitterness engulfed me as the void marked its own territory; the sinful desires of stealing a success story from someone else, grew rapidly. It scared me. I would grip my own mask tightly and masquerade as an average student.

Despite all of that, I still continued to persevere and finally found my own meaning of success. I did not find it by chance, in fact, I was guided by a senior from my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA), the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC). My first impression of him was that he was not like any of the other seniors as he was more upfront to speak out his ideology and ways. While getting to know him, he told me stories of his own past experiences, and how he learned from his own mistakes and those of others. His attitude of openness defined him.

During CCA sessions, he would always make sure that I partake, in at least, one upcoming competition or performance that would benefit me. Before long, he encouraged me to participate in the NPCC Annual Parade. In this Post-Parade, my squad in NPCC was one of the few in the island to be selected to perform in this precision drill with a rifle. This opportunity only happens once in a while!

My senior further convinced me that if I were to go, I would be able to learn new skills that most people do not have. Feeling intrigued, I volunteered.

The first few training sessions were confusing and tricky as the techniques we learned were different from what we had done in school. I did not have the confidence to execute the drills. But, slowly, it got much easier and I felt more confident. When we had to combine our training with other schools, it felt awkward at first but over time, we got along with one another.



Time passed quickly and it was nearly the end of the year. The instructors decided to test our skills in executing the drills. The test was tiring and tough, having to repeat the same drills again and again. The rifle in our hands kept sliding through our sweaty palms as we struggled to prevent it from falling.

Suddenly, the instructors asked a representative from each school to lead the commands and execution of drills. All of us looked around while they discussed it. When my squad mates enthusiastically told me to be the representative of our school, my mind went blank and I reluctantly agreed. Before I knew it, I was standing in front of a squad that consisted of more than a hundred cadets. Although nervous, with other representatives beside me, I was able to calm down a little as we encouraged and guided each other. It was really nerve-wracking as it was my first time shouting a set of commands confidently but as time went by, I became more confident and ignored the hundreds of eyes staring at me.

At that moment, I realised my own meaning of success. Though it may seem ridiculous that being socially confident is my success story, it made me feel different as a void in me has suddenly filled with warmth and contentment.

Valen Chee Wei Xuan
Class 3E1

Before I came to Loyang View Secondary School, I was still a student at Temasek Primary School. Back then, I barely had any friends. During that time, I was always second fiddle, never really doing anything important or significant to impact my own life. I was just trying to make the most out of what I had. It became a horrible experience as I had nothing to work towards and each day, I just woke up to go with the flow.


Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) was something I was not keen in. As I was jumping from one CCA to another, many of the teachers-in-charge did not accept me into their CCAs. During my stint in the School Choir, I was kicked out from the CCA as I was seen as a rude student who talked back to the seniors. This as a result, caused me to keep my distance from others as I was afraid to get into trouble if I talked too much. After the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE), I was posted to Loyang View Secondary School. I was not that elated about it as I was worried about the trouble I was going to be in. During the Secondary One Orientation Camp, I realized how awkward I really was around people. Many of them already had their own cliques as they came from the same school or they were just social butterflies which made them click naturally with others. Even though I tried to talk to some of them, they did not really pay much attention to me as they were too busy in their own conversations. It was a slow start, but as time went by, I made some real friends which allowed me to come out of my shell and be more socially confident.

Soon after the camp, I went for the CCA trials. I was not successful in securing a place in many of the CCAs I wanted. However, National Cadet Corps (NCC) welcomed me with open arms! Many of the NCC members were very loquacious and it was almost contagious that after a while, I became a chatty person too. This is not bad as I could hardly talk to anyone previously without feeling awkward. This made me feel more socially confident about myself.

Also, in Secondary Two, I was selected to be part of the Student Council. I was overjoyed. One of the Vice Presidents, Kayla, further gave me an opportunity to be an Emcee for the Teachers' Day concert. Although I already had experienced being an Emcee for Achievers' Night which is a more private event for uniformed groups, I had cold feet as this was going to be in front of the whole school. In the beginning, I regretted accepting her offer as I was getting really nervous from the idea of speaking out loud in front of the whole school but Kayla was very supportive and helped me to learn how to speak better so that I would feel less nervous.

For me, this success about being more open to others, was a difficult step as being an only child in my family had made me more of an introvert. Without the people who had taken the effort to help me, I would not be who I am today.

Chen Xuanhe, Robin
Class 3E1



To be socially confident is no easy feat, especially for an introverted person like me. Since primary school, being able to talk in front of people was something I had never been able to do successfully. When I am nervous, I stutter a lot, and that is what happens when I try to present something too. However, I had a change in mind-set last year when I participated in an English Language programme.

Last year, I participated in public speaking workshops organised by my school as well as the Toastmasters Club that comprised a large group of people who aimed to improve their public speaking skills. Before the programme, my friends and I were dreading the workshop. It was mostly because we all knew that public speaking was our weakness. During the first session, there were a few presenters who talked about the challenges of public speaking and ways to make improvements. All of them spoke very well and that definitely caught my attention. Even though I was inspired by the speakers, I still felt that it was going to be a huge challenge for me.

However, as the sessions went on, I felt more and more motivated to do well in a friendly competition that was being organised. I even got into the finals, although I did not win. However, getting into the finals was already an accomplishment that made me feel elated. After the whole programme, I felt that public speaking was not that difficult after all. It is a mental game that you would experience in the Air Rifle Club for instance. Speaking in front of an audience was something I could do, I began to realise!

Being socially confident is not just about public speaking. Speaking to friends can be challenging as well. The fear that I might say something embarrassing or offensive taunted me. This inner demon does pop up once in a while, which is why I try not to talk too much.

In a nutshell, my success is learning to be socially confident. I still feel nervous when speaking in front of a crowd or in front of my friends. However, this workshop has taught me that feeling nervous is completely normal. What was once a daunting challenge is now part of my life. To be socially confident is not easy, but I believe that anything is possible with the willingness to learn and the determination to succeed. Success is a journey. Mine has just begun!

Jayden Pestana
Class 3E1


What does the word “success” mean to you? To many, success is owning that dream car or owning a multi-billion dollar company like Apple or Microsoft. To some, success is accomplishing daunting tasks like reaching the summit of Mount Everest or finishing off that colossal bar of chocolate one had taken a bite out of. However, I can confidently proclaim that success is a journey, not a destination.

I remember that one of my greatest achievements was speaking in front of my entire cohort. It would have been a walk in the park had it not been for my lack of self-worth and low level of confidence at the time. I was constantly worried that I may stutter unintelligible gibberish and embarrass myself in front of everyone. I would also make futile attempts to even talk in front of the mirror, only to bury my face in my hands.

Despite my many failed attempts to even speak to my own reflection, I still received an overwhelming support from my parents, teachers and the most supportive of all were my friends and classmates. Even though my parents and teachers suggested many ways to overcome my fear, it was my peers, who knew me best, pointed out my flaws and taught me effective ways to overcome that treacherous beast which stood between my full potential and me. Though even with these useful tips, it was a challenging feat to get past that monster.

On the morning that I was to talk in front of many other students, some of my closest friends pulled me aside and placed each of their hands on my shoulder and said, “Go get them! We are rooting for you, cheering on for you, always!” The rest of my classmates too, began to walk towards me and cheered me with encouragements like “You can do this!” and “We are always right behind you!” These words were etched in my memory. With each of my friends supporting behind me, I walked towards the backstage, with a boost to my confidence.

As I waited for my turn, I heard those words which my friends had uttered being repeated over and over, as if my brain had a looped VHS tape installed. When I stepped onto the lit glossy floor, instead of seeing a sea of unfamiliar, curious faces I had anticipated, I saw the reassuring, confident and kind faces



of my beloved friends. I was not able to remember the exact events that took place, but based on the accounts by teachers and peers, I was a natural. Even my then English teacher, Mr. Long, commented that I did a fantastic and marvellous job, but even those comments were not enough to match my ecstasy. My classmates cheered and chanted my name as they ruffled my already messy hair, gave me a pat on the shoulder and some even attempted to hoist me up.

From that most treasured day forth, I have strived to give it my all, to be the very best that I can be. Just like how I recite the Student Creed every morning “Within me lies the power to be the best that I can be,” I was prepared to face each passing day with courage and determination. I may not be “The King of Rock” or “The Most Intelligent Person”, but I am who I am. A socially confident person and this is my success story.

Jeremiah Teoh Zhoujie
Class 3E1


Throughout my primary school years, I have always felt a fragment of myself missing, and that fragment was confidence. I was an extremely shy student who had trouble making friends. I even had difficulty ordering food. I did not have the courage to initiate or sustain conversations. Whenever I tried to talk, fear would overcome my entire being. I would start to stutter, become unable to maintain eye contact with the other person and eventually have to walk away in shame of my failure.

It was Friday, the whole school was involved in enrichment programmes. I chose the “Brazilian Percussion” workshop. I always had an interest in music and was keen to learn something new. Through the programme, I made new friends as we shared a common interest in music. This lasted five weeks. At the end of it, we were to present what we had prepared during the course of the workshop. Two weeks prior to the end, the teacher-in-charge told us that someone had to give a speech to the school regarding the performance. Naturally, no one wanted to do it. Seeing this, the teacher-in-charge then let us vote on who would be the one to give the speech. I ended up being the student with the highest number of votes as everyone seemed to think I could do it, with the prime exception of myself. Despite my lack of self-confidence, my family members and friends kept encouraging me. I remember the first few times I read the speech out loud, it was extremely awkward and I was reading it too fast. This made it difficult for the audience (my friends or family members) to understand what I was saying. My awkwardness while reading the speech was because I was highly self-conscious, afraid to make a fool of myself or mess up the presentation. However, I was constantly encouraged and given constructive criticisms by my teachers, friends and family members to do better.

I remembered all the constructive criticisms and positive feedback, making sure to listen and work on each and every one. Slowly, my self-confidence grew and my delivery of the speech also got better. Two weeks flew by just like that and it was time to present. I was at backstage, reading the script over and over again. My heart palpitated vigorously and my hands were cold and clammy. The other members saw my nervousness and they tried to ease my fear by telling me jokes to lighten the mood.

The time came to present, and it was quickly over. It was a successful presentation! I was really happy as I had overcome my fear of public speaking. Due to that success, I was then asked to host more school programmes. This experience has further motivated me to go on and conquer new challenges in the year ahead, as a more socially confident person.

Matthew Lee Jie-Min
Class 3E1



Everyone can claim to have tasted success. Some are even lucky to have tasted success over and over again. I used to envy those who were able to experience success repeatedly. I was able to achieve mine too after stepping up to become a senior in my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA), the Boys' Brigade. It was a turning point for me.

When I was in Secondary Two, I found it additionally difficult to communicate with people I did not know or was not close to. There were juniors who had joined my CCA and I had to guide and even lead them. As my command for drills was pretty decent, I had to teach the Secondary Ones how to carry out simple drills such as attention (Sedia) and stand at ease (Senang Diri). However, to communicate, guide and help them was something I had difficulty with. Taking the Secondary Ones for the first time was really daunting because if I make a minor mistake, they might just laugh at me! When a person who has low self-esteem gets laughed at, he would be mentally affected.

Will someone with low self-esteem be able to stand in front of the whole school and give a command? The new term came and my worst nightmare became a reality. Being in a Uniform Group (UG), the Secondary Two students had to step up to become Parade Commanders. Every morning, we would have to give our command in front of the whole school. Standing in front of the whole school was daunting as you would have hundreds of eyes staring at you. When it came to my turn to give the command, I was really nervous, and my hands were shaking tremendously. Just then, my CCA teacher told me that this is a stepping stone for me to overcome my weakness and boost my confidence level. After hearing that, I felt motivated and gave my best.

Through this commanding session every morning in school, I became a more socially confident person and I was able to interact with my peers easily compared to the past. I was glad through this experience, to step out of my comfort zone and overcome my weakness.

Teh Wei Bin
Class 3E1

One cannot be successful until one has reached this mindset of happiness. It is not possible for one to be successful unless one is happy with one's goals and achievements.


My greatest achievement is scoring my personal best score for the National Shooting Championship. I had a score of 552.9 out of 654 and it was my proudest moment yet in my years of shooting. I also managed to surpass my target and got the highest score out of my teammates.

There were many obstacles along the way. Stress, time management, pressure, confidence and many more. I did not have much confidence at that time, the day before the competition. I was already stressed out from nervousness and I thought that I was going to do very badly during the shoot. However, I managed to pace myself and persevere. With the encouragement of my seniors and friends, I was able to go beyond my limits.

My coach and seniors have helped me to achieve this success. They helped me by teaching me the ways to fix and improve my position so that I would be comfortable with it. Not only that, they also helped me build a stronger mindset and gave me the motivation that made me a positive and better version of who I was in the past. I am very glad that their efforts on me did not go to waste. Not long after, I also managed to become the Physical Training Instructor of the club.

I now have more confidence and positivity in myself, and I am looking forward to reaching greater heights in shooting and helping my fellow juniors achieve their goals.

Jayden Eng Wei Yang
Class 3E2



A success story does not always have to be about something big you accomplished like successfully climbing the tallest mountain in the world. A success story can be as simple as learning how to cook a dish you have always wanted to cook. My success story is about how I improved my studies, and more specifically in the Principles of Accounting (POA)

In Secondary Two, I was given the opportunity to choose which subjects I wanted to take in upper secondary. I had to pick between a few subjects. I was unsure of what I wanted to choose. It was very stressful. I knew I had to make a good choice, as I would have to do that subject for the 'O' level examinations. I went the extra mile to ask around to my seniors, family members and other friends about what I should take as I was not interested in many of the subjects. So, I finally decided to choose POA. I wondered if I was taking a risk learning a new subject.

The first POA lesson in Secondary Three was fun and interesting. I met my teacher, Ms Ng, for the first time. She was also new to the school yet she was very kind and patient with my class. The first term was very stressful, and I was always at the edge of giving up. However, Ms Ng was very patient and made sure we understood each topic we learnt clearly. I was never the best at memorising the theory that was taught but I put in the effort to remember them.

I'm very thankful to my teacher and my classmates as they helped me a lot in POA. I would not say taking risks is good but I'm glad I did take that risk. I learnt to be patient and never gave up on POA. I also learnt that POA was important to direct me to my future career that I'm working hard for. Though there were many downs like failing tests, and not understanding what was taught, the effort that I put brought good life values, and made me improve drastically.

Karunya D/O Sivajiraja
Class 3E2

“NPCC Annual Parade” was the heading of the message I received. A message I never thought I would put in so much attention to. Volunteers were needed to represent the school. One for the school flag contingent, two for the supporting contingent and another two would be in the Guard Of Honour, in short GOH, the most honourable contingent.

There were not enough volunteers and with that, I willingly took up the challenge and volunteered myself. Saturdays would be packed with training sessions from morning to night. I would have to wake up early in the morning, reach home feeling exhausted after spending the whole day under the sun and rush my homework on Sunday after my religious class. Sacrifices were made when committing ourselves in this parade.


Starting from that day, I began learning rifle drills diligently. I stayed back later than the rest to master my rifle drills and got a lot of help from my seniors and teacher officers. Doing it with full determination just to get selected so that I could represent the school in the parade. After many practice and training sessions, selections were made. One from each level. As for me, I was competing with two other cadets for the GOH position.

I smiled from ear to ear and walked happily to school the next day.

“I’m selected, I’m selected” I whispered to myself for the hundredth time that morning.

I was confident since then. Wanting to do my best and to not disappoint my school, teachers, parents and peers who gave me continuous support and believed in me. The first training at the headquarters itself was the actual selection. Cadets were selected and divided into the main or reserved contingent. That were all based on our rifle and foot drill.

Standing in the parade ground together with other cadets, from other schools, and marching in with pride while representing my school was the best feeling. I felt accomplished and proud. Never have I ever thought I could be part of the NPCC annual parade wearing the no. 1 uniform.



Not only that, but from this experience, I began to be more confident doing drills together with my squad. I asked questions if in doubt. Doing my very best for every training and taking in the tips and advice from cadet leaders efficiently.

Anyway, why would I call it my success story? Well, to me, it was because it takes resilience to not fall out. I also put in tremendous effort to do well, and persevered to move forward. In addition, I was a team player to make the parade a success for everyone.

Sumayyah Binte Norazn
Class 3E2

Every success is different in its own way from an individual's perspective. Whether you are achieving something meaningful and big, or something minor, on a personal level I think it is still something very significant. This success story is about a transformational experience that was life changing and memorable.


The Drama Club event was scheduled around the June holidays when most of the students were resting at home. The entire drama club had to go to school about twice a week, together with the Secondary One students. When I first heard about the news about cooperating with the Secondary One students, I really was not looking forward to the experience. From what the seniors, from Secondary Two to Five students, said, most of us had a bad impression of the Secondary One students. Every morning assembly, they were constantly reprimanded and called to stand.

When I first watched the rehearsal, I was not that impressed by the Secondary One students as their movements were sloppy and the transitions were slow. As expected, they were admonished and the teachers-in-charge suggested how they could improve. Some were uninterested and unenthusiastic about the show, some did not even bother showing up. This performance was also going to be shown to the public and the school, which made the entire production crew and teachers in charge of this performance, even more stressed.

After a month of rehearsing for the show, many of the cast decided to put in much more effort when it was announced that our principal, Mr. Lee and other important figures in our school would be attending the performance. Everyone gave one hundred and ten percent to make the show a success. The entire cohort was inspired, by its seniors, teachers, principals and most importantly, peers.

After two months of preparation, the actual day of the performance arrived. The performance was shown to the school one cohort after another. The stress gradually increased when our teachers-in-charge said that Mr. Lee and some parents would be attending the final performance for the secondary four and five students. The experience was really nerve-racking, though we still managed to pull through after doing two shows consecutively. Going through the three months of rehearsals, I really felt a sense of accomplishment and became more open and confident by performing to the public and the other levels in school.

Yap Kai Xuan
Class 3E2



Everyone can claim to have tasted success. Some are even lucky enough to have tasted success over and over. I used to be envious of my friends that tasted success again and again. However, secondary school was a turning point for me.

When I first joined a new Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) in Secondary school, it was really challenging for me, as it was something I had never tried before. However, the leaders in my CCA patiently guided us through and helped us along the way. That was when I thought I wanted to be like them in the future.

Since I was in primary school, I was never given the chance to be a leader. Hence, I was shocked when I was chosen to be one of the leaders in Secondary Two. As I had never been in a position of leadership, I was very nervous and reluctant to take the role.

However, I was reminded of the seniors that patiently guided me through when I first joined the CCA. Then, I became determined to be just like them. Being a CCA leader made me a more responsible person as it made me step out of my comfort zone. I do not usually like to communicate with people I am not familiar with. Hence, it was really hard for me to talk to my peers. However, I learned that being a leader, I would need to interact with others. So, I slowly started to open up to my peers easily.

Even though becoming a leader might not be considered a success to others, it was the first leadership role that was given to me. It made me into a better version of myself that I never knew that I had. Becoming a CCA leader was a turning point for me. This is truly an achievement that cannot be described with ink and paper.

Yeo Shin Yee
Class 3E2

“This is how you should wear the sarong, Mr Koh,” I instructed him as I demonstrated to the other team members how it should be worn.


I was at Kampong Glam, standing in front of Sultan Mosque, manning one of the stations that all the teachers had to go through in order to learn more about the Malay culture in their heritage trail learning journey. I was identified by my teacher to help out in this learning journey for the teachers.

It all started when we had to attend an enrichment programme on public speaking. An introvert and passive boy, the thought of sharing something in public did not interest me at all. Nevertheless, I forced myself to sit in the class and listened to the tips shared by the trainer on what made good public speaking. After all, the school aimed to develop us holistically, and one of them was to make us good and confident speakers who interacted well with peers and teachers.

When a teacher and his team mate asked me if they had got it done right, I just kept quiet and stood still beside them. I did not even smile! Through my body language, they knew that it was wrong but I did not tell them just that. That was one of the aspects I learned about public speaking – body language. They automatically took off the sarong and tried it again. Ulala! Body language was simply awesome!

Staying calm and composed, I was able to deliver well what I needed to share with them – the history of the Malay sarong, why they wore them and how it was tied to the waist. I gained more confidence to speak in front of the public (some tourists stood by and listened to our explanation) and teachers. I felt proud that I was able to overcome my sense of fear. It was a personal success that only I was triumphant of. An otherwise passive and reticent boy, I have learned to interact and reduce my anxiety.

Frann Edmyrrhie Sicalag
Class 3T1



The thought of interacting with exchange students from Indonesia made me crane my neck so that the teacher would be able to see me my stretched arm, and nominate me to be one of the members in this programme.

‘Cher, I want to be in this programme!’ I shouted when she failed to notice me. Having attended an enrichment programme on public speaking, I gained more confidence to speak and interact with my peers from all backgrounds. I sighed with relief when I was noticed, and the teacher entrusted me with the task of taking the lead by taking charge of a team.

When the day came, I plucked up the courage and applied what skills I had acquired from the workshop that I had attended. I took the banner with me and when we saw our counterparts collecting their luggage at the arrival hall of the airport, I confidently instructed my team members to hold it tightly at both ends and cheered as loudly as we could. When they saw us through the glass door, they were so excited and felt welcome to our country.

As if that was not enough, as the ambassador of the school and with the rest of the members of the programme, we ushered them to the performance theatre upon reaching school. With great confidence, I stood behind the microphone and spoke loudly and clearly into it. “Welcome to Loyang View Secondary School, a happy and caring school, indeed!”. I then introduced myself and all the other ambassadors and the teachers.

They were delighted to begin the day with a very simple ice-breaking ceremony that gave us the opportunity to interact with them. Initially awkward, we grew to be more comfortable with each other as the hours passed by and the interesting activities we played together, helped bond us well. With a positive mind, I extended my right hand and shook theirs. When my turn came to explain to them on how to play one particular game, I overcame the fear of speaking in public and discharged my duty with great pride and confidence. Seeing the smiles they had on their faces, gave me the strength to do more for the school.

From this programme, I learned to be more confident when interacting with these Indonesian students who were once strangers to me. It was amazing once the ice was broken. Everything came to me naturally and I made many friends from this short but memorable event. It was a personal success for me as I was able to overcome that sense of fear and build confidence. I hope to be a part of more of these exchange programmes in the years to come.

Julia Sarah Binte Muhammad Hasan
Class 3T1

I only have my English teacher to thank for giving me the opportunity to speak in front of the class in an oratorical lesson. I did not know that I had the courage to do so, as I was always a passive, quiet and an introverted girl. It was a challenge, and victory was sweet when I overcame my fear!


After we had completed working on our success story, our teacher proposed that we had to stand before the class and give a speech on what we had done. "OMG!" I sighed as I knew that this was something that I would never be able to do. I had never done it. As if speaking in front of the teacher alone was not enough, I had to do it in front of the class! That was impossible!

The thought of backing out crossed my mind as my feet wobbled. I just felt like going to my teacher and telling her that I did not mind getting a zero. It was better than to stand in front of the class to deliver. However, seeing my friends do it, I was motivated, though agitated. I went home and rehearsed my speech. I stood in front of the mirror and pretended as if I was speaking in front of my classmates and teachers. I corrected myself repeatedly so that I could present my speech to the best of my ability. I even got my younger brother to be my audience and got him to signal to me should I fail to do well in my delivery.

When my turn came on that fateful morning, I felt a bit uncomfortable but I did not allow that to get the better of me. When my name was called, I walked briskly to the front of the class so that I could stay calm before the storm. What came next was beyond my imagination. I delivered slowly but clearly, maintaining eye contact with my audience. I saw my teachers beaming with pride. Before I knew it, everything was over and what I could hear next was the round of applause that I got from my teachers and classmates.

What took five minutes appeared like ages for me to complete my task. However, those five minutes changed me into a more confident girl. I began to open up to my friends and teachers after that short episode. It proved to be a turning point in my social life. It was a personal victory for me.

Nur Syafiqah Binte Saivi
Class 3T1



“This kueh is known as puteri salat. Its top is green in colour, and it’s sweet and creamy. Its bottom is steamed glutinous rice. Others are known as kueh kosui and kueh lapis”. I confidently and diligently shared with the group of teachers who listened to me attentively, nodding at the same time, under the hot scorching sun.

The school organised an end-of-the-year training workshop for all the teachers and one of the programmes included a heritage trail at Kampong Glam. They were divided into groups, and my task was to enlighten them on the history and culture of this place, once a thriving residential and business area of the Malays in Singapore.

As a student trained in public speaking, I was nominated to be one of the facilitators. My task was to share with the group of teachers that reported to me, the rich culture and history of Kampong Glam, near the Sultan Mosque. I was very confident describing to them the origins of the kueh, the ingredients that went into making them and how these formed the cultural fabric of the Malays in Singapore. I sounded loud and clear and took pride in sharing with them my culture and roots and how Kampong Glam was gazetted as a historical and cultural landmark of the Malays in Singapore.

‘Alright teachers, you’ve answered all the questions correctly. Now, you will be given a pack that contains an assortment of Malay kueh. Please savour what’s in your hand and enjoy!’. Seeing them eating the mouth-watering kueh that really sank into their teeth made me enjoy my task a lot more.

It was in this public speaking class that I picked up the skills of being an effective speaker. I learnt how to project my voice loud and clear, vary my tone and pitch, stand in an upright but confident manner and smile with my voice. I applied all these skills when I briefed the teachers and judging from their applause, I knew they had enjoyed my sharing tremendously.


I added some spice to my stories by injecting humour and to their delight, they broke into laughter as they closed their mouths.

Our school has many programmes to develop us holistically. Through this, I was able to discharge my duty confidently and engage the teachers diligently. I was selected to be the young ambassador of the teachers' heritage trail. As the team leader, I had to project a good image of myself when speaking in public. Yes, this trail was really held in public and I cherished every moment of it.

The school trained us during the December holidays. We were taken on a familiarisation tour of the place before that. I learnt how to overcome my fear and be more confident. I also learnt to interact with the teachers and the rich history this place had to offer.

At the end of it all, I successfully overcame my fear of interacting with my friends and teachers. I felt proud of myself. I am more comfortable and less anxious in social situations. I also have no qualms challenging myself to start conversations with others.

Nur Syukrina Binte Sairee
Class 3T1



I stood under the hot sun waiting for the next group of teachers to report to me. I was one of the trainers identified by the teacher-in-charge to help the teachers in the heritage trail learning journey at Kampong Glam.

It all started when I attended an enrichment course organised by the school on public speaking and social confidence. Otherwise a shy boy, I learned the skills of projecting a more confident image of myself and how to interact with people with ease and confidence.

“Excuse me, Mr Wee, you did not fold the sarong correctly around your waist,” I said with great certainty as I taught him how to do it and explained to them the history of Kampong Glam and Sultan Mosque. I interacted with the group of teachers confidently as I projected my voice loudly and clearly.

As if that was not enough, I ended the session with a very simple yet challenging quiz. I was able to put aside my fear and discomfort when conducting the quiz, something that would have always bothered me when I had to interact with people, whether they were my peers or teachers.

In the course of discharging my duty, I was not fazed with the presence of some tourists who were there visiting Kampong Glam. In fact, I plucked up more courage and spoke more convincingly and tactfully. They were very much enlightened when, at the end of the sharing, they clapped their hands and gave me a thumbs up, thanking me for a job well done.

Yes! I had indeed managed to overcome my fear and speak more confidently in this social situation. It was a personal victory for me. The school had given me the opportunity to develop my confidence by organising an enrichment programme that allowed me to discover my better self.

Syahmi Zulhilmi Bin Mohammad Razali
Class 3T1


I had always been a shy person since young. As a matter of fact, ever since I got into Loyang Secondary School and eventually Loyang View Secondary School, my confidence level has been boosted as we had endless opportunities to speak in front of the whole class. I did not think that I would be as confident as I am today. I came to realise that there are a whole lot of advantages to being socially confident.

I had to go for a camp in Secondary three, The Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) for one week. I was in a different group than all of my close friends, but after that one week, I was able to make five new friends from my group. We had so much fun in those five days. My group was assigned to do the sea expedition. We did sailing on a large cutter boat and we were on the sea for three days and two nights. On the second day, I was in charge for the day and had to voice out and ask for different opinions from my group members. For example, on one of the nights, we were given the choice whether we wanted to sleep on the cutter or on land. Our instructor gave my group mates and me about thirty minutes to decide. We ended up taking up to a one hour discussing with one another as there were even votes for both land and the cutter. My instructor came and checked on us and we ended up with a mini debate. Eventually, one of our group mates gave in and agreed to sleep on the cutter ship so we ended up on the ship for a night. In fact, the camp went by really quickly. The last day felt like as if we had just met!

Another opportunity arose when I was given the chance to assist the Netball trail for the Secondary one students. Having to teach and lead the Secondary one students needed a lot of courage. We had to teach them warm-up exercises, passes, footsteps and the way to handle the netballs. In order to make sure that they were able to hear me and my other teammates, I had to speak up and explain how to do it step by step. I felt proud of myself knowing how much I had grown.

In summary, I think that being socially confident is not a very bad thing. As a matter of fact, being confident will be an advantage in life as we will have meetings, presentations, and customers to persuade in the future.

Filicia Liaw Yu Xuan
Class 4A1



I did not really know the importance of debate or why we debate before this. It was not as if all of us were going to grow up to be lawyers, right? Speaking in front of a large crowd was never my cup of tea. I get anxious even thinking about it.

As time passed, my hand turned cold and clammy, beads of perspiration trickled down my forehead. “Ng Shuang Shuang you are up next,” my heart skipped a beat when Mdm Azlina called my name. Although I had been practicing since the start of the two-hour break, I did not feel satisfied at all.

I was looking for millions of reasons to not to do this but since it was my turn and I was only going to bear this temporarily, I told myself, “Xuan, do it once and do it good. Just get it over and done with. Why make it such a hassle for the teachers and yourself?”

Before I knew it, it was over. I was shocked that I was able to put my points across and refute my classmate at the same time. After debating in front of the class, I was now more socially confident and able to speak to people unlike the previously though the fear in me still pops up at times.

From this experience, I have not only learnt the importance of learning debating skills but also the importance of social confidence. Glenda Millard once said, ‘Running away was easy; not knowing what to do next was the hard part.’ I have succeed in overcoming my fears.

Ng Shuang Shuang
Class 4A1


Do you agree that the death penalty should be abolished? That was the debate topic that I had to work on. I like to take part in debates as debating is all about standing for your own rights.

When I heard from my English teacher that we were going to participate in a debate, my heart skipped a beat. I was so excited to work on the topic. As the days passed, my teacher told the class that she wanted us to talk about the topic that we were working on in front of the whole class.

Speaking in front of a large number of people was one of my weaknesses as I would get scared and jittery. It was a day before the actual day and I was feeling anxious. The next morning, I was having butterflies in my stomach. I wanted to visit the doctor to take a Medical Certificate (MC) to excuse myself from attending school but I remembered my student creed that states, "I look forward to each day with a sense of purpose." Therefore, I decided to go to school with the purpose to complete the task that was given to me.

To my surprise, I managed to overcome my fear without feeling so nervous. I was proud of myself that I was able to overcome my fear. That opportunity that was given to me, made me a socially confident person as I was able to speak and stand up for my own rights. I realised that speaking confidently is an important aspect that everybody should possess as it helps us to feel good about ourselves. I do, do you?

Nor Afiqah Bte Muharsad
Class 4A1



What is social confidence? Social confidence is something that comes from within your personal self. For example, a person from being an introvert turns into an extrovert.

I remember when I was in Secondary One, I was an introvert. I rarely talked to people in the first few months of school and I was afraid to be laughed at. I really disliked public speaking or sitting for oral examinations. In addition, I did not really have friends to begin with. However, along the way, I learnt that being an introvert is not how I can succeed.

I needed to be much more open in order to make new friends and to explore new things. I needed to be confident of myself in order to be a successful person in the future. I knew that I had to have a positive mindset. It was that positive mindset that had brought me to where I am today, the Captain of my Netball team.

I started off with the basics and really put in the effort for the tasks that were given to me. I volunteered for almost everything during my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) training sessions. It was difficult though.

I was given an opportunity to lead my team when I was in Secondary two even though I had not really mastered the skill for netball yet. At that time, I was still shy and did not communicate much with my teammates especially the seniors. I tried to prove to myself that I was capable of leading my team with confidence and would succeed like how I recited the Student Creed every morning, "With resilience, I will succeed."

That was the point when I realised that I must first believe in myself before the teachers and my teammates could believe in me and take me seriously. This feeling of confidence will come naturally and you must at least try to be confident of yourself to overcome the fear.

Honestly, I still look down on myself at times because no one is perfect and we all have our ups and downs but with supportive teammates, friends, family members and teachers, I am who I am today. Without their encouragement, I would not have been able to overcome such hurdles. I really worked and played hard to achieve my goals and gave all my best in everything I did. I did not give up easily. It was not easy to become a Captain as there were many challenges and responsibilities that one has to hold to so as to lead with pride.

I lacked confidence and courage in the past. With the help of the teachers in LVSS, I managed to strive through all the challenges I faced. It was definitely a memorable and enjoyable journey throughout my whole three and a half years in the netball family. I am no longer an introvert! This is my success story.

Nurul Adawiyah Bte Husni
Class 4A1

Have you ever felt like you are always awkward when around people and you cannot act like yourself when there are so many pair of eyes staring at you? I have always been shy around people, be it my cousins or friends. I was never confident about the way I speak as I feel awkward whenever people paid attention to me when I spoke.


As I grew older, I realised how important self-confidence was and I always tried to speak up whenever I was with a group of people. I grew to realise that eventually, I would have to learn to be confident of myself. As part of our enrichment programme in Secondary three, we had to speak in front of the entire class and we were graded by a teacher. When I knew about it, I was nervous and was hoping that the day would never come due to the fact that I was so insecure. Furthermore, I had never spoken in front of so many people till then.

My classmates and I were informed of the public speaking about a month before the actual day. I wrote my script and was ready to practise for the public speaking. Every day, I made small amendments to my script as I realised mistakes here and there whenever I practiced. I would read my script to myself and sometimes I would ask my sisters to listen to me as that also gave me a chance to be more confident. It also allowed me to practice speaking loudly in front of people.

As days passed, practice after practice, I felt like I had become more confident in the way I spoke in front of people even when they were staring at me. Finally, the actual day arrived. All of us were so noisy in class as we were all discussing the topic that we had chosen and also about how nervous we were to speak in front of the entire class. As the teacher in charge called each one of us up, my heart raced a little more. As much as I did not want my turn to come, it came and when I stood in front of the class, there were butterflies in my stomach. It took me a lot of courage to stand in front of the entire class and do my presentation.

I was so grateful for this opportunity to be able to speak in front of so many people and to have done it successfully. I am sure I have managed to grow through this experience, to step out of my comfort zone, to open up and speak up. My life definitely took a turn when I looked at things from a different perspective. Of course, I am more socially confident too.

Tan Kah Yin Tina
Class 4A1



Everyone has a different definition of success. To me, success is to be able to bond with others and create new friendships. An example of me being successful in creating friendships and being able to bond with others is during the Outward Bound Singapore 5-day camp. This camp is one that I will never forget as it holds many memories and some of the toughest challenges I have faced in my life.

I felt that it was going to be generally easy for me to bond with my camp mates, as I am a socially confident person. During the first day when we were introduced to one another in the group, I was able to interact with them as they were very sociable people.

During the second and third day, there were many tough challenges that we had to go through together. The toughest challenge we came across was during the sea expedition activity, where we had to row the boat as a team. There were ten of us on that boat including me and all ten had to row with the same motion, if not, we would not be able to get to the destination we wanted to get to quickly. However, the boat did not go in the direction we wanted it to. Moreover, if we stopped rowing at any point of time, the tide pushed us back about 100 meters from where we were. We decided that we had to be resilient and keep pushing ourselves to keep rowing. During the activity, we had to do call outs and say, 'One, two and row' so that everyone paddled as a team. Not many of us wanted to do the calling out as we were tired from the previous activities. I had to do something, hence I volunteered to do it.

In a nut shell, I feel that being socially confident is no easy feat. It comes along with added responsibilities. However, with the right mindset and with an end game in mind, we are able to accomplish anything.

Erwin Shah Ariff B Shamsul
Class 4A1


My studies have never been a problem for me. If I wanted to score well for a subject, I could simply study hard for it and I would be able to do relatively well in the tests and examinations. However, due to my upbringing, socialising with people has always been a challenge. I would always stay at home and play my computer games, not interacting with friends outside the realm of the internet. I had never thought that this was a problem until Secondary school.

In Secondary 4, my grades were good but as I still felt rather insecure about how I would perform for the national examinations, I had taken part in the Early Admission Exercise (EAE) to secure a slot in Ngee Ann Polytechnic. The course I had chosen was Accountancy as I had developed an interest in it after studying Principles of Accounts.

The EAE consisted of 3 stages: preparing a write up for the application, attending an interview and then the release of the results. I had gotten past the written stage easily but the interview was an obstacle, given my weakness in interacting with strangers. And so, to prepare for the interview, I began talking more to my friends and teachers. I also did research on interviews regarding the course and read articles from the Straits Times to beef up my knowledge of current affairs and finance.

Having worked hard to prepare for the EAE, I was really glad to learn that I had passed the interview and got into the course of my choice.

Asher Teh Xiang Jian
Class 4A2



I recently participated in an Air Rifle Competition at the National University of Singapore. After a period of not participating, I managed to beat my previous score by leaps. I was really proud of myself and ignored the fact that there were other participants who got a higher score than me. This was my biggest achievement because I improved a lot through the training I had done during CCA and outside of that.

Though I experienced anxiety attacks during the training period which almost brought me down, I managed to overcome them, motivated by my friends. Before the competition, I looked at photos of my friends who were successful to inspire me to put in my best effort. It contributed to big improvements. This strategy boosted my confidence to strive for my personal best. Though I had to go through some difficulties like being intimidated by the scores of other competitors and trying hard to focus on the bull's eye, I made it! This was one of my biggest achievements, and the satisfaction that followed was great.

Mallillin Elijah Mel Asis
Class 4A3


“Success is not final, failure is not fatal.” This is a quote from Winston S. Churchill. This quote has had a deep impact on me. It means that you need to continue striving to improve yourself even after having achieved success in something. It is not final. By the same token, failure does not mark the end of the world. It could lead to insights that bring about success. Some people could be asking themselves, what success means to them. This is a question everyone should ask of themselves. Different people have a different definition of what success means. For some, it could involve acquiring an education, being able to take care of one’s family or achieving a life’s ambition. To me, success is getting along with my classmates.

Before the merger of Loyang View Secondary School and Greenview Secondary School, I worried endlessly about not being able to get along with my classmates. Every time, during break, I would always sit at one corner and do my own things like reading a book or listening to music. I am always that student in class who is the quietest and would not ask questions when I am in doubt.

Whenever there is group work or when my teacher asks me to partner up with someone for physical education (PE), I would always come up with an excuse. Then, one day, my PE teacher called me and asked me what my problem was. I told her that I could not get along with my classmates very well. I was not comfortable with them. So, my teacher advised me how to get along with my classmates better. I took her advice and I tried to change.

I finally learnt to get along with my classmates very, and I have also begun to take part in PE with my friends. Apart from that, I began to make new friends. In conclusion, this incident showed me that I need not, ever, be afraid of being alone for I have gained the confidence to reach out and be part of a community of friends. I succeeded in learning to put in the effort to make friends.

Nadira Inshiraah
Class 4A3



What is success to me? Success is when I have accomplished something that I want to achieve.

Last year in 2018, I participated in the Outward Bound School (OBS) MOE- challenge. On the first day, I made new friends from different schools such as Temasek Junior College. I was nervous but after knowing them a little, I was pretty confident about working with them for the next five days. There were activities planned for us but due to the poor weather, we stayed indoors and played bonding games instead. It was pretty fun! In fact, I enjoyed it. The second to the second last day were the toughest days. We had to hike up twelve kilometres, under two hours, with our backpacks which were very heavy, and my group had to stop every fifteen minutes because I wanted to give up. With the help of my teammates, however, I eventually managed to complete the hike. I am so proud that I completed this challenge because I never thought I would, having almost given up numerous times.

This course really taught me to keep going when life gets tough to achieve what you want.

Nurardini
Class 4A1

Success usually comes to those who are too busy looking for it. My success story was fun to remember. Four years ago. I was just a typical nerdy kid with no path and no goal. Then there was an audition set up for Teacher's Day performances.


An idea rang in my head. I loved dancing. And I felt this was the perfect opportunity to showcase it. It was going to be in front of the entire school. Thankfully, I did not have stage fright and was still willing to perform. I attended the audition that already had four interested participants. I was really worried at that point. Thoughts were in my head like "they could be better than me" or "there is no way I can qualify at this point". I already trained and practiced for the past few weeks to do my best. I waited for the three participants to finish showcasing and auditioning. I just had a surprised look on my face. I was definitely flabbergasted. Then it was my turn.

I did my best. The judges had a mixed look on their face. They started taking down notes. I sat nervously beside the rest of the participants. One thing I could compliment about them is that they did not laugh, make noise or sleep. They actually watched my whole performance. All it took was five minutes. And then, one judge came to me and said "Congratulations, you have been selected for the Teacher's Day performance". Luckily, I did not scream or jump with joy. All I did was smile and walk away slowly. After another two weeks of intense rehearsals, the day arrived.

Teacher's Day had come. I was dressed more formally than I had ever done in any occasion. I wore a denim jacket with black jeans and school shoes. Then they announced my name. And I came with apparently, an incredible and lively entrance. I jumped out and surprisingly, the crowd went nuts and started cheering. I performed and gave it my best. And then, the judges took their notes down. I was hoping I would win the Teachers Day competition.

They started reading out their comments and announcing the winners. I stood out with an incredible amount of support from the crowd. A split second later, there was dead silence. I prayed and hoped for my victory, and one judge screamed my name, "Tanveer is in second place of the competition, congratulations!!" For a moment I felt like I had failed, but then I knew that I had given it my best shot. I nodded with gratitude to everyone. This was my success story. I actually got second place for a competition. Something I had never done in my entire life, and it happened. This was a memory worth remembering. It will be unforgettable.

Tanveer
Class 4A4



My success story begins in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS). I am proud to be a LVSS student. I was originally a Loyang Secondary School student in 2015 and 2016. However, after my school merged with Greenview Secondary School, the two schools came together to be known as Loyang View Secondary School. I am honestly proud to be an LVSS student, as I am one of the many in the school's second graduating batch. Over the one and a half years, this school has taught me to be socially confident.

I used to be a shy kid at Secondary 1 and 2, and I was really cautious in putting myself under the spotlight. Back then, I was a chubby, short kid, and I was new to Singapore because I had just moved here. I only had one talent since the age of 6, and that was playing the piano. I soon realised that I was really talented at playing the piano. So at the beginning of 2018, I decided to play the piano at the foyer with some of my friends accompanying me. While I was playing the piano, I could sense eyes staring at me, including the teachers. The atmosphere that I had created by just playing the piano was unimaginable, as there were at least 30 students who had their eyes locked on me.

What made me totally overcome my fears to become socially confident was during the Overseas Exchange Programme (OEP) trip that the school arranged for all the Secondary 3 students. I was given the opportunity to go to Perth as my OEP trip destination. I had to bond with people from other classes and help the teachers with some duties. The teachers were really nice as they helped me bond with everyone in OEP.

By the end of it, I was amazed as I finally became more sociable, and that naturally improved my confidence level and self-esteem. As a result, I am encouraged to put in more effort into my studies, and the tasks that I am supposed to do, to be the best that I can be. I am now proud of who I am, and the school I currently study in, and nothing will change that as I am a Loyang View Secondary School student.

Chris Trakansuepkool
Class 4E1

The meaning of success is different for every individual. For example, to a footballer, his biggest success is probably to win the World Cup. It shows the world that he and his nation of professional footballers are the best of the best among other fellow athletes worldwide. Winning the World Cup is also a big achievement for them as it makes history. To me, the definition of success is achieving a goal that I have set or achieving something that makes me better. I have had many success stories in my life, but the success that is the most meaningful to me is being socially confident in front of a group of people.


I used to be a very socially awkward person. In a group of people, I would be very quiet or I would talk a lot of nonsense because I was never present. This made me feel left out. It took me a very tough and long journey to get to where I am today.

It all started in Secondary One, when I had just come to Loyang Secondary School. It was a brand new atmosphere with new classmates in a brand new environment. During the first few days of school, there was the Orientation Programme, where everyone would have to do fun activities to bond together. I was very quiet, just like all the other people in my class. I thought it was going to be a very awkward few days, let alone going through the whole year. But the next thing I did managed to raise my confidence forever. I cracked a couple of jokes within my new group of friends. They cracked up with laughter and all of them started talking. Fortunately for me, they were very confident in their conversations and were fearless in what they said. I observed the way they spoke and I thought to myself, I could be speaking that way, too. As the year progressed, I kept using what I saw and I used that method to speak with others. Everything was fine until one day when my Science teacher told me that I had to do a class presentation for a project. I was clueless on how I was going to present it to my class, but my friends talked me through it, and it boosted my confidence and morale. I felt much better and prepared for the day of presentation.

On the day of the presentation, I trembled at the thought of presenting my project. During the presentation, I couldn't stop shaking while I spoke. However, after a few minutes, my fear slowly went away. Everything was going smoothly and normally for me. From then on, I was not afraid of any social gatherings anymore. I am now very confident! I have even given interviews of my Overseas Education Programme.

This personal success story has made a big impact on my life. It has now made me more confident and open towards others. This personal success has been a great benefit to me, and I think that every individual can be socially confident as well.

Ethan Khoo Jae Der
Class 4E1



My success story happened in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS). I am a LVSS student and I am very proud to be one. Over a span of three years, the school has taught me how to be socially confident. I was once a very shy boy who did not want to attract attention or be in the spotlight. I was a very weak and timid boy in Secondary 1. I had a few friends, as I was a transfer student from East View Secondary School. I had quite a hard time making new friends as I was shy and missed a few days during the orientation programme.

I joined the Boys Brigade (BB) as my co-curricular activity (CCA). My CCA taught me how to be confident by teaching me values. I also participated in character quest where we were taught to have true Christian manliness. I started gaining confidence by communicating with my teammates and getting closer together.

The first time I faced a large crowd of people during BB Day, I had to stand in formation in front of the whole school. I felt nervous about how it was going to go. After the experience, I felt like it was not so bad anymore, and I did not mind standing in front of the school again. At some point in Secondary 2, the school started inviting speakers to our school to motivate us. I was inspired by them to boost my social confidence.

Hein Htet Lin
Class 4E1

Entering Secondary school was a new phase in my life. As I entered the unfamiliar, I was intimidated and felt inferior to everyone. From being the most senior student at Primary six to becoming the most junior at Secondary one was a daunting experience.


I had never been an extrovert. It had always been a challenge for me to speak up. However, at Secondary two, I was given the opportunity to be the emcee at the Student Council Investiture 2017. As it was an occasion where parents of the student councillors would attend, it was a big deal for me. I was mentored by my seniors for weeks, and I gradually gained the confidence to be audible and expressive when I spoke into the microphone.

After the ceremony, I was praised to have done a good job. That really encouraged me to take up more emceeing tasks for school events. Ever since then, I became more socially confident and my presentation skills improved.

Moving on to Secondary three, I became a squad leader for the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC). As a leader, it was hard to connect with the juniors, as they were too shy to talk to me. I mustered the courage to approach them personally online so that they would feel more comfortable with my team of squad leaders. Through this, I have also learnt social skills as I can more confidently approach strangers now.

Throughout my years in Secondary school, I have transited from a shy and timid person to a socially confident person. Loyang View Secondary School has shaped me to be a wholesome individual with robust character.

Joey Lim Li Ping
Class 4E1



To me, success is something significant that I have achieved over a period of time. It is very important to know what I have achieved as it tells me what kind of a person I am going to be in the future and how I can improve to become a better person.

One of my many successes in life was when I successfully braved through Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) with another school, Temasek Junior College (TJC). When I first heard that I would be spending my holidays in a OBS Camp, I was nervous. I did not want to spend my holidays with people I did not know. So, I tried to find a way out of the programme, like asking my parents to take me on an overseas trip during that period, so I would not have to waste my time in Pulau Ubin. Looking back at my initial reaction to the OBS Camp, I can say I overreacted as it has helped me to embrace each other's differences and be much more socially confident.

I faced a lot of challenges during the camp. Since my other group members were from another school, we had trust issues at first and were not able to complete our challenges. We were frustrated and the addition of my lack of participation and awkwardness did not help. Eventually my instructor talked to me and convinced me to open up more as it would benefit the team. During one of our challenges, we had to travel from one side to the other side of Pulau Ubin and I decided to take the lead. It was difficult leading a group of people who were uniquely different and knew nothing about each other. However, after what seemed like ages travelling to the other side, we managed to reach the jetty. It was not an easy task. Some of us were not able to carry the heavy load and others were still hostile to each other. Thankfully, I was able to solve the problems and after the trek, we built such a strong relationship, it felt like we had known each other for years.

It felt so good that each one of us was able to look past our differences and that I became much more socially confident now. In addition, since I have become more confident socially, I see this as a success. Therefore, this is one of my many success stories.

Pagdilao Geoffrey Cyd Caraig
Class 4E1


People define success differently depending on their values and aspirations. Some people pursue prestige and wealth as their goals in lives, while others believe that happiness is the ultimate success. For me, being successful is to challenge myself and overcome all barriers.

Being an introvert in nature, I was not confident and felt awkward in expressing myself in public. However, things changed at the beginning of last year, when the Mother Tongue Department of our school held a Chinese debate competition. I decided to grab the opportunity to challenge myself. As a new debater, I was warmly welcomed by the debate team. That was where my story began.

Immediately after the teacher announced the topic, our team studied the topic carefully and spent the entire afternoon brainstorming for relevant points. As soon as we had exhausted all aspects of the issue, specific tasks were assigned to everyone so that we could work more efficiently. Some were assigned to collect information from newspapers and magazines, while others went to the libraries to search for relevant materials. As a member of the research team, my task was to conduct a survey in our school. There was a large amount of preparation to be done, but we managed to finish it in time as we cooperated with one another.

The content of our draft was consolidated after we gathered enough information. Then, we started working on the delivery of ideas. My teammates shared their experience of debate with me and helped me overcome my fears. Although I felt inadequate at the beginning, my teammates reassured me and gave me invaluable suggestions on appropriate tones and gestures. In order to improve on the persuasiveness of my argument, I kept polishing the debate techniques and practicing my lines every day. Eventually, I was able to get rid of the self-consciousness from speaking in front of a large audience.

On the day of the competition, I delivered my ideas fluently and confidently. In tandem with convincing data collected for the survey, we gained an upper hand. As the veracity of our survey was doubted by the opponents, I faltered for a few seconds. "Remain calm and confident," I told myself and adjusted my argument to rebut the opponents.



Although we made full use of the information and attacked the opponents' viewpoint, all of us bated our breath, waiting for the judge to deliberate on the verdict. When the host announced that we were the winners, we all cheered jubilantly, hugging one another with tears of excitement brimming in our eyes. Looking back to the three months of preparation, the camaraderie among us was incredible.

To me, the factors for success do not necessarily hinge on the end result, but the determination to challenge oneself and persevere in spite of the obstacles. My journey with the debating team was a fulfilling one as I had the opportunity to collaborate with the team members, sharpen my skills and excel.

Qu Tianjiao
Class 4E1


Success to me is overcoming one's fears and accomplishing what you once thought was impossible. I had always wanted to stand in front of a crowd and not feel frightened. However, I never had the guts to take on the opportunities that would help me overcome this fear.

When I first joined the Student Council, I never imagined that I would be speaking in front of the whole school during morning assembly almost every week. However, at the start of Secondary three, I was placed in the publicity department. This meant that I would have had to lead the school in reciting the pledge. As I stood backstage, I could feel my heart beating at an abnormal rate. My hands were shaking and cold sweat trickled down my forehead. When I stepped onto the stage, over a hundred pairs of eyes were watching my every move. What if I stumbled on my words? What if I missed a line? All these thoughts were running through my head as I hesitantly reached for the microphone. Before I knew it, I had reached the end of the pledge. To my surprise, my first attempt was decent with only one minor mistake that was speaking in a monotone.

With more practice, I became more fluent and confident. I could walk on stage and speak into the microphone without a hint of fear.

This showed me that if you really put your mind to something, you can achieve it.

Renee D'Angela Raymond
Class 4E1



Looking back at the past two years, I have grown and learnt so much in Loyang View Secondary School, not only in terms of the growth of knowledge and skills, but also in the way I react to people I meet in my life, especially strangers.

I used to be bashful. I didn't dare speak in public and feared talking to strangers. Even when I am lost in an unfamiliar place, I would choose to do a search on my phone rather than ask passers-by for help. However, things have changed since the Values-In-Action activity that my class did just few days before Chinese New Year this February.

In order to honour the traditions of Chinese New Year, my class decided to give out mandarin oranges and handmade ornaments to the residents staying near the school. The whole class was divided into six groups and our objective was to hand-deliver two oranges and an ornament to the residents with our best wishes. As a shy person, I knew I would be facing the greatest challenge in my life, as I had to take the initiative to knock on someone's door and speak to the person with a smiling face. I could feel my heart pounding from the moment the oranges and the ornaments were in my hands.


On the way to the residents' homes, I felt a sea of anxiety deep down. The moment we arrived at the first resident's house, beads of sweat trickled down my scalp and back, and I realised that my uniform was wet with perspiration. Staring at the handle of the door, my nerves were tingling like being tickled with a small feather. I wanted to hide. Furthermore, I was unfortunate enough to be chosen as the first person to start the activity.

"There is nothing to be afraid of," I thought. I knocked on the door with trembling hands and in mute horror. "You can do it! Just say whatever you need to say to the person!" I encouraged myself mentally as I finally decided to confront the demon in my heart. An elderly Chinese lady, who seemed to be kind and accommodating opened the door. My fear was largely eliminated. "Just bite the bullet and go for it!" I said to myself. It was the last mental pep talk, and show of my most sincere smile. "Good afternoon, aunty! We are students from Loyang View Secondary School. Here are two oranges and an ornament for you and we wish you a happy Chinese New Year!" Surprisingly, when I spoke those words, there was no

panic. In fact, it was quite the opposite! With that episode, I grew in courage and strength! It replaced the sense of fear, and I found that I had made my biggest accomplishment ever. Afterwards, I greeted two more residents and everything went smoothly.

I may still be a shy person, but I have been improving and have become more outgoing and more socially confident. Just a few days ago, I helped a passer-by find his way home. I have realised that the biggest challenge in talking to strangers is getting started. Before you strike up conversations, you may feel nervous and awkward, but the more you do it, the smoother and more likeable you will become.

Sima Luyue
Class 4E1



To me, success is when you can express yourself and be as confident as you can be without having to worry that people might criticise, judge or make fun of you. My journey through my first story of success was something I thought I would never achieve, and that was dancing.

It all started when I was in Secondary one. After I joined dance as my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA), I realised during the training sessions that my body was very stiff and I looked really awkward, causing me to feel extremely insecure. When I had to dance in front of my seniors, I would always feel embarrassed because I could feel that they were looking at me with judging eyes. This affected my overall confidence.

After feeling upset and ashamed of myself for not knowing how to dance as well as others, I finally decided to make a change, which in turn had an impact on me. The first time we learnt the basic dance moves, I hated it because I could not get what the instructor was doing. I always wanted to give up halfway through the training but I did not. Instead, I decided to seek help from my friends and instructors. I did so and learnt that results do not come overnight but through lots of hard work and resilience.

With that, I started to ask for help whenever I needed it. Within a few months, I finally started to see myself improving. My instructor also started to put me in competitions. Slowly, my confidence level was built up due to the support I received from my friends. Months later, I felt a great sense of satisfaction because I got into the Singapore Youth Festival competition. Through this, I became more resilient as I fought and overcame the challenges. Today, I am able to perform in front of an audience without fear or shame. This is the story of my success!

Soh Li Qi
Class 4E1

Last year was a challenging year for me, filled with many ups and downs, but I managed to overcome most of them. During the experience, I learnt how to be more confident in leading others. My greatest achievement was being more confident than when I was in Secondary One and Two. I felt the need to step up when the juniors first joined this school because I wanted to be a good role model for them.


I was determined to be more confident speaking to big groups of people and voicing my opinions. Thus, I tried my best to speak up, and took every chance to be heard. I voiced my opinion only when there was a need to. I pointed out mistakes when I knew they were wrong, without being prompted. I used to be a really timid girl, who did not dare speak up in a big group. During group presentations or group projects, I would always try the many ways to just avoid speaking up. I would avoid making eye contact with the leaders or teachers. If I really got called for sharing, I would keep very quiet and would not talk, and not even mumble though I had ideas. When I was in this kind of situation, and all my group members were encouraging me to speak up, I would get stressed out and be on the verge of crying.

However, in the midst of overcoming the challenges, I learnt how to become more confident. I am now confident enough to lead big groups of people in activities during camps and deliver instructions to them by myself. Soon, I felt that speaking up in front of a big group was not as difficult as I had thought it would be. I slowly gained more confidence, and learnt not to be so hard on myself and enjoy the moment.

I am really proud of myself for being able to be a good role model for my juniors and leading them by example, showing them that there is nothing to be afraid of when speaking in front of a big group. I was happy that I did not give them the impression that I was a shy senior who did not dare to speak up and would do anything to not talk during a group discussion. I guess what had prevented me from speaking up in Secondary One and Two was the fear of embarrassing myself in front of others. Another reason was because my mind would draw a blank and I would not know what to say whenever I am stressed.

In conclusion, being able to speak up and become more confident last year was the greatest achievement for me. I had to step out of my comfort zone and speak up and sometimes even force myself to say a few words. Going through the experience I had last year, made me realise that speaking up in front groups is not as hard as I thought it was. This life skill will help me present myself well before any interview panel.

Cheng Weiyi
Class 4E2



Is there a formula for success? I would say success is the result of hard work, persistence, self-belief and support from others. The journey towards success is never smooth, but with these key ingredients, success is never out of one's reach. My greatest success so far has been in public speaking, something I once loathed with a passion. With determination and resilience, as well as encouragement from my parents, teachers, and friends, I have finally achieved the success that I have been waiting for.


Two years ago, my English teacher gave us a holiday assignment. We were required to write a speech about our holidays. She told us that we would have to present it when we got back from our two-month holiday. The holidays passed by in the blink of an eye. It was already the first day of school. My English teacher came in and told us that we were going to present our speech. "Don't call my name, please call someone else," I prayed fervently in my heart, repeating the same words like a mantra. My English teacher was on the balls of her feet, her eyes sweeping across the classroom like the radar from a surveillance tower. Anyone who looked like they weren't paying attention would definitely get the lucky pick. I was trying to shrink myself into the most unobtrusive rice ball as possible, but it seemed like luck was not on my side that day.

"Cynthia, would you like to present first?"

I was very hesitant and scared because I had no confidence in public speaking. My English teacher kept encouraging me and told me to go up. Finally, I mustered enough courage. When I went up before the whole class, I started to tremble with fear and my heart was palpitating really fast. My friends saw how nervous I was, and so they started to cheer for me, encouraging me to start. In my heart, I told myself I could do it and I finally started my speech. In the midst of presenting, I stopped a few times as I did not know how to pronounce some words. My confidence level started to decline and I started to mumble and rush to finish this speech. Finally, it was done. After I finished the speech, I felt really devastated and embarrassed because I could not even deliver a proper speech in front of eighteen students. I know that I did not really do a good job but my friends told me I did. My English teacher also said I did a good job and told me my areas for improvement. This did not fully help me achieve the goal I had set out for myself but it brought me a step closer. I still managed to deliver a speech in front of eighteen people.

A year later, in Secondary Three, I was given the opportunity to lead the Student Council Camp with some of my schoolmates. We took two weeks to plan it and finally it was the first day of the three-day-two-night camp. Now all of us just had to execute the plan that my schoolmates and I had been planning for two weeks. I was in-charge of the outdoor games called Amazing Race. When it was time for the outdoor games section, two of my schoolmates went up to speak in front of the whole student council to brief them about the Amazing Race. After they had finished speaking, it was my turn to go up to tell them about the safety rules and regulations. In my head, all the negative thoughts like 'I cannot do this' came back. I was really terrified as I could not even deliver a proper speech to eighteen people and one teacher. How could I brief eighty students in front of so many teachers? I was really not confident as I was scared that the teachers would scold me if I did not do a good job. I knew I still had to brief the students as much as I did not want to. Thus, I went up and started to brief them. Everything was going on smoothly until I forgot what I wanted to say for a moment. My mind went blank all of a sudden and everybody kept quiet for a moment. I had completely forgotten what I wanted to say so I just ended the briefing with a 'thank you.' After ending the briefing, I started to tear because I felt like a failure. I was embarrassed because I was a leader but I could not speak in front of people. My friends saw me crying and immediately came to me and started to comfort me. They said, "Don't worry, you still have more opportunities to improve and overcome your fear of speaking in front of people. You are already doing a good job. I vividly remember how quiet and shy you were in secondary one. You did not dare go up and speak in front of people. Now seeing you being able to even speak in front of people is a huge progress. I believe in you and please do not give up. After hearing what my friend said, I was really touched and I stopped crying. The things that my friend said warmed my heart and encouraged me to do even better and not give up.

In Secondary Four, I was given another chance to speak in front of people. This time it was not eighteen people or eighty people but the entire school. It was called podium duty. Before this duty was created, I was doing duties that did not require much talking. Podium duty required some of the Student Councillors to lead the whole school in reciting the pledge or making important announcements for the day. When I tried podium duty for the first time, I remembered how scared I was. My hand kept shaking and cold sweat kept dripping down my forehead. When it was time for the pledge, I picked up the microphone and started to lead the whole school in the pledge. As I was saying the pledge, my heart was beating as fast as a cheetah and cold sweat kept streaming down my back. This time, I did not really mess up. In fact, I had improved. After the pledge, my teacher told me that I had done well and just needed to



slow down and not rush. When I did the podium duty the second time, I made it. I did not rush, I did not mumble and everything went well. My teachers and friends who had been encouraging me and helping me were very proud of me. I was really happy.

From this success, I have learnt many things. I learnt that success does not come easily. You have to put in a hundred percent effort and persevere, and in the process you will experience many challenges and setbacks from which you will gain invaluable lessons. Besides that, I have also learnt that success cannot be achieved by yourself. You must have people beside you to push you, encourage you, guide you and support you. Without the guidance and encouragement of friends and teachers, I do not think I would have been able to conquer my fear of public speaking.

Low Yan Ling Cynthia
Class 4E2

Is there a formula for success? I would say success is the result of hard work, confidence, encouragement, and support from peers. It is not always a smooth sailing journey. My greatest success so far has been in gaining self-confidence.


I still remember the day my Principal, Mr Ng, announced that Greenview Secondary School would merge with Loyang Secondary School. I was appalled as I was comfortable in Greenview. The merger threw me off guard as I felt I'd probably have to adapt to a new environment. It was not easy for me to make new friends as I used to be a socially awkward person.

Being a Student Councillor, I had to take part in the Secondary One Orientation Camp at the new merged school that was re-named Loyang View Secondary School. I had received a message from my teacher showing the groupings. Scanning through the message, I realized I was the only Greenviewan in my group. I was nervous as it was very difficult for me to interact with new people.

Soon, the day of Secondary One Orientation Camp came. I stood beside my groupmates. I still remember that the first friend I made after the merger was Kyla. Kyla was one of my groupmates. This boosted my confidence, and I said "Hello" to her. Our conversation kept going. I found out that both of us shared many common interests. She was also very open about herself and was friendly. Since we had to work together, we needed to have good communication skills. After chatting for a while, we felt closer to each other.

Instead of having lunch with my friends, I had lunch with Kyla. This made me feel proud of myself as I had gained confidence and courage to make new friends. Despite being in the school for a few days, I quickly adapted to the surroundings. I became a social butterfly. I became more confident to interact and make new friends. Now, it is easier for me to open up and talk to others. I am also able to voice my opinions without feeling awkward and shy anymore.

Nur Aliyyah Ayub Mansul
Class 4E2



What is success? What does it mean to you? “Success is not final; failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts,” is a popular quote by Winston Churchill. To me, success feels like an accomplishment once you conquer your fears and difficulties. I have always believed in having a positive mindset towards achieving my goal.

Last year, was one of the most crucial years in the whole of my secondary school life. I was very busy due to the amount of hard work I had to put in in order to catch up with whatever I had missed in Secondary 2 when I had to fight for a position in the Executive Committee in the Student Council. It is not a position that everyone gets to take on. It was not very easy to get shortlisted to join the Executive Committee. With the merger of both schools, there were more Student Councillors, and therefore, there was a much lower chance to get into the Executive Committee. We had to compete with Student Councillors who had strong leadership potential from Greenview Secondary School.


One day after school, I received a text message to meet the teacher-in-charge of the Student Council outside the staff room. I was scared out of my wits. I had no clue why I had to meet him. He came out of the staff room and passed me a copy of the interview form. I was really delighted to have come this far to be shortlisted for the interview. Reading the questions printed on the form got me thinking. I asked myself continuously if I was the one who would be able to lead the student body well.

A week later, it was the deadline for me to submit the interview form. I did not have enough time to focus on the preparation of the interview as it was really close to the date of the first continual assessment for our studies. We were told that the teachers-in-charge of the Student Council would monitor our academic results closely before making the decision to accept us. We were given many revision worksheets in preparation for the examination. The day of the interview came and I was very nervous as I waited for my turn. My body was trembling. As I was being called to enter the interview room, I tried my very best to be as calm as possible. Five minutes into the interview I got less nervous.

During the weekend, I was added into a group chat named “Probational ExCos.” There was a long list of instructions I had to follow such as the planning of the duty list for some upcoming events that we had to plan together as a team. I was appointed to be the overall person-in-charge of the first Parent-Teacher Meeting of the year. I went through many challenges as an overall person-in-charge, but with the help of our seniors I was more confident that I would be able to successfully plan the next event. It was not an easy task but being able to organise this event successfully was one of my greatest achievements.

Today, I am officially an Executive Committee member, and I am now guiding the next batch of Probational Executive Committee members in overseeing the Student Council.

Tan Ling Yi Bernice
Class 4E2



To me, success is about being able to achieve something that is challenging, such as, overcoming one's fears. I have had many unforgettable experiences in the sixteen years of my life. One that I will always remember is my experience at the Outward Bound School (OBS) in Singapore. I had heard many stories from my friends about them not enjoying the camp or that it was dirty and tiring. Hearing those stories changed my impression of the camp. I felt a pinch of regret for joining the camp. The camp also involved other schools and that was where the challenging part was. I was not a sociable person and was afraid that I would not be able to make new friends.

On the first day, before departing for the Outward Bound Camp, we were at the parade square waiting to get to know our groupings for the camp, and for the buses to pick us up. When we got our groupings, I noticed that none of my friends were in the same group as me. Many thoughts rushed through my mind, making me more nervous. Then the buses arrived and took us to the port. When we reached the Outward Bound campsite, I got more nervous by the minute, thinking that I was going to waste five days in this camp. Our instructor, Kai Xiang, first got our group to bond. The bonding sessions did not turn out as bad as I expected. My group mates and I talked to each other as if we had known one another a long time. I felt proud that I had decided to break out of my shell and talk to my group mates.

During the camp, my group was noisier than the other groups as most of my group mates were those who liked to entertain people with their jokes. During rock climbing, my group mates cheered me on as they realised I was afraid of heights. They stayed the course with me, and encouraged me all the way to the top. I felt comfortable talking to my group mates. It also felt really good to be out there meeting new people rather than always keeping quiet and hiding in one corner. I believe that my Outward Bound experience is the reason that motivates me to be more sociable now. When I look back on the first day of the Outward Bound camp, I still remember how stubborn I was to make the effort to get to know other students but circumstances got me to step out of my comfort zone and socialise with my group mates.

Overall, the experience at the Outward Bound camp was invaluable. I shed my pre-conceived notions about making new friends. I met students who were really funny and friendly and this encouraged me to socialise with them and enjoy the moment.

Tan Yi Ching
Class 4E2

Is there a formula for success? I would say success is the result of hard work, self-belief and support from others. The journey towards success is never smooth, but with these key ingredients, success is never out of one's reach. I have had only a few successful experiences in the sixteen years of my life thus far, but one of the most successful experiences I can think of is my experience of taking part in the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. This OBS camp made me break out from my shy character which I have had since young and allowed me to work with people I was unfamiliar with.


Three months ago, during the end-of-year holidays, the school collaborated with the OBS staff and Temasek Junior College to organise a five-day-four-night camp at Pulau Ubin. At that time, I thought that it was going to be another boring camp as it was just going to be a waste of my time.

As we gathered into our allocated groups, I felt very nervous as I did not know anyone. All I could think about was how I was going to survive the next few days. Upon reaching Pulau Ubin, we broke up into our groups and played some ice-breaker games. Everyone had to introduce themselves and talk about what they hoped for the next few days together. When it was my turn, my heart started beating very fast, I mumbled my name and my expectations of the camp. Observing my nervousness, a girl said, "Hey, you do not need to be shy, just be confident and say what you want to say. There is no right or wrong."

I felt a gush of motivation pushing me through and suddenly picked up the confidence to speak up. After the ice-breaker games, I thanked the girl for her kindness.

The following day, we were on a 10-kilometre trek across the island. Our instructor told us to find a buddy to walk together and to look out for each other. Meanwhile, when my other group members had started to find their buddies, I was standing alone at a corner waiting for someone to approach me as I was unfamiliar with any of them. After the other members had found a buddy, there was still a boy who had no partner, and I had to partner him. I still remember him as a friendly and helpful person.

Along the trek, my buddy encouraged me to persevere whenever I was tired and also chatted with me along the way. I told him about my shy personality and that I was not really sociable with others. He then taught me not to be shy. "There is nothing to be afraid of, just make sure you follow the instructions and everything will be fine. Never give up and you will succeed," he said with a smile on his face.



As we took breaks along the way, I decided to open up and get to know everyone from my group. They were all very friendly and sociable and this made me more comfortable while talking to them. Eventually, I started to make friends with them and did not feel as shy as before. I felt as if I had stepped out of a dark cave, and did not feel nervous about talking to other people whom I was not familiar with anymore.

Soon, we reached the other campsite and it was already evening. I patted my group members on their shoulders and gave them a thumbs up. It was a tiring yet meaningful day for me. I had learnt to be more confident and not to be afraid.

That night, many thoughts ran through my mind. Without the OBS camp and the help of my group members, I was pretty sure I would still have that shy trait in me and would not have the chance to change. Through the encouragement and motivation from my group members, I am now a more sociable and confident person and no longer as timid and shy as before. From that day onwards, I stopped having the feeling of nervousness whenever I talked to someone and managed to even give a speech in front of a group of people. It impressed my teachers and I was complimented for my change. In the future, I will be able to work and communicate well with my colleagues.

Aden Chow Jun Jie
Class 4E2


My studies have never been a problem to me. If I wanted to score well for a subject, I could simply study hard for it and I would be able to do relatively well in tests and examinations. However, due to my upbringing, socialising with people has always been a challenge. I would always stay at home and play my computer games, not interacting with friends outside the realm of the internet. I had never thought that this was a problem until secondary school.

In Secondary 4, my grades were good but as I still felt rather insecure about how I would perform for the national examinations, I had taken part in Early Admission Exercise (EAE) to secure a slot in Ngee Ann Polytechnic. The course I had chosen was Accountancy as I had developed an interest in it after studying Principles of Accounts.

The EAE consisted of 3 stages: preparing a write up for application, attending an interview and then the release of the results. I had gotten past the write-up stage easily but the interview was an obstacle, given my weakness in interacting with strangers. And so, to prepare for the interview, I began talking more to my friend and teachers. I also did research on interviews regarding the course and read articles from the Straits Times to beef up my knowledge of current affairs and finance.

Having worked hard to prepare for the EAE, I was really glad to learn that I had passed the interview and got into the course of my choice.

Asher Teh Xiang Jian
Class 4E2



Every individual has his own definition of success. To me success is the result of hard work, persistence, self-belief and support from others. The journey towards success is never smooth, but with these key ingredients success is never out of one's reach. I have had only a few unforgettable experiences in the sixteen years this far, but one of the most positive unforgettable experience I can think of is my experience of learning to become socially confident.

One month ago, my school decided to carry out a Value-in-Action (VIA) project for Chinese New Year. My class sat down and decided on the items that we were going to get for the residents living near the school. We decided on an art-and-craft door hook, together with a goodie bag and two oranges.

During the preparation of the items, I faced many difficulties. As I am not artistically inclined, I was unable to cut and trace properly. When my teacher assigned me to cut out the door hook, I was clueless about how to do it, while my classmates had already started cutting. I was afraid that I was going to ruin the door hook, but I decided to give it a try. My classmates were able to fully understand and provide me with guidance along the way.

Subsequently, we had to take a plastic bag to contain our items and get going. While we were walking to the void deck, our teacher briefed us on our grouping and what to be carried out. I was very nervous, as I was usually socially awkward.


Our class was further divided into groups. My teammates and I were in-charge of the fourth to sixth floors. As the lift ascended, my heart rate also increased. Almost shakily, I slowly raised my clammy hand and hesitated on knocking the door. "Please do not open the door," I prayed fervently in my heart, repeating the same words like mantra.

From the corner of my eye, I noticed that the door was slowly opening. The sound of my heartbeat reverberated in my head. The thought of approaching a stranger to say "Hi" or even to smile at them to wish them Happy Chinese New Year made me sick to the stomach. The thought alone sent shivers down my spine and gave me cold feet, causing me to break out in cold sweat. I had to set out of my comfort zone, and mumbled, "We wish you a Happy Chinese New Year."

Eventually, with every knock on the door, the fear of talking to strangers abated. Talking to more strangers made me feel comfortable. This helped me to boost my confidence level gradually. Knowing that my teammates were always by my side to provide guidance or help me out, provided me with comfort and confidence. Some residents were afraid that they had to pay for the gift or to make donations. I was at a lost for words then, but my teammates were able to help me to explain to them.

From this event, I have learnt that communicating with others is rough at the start but afterwards it will get better as you are more used to it. Working as a team is important too, as whenever your teammates need your help you will be there for them. I have become more socially confident. That is my biggest success.

Kok Peng
Class 4E2



What is success to you? To most people, success may be attaining something that they really desire. However, I do not believe that success is only about getting what you want, but also learning values that can't be taught.

I am the CCA leader of the Boys' Brigade, and throughout my journey as a leader, the officers and primers have put me in a number of difficult stressful situations. During one of the annual Boys brigade camps, for instance, I had to manage a variety of components and was in a great deal of stress.

The stress was killing me inside out, but I kept reminding myself of the Boys' Brigade motto and objectives. But most importantly, I believe that without my team, I would not have completed my tasks. We were praised by our officers and I am extremely grateful for what the officers, primers and my team had done for me.

In conclusion, what I'm trying to say is, I learnt values such as resilience, obedience, teamwork, cooperation and being innovative. I believe all these values could not be learnt in any classroom setting, and I am very grateful for having this family of the Boys' Brigade. This, to me, is my true success.

Lean Wei Ren
Class 4E2


Success to others means having good academic results or earning power. For me, being able to make others happy is enough to satisfy me, especially if I put in effort to make that happen. I consider myself a socially awkward person. Thus, I'm glad that I am now able to step out of my comfort zone and become more confident through helping others.

I had an experience where I got to learn and experience new things, while helping myself overcome my fear, so this was definitely beneficial for me. For a school Values-in-Action project, I was given the opportunity to go to people's houses for Chinese New Year and wish them a 'happy new year'. We also had to give gifts to them such as a door hook and 2 tangerines that were a symbol of prosperity and wealth.

I was grouped with two of my friends, Eugene and Aqeel. We had some hilarious moments when we knocked on the residents' doors. I mustered my courage to be the first to knock on their doors, a friendly resident came out to receive our gifts and even offered us red packets, but we were told not to accept anything from the residents so we did as we were told and politely declined her kind gesture. She graciously accepted our gifts and blessings while thanking us. We then discussed who should greet the resident next and it was Aqeel's turn to knock on the door. He tried his best to say the blessings in Chinese to which Eugene and I laughed. The resident thanked us and accepted our gifts. Fortunately for us, most of the residents were friendly.

I definitely find it easier to talk to strangers now. Being able to gradually overcome my fear is a huge success.

Lim Eu Jing
Class 4E2



What is the true meaning of success? To me, success does not have a fixed meaning. Success is what you make of it. It could mean being a multi-millionaire or simply a mechanical engineer. To me, success is becoming what I want to be.

Back in my Primary school days, I was a very simple-minded person, and I always just wanted to complete what was given to me and not do anything extra. I wanted it to be completed fast so that I could do my own things.

If I were given a chance to take up a leadership role, I would simply reject it because I valued my own time and space.

However, in Secondary school the simple-minded me wanted a challenge by taking on a leadership role. After a long talk with my parents, I came to the conclusion that I had to change, as I should try new things and explore and find out the limits of my potential. After a couple of months, I decided to play a major role and try to be a Student Councillor. The road was challenging. However, after many years I became an executive member of the Loyang View Student Council and this became the highlight of my life. It was something that I would not have achieved if I had stayed the same simple-minded person that I was. This is my success story. I hope that my success story will inspire some of you.


Muhammad Aniq B Yunahar Nazri
Class 4E2

“The person who removes mountains begins by carrying away small stones.”

The above quote has an impactful meaning that says that small things in life will eventually lead to big accomplishments. This is the definition of success to me that helped me to overcome my fear of heights. To be honest, the distance above ground never really bothered me until the thought of freefalling to my death terrified me. Thus, when the school organised camps, I would try to avoid the high elements obstacle courses and think of the least painful outcomes possible. This fear has haunted me as early as primary school as I got pushed off the upper floor by my friend when we were playing catching. I was struggling to find my balance on the edge of the platform and eventually fell to the ground. That accident has scarred me for life as the outcome was very painful and unforgettable.

During my last year in Greenview Secondary School, there was a Secondary Two camp which every student had to attend. During one of the activities, I spotted a high element section. I was terrified to find out that we were going to scale that. There were two levels of high element platforms, a second level and a third level. Being the coward that I was, I obviously chose the second level. Overall, it wasn't a bad experience because there were others too who shared the same fear as me and we lent each other moral support. I couldn't say that I have conquered my fear of heights completely but being able to go on a high elements course was a first for me.

The worst was yet to come. In Secondary Three, there was a mandatory camp for all Secondary Three students, the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. I knew we were going to do something related to high elements. On the fifth day of the camp, I was pretty exhausted and worn out due to the physically intensive activities we had to go through and the lack of comfortable sleep during the nights. For my group, it was rock-climbing. Obviously, I was scared stiff and reluctant to tell anyone about my fear. To add on to the stress, my buddy did not really do a good job on the belay check. I was scared to scale the wall, let alone have my buddy take care of me in case I fell or slipped up. To boost my courage, my teammate told me that she too was scared of heights. We began our climb. At first I was leading but then she overtook me. In the end, she rang the bell at the top first. In fact, I was struggling behind, all sweaty and perspiring.



Eventually, I reached the top and rang the bell as well. We were both tired but I could see a grin on her face. She obviously conquered her fear that day. As for me, I looked down unsure if I was going to belay well. Catching a glimpse of how happy my teammates were reassured me. I guess it wasn't too bad. I could feel the breeze from the windy beach outside the main hall. It was a sweet moment, feeling suspended in the air like a genie and having the free natural gust of air dry my sweat off my face and body. We went down to the first floor. I couldn't be sure if I had conquered my fear of heights but that same feeling lingered in my heart. It was the five minutes of sweet success. Now, if anyone wanted to go for a high elements activity and invited me, I would gladly take the chance to do it again.


Muhammad Luqman Hakim Bin Abdul Samad
Class 4E2

Being successful to me isn't all about being the top in class and doing well academically. It can be overcoming something that you have always had issues with. Being confident and sociable was never my forte since I was a child. I tended to be very paranoid whenever I went for activities without my close friends. Thoughts like, "Will I have friends there?" and "What if I have no friends and people do?" always haunted me. This time, we were forced to go for another camp. I dreaded the thought of spending five days and four nights with no one to talk to. However, this camp was a really special one to me. It was the only camp that made me experience something I never thought I would. I'm sure everyone has heard of Outward Bound Singapore (OBS). I used to think that, that camp was just like another typical "torture camp" with scolding and terror ahead of us. My impression changed after going for the camp. This is my success story on how I overcame my lack of confidence and transformed me.

Before heading for the camp, I was filled with many negative thoughts and opinions. I was worried about the nature of the activities and how tiring the camp would be. The typical unsociable me still worried about making friends there. Making friends with other people might be natural and simple for some. However, for me, it was really stressful. This issue even got my parents and teachers worried for me.

The time I looked forward to had come. It was time for the teachers to announce the groupings for the camp. I was chanting and praying hard in my mind, hoping to be in the same group as my close friends as that would ease my feelings of stress. My worst nightmare came seconds later. I was in a different group from all my friends. We had all been separated into different groups. At this point of time, I completely lost my enthusiasm. I kept thinking, 'what should I do now?'

I met my groupmates and to my surprise, I had a few boys from my school with me. I told myself that this was going to be a five-day camp. If I was not going to talk or make friends this camp would be ruined. The instructor gave us instructions to find a buddy. I had to clench my fist, take a deep breath and gather my courage to ask one of them to be my buddy. After asking, I was breaking out in cold sweat, worried about whether he would say yes. I looked into his eyes and I got the vibes that he was not keen. However, he said 'okay' and suddenly I felt like a burden was off my shoulders. My heart was filled with happiness and relief.



The camp had many activities which required the team to bond and communicate. There were even some activities during which I stepped forward and led the team. Gradually, I found myself talking to more people in the group, and people from the other school! The camp became much more enjoyable because of the people and memories we shared. It was totally the opposite of what I had expected as I made many good friends.

The OBS camp means a lot to me, as it has helped me to be more confident when talking to other people. It increased my self-esteem and required me to be more confident when leading others. Such values of confidence do not just apply to camps but it can also be applied in my co-curricular activity, when I lead my juniors. It is possible to make friends easily if you are willing to step out of your comfort zone and communicate with others.

By taking part in OBS, my mindset and attitude have changed. I am now a more socially confident person and I feel less stress when going for activities like camp. I am thankful to OBS for helping me to overcome a fear that I was always worried about.

Ng Yi Jun Eugene
Class 4E2

I succeeded in getting a spot as one of the appointment leaders in my Co-curricular Activity (CCA) which was the National Cadet Corp or NCC.


When I was in Secondary 3, the appointment leaders were supposed to be chosen by the teachers and other members of the CCA, but the potential leaders were given a chance to lead the platoon for a few weeks. This practice helped the decision making process as it gave those with leadership qualities the opportunity to shine.

At first when the potential appointment leaders were chosen, I wasn't one of them and it made me very upset as I was eager to teach and guide the younger members before I graduated. This made me want to show off my leadership abilities before they confirmed the permanent appointment leaders. I started to take on more roles and tried to impress the teachers and show my potential as a leader.

After a few weeks of trying to show off my leadership capabilities, I started to accept that I might not get chosen as one of the leaders. I became happy that I didn't have to take on more responsibilities. On the day the appointment leaders were supposed to be confirmed, the whole platoon sat down and we let our teacher announce the official leaders. At that point in time, I still had a lingering hope that I would be chosen after everything I had done. I was still wishing that I would be chosen. I even prepared myself not to get too upset if I didn't get chosen for the official leadership role. After our teacher started listing down all the roles and their respective leaders, I was confused at first when the other members of my CCA looked at me. I wondered if I had heard correctly. I could've sworn that I heard my name being called by the teacher but I didn't manage to listen closely as the teacher mispronounced my name. When I finally realised that I was in fact chosen, I was shocked and overwhelmed!

This shows that even when things don't look too promising, you can still have the chance if you keep trying. This taught me to never give up! No matter what, anyone can succeed if they truly want to.

Nuwair B Fauzi Bafana
Class 4E2



Sometimes, I question myself if there is a formula for success. I later found out that success is a combination of hard work, persistence and strong self-belief. My greatest success that I have achieved in secondary school so far has been my improvement in attendance in my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA).

Back when I was in Secondary Two and in the beginning of Secondary Three, I had always thought that CCA sessions were a waste of my time and a burden, causing me to come up with excuses to skip CCA sessions. For example, I would lie that I was sick when I was not. Slowly, the teachers in charge of my CCA found out that I was constantly missing CCA parades. Thus, they forced me to attend a two-day-one-night camp away from school.

I remembered how hesitant I was when I had to drag myself to camp as I was not keen to meet new people from other schools. I was placed into a group of six and was appointed the IC to lead the group during the 'Amazing Race': a race where we had to navigate and find our way to different checkpoints. During the race, I managed to communicate better with the instructors as well as my group mates due to the support and encouragement given to me. Although we came from different schools, we managed to find a common interest that helped bond us compared to the rest of the 15 groups in the camp. Despite a lot of negative feedback on this leadership camp, I felt that this camp was really enjoyable. Although it was only a night's stay and we met with many challenges, we learnt many core values as well as leadership skills to communicate better and contribute to the CCA.

My attendance at CCA sessions has improved ever since I attended the camp. I made it a point to turn up for all CCA sessions regardless of whether it was a small or major event. I also managed to build my self-confidence by sharpening my communication skills; the once socially-awkward me was not afraid of meeting new people anymore. I have never felt more accomplished than this, thanks to the teachers for giving me this opportunity to attend this camp.

This is my success story.

Poon Ye Kai
Class 4E2


A great achievement is one which is accomplished with a lot of hard work and courage. A quote that I like from Walt Disney says, "All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them." Many of us are afraid to do something because we are either afraid of it or we fear failure. However, I feel that once we muster enough courage to overcome that fear, we can do many great things. Therefore, I would like to share one of my greatest achievements on how I became more socially confident throughout my four years in Loyang View Secondary School just by overcoming my fear.

Back when I was in primary school, I always feared speaking on stage or talking in front of huge crowds. I would end up swallowing my words and speaking softly. In my last year, I promised myself that I would change and I would try new things whenever there was an opportunity.

With the support of the Student Council (SC), Drama Club and my friends, I learned self-confidence, and with all the opportunities I was given, I started to push myself and confront my fear. I won't lie, there was a lot of struggle at first but there was a lot of support, love and laughter behind it all. My first few performances in drama made me enjoy being on stage and being proud of myself no matter what. Secondary Two was when I became an emcee for Caught in the Act, with my seniors. It was a new set of challenges for me as we had to present item every term and we had to create our own scripts and think of new skits to make our presentation more interesting. Also, I always had this voice in my head that made me extremely nervous and anxious before the show but my seniors would always make me laugh. Being an emcee for other events such as SC investiture, Teachers' Day and Secondary One Orientation Camp taught me to always try new things, however daunting it was. These helped me to grow as a person and improve on my confidence in public speaking.

In conclusion, I am really thankful for all the opportunities that have helped me become the person I am today. Through the process I have learnt many valuable skills. I am sure that I will do better in the future. I appreciate everyone who has helped me and supported me and I know this is not the end as there is still a lot more I can improve on. Even though I still do get nervous and anxious being on stage, ignoring my fear and wanting to be an emcee again feels like an achievement to me.

Castanares Jayramae Kyla Rosales
Class 4E3



'Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory' – Dr. Seuss. I agree with this quote as I have always loved making memories, because to me, the best thing about memories is making them. I have made lots of memories so far, especially during Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. These memories will always hold a special place in my heart.

Memory 1: Being reluctant to go.

I was actually reluctant to go to OBS at first as I have never been fond of the outdoors. In my mind I thought: "Camping? In the wild? I don't want to be thrown into the wild with people I don't know. What if they brief us on what to do on the first day then just kick us into the wild? Yea... no. I am not going." However, my friends persuaded me to go, saying "Oh come on! What if you really enjoy it? It would be a good experience! Please, it's a team effort! Come on, where is your team spirit?" and "What about the great memories you will be missing out on if you did not go?" After all that, I decided that I would go and suffer for 5 days with my friends. My parents were actually against me going from the start as they did not like the idea that I will be out of their reach for so long. We were going overseas a week after OBS and they did not want me to fall sick either but I still decided to go.

Memory 2: Forming our groups.

The whole cohort was split into groups and we would be joined by the students of Temasek Junior College (TJC) when we reached the location. We all had no idea who would be in our groups so imagine my surprise when I realised that one of my close friends was in the same group as me! When we reached our meeting point, we met up with the TJC students and got into our respective groups. I realised that one of the girls was actually one of my primary school friends! I have never felt so lucky to have two people I know in my group.

Memory 3: The sudden realisation that we had to spend 5 whole days with these few people that we barely knew.

I was really worried about this part. It turned out that everyone was nervous about this too as we were still unfamiliar with one another. However, when we started to go on with our activities together, we got to know one another better which really helped a lot. Some of our nervousness disappeared and I thought: "Well... I don't mind being thrown into the wild with these people. They seem nice and I am sure it will be fun." Making friends with people from different backgrounds was very exciting. You never know what kind of persons they are, and you might learn something valuable from them; the possibilities are endless.

Memory 4: Row boat training.

On the first day, we were at the deck being taught how to row the boat and how to row it when it started to show signs of rain. We ignored it until we felt the droplets on our skin. We all rushed to the shelter nearby

and waited for the rain to stop. However, it did not stop and instead, it got heavier. We were all cold and drenched in rain water and the instructors gave us a fly sheet to huddle under but it was not big enough for all of us. So, some of us had to stand outside. I decided to stand outside as I liked the rain, and the wind was making tiny waves on the surface of the sea and I wanted to see it. I was freezing but ignored it and decided to talk to the others who were outside. It was nice to be able to interact with others from different backgrounds as you might just learn a thing or two from them.

Memory 5: The obstacle course.


This was one of the most enjoyable parts of the hike on day 2. The instructor had made us stop to test our team work at an obstacle course. We had a lot of fun at this course. We were made to stand at different parts of the obstacle, and we had to be connected to pass the obstacle together as a group. We were not allowed to move until everyone was connected. We were also not allowed to touch the ground and was given a time limit. We had to restart a few times as the wood was quite slippery and some of our group members kept slipping off. However, we encouraged each other to continue and not give up and we managed to get through the obstacle course even though we exceeded the time limit. Going through this course made me realise that our bonds were very strong; once grouped together, we would automatically work together to survive.

Memory 6: Diving.

My group was the only one to jump into the sea. We were very excited to jump as we were tired and not fully awake yet. The instructor made us think of our goals and told us to say it out loud before jumping. We went one by one and it was fun to listen to everyone's goals and dreams. Some of us wanted to jump again or stay in the water longer but the instructor won't let us. We all felt refreshed after jumping and were smiling while going back to our camp base.

My success in this story is embracing diversity. I managed to survive the 5-day camp with some people that I had not known. I have never thought that I could ever do something like that, especially camping with strangers, but I have made friends that come from different backgrounds and I really enjoyed their company. So, to those who are reluctant to go to OBS, trust me, you will not regret it. You will get lots of wonderful experiences there. You would also make lots of new friends and many more wonderful memories. I for one enjoyed my 5-day camp, thanks to the wonderful friends that I have made. Memories are timeless treasures of the heart and I could not ask for anything else more than that during this precious 5-day camp.

Chua Yong Ching Pearly
Class 4E3



Everyone has a success story, and my story of success is about an achievement I had made in 2018. I developed social confidence.

It was around June 2018, in the first week of Term 3. As a Student Councillor, I was shortlisted for a cultural exchange programme with the students from Shanghai. I met them in our school's dance studio. I was really excited about this programme, because it was my first time getting to interact with students from overseas; I hoped I could be friends with them.

During the holidays, student councillors were split into groups to make PowerPoint slides to present to the Shanghai students, for them to understand more about Singapore. My group was assigned to make PowerPoint slides about the cultural heritage of Singapore.

I was confused when I was at the dance studio as I thought that we were to present the slides as a group, but the instructions given suggested that one representative from each group would join a group of Shanghai students, so that each student councillor in the group would share a different aspect of Singapore. I did not expect it to be that way, so I did not prepare any script. Thus, I was very nervous to share about the cultural heritage of Singapore by myself when I was in the group, because I was not very sure of the contents in the slides. I had to adapt to the circumstances and do the best I could.


What made me even more surprised was that councillors from the other groups were non-Chinese students. So among the 7 of us, I was the only Chinese, and the Shanghai students could not catch up with what was going on when other student councillors were sharing their slides in English. Therefore I became a translator in the group that day.

I did not expect myself to translate all the slides into Chinese as I was really bad in English. Since young, I spoke Mandarin and I only started learning English when I was in kindergarten. Therefore, when I interact with my classmates, I barely understand what they are trying to say, nor will they get what I am trying to express. I find it tough to express my thoughts and ideas in English, and thus I did not have any social confidence. I thought I would have a hard time trying to translate what the other councillors wanted to present. However, I was very gratified that while I was translating and sharing the stories of Singapore, the Shanghai students seemed very interested. I was really surprised. The Shanghai students said that I was fluent in Mandarin. I was elated by the compliment.

In brief, I gained confidence after the presentation. When we were playing Lego games and hula hoop games with the Shanghai students, I stepped out confidently and tried to start a conversation with them.

Since that day, I have developed social confidence, and this is my story of success.

Er Zi Ning Joey
Class 4E3



My greatest achievement was completing the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. The OBS camp is a five-day, four-night camp which taught me to be mentally and physically strong. On the first day, we did team bonding. I had to bond with my schoolmates and students from Temasek Junior College as we had to care for one another to overcome challenges during the camp. Since I am soft-spoken, it was difficult for me to mix around with others. I made a goal for myself which was to be more confident so that I could communicate well with my team.

I conquered my fear of heights when doing the obstacle course. I felt a sense of fulfilment as I had thought I was unable to reach the top. Thankfully, my friend guided me through. She kept encouraging and motivating me even though I was exhausted. The next obstacle course required us to work in pairs. My friend and I needed to communicate with each other so that we could reach the top. We managed to do it well and through the process, I became more socially confident, more daring to speak up, especially in front of people whom I was not very familiar with.

The most painful experience was hiking across Pulau Ubin, carrying 15kg backpacks. I realised that being mentally strong was more important than being physically strong. My group mates felt tired easily even though some were from sports CCAs. During the hike, we would try to get to know each other better to make the hike feel less exhausting. From that moment, I made new friends and I felt more comfortable to communicate with them.

The OBS camp is a once-in-a-lifetime experience I would never forget. The memories I made and the lessons I learnt will stick with me for life. I am pleased that I was able to mingle with others hence I felt less soft-spoken than I was before. The OBS camp has definitely shaped me into a more self-confident person, and I am no longer as afraid of making the first move or speaking up.

Fiona Louise Amolar
Class 4E3

According to the Oxford Dictionary, success is defined as the accomplishment of an aim or purpose, the attainment of fame, wealth or social status. In my dictionary, success is achieved when I accomplish a goal and feel a sense of achievement.


Recently, I was tasked to sell tickets for a Girl Guides Carnival Event. Initially, I thought I could persuade friends and relatives to buy the tickets. However, many of them were either reluctant to buy the tickets or were not free on the day of the event. After many rejections from close peers and relatives, I felt a little demoralised and lost hope and confidence in selling the tickets.

As the date of submission of the money collected drew closer, I started to feel anxious and stressed, as I did not put in any effort to approach anyone else to buy the tickets. Just when I was about to give up, a sudden idea came to my mind. "Actually, there are many potential buyers at the venue! Not only are they familiar with the venue, I also will have a higher success rate! Who knows, I may even sell all my tickets in an hour!" I thought. Shortly after, I immediately messaged the teacher-in-charge of Girl Guides for permission to sell the tickets at the event venue. After I was granted permission, I went to the venue the next day in my CCA shirt.

With lots of positive energy and enthusiasm, I arrived at the venue, Our Tampines Hub. Although I was exhausted after long hours of studying in school, I was determined to finish selling all the tickets before heading home. Despite many friendly approaches, I was again continuously rejected by more than twenty people before selling off my first ticket. Surprisingly, due to the rejections, I felt happiness after I finally sold my first ticket. Subsequently, I became familiarised with the methods to approach strangers and learned that most of my target audience should be families with young children. Eventually, I sold all the tickets within two hours.

In conclusion, this experience has made me more socially confident when approaching people who I do not know or when I am doing something for the first time. I have always been a person who waits for someone else to approach me. It has never crossed my mind that I will ever be brave enough to have encounters with strangers. I am grateful for this experience and am proud that I was able to conquer my biggest fear. As the student creed says, "Within me lies the power to be the best that I can be, with resilience, I will succeed." I believe these school values have positively impacted me and will benefit me greatly as I grow up.

Ng Ziyin
Class 4E3



I love doing outdoor activities, for example, rock climbing, abseiling and camping. It is better when I have great company as I will be laughing and always feel motivated to do the activity. People encouraging me is music to my ears.

My success story is about what changed me to become a better person. Instead of being a follower, I chose to become a leader. It was because of Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) that made me feel confident and never have I ever thought that I would be one of the leaders in my group and I would be able to make new friends.

When I arrived at my destination, I felt so excited but also nervous as I was not going to be in the same group as my classmates. I sat down in my assigned group and I really didn't know anyone and that made me anxious. Everyone's group was a mix of Loyang View Students and Temasek Junior College students. We all were supposed to play an ice-breaker game and it didn't turn out as I expected as almost everyone didn't take part in the game. I just stepped up, trying to be socially confident so that we could move on as a group. I couldn't stand the awkward atmosphere so I just asked questions that popped up in my head. I also answered the questions and hoped that everyone would also answer the questions as well. We even talked about our schools and I soon realised that they were all really friendly and funny.


The next day, when we started our cycling trip from one campsite to another, it was really very tiring as we cycled for hours. It was the same for the next three days. At night, once the instructors left, the girls would all start talking. We even did abseiling and the fact that everyone cheered for each other was amusing as we wouldn't stop shouting.

On Day 3, I volunteered to be one of the leaders for our next trip to another campsite. The thing about OBS is that the instructors would only facilitate and we would need to lead the group members ourselves. My role was to ensure that no one was behind me and I was kind of bored so I would cheer everyone on. I sang through the walkie-talkie to entertain everyone especially the navigator as she

seemed to be stressed. I did not bother what others would think about me. I just wanted to make the best of it, have fun and enjoy the process.

Although I was the vice-captain of the rock climbing team, my CCA, it was different to be leading people of the same age from different schools. I cheered for everyone to continue cycling and also told them to not give up. I could not believe I led a group of 15-year-olds and was also brave enough to talk to them. I felt a sense of fulfilment as I stepped out of my comfort zone. Until now, the people in my group who I made friends with during OBS are still contacting me. Thinking about OBS makes my heart full.

Siti Nur 'Aqilah Bte Jamaludin
Class 4E3



Success could mean different things to different people. As an athlete, success may be winning a competition. As a scientist, success may be solving a science question which has confused the current society. To me, success means learning that union is strength.

At the end of last year, all the Secondary 3 students of Loyang View Secondary School had to go for a camp with students from Temasek Junior College. Before the camp started, a lot of my seniors gave me different kinds of advice. Some of them said that Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp was very tiring and they hated it so much. But there were some of them who said it would be an unforgettable experience that I would be thankful for.

When I stood in the crowd with my schoolmates and strangers from Temasek Junior College, I felt very lost and confused. I was not a sociable person; I did not know how to interact with strangers. I was wondering what I should say to start a conversation with my group mates. But to my surprise, my group mates were very friendly to me. On the first day of OBS camp, after some ice-breaking games, I could remember the names of my group members.

OBS camp was very tiring, other than the first day and the last day when we could rest and do some activities that were relaxing. The days in between, we were always cycling together, firstly from Punggol to Changi, secondly from Changi to East Coast Park, and lastly back to Punggol again. We helped each other to carry heavy bags. When the girls were too tired to carry the bicycles with the bags, the boys would help us.

All in all, I think we interacted well and through this experience, I have grown to be more socially confident.

Wang Chuting
Class 4E3


When my English teacher told me to write my success story, I immediately thought of my Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) experience. Before going to OBS, I thought it would be a walk in a park and I would not achieve anything great there. I already knew how to kayak and actually enjoyed trekking. The only problem was that I was uncomfortable with making new friends and I needed to socialise for the five days I would be there. The thought almost made me skip OBS. On the day itself, I packed all of my necessities and my classmates and I boarded a bus. I felt dread creeping up on me as we arrived at our destination. I immediately regretted my decision but there was no way I could escape what was to come after that.

I thought I was prepared for most of the activities in OBS but boy, I was wrong! Kayaking was horrendous. I knew we had to kayak for hours but I had underestimated how fast it would take me to feel exhausted. My partner and I were trying very hard to keep up with the others and not lag behind. I felt like giving up; every second made me want to give up. It was awful. But I persevered and after what felt like days, we finally reached our goal and destination. When we did, I felt a sense of achievement and pride for my team and myself.

Next was trekking. Tiring would be an understatement. We were carrying bags that were heavier than our weight. For the first 30 minutes, it was not so bad. I was able to walk properly at a normal speed and talk to my group mates. However at the one-hour mark, I was incredibly exhausted. I was sweating profusely and my legs were sore. My back hurt so much and no one was talking to anyone anymore. We all felt like giving up and just stopping somewhere to rest. But we cheered each other on to persevere and push on. Soon, after a few more hours, we reached our destination and I have never felt so proud of myself before. I was proud of my whole group. It was an incredible moment for all of us.

Lastly, if you had told me that I would accomplish being able to be more open and sociable after OBS, I would have laughed at you. But I actually did it! When I was kayaking, we had to kayak with our buddy groups. This allowed me to get to know more people. Surprisingly, I was able to talk to my group mates and even talk to people from other groups. I was able to make many new friends and get closer to the ones I was friends with before. OBS was truly an overwhelming and memorable experience as it has helped me grow into a more socially confident person. I'm glad I did not skip it. Through this experience, I have learnt to be more open about new experiences and when I am put in this situation again, I will be able to push through it with confidence.

Yan Reanne
Class 4E3



Looking back on my years in secondary school, I realise how my experiences have truly changed me. I have the Boys' Brigade to thank for my transformation. Though I had only spent about three years in the Boys' Brigade, it was the place where I had made some of my fondest memories. I guess, I should start from the beginning...

When I first joined the Boys' Brigade, I didn't really look forward to it, as it was not my CCA of choice. I didn't really talk to anyone much at that time. I hadn't made any friends and I was not very confident, so I kept quiet most of the time. As I was still only a Secondary one student, I was not given many responsibilities. It was when I was a Secondary two student that I was assigned more roles. During our annual 'Recruit Training Camp', I was assigned to be the Assistant Squad Leader. While I was mostly tasked with helping the Squad Leader, I did have to occasionally give instructions. At first, I was quite hesitant due to a fear of failure, but as time progressed, I gained more self-confidence.

In Secondary 3, my batch was given the task of planning and running the annual camp. During the camp, there were also primary school children who were part of our 'company' that were placed in our squads. They were quite playful and uncooperative with the seniors, so it was quite difficult to carry out activities efficiently. For me, I had to learn to work with the juniors and get them to follow instructions.

What I successfully gained during my time spent in the Boys' Brigade is confidence in myself, which makes me really thankful for having chosen this CCA.

Lionel Wong
Class 4E3


Looking back in time, what I consider to be my greatest achievement is my personal development in growing to be more socially confident. To me, talking to new people and having to get to know them used to be difficult. I have been a shy child since young, especially compared to my younger siblings who are extroverted. I did not really know how to open up to people or start a conversation.

When I was younger, I would be quiet and shy and would not interact with others. However, my greatest achievement took place in secondary school. My family decided that we should move and I would have to transfer to another school. When I heard this, I broke down and cried as it was difficult for me to settle down; I would have to meet new people again. I was totally dreading my first day. I was nervous and scared. I was in a new environment and was feeling very uncomfortable. It felt like a hassle to have to fit in and settle down once again. I was new to everyone, but I knew that I had to do something and step out of my comfort zone, especially since I would be there for the rest of my secondary school days. I should make the best and most of it as I would have nothing to lose. Stepping out of my comfort zone, and getting to know my new classmates, could help me adapt better to the new environment. With that as my motivation, I started saying 'hi' to my classmates. Some replied 'hi' and some just smiled. I knew that it would take some time for them as well as for me. Hence, I was glad I was able to say 'hi' for a start. It was a small but promising start.

As days went by and with the group projects that everyone had to do, I managed to become more comfortable and started talking more to my table partner, who then introduced me to her other friends and we eventually became close. They managed to help me get out of my comfort zone and settle down in the 'new' environment. Thanks to this group of friends, it became easier to talk to others and it made me feel that I have achieved something that would probably have taken me years to overcome alone.

With this achievement, I also made friends with some of the people from my co-curricular activity, especially since they were from other classes. By feeling that I have nothing much to lose from saying 'hi' to others, I was able to become more confident socially. It was an achievement that means a lot to me as it was a real struggle for me in the past. Previously, I would rather be alone and keep to myself than to be surrounded by different people since I did not have the confidence to talk to others. Now, I know groups of people who I can call my friends and I don't keep to myself as compared to the past. Now, even though I am still not as socially confident as I hope to be, I am definitely able to smile and say 'hi' to others and start a short conversation!

Chua Xuan Min Charmaine
Class 4E4



My own personal story is quite interesting. It is actually about the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. I have always viewed camps as a burden. They take up so much of your time. Being away from my family and other loved ones makes me really homesick. Especially when OBS camp is a five-day, four-night camp, and being that far away from home and for that long really makes me feel like I want to swim back to mainland Singapore. I never thought that I would make it through the five days. Most of all, I personally found it hard to make friends because I am a socially awkward person, especially when I am not familiar with the person. I have a lot of trouble familiarising myself with someone new.

On the first day of the camp, we started off by getting to know our groupmates and the person in charge of our group, whom we addressed as 'Sir'. Everyone was friendly towards one another but yet I still could not warm up to the others. Luckily for me, I knew and was familiar with some people so it was not really a problem for me to mix with them. We did some activities and cooked lunch and dinner together. On the second day, we did more activities, one of which I enjoyed the most was rowing to another campsite. We had to pack everything we needed till Thursday morning and it was a hard task as we needed to share the bag storage space with two people. This was quite awkward because I do not usually share anything with anyone. But we did not really have a choice so I had to give in and not be selfish. Not only did we have to share but the bag also weighed a ton.

One of the hardest things about OBS for me was that I had a hard time carrying the bag on my shoulder for a whole day. After being able to rest the bag on the ground, my shoulder felt so much lighter and better. It was definitely a success as I had managed to carry the bag for 20 hours. Not only did I successfully carry the bag but I also managed to row the inflatable boat all around Pulau Ubin. However, my biggest success was that I became more socially confident in making friends and this definitely boosted my confidence and would be useful to me in the future. I am no longer afraid of making friends.

Edris Syaza Rohizan
Class 4E4

Tony Robbins once said “The path to success is to take massive, determined action.” He means that in order to be successful, we have to take action and be convinced that what we do is right and be confident with the steps or the path we take to reach our goals. Success can either be big or small, and I have experienced both. To me, big successes are more memorable as we tend to not notice small successes in our lives.


As a patrol leader in the Girl Guides, I have to face many challenges. I have big responsibilities such as leading my patrol, presenting at times in front of the guides and coming up with plans for the Girl Guides projects. Being a patrol leader was the last thing that I had wanted to be. I would have much preferred staying in my comfort zone by not getting involved in anything. However, when I was selected to be the patrol leader of a group called Bougainvillea, I was quite happy with myself. I have always looked up to the seniors who were the leaders and I wanted to become one of them. Since I had never been a leader before, I wanted to give it a try. I did not think I could actually be a patrol leader and it took me quite some time to be comfortable with my own patrol and instructing them. For instance, the day before one of the Girl Guides’ event, Thinking Day, we had a few rehearsals where we had to practise marching with our patrol members to brush up on our marching skills. I faced difficulties such as teaching my patrol members, especially the juniors, to march correctly. Some of them struggled to get the technique but some just did not put in the effort.

It is normally quite difficult for me to say something out loud in front of people. As a patrol leader, I had to shout “Squad, sedia,” and several other commands in front of my patrol members. For last year’s National Day Rehearsal, my command was soft as I was shy and felt uncomfortable, thinking that my patrol members would criticise me. However, since then I have gained more confidence to shout the commands in front of my patrol members and be comfortable around them. I executed even louder commands this time around and managed to teach the new members who are the Secondary One girls to march. Although they stressed me out because they did not seem to know how to march and stamp their feet properly, I told myself to be patient and taught them again and again. As a result, I succeeded in becoming more socially confident too. I can now joke around with my patrol members and talk to them casually without feeling awkward. My social anxiety has reduced.

Being a patrol leader has taught me values such as patience, resilience, and compassion as well as making me more confident. Although being a patrol leader is not a high rank, I am still somewhat happy to be in this role. I have learnt to lead my patrol members and treat them kindly and not boss them around. This year will be my last year of being a patrol leader. I will definitely miss the times spent with my patrol members.

Fatin Nabila Bte Mohd Haidir

Class 4E4



The definition of a leader according to the dictionary is 'a person who leads or commands a group, organisation or country'. For me, a leader is one who overcomes challenges despite obstacles. As a leader, I ran my company to the best of my ability. It taught me to be a socially confident person. I got to speak in front of my company, and I also interacted with the girl guides whom I got to know better. Since interacting and bonding with them, I have become more comfortable around my company members. As a CCA member of the girl guides, I was given the opportunity to be the emcee on the Uniformed Group (UG) Achievers' Night with three other friends from different UGs.

The four of us were selected by our respective teachers in-charge. We were each given a script prior to the event. There were times when I was overcome by my fear of standing on stage in front of a large audience, but my friends and fellow girl guides motivated me and wished me good luck. My resilient nature made me work even harder for this particular event. I even rehearsed my lines everyday outside of practice sessions with the other three emcees and teachers. Having stage fright meant that speaking in front of a large audience was not my cup of tea. However, the opportunities given to me to speak to a large audience, motivated me to push myself to overcome my stage fright, to accept changes and get out of my comfort zone. With my knees wobbling and microphone in hand, I did the job with my other emcee friends. The more I continued to speak in front of a large audience, the more comfortable I got speaking into the microphone. This experience made me grow and develop in unimaginable ways.

In conclusion, I've learnt that with hard work, comes great opportunities. I have now grown as a person and have become a more mature, confident individual in various situations. I overcame my stage fright by having an open-mind to try new things. Compared to the past, I have become so much more comfortable in my own skin as well as in front of others. All these achievements would not have been possible without my teachers, friends and my parents who have supported me throughout my hardship and challenges.

I am thankful.


Nur Arlyn Bte Rasul
Class 4E4

Success is gained when you complete an observation or reach a goal. It is about achieving goals that you have always wanted. It is obtaining a specific goal and to believe that when we get it, we will be successful. My personal goal is to be an inspiring speaker, confident in my abilities. I also believe in being true to myself and my friends.

I was very shy in primary school. It is common for primary school students to lack confidence every now and then but for me it was throughout my whole primary school life. I was a little more confident in primary six but I would still avoid making speeches and being on stage as I was frightened of being judged by others. If public speaking was compulsory, I would stand at the back amongst my other friends. I really hated the way I was acting. I wanted to be comfortable like my other friends but my fears prevented me from doing so. I wanted to be better. I volunteered once during my primary school days to make a speech for morning assembly about an event that was happening but the thought of everyone judging me, scared me. I backed out. I hated myself but I was so scared. I was not confident.

I knew that I would eventually have to open up and speak in front of many people, one day but I always thought, "It's okay. I will do it later."

Secondary school life came along. I was still shy but I was so glad that I made friends with confident people. They were also confident speakers. They knew about my fear and my lack of self-confidence. They taught me skills and I slowly made use of the skills. I was taught social skills and the correct way to interact with people and to get their full attention when speaking. I was told not to look at the audience and instead to look over their heads. I was also told that it was important to practise a speech beforehand to avoid being embarrassed if I mispronounced words. It is important to have the correct body posture and not slouch to look confident.



I have been a member of the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) for the past 4 years of my secondary school life. In secondary 1, my NPCC teacher appointed me as the chairperson of the Values-in-Action committee. I organised the activity which was a charity event. My CCA teacher perhaps observed that I was capable of organising and leading an event. I planned the details for the charity event. I made sure that the event ran smoothly. It was fun as my CCA mates and I persuaded teachers to support us and buy the products for the charity event. It was such a memorable experience as it was my first time organising an event that involved a lot of people.

I was praised by the teacher-in-charge for the smooth running of the event. I was acknowledged for being responsible towards the task that I was assigned to and for being able to run it successfully. I was not shy to be in front of such a big crowd. I thanked my friends for supporting me and being with me on this personal journey that helped me overcome my shyness and develop my self-confidence.

Nurul 'Izzah Bte Mohamed S
Class 4E4

Not many people know what it means to accomplish their greatest achievement, mainly because most have big ambitions, they think they are yet to achieve. Achievements do not have to be big. It can be small like overcoming anxiety and meeting and talking to new people. For me, that was my greatest achievement.


I have not really overcome my fear of meeting new people but I believe I am less awkward and quiet when meeting unfamiliar faces and being on unfamiliar ground. As I get older, I notice that I am becoming more insecure and introverted. I have anxieties often and become self-conscious as to what others think of me, but I have gradually come to the realisation that I have to open up and stop being so self-conscious.

Last year, I attended the Outward Bound School (OBS) in Singapore. We gathered near Punggol in Coney Island. I knew there would be students from other schools and we would be combined and placed into groups with them. I went to my group the moment I arrived. My heart started thumping as I walked towards my group mates. My body started shaking as my anxiety increased. I sat down quickly together with my group mates, quietly looking around. There were no familiar faces. By then, I could hear my heart beating out of my chest and my breathing became short. Afterwards, the instructors gave us time for a bonding session. My group mates and I stood up and got into a circle. The friendliest one there started talking, and soon many others followed. We all mentioned our names, in a clockwise order. As I got to know the unfamiliar faces, I slowly gained confidence. They exchanged names and I was the last. I took a deep breath and managed to say my name loud and clear. I thought to myself that it was not so bad after all. Moments later, I got comfortable as everyone exchanged smiles and laughter. Only later, I realised that I had stopped worrying. My body was no longer shaking, my breathing was normal and my heart was not thumping! I was enlightened to know I had overcome my anxiety.

Soon our bonding session was over, and we settled down. I reflected at how I felt at the moment, not having to worry about portraying myself in a way I saw fit. It really made me confident as a person because my group embraced the differences everyone had and because of that, I was allowed to be myself around them.

So, that was the story of my greatest achievement. That was the only time I overcame my anxiety and gained confidence in a short period of time. I felt so proud of myself and hoped to be able to overcome my other anxieties confidently. Though it is not always easy to confront and conquer your fears, I believe that as long as I try, I'll be better than before. Till the next time I face my fears again...

Nurul Thahirah Bte M N T
Class 4E4



Success is an achievement one feels proud of. How one achieves success is based on the effort he or she puts in. This is a story about an achievement that I would like to keep with me throughout my life as I have become more confident in my abilities to lead.

The story started when I was in Secondary One. During the first week of school, I was placed in the band and did not know what to expect. On the first day, I was not excited to attend band practice, as I did not want to be in the band. I thought of it as a waste of time and that I would be better off skipping practice sessions. The first few sessions were horrid with me trying to get used to my new life in the band, trying to do as little as possible, and not wanting to do much as I did not like being there. God knows what I did in my previous life to deserve this. However, after a few weeks I decided that I was going to accept my fate, as I had no other choice. Over time, I started liking band practice and decided that it wasn't that bad.


As my love for music grew, I started trying to learn anything and everything there was to it. I was soon dedicating my time to the band and trying to do more for the band without even knowing it. In May 2016, I was moved up to the main band and started my journey up. I was not expecting to establish good rapport with the teachers and other members since I did not try to do much during practice sessions in the beginning. However, when I was in Secondary Two, I was appointed section leader, which brought me into the leadership role.

When the new juniors started coming in, I helped them as much as I could which helped me learn to lead. Come August 2017, I was highly confirmed to be the Drum Major, the top leadership role, of the next generation of leaders in the band. I was excited to hear this news but at the same time I was nervous. I didn't know what to do or how I could lead the band next year. In January 2018, I was moved to the role of Student Conductor as the band needed one and I was suited for the job. The next Drum Major was my good friend ZuL. Even though his ranking was higher than mine, that year, he was like an assistant to me and I needed to teach him how to lead the band. Together with Wafiy, our Administrative Major, we led the band and I grew more confident in my skills as a leader.

Halfway through the year, two new band majors were introduced. Wafiy was now assistant Drum Major and our new Administrative Major was Vera, and our new Secretary, Alysa. With the five of us leading the band together, I was even more confident that we could lead the band well.

This is my story. This is how I have become a leader in the band, but this was not all due to my effort. Who I am today, I owe to a few impactful people in my life all of whom I want to thank. However there is one person I really need to thank, and that person is Miss Mazlinah. Ms Lina has been there throughout most of my journey, actually the whole of my journey. If you are reading this in a book with the success stories of many others, my time in the band would have been over. I hope I have left an impact on the band to inspire future leaders. I wish the future generations of the band good luck and hope they will succeed in leading the band, hopefully, better than I could.

Goh Choon Yang
Class 4E4



Success. Social confidence. Two concepts with a myriad of definitions. Each individual also has his/her own definition of the two. I wouldn't disagree with any of their perspectives as I believe: to each his own. To me, success is being able to achieve something greater, be it a goal or a task, with effort, because without it, the whole experience including the success itself would not seem as impactful or meaningful. For the other concept, I think that being socially confident is about reaching out to others and being a better person in areas such as humility and integrity. I have quite a few success stories that I would be more than willing to share.

When I first transferred to Loyang View Secondary School from Bukit Merah Secondary School in Secondary Three, I was a very slothful student. Bad grades and a horrendous ability to play music was all I had. During practice sessions in the band I was consistently criticised and called out for my terrible playing by my conductor. At first, I did not care at all about being criticised but after a while, I grew very tired of those criticisms. However, I did not quit. I started taking the time to improve myself. Not only that, I asked for advice from a wise friend, now a very close friend and what I would label as a mentor, named Goh Choon Yang. He gave me some good old advice to work hard and persevere. In addition to that, he consistently criticised me for my wrongdoings. I did not view those criticisms in a bad light. Instead, I used them as encouragement to do better.


After about a month, I finally saw myself improving in the music sector. I did the same for my studies, and it worked! My academic results rose exponentially from the lowest scoring student to now the top rat. Though, I must say, quite a few people in my class are catching up with me, especially Choon Yang. From this, came my first success in being more socially confident by becoming more hardworking, and it's only just the beginning.

Back in Secondary Three, not only was I lazy back then, I was also very irresponsible as a senior. I would not bother to manage the Secondary One students, nor would I in any way help others in administrative matters during band. This was all mainly due to my lack of interest in the band. However, it was Choon Yang that changed all that. If passion is fire, there would be no fire back then. Only cold hard ice. Choon Yang would be the spark that started that fire, that passion. This caused me to act more responsibly. I started to take care of the instruments more regularly and looked after the juniors better. Now, I would say that my passion for band is like a burning inferno. I would love it if I could come back and play after I graduate as an alumnus or if I could play in one of the bands in Singapore. In the end, I would consider this as a success of overcoming my irresponsibility, thus, making me a better person and more socially confident, especially in managing my juniors and getting along better with my bandmates.

This last story took place in February 2019. It all started with an argument between my mother and I. During the argument, my mother started labelling me as an arrogant person, mainly due to my good results in my studies. No matter how much I opposed, she continued labelling and linking me to that dreaded and atrocious characteristic. I went to bed crying and beating myself up, not only mentally, but physically too. I woke up the next morning with the decision to seek advice from, once again, my trusted friend and mentor, Choon Yang. He advised that I should not boast or use my good results to win arguments, in order to prevent others from viewing me as arrogant. Using that advice, I slowly healed and improved myself. Now, I feel like I am more humble. Thus, I feel like I am now a better person and have succeeded in being a much more socially confident person, especially in avoiding arguments with friends or family or avoiding adding fuel to the fire in any argument.

Therefore, I must say, I've achieved quite a few successes in my character development during my two years in Loyang View Secondary School. Before I finish, I would like to thank some people who have helped me greatly. Firstly, I would like to thank Choon Yang and Vera for constantly giving me advice and being a listening ear when I need them the most. Secondly, I would also like to thank Mrs. Chua for always helping me, and taking the time to improve the one thing I enjoy most and keeps me happy, and that is writing stories. Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank Miss Lina for also always being there for me when I need to talk to someone and always taking care of me like I am her own child, hence, I call her mum. I also think that Miss Lina deserves more recognition for the effort she's put in and the amount of hardship she has to go through to provide the best for the band. Thank you for that too, mum. That is all for my success story, I thank you all for reading and I hope you all have a nice day.

Muhammad Qushairie B S
Class 4E4



Success is different in the eyes of everyone. To some, success may consist of passing the mid-year examinations or earning extra pocket money to afford something which one craves. In my case, success is attaining my personal life goal.

My personal life goal may not be significant in the eyes of others, but to me, it is of immense importance. I aspire to be kind to all people, regardless of race, religion or social background. My classmates and friends who know me well would agree that I have always been an overtly frank and easily agitated individual whenever things did not go the way I had intended. I recognised and acknowledged this major shortcoming in my personality. I knew I had to change. As part of my 2019 New Year resolution which I have committed myself to, I resolved to make a positive change. Since then I have not looked back.

To ensure that I did not deviate from my plan, I googled and did research on how to change one's ingrained habits. I eventually adopted the idea of doing things one small step at a time to bring about the change I desired. This was surprisingly similar to how my school does things which is implementing bite-sized assessments.

I reflected upon what I had read and I came up with a plan to which I have stuck to till this day. I set a daily personal life goal which I have to accomplish before my day ended. I also made sure that my action for the day was recorded religiously in my notebook every single day.

To be frank, there were days when I felt no motivation to write anything positive that had transpired. Though trivial, I still forced myself to note down every little thing which I did that I was thankful for. I had to as I knew that only when I put in the consistent effort would I see the results in the long run. It has been months since I embarked on my personal life goal project. There have been ups and downs but I will persevere until I succeed in my achieving my personal life of being kind to everyone. My favourite quote encapsulates what I go through every single day:

“Be kind; for everyone is fighting a battle.”

Felicia Tan Min Yi
Class 4T1


When I recounted significant moments in my secondary school life, one event stood out. It was my Outward Bound School course which took place in Pulau Ubin last year. It was there that I had to attend a five-day, four-night camp. It was also there that I had to face my greatest fear in life, that of heights. I hesitated when I pondered if I should take up the challenge but relented when my father kept urging me to do so.

There were memorable moments such as our camaraderie with students from Temasek Junior College. We bonded over games, songs and challenges. Though we were of different backgrounds, we came together as youths trying to surmount the challenges that we were tasked to overcome as a group.

On the last day of my Outward Bound School course, I had to face my childhood fear. We had to do the jetty jump. I was a bundle of nerves as I looked at the turbulent sea below me. My peers cheered me on. They cajoled me by calling out my name. My legs were stiff and I could barely move an inch. But, I could not let them down. I pinched my nose, closed my eyes and stepped forward into the unknown. I jumped into the sea. After several seconds, I surfaced from the water, soaking wet, but feeling like a new man. I climbed the ladder back up to the jetty with renewed confidence. I had conquered my greatest fear in life. It took me no more than five seconds, but it was over. I thanked all my peers for supporting and cheering me on. It was an unforgettable moment for me.

Now, in my GCE N(T) level examination year, I am about to plunge into the unknown. Will this year be a manageable year or a year which will be unbearably tough? I have no answers. However, if I could succeed by conquering my fear of heights, I can definitely overcome challenges posed by my upcoming examinations.

Iqmal Zulfiqar B Muhammad Ali
Class 4T1



My success in Loyang View Secondary School comes mainly from the National Police Cadet Corp (NPCC). During the Secondary One Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) orientation, my friends and I chose NPCC as our first choice.

Since young, I have wanted to be just like my father. I wanted to be a good police officer and be awarded with a lot of badges; badges of distinction, badges of merit and badges of accomplishment, just like my father. My father has always told me that NPCC demanded a high level of self-discipline and was physically tiring. I researched about NPCC online and discovered that NPCC comprised a lot of Physical Training, tests such as rank promotion tests, proficiency tests and even theory tests, camps within and outside of school, such as the much talked about adventure camp in Pulau Ubin, where NPCC owns a camp site.

When I was in Secondary One, I was shy and afraid to talk to people, even within NPCC. After sometime, I got to know all of my friends' names. Through a range of activities, I opened up and became a little more extroverted. The first time I got my uniform and formation badges in Secondary One, I looked at myself in the mirror and felt very proud of myself. Now, three years later, I feel extremely proud of myself because of how far I have come. I earned a row of badges and I have attained the rank of Corporal.

In life, how we see challenges in our CCA is very similar to how we should see challenges in our studies as well. My father has always told me that I should always believe in myself and not give up when faced with challenges in life. My upcoming GCE N(T) level examinations will be tough. But, I will soldier on, just as I had in NPCC. I will work hard in my studies and make my parents proud so that I can go to my desired course in the Institute of Technical Education next year.

Irsyad B Mulyadi
Class 4T1


My success story in Loyang View Secondary School has to do with the Boys' Brigade (BB).

Upon reflection, this year has been an eventful year with a list of events I will remember for life. 31 March was the BB Blessing Day. I wore the day dress with pride. It was not an ordinary BB Blessing Day unlike the previous years. The BB Primer and Miss Zhang (our former BB Teacher who had since left for her higher appointment at the Ministry of Education) were both in school. I was especially happy that day as I loved Miss Zhang. She was very encouraging and always had kind words for everyone. I remembered her as a patient and caring teacher. First, I watched the BB Presentation. After that, we went for the BB Parade and had our refreshments. I remembered my interaction with Wei Bin, one of my seniors. He told me about his new white gloves which he would put on as a Guard of Honour. I admired his white gloves. They looked very special to me.

In April, our Passing Out Parade was held. We had graduated from the Boys' Brigade. That also marked the end of my journey with the Boys' Brigade. I remembered shedding a tear or two.

My family has always told me that I should always believe in myself. My upcoming GCE N(T) level examinations will be tough. I will work hard in my studies and make my parents proud of what I can do.

Ng Ruian
Class 4T1



'Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.'

That quote resonated with me and aptly describes how I started to see things anew since I was in Secondary Three.

I was never a fan of Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs). Since I entered secondary school, I started to hate CCAs to the extent that I would deliberately choose to not attend school on Tuesdays and Thursdays as both days were designated CCA days. I dragged my feet and cried to school. The reason why I hated CCAs was because partly I was not the least bit interested in my assigned CCA, the Girl Guides and partly because I was not in the same CCA as my close friends.

Things started to change for the better when Loyang Secondary School merged with GreenView Secondary School. A new CCA, the Infocomm Club was created. My family and friends told me to try it out as they knew that I had a passion for Infocomm and Audio Visual Aids (AVA). Not only was I allowed to change my CCA, I was actually tasked to be in charge of the mixer when I had to play music during the morning assembly.

Now, instead of staying away from CCAs and school, I am present and early for school, especially on days when I have CCAs and early morning duties. My teachers were pleasantly surprised by the positive change in me.

Upon reflection, all these positive changes only became a reality when I first plucked up the courage to request for a change in CCA, to manage the steep learning curve that came along with learning to operate the mixer and having the perseverance to keep on going and not to ever give up when I faced problems with the mixer.

It has been almost two years now since I joined the Infocomm Club. I have learnt a lot and I discovered that some of these skills may actually apply to how I should see life. My initial failure as an unmotivated student should not define me as a failure in life. It is the courage to continue that counts. I truly agree with my favourite quote. I will continue to persevere. What is different now is that no matter how challenging the situation, I will never throw in the towel.

Noorhazirah Haziqah Bte M H
Class 4T1


If you were to ask anyone about success, it would always be a different answer. Success differs from person to person as everybody has a different view of what success is. This is my success story about how I became socially confident.

Being socially confident is something I lacked during the earlier years of my life. Some people are fortunate to be born with the confidence of a lion, just like a friend of mine who was able to literally get along with anyone without even trying. I, on the other hand, was blessed with the confidence of a cockroach, literally hiding when spotted by anyone, as I was too shy to talk to him or her. That was how I was until I stepped into Secondary One. That was the turning point in my life.

Secondary One was a new place with new people and it provided me with the opportunity to portray myself differently to others. This sensation of wanting to be different was insanely intense at that time and it had given me the motivation to do better in life. This was what I kept thinking but it was easier said than done. Even though I changed the way I spoke, and the way I walked, I was still socially hopeless. I started to lose faith in my ability to become more socially confident as it was not something that happened overnight. That was when I realised that if you want to achieve what you desire, you need to lean on others for support.

During the first few days of my secondary school life, I had made a new friend named Firdaus. He introduced me to his friends, who in turn, got me to meet their friends with whom I still know and place my trust in. Now in Secondary 5, I still keep in contact with those friends who have gone to different institutes.

Having these friends was one of the main reasons that helped me become socially confident as they were extroverted people with a great sense of humour, making almost anything they saw or say humorous. I stuck close to them in the hope of becoming as confident and it paid off. They would teach me how to overcome the social anxiety that I was burdened with. They taught me skills to calm myself down. Even though those things seemed easy, it was pretty difficult to do when I actually tried them. However, there were two methods that I would say worked the most for me. I tried to think of them as old friends or I



stopped myself from caring too much about what they thought of me. Not caring too much was more effective in the short-run but would not work in the long term as they started giving out this aura of malice. Another way to give off a calm vibe would be posture. Sitting up straight may seem like nothing, but it was a surprise to what people perceive one to be. Sitting up or standing up straight actually gave me the feeling of 'professionalism' or 'confidence' which in turn made people approach me instead!

Though I have developed social confidence, there are still times when it just activates, sending me into stasis. Though I am confident now more than ever, it is still difficult to maintain it for a long time which gets me to think what success is.

Success is not something that is permanent. It is something that requires constant attention and work to sustain. This is what success really is. It's a sensation that everybody is greedy to attain but not many people can get. Even though it can be success; success is something that is meant to be achieved over and over again to maintain that feeling. This is my success story of how I conquered my fear and became socially more confident.


Lim Ee Hung, Sam
Class 5A1

To me, the Values in Actions (VIA) programme led to a new learning experience. It was something that a student would try out when he first enters secondary school. Through VIA, he will be able to learn new things.

Although VIA started in Secondary One, we did not do as much as in Secondary Two. We were only taught basic knowledge and skills about VIA. In the beginning of Secondary Two, my form teachers introduced VIA again. I was enthusiastic and eager to begin. My classmates and I were tasked to come out with traditional games. I started to feel worried. I asked myself, “Will Secondary Two students be responsible? Are we mentally prepared for this?” Miss Yip, our form teacher at that time instructed us on what to do. It was a collaboration between classes 2NA and 2NB. We were separated into groups to create different types of traditional games. For my group, we were in charge of the game called, “Congkak” which is a popular game among the Malay community.

Every Wednesday, my group members and I would meet together for three hours, from 2pm-5pm. to brainstorm ideas on designing attractive and eye-catching posters to be placed by our booth. Two weeks after all the planning, it was the day of our showcase. I hoped that all our hard work would be worth the effort. Students from other levels and classes visited our booth to try out the games. Obviously I felt worried. “What if they showed no interest in playing our games?” I questioned myself. To my surprise, most of the teachers and seniors were impressed with us. I heard compliments such as “You guys are very organised and responsible.” My team especially, drew lots of compliments and attention.

In addition, I was also proud of myself for approaching people to try out our games and explaining to people how our game worked.



Truthfully, the whole project was a rollercoaster ride because during the two weeks, we had to stay in school every Wednesday for three hours to do our planning. We also had to research and practice the game on our own. Aside from that, we had to focus on our schoolwork, too, especially since the common tests were coming up. Even though most of my team members felt exhausted, we still managed to complete our project. It took us plenty of time and effort.

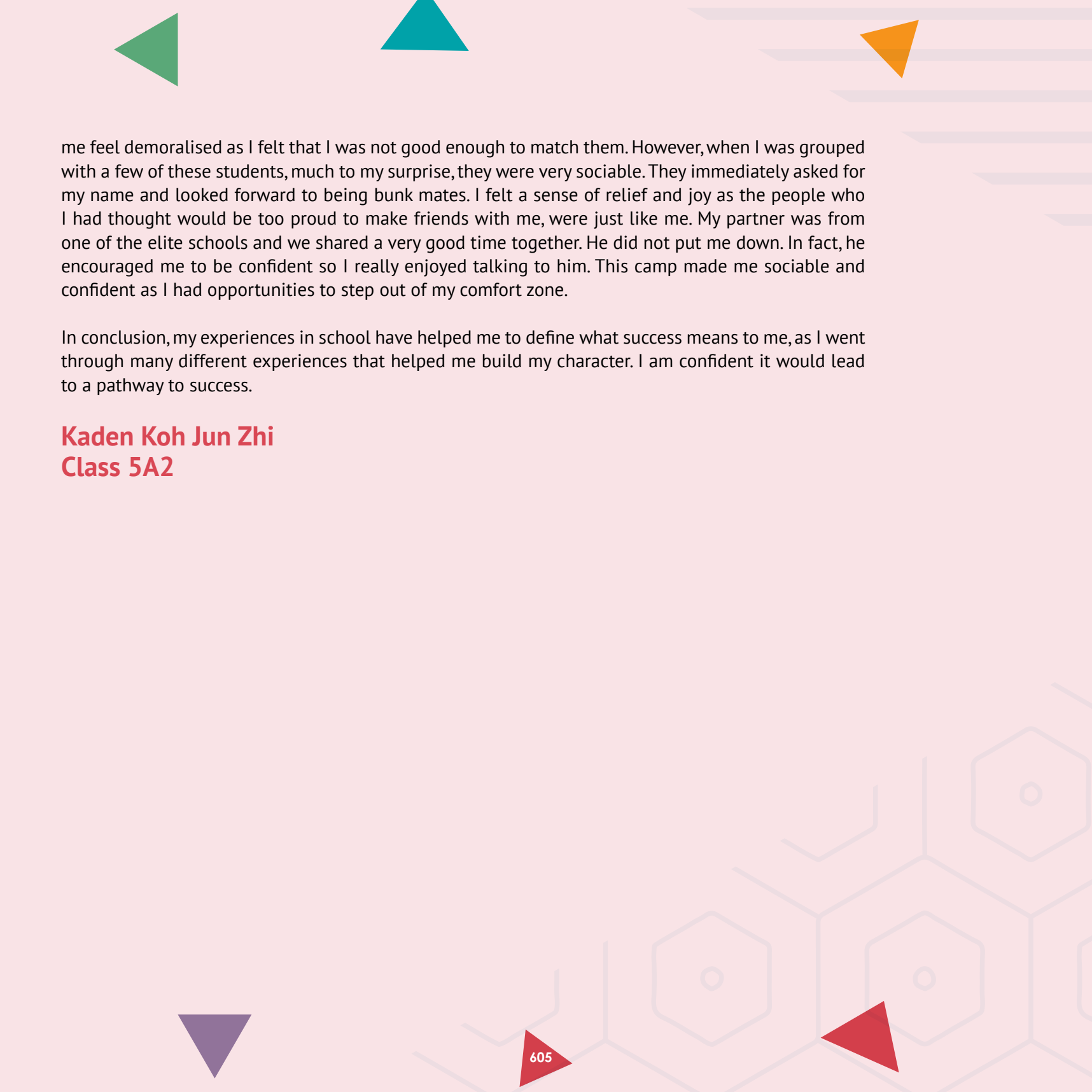
Till today, I remember that the VIA activity in Secondary Two had taught me to be more socially confident. I can now open up to people more easily to others compared to the past. Also, I am now able to communicate with new people more comfortably unlike those days when I used to be shy to approach my teachers and friends. Working for my activity has helped me to speak well. Before, I would always stutter and mispronounce some words during my presentations because I got nervous easily. Now, I am able to explain things more clearly and confidently!

Nursarah Atisha Bte Noor Azhar
Class 5A1

What is success to me? It can mean things as simple as completing homework or even getting good results in examinations. Success is achieving the goals that I have set for myself, such as doing well for tests and handing in assignments on time. Of course, these are goals that I have set for myself while in secondary school. However, as I grow older and experience things I have not experienced before, my definition of success would change too. Currently success to me would be to do well in the 'O' level examinations and enter a polytechnic of my dream course. If I am able to achieve this goal, I would definitely feel overwhelmed with joy and would be able to move forward with confidence.

An experience that has given me a huge impact would be the 'N' level examinations. Before the examinations, in class, I would often not listen when the teacher was teaching; I would doze off during lessons as I was not getting what the teacher was saying. As days passed by, nearing the 'N' level examinations, I started to feel worried and afraid, as I was not understanding the lessons and I was scared of failing the examinations. Hence, I started approaching teachers for consultations for the subjects I had trouble with. I constantly and consistently completed practice exercises, sometimes even with friends. When I studied with my friends, I was able to ask them questions if in doubt. They were easily able to teach me in a way that I could comprehend. Not only was I studying hard for examinations, I was also able to socialise with friends who I thought I would never talk to and build a much deeper bond with. A few weeks later, I sat for the 'N' level examinations and felt really confident, and it was thanks to the people around me that I was able to be a much confident and sociable person. This also helped me to build connections with people who also aided me in my studies.

My experience in Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) also allowed me to feel much more socially confident. My greatest achievement in National Cadet Corps (NCC) would be getting the Staff Sergeant rank. I had to attend a course and this course was only for cadets who had done well in the CCA. When I was chosen, I had mixed feelings. I was both scared and excited but I told myself that I needed to push myself and get out of my comfort zone. After arriving at the camp, I was amazed by the number of elite schools that were participating in this course, such as Raffles Institution and Anglican High School. This made



me feel demoralised as I felt that I was not good enough to match them. However, when I was grouped with a few of these students, much to my surprise, they were very sociable. They immediately asked for my name and looked forward to being bunk mates. I felt a sense of relief and joy as the people who I had thought would be too proud to make friends with me, were just like me. My partner was from one of the elite schools and we shared a very good time together. He did not put me down. In fact, he encouraged me to be confident so I really enjoyed talking to him. This camp made me sociable and confident as I had opportunities to step out of my comfort zone.


In conclusion, my experiences in school have helped me to define what success means to me, as I went through many different experiences that helped me build my character. I am confident it would lead to a pathway to success.

Kaden Koh Jun Zhi
Class 5A2

2018 was a year full of challenges, as I did not get promoted from the express stream I was in last year. I had to move to a new class without all of my friends. It was really challenging as cliques and groups had already formed in this new class, and it was hard for me to get to know them but after a while, I slowly got used to it and opened myself to others. I decided then to focus on my N level examinations. Even though I had some difficulties in Science, I managed to catch up and pass my N level Examinations, and move on to Secondary 5.

Through perseverance, I managed to pull up my Science grades in the last three months before the examinations. I would say that my hard work has definitely paid off, as I passed all my subjects and got a score I wanted. In addition, throughout the year, I met many new people in my new class. I'm really grateful to have met some really nice classmates who have helped me persevere in my studies.

Lee Xue Yan Cheryl
Class 5A2



On 23rd January 2019, our dance Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) carried out their Value In Action (VIA) Project. The dance CCA was invited by the Pasir Ris Neighbourhood Police Centre to perform at their Community Appreciation Night 2019. It was the last performance for the Secondary 4 and 5 dancers. We performed two dance pieces, one of which was choreographed by our dance instructor and the other piece was the school mass dance.

Even though the Secondary 5 dancers only performed the mass dance, we had to recap the steps so that everyone would remember. However, there were new steps, too that we had not learnt, that we had to acquaint ourselves with. Since it was our last performance as a club, we displayed a show of joy. We cheered each other on to be motivated and expressed our spirit of camaraderie. Although the stage was small, we were still able to dance without complaining.

It was a memorable night as we got to spend time together as a club and enjoy the whole event. At the end of the event, our dance CCA received an award. We felt honoured to perform for the Pasir Ris Neighbourhood Police Centre. Before leaving Elias Community Centre where we performed, we took pictures to commemorate the special moments we shared.

Yazwan B Yazid
Class 5A2



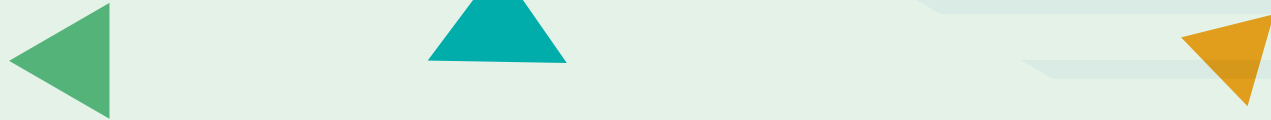
OTHERS

Before the Secondary one orientation, En Kai and I were total strangers. Given En Kai's fierce and foreboding looks, naturally, I did not want to mix with him. I felt intimidated by him. So when we found ourselves in the same group, we tended to disagree, resulting in conflicts in the group. We ended up not talking to each other.

One fine day, I discovered that my brother knew En Kai. At the very next moment, we became friends, laughing and joking with each other. I then realized that En Kai was actually quite playful and humorous. At times in class, our antics received some glares from the teachers. When tests came around, he started to motivate me to work hard. In the Secondary one drama production, I found myself acting alongside with him. Both of us were selected to play the role of the children due to our angelic and adorable looks. Naturally, I was nervous when it came to acting. Eventually, I was glad I went on to perform my role as I got to bond with En Kai.

Currently, En Kai and I share a very strong friendship. I feel that no matter how big the obstacle, our friendship can stand the test of time. From this experience, I learnt not to judge a book by its cover. I am glad to have such a wonderful friend like En Kai. If I did not see beyond his stern face, I would not have discovered a friend who could have a lasting influence on me.

Alvan Lian Hong Yi
Class 1A1



“Hi class!” the teacher greeted everyone. “Today will be a fun-filled first day of school! We will do a lot of bonding activities together, and for the finale of the day we will have a campfire with the whole cohort!” The mention of campfire sparked the interest of the students. Each of us was given a programme booklet that stated the various activities we would be doing for the day. The activities were really fun but also very tiring. I was looking forward to the campfire as I had not taken part in one for a very long time.

An hour before the campfire, our teacher announced: “Okay, class. Before the campfire starts, you have to come up with a cheer. One of you can lead the class in it.” Everyone seemed very excited to be the leader. I started thinking of a cheer but I did not expect to be the one to have to say it! I mustered enough courage and gave it my best shot. My classmates seemed impressed with my performance, and so did I.

The following day, we had to vote for the class chairperson. I was very keen to be chosen, as I had not been a very obedient pupil in primary school and thought that being a leader would be a good, fresh start. Surprisingly, my classmates chose me as one of the nominees. My jaw dropped. I asked them why they were considering me, and they replied that they were very impressed with the way I had led the class during the cheer the day before. I was so touched. In the end, I managed to garner the highest number of votes. I was delighted and overjoyed by the results. I promised my class that I would do my best for them.

Since then, I have learnt so much about being a student leader. I feel that I am now ready for any challenge given to me, and I will be able to do it to the best of my abilities. I feel that I have done myself and my family proud. This is definitely the beginning of my journey in leadership.

Dino Carlson Benneth Capulong
Class 1E1

I am in the drama club and this year we took part in the Singapore Youth Festival. All but two of the secondary ones students helped to make the props for the presentation. I was one of the props makers. We had to paint the boxes which were meant to be the dice for the snakes-and-ladders board game in our story. If you thought that painting was an easy thing to do, I am afraid you would be wrong.

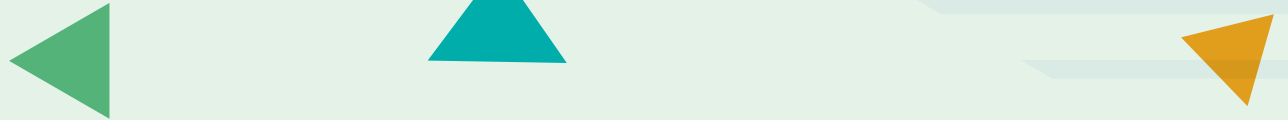
Firstly, the props were difficult to make, especially the surfaces of the dice. We had to paint and tape each surface manually. Before painting, we had to tape the sides with masking tape. Secondly, as painting was a messy job, we had to lay sheets of newspaper all over the floor before painting. We also had to move the tables and chairs to the sides of the classroom to create a workspace for ourselves. We then had to clean up after the painting and remove the litter at the end of each session. I found the taping to be difficult, as we would often run out of tape very quickly! Thirdly, the painting itself was difficult as we had to mix the different paint colours to create the same colour tone. We also had to be very careful while painting, as there was limited space and there was paint lying everywhere.

Apart from the dice, we also had to make handheld props. We had to trace the shape of a snake scale on pieces of felt cloth and cut them out. This was difficult as it required a lot of precision and was also very boring as it was time and energy consuming. I found it very tedious at first but eventually got over it by working with a partner. We chatted while working, and we managed to complete our tasks. I learnt to appreciate the importance of working hard and staying determined from this activity alone.

Another thing I had to do was to spray paint the props. While this was a relatively easy task, there were many scales I had to spray-paint, and I had to find the space to do it without accidentally spraying those working around me. Fortunately, everything turned out well in the end.

On the whole, I learnt to be responsible for my tasks and not give up easily. I was also very glad that our performance turned out to be amazing, and that the teachers loved the props. I hope to continue to be successful in future productions!

Esme Goh Ke Xun
Class 1E1



“Pass the ball,” my team mate said to me. I had butterflies in my stomach and passed the ball in a frenzy. Naturally, my team mate failed to receive it. He chided me for it. I was embarrassed and felt guilty at the same time. I thought to myself that I had to be the worst player in the match.

It all started last Monday. I was selected to be in the school floorball team. Mr Ong, the teacher in charge, said that he saw potential in me. I wanted to decline the chance at first, but quickly changed my mind and took up the offer.

During the first training session that Wednesday, I was anxious but also excited as I had great interest in floorball. We did different types of warm-up exercises, followed by drills in passing, shooting and defending. Time went by so fast. Before the session ended, Mr Ong told us about an upcoming match against Meridian Secondary School.

The day of the match came and I was excited. I looked at the opponents’ line up. I was going against one of my primary school friends. During the game, whenever I received the ball I would panic and pass the ball erratically. My team mates kept scolding me and insulting me, saying how bad I was. Soon the half-time whistle sounded. I was utterly demoralised and wanted to quit the game there and then. Mr Ong did not scold me for my horrible performance, instead he motivated me to carry on and to play better. My friends who were watching the match also cheered me on loudly. I felt a boost of confidence. In the second half, I passed the ball to my team mates perfectly, and even managed to score two goals!

After the match, I reflected on what had happened. I told myself that I should never give up in whatever I do in the future, no matter how hard it might get. If there is a will, there will be a way.

Muhammad Fariheen Bin Mohamed Farid
Class 1E1

Loyang View Secondary School, what a wonderful school with all the facilities, teachers, greenery and friends! But the most significant experience for me was my secondary one orientation camp. Spoiler, it was amazing!

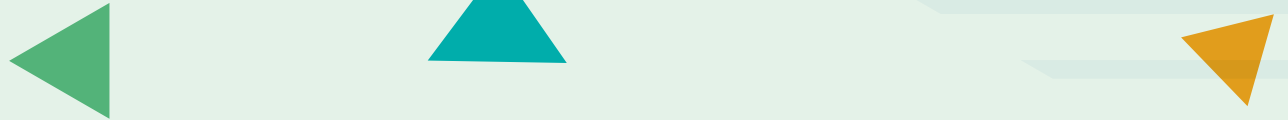
It all started on the 3rd of January. The weather was quite warm and cloudy. It was my family tradition to get my father to send my siblings and I to school, when there is a camp. This tradition was started when my sister had her primary five camp in 2015. I got out of the car blushing while waddling as I was carrying my father's sleeping bag, that he used when he was a mountain climber, "Why were you blushing?" you may ask. I would simply say that it was because I was embarrassed and to save your breath I'll just tell you I was embarrassed as my father's sleeping bag was about thirty centimeters taller than I!

First of all we had a bonding session where we had this one game to help us remember each other's names. Basically, we had to sit in a circle and take turns to stand up and say a positive adjective starting with the first letter of our name that we want to be called. For example: Nayli could be "Nice Nayli" especially if you liked her. After bonding for about three hours, we stopped and had to sit through an inspirational speech by Mr Lee, our principal. We then went to our classroom where I would spend the rest of my secondary one year.

That night, we had an exciting campfire, with our family, friends and student councillors. We sang some songs, did the Loyang View dance and had a class cheer led by a cool dude named Alfi beatbox!

I look forward to being in this school and having many more exciting experiences. Loyang View is a happy and caring school. I realise now that I made the right choice to be in this school! View is a happy and caring school. I realise now that I made the right choice to be in this school!

Nur Alfi Shah
Class 1E2



School is great! I have always looked forward to going back to school because to me it is a lot of fun. The orientation week was very welcoming and I still remember participating in the activities and getting to know my new friends better. I also enjoyed the orientation camp where we had to stay overnight camping in school and doing cheers and performances in front of the whole secondary one cohort. I learnt how to socialise and to showcase my talent.

We started our lessons the week after orientation. We came to know our new teachers and friends better. I really liked my new friends. We learnt together, ate together during recess and lunch, did homework together and even quarrelled with each other. We were like one big happy family because we were so close. We celebrated many events such as Chinese New Year, Total Defence Day and even International Woman's Day together and we planned to celebrate many more events in the future.

We even organised a farmer's market to gather funds for our school. We sold fresh vegetables, coke floats, flowers, peanuts and even churros with a big chocolate dip. It was extremely tasty! Through these events, I learnt that school, with the friends and people you meet, will provide you opportunities to try and discover many new things.

I am so glad to be a student in this school. I have been nominated by my classmates to be the class vice-chairman, hence I have to be more responsible in my actions and work. Loyang View is truly a happy and caring school.

Ahmad Zulsyuqree
Class 1E2

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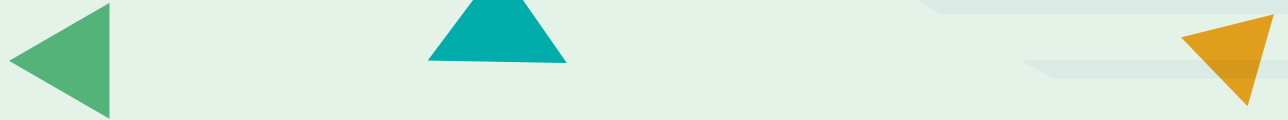
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Umar Bin Najib
Class 1E2



Recently, I signed up to be a student councillor in my new secondary school. At the end of term 2, our student council committee arranged for a bonding session for all the new secondary one students who were still under probation to have a chance to mingle with the existing student councillors.

On that day, we were asked to gather in a circle at the Dance Studio. Our senior student councillors started the session with a game called “Splat”. Basically the objective of this game was for us to get to know each others’ names. When someone was being ‘splat’, the other two in between the person who was ‘splat’ had to call out each others’ names. The first to call out correctly won. Everyone enjoyed playing this game.

Next, we played the game called “Blow Wind Blow”. The atmosphere became chaotic as everyone got really excited. We were in high spirits and were super focused. While the game was going on, I made a lot of new friends.

Then, we played the last game called “Tag”. We each wore a coloured sash and you could only pull sashes that were a different colour from yours. We ran, fell, laughed and burst out with tears of joy. Everyone was competitive and wanted to win. After some time, I was among the few survivors and was very happy with myself.

We ended the bonding session with a group photo. Everyone got ready for the camera and we all did the same pose which was to point to the sky. After this student council bonding session, I really got to know many more other student councillors and made quite a lot of new friends. Some seniors provided me some tips on passing the probation as they really wanted me to join this cheerful, big family. I hope that I can pass my probation and everyone can stay in this big, happy family. Even though all of us came from different backgrounds, classes and races, we had a good time and believe that together, we can serve the school well.

Shantel Lee Min Ki
Class 1E3

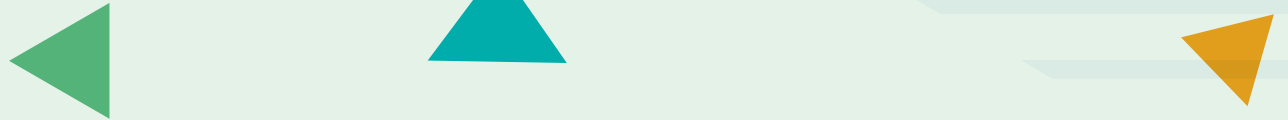
It was the first day of school at Loyang View Secondary. We had fun on the first day. In one of the activities, I got to know Harith. Given our common interests, we soon became close friends.

The second day of our Secondary One Orientation Camp was a hike up Fort Canning Hill. Along the way, we saw several tropical trees and shrubs. After a while, we grew tired as we trudged up the hill. Fortunately, at the top of Fort Canning hill, we took a bus from there back to school.

Once we reached school, we went for lunch with the student councilors. After lunch, we headed to our classroom to learn the mass dance as well as to practice our class cheer. In the late afternoon, we had our dinner and then went to prepare for our campfire act.

Overall, it was an enjoyable week. I looked forward to coming to school. My friends were very warm and friendly. It was very relaxing with days filled with activities.

Zhang Jiahe
Class 1E1



On the first day of school, I was sitting with a few of my classmates whom I did not know. When the day started, I walked to one of them and I introduced myself to her. After I introduced myself she introduced herself and after that we started talking.

When it was recess time we walked to the canteen and bumped into one of our classmates who was lost. He then asked where our class was so we had to help to take him to our class. When we sent him to class we walked back to the canteen so we could eat. After buying our food a girl asked us if she could sit with us. Of course, we let her join us because we are kind. We started talking until we finished our food.

When we were done, we went back to class for more activities. One of my classmates whom we helped earlier told the teachers what we did and the teachers praised us for our good behaviour. My Co-Form Teacher said she was proud of us and she would praise us for more good deeds we did. Our Form Teacher was also proud of us and he said he could trust us more. Our Co-Form Teacher gave us some chocolates and a pen. We were happy to help our classmates and after that, we all got to know each other. Now we are all friends.

Nur Rayna Eiliyah Bte Muhamed Herry
Class 1T1

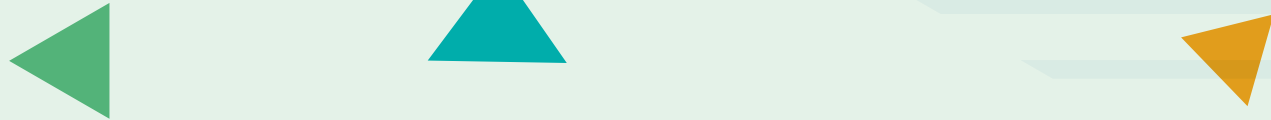
I had been rewarded with something from my teacher during my after school celebration. During the celebration, I watched movies with my class. We played games, got to have sweets and also got a chance to use our phones and play sports downstairs.

After the activities, we were each rewarded with goodie bags. I got one for being well-mannered and that made me so happy. I felt that I had succeeded in being respectful to others.

When I got home, I showed the bag to my family members. They congratulated me and when I opened the bag I saw it was full of sweets, chocolates, pens and pencils.

This made me very happy. It was the best day in my whole life!

eo Shao Xuan, Immanuel
Class 1T1



During the school days, ten students, including me, were chosen to go to Thailand for a 7-day trip to Thailand for a programme named S.T.E.P. (Singapore Thailand Enhanced Partnership). This programme was designed to help Singaporean and Thai students collaborate and bond through cross-culture learning and other learning experiences. This amazing trip really opened up my mind to the outside world.

We board a plane to Thailand to meet our Thai buddies. All of us were extremely nervous including our two teachers who were with us throughout the journey.

When we arrived at Thailand, we were surprised to see that each of our Thai buddies was holding a big banner with our individual names. With faces beaming and flashing their pearly whites, we could tell how friendly they were. I met my buddy whose name was Viewly, a 16-year-old girl. As I walked towards her, she started screaming happily. I was surprised by her enthusiasm. Soon we boarded the bus and were on our way to the camp site. We became close while talking to each other on the bus. Conversations with our Thai buddies were tough for them as their main language is not English, so understanding each other was somewhat difficult.

The most memorable moment during this trip took place on the fourth day when we went to Chokchai Farm to learn about how to milk cows and how to use the milk to make ice cream. We were given the opportunity to make ice cream and bring it back to our hotel. The most enjoyable part was when we got free time to go around the farm. All of us rented bicycles from a bicycle shop and cycled around the field which was covered in beautiful flowers. The breathtaking scenery caught my eye. Being an avid photographer, I took some photos. It was a rare sight to see such lush landscapes.

On the last day, we arrived at the airport with our buddies who were there to bid us farewell. One of them was crying so badly that her makeup was ruined and later, she was seen trying very hard to fix it while waving to us for the last time.

After we got back to Singapore, we continued to maintain contact with them through a group chat. I had learnt many things in Thailand from my Thai buddies such as about the food, the culture, their country and their families.

This trip left me with an unforgettable memory of a friend to cherish.

Lecia Kueh
Class 2A1

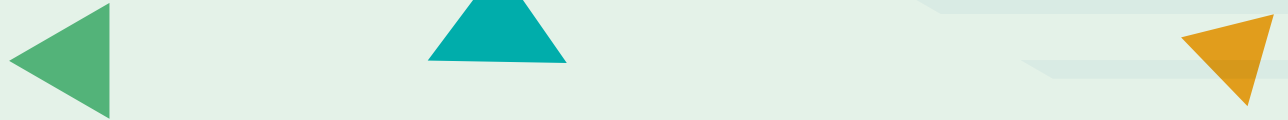
“Oof!” said my friend, Mikhail. “You are going to die!” exclaimed another classmate. I was standing on the edge of the starting point for the High Elements course. I started thinking to myself, “How did I get up here? Why did I choose to go up here?” I repeated these words over and over in my head. Being high up above ground, I started to feel like a nervous wreck.

Two hours before going up, I was very excited to go on the High Elements. From where I stood, the entire level 1 course looked easy and fun. I volunteered to go first. Although I was a bit scared, I went through it smoothly and without any stress. The instructor asked who wanted to go on to the higher-level course since there was still enough time left. The instructor could only take on three students. Out of all the students who wanted to go up, I was one of the three who were selected. I was surprised yet scared.

When I was walking up to the higher level, I slowly grew more frightened and regretted raising my hand. Then when we started the course. I had barely got past the first obstacle and my legs were shaking like jelly. The second one came up and I quickly ran and jumped at it. Then came the final one. It was definitely the most difficult because most of the obstacles were only supported by a single rope. Fortunately, I managed to get through that course. No words can describe the sense of elation and accomplishment I felt after the whole ordeal. A heavy weight was lifted off my chest and I was extremely relieved when both my feet touched the ground.

I learnt on that day the importance of resilience.

Remiel Ang Jin Feng
Class 2A1



A long and tough journey awaited me as I was appointed the class chairman.

It all started when, on the first day of school, my form teachers, Miss Tan and Mr Tum began to shortlist a few students to become the chairman of the class. To my greatest horror, I was one of those identified by them and this was supported by my classmates. It did not occur to me that my form teachers and classmates trusted me so much that they would grant me this honour.

Apart from the chairman, we were also on the lookout for a vice-chairman who could assist the former in managing the class. “What if my appointment as the class chairman materialises? I must make sure that I can work with my vice-chairman,” I thought to myself as the class got chaotic with the vote count. I was hoping that my form teachers and the class would identify the right and suitable candidate for the post of vice-chairman, or I would have challenges working with the future vice-chairman.

After the votes were counted (by the number of hands that were raised), I got the highest vote and automatically, my form teachers announced that I was the chairman of the class, “The chairman of the class this year goes to... Danish...!” My feet wobbled as I went up and stood in front of the class with a heavy head. Though I was proud to have defeated others, I knew that the responsibilities ahead of me were overwhelming,

And then came the next announcement, “The class vice-chairman goes to... Asha,” I jumped with joy as I knew that I was able to work with her for the good of the class, together with the form and subject teachers. Both of us stood before of our classmates amidst the applause, proud but apprehensive for fear that we would not be able to discharge our duties and responsibilities. We knew that it was crucial to get the support of the teachers and student body.

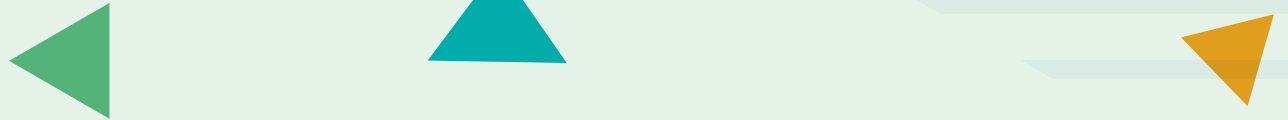
The first two weeks proved to be very challenging as we settled down to discharge our duties. We had to work very closely with both our form and subject teachers. The class was as usual noisy and restless. With conviction, Asha and I worked on some class rules that would quieten the class down. With the help of the discipline teachers, our tasks were made much easier.

As the class chairman, I attended a couple of training workshops organised by the school to prepare myself to be a more effective leader. We had bonding activities with the chairman and vice-chairman of the other classes and exchanged ideas on how to be effective leaders. We also had a session on how to be effective listeners and speakers. I gathered a lot of communication skills and put them into practice in the course of executing my duties and responsibilities.

Over the months, we garnered more support from the class through our gentle but firm ways of managing them. As I persevered, I began to enjoy every moment of my task and I was proud of myself because I could contribute, in my own small way, to make teaching and learning more interesting and exciting in class. I had indeed facilitated in making the classroom a conducive environment to study.

With strong conviction and being resolute, I believed that I could make a difference in the lives of my classmates. I wanted to be a role model to others. I am now working towards materialising their expectations. With diligence, I believe that I would succeed.

Danish Fitri Bin Abdullah
Class 2A2



“A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him”, the saying goes. I did not know what it meant until the day of the competition.

“I shouldn’t have been chosen. They should have chosen someone better,” I thought as I held the rifle up. I was chosen to compete in the National University of Singapore (NUS) Invitational Shoot 2019 by the coach. I was stunned when he told me that I would be competing but I was extremely scared and unsure how I would be able to get those winning shots.

“That isn’t how you hold a rifle! You’ve been here for a year and you still don’t know how to hold it properly?” He shouted out loud into my ears and I slowly put the rifle down and turned to the person who was lecturing me. “Your feet aren’t supposed to be that far apart!” I felt the lump in my throat harden as tears threatened to fall. I felt even more unworthy of the competition and my feet wobbled.

I was not ready to give up. So, I listened to the instructions carefully, trained as hard as I could to improve before the competition and kept on persevering. The unwavering support I got from my friends and family members helped me go through all the challenges.

Finally, it was the day of the competition. I felt anxious. “Don’t worry, you’ll do great. You’re there!” the coach reassured me as I walked over to the shooting range all dressed up with the rifle and its stand. I took a few deep breathes and suited up. The shooting range was quiet and you could only hear the sound of piercing gun shots.

I put the rifle down and strutted over to the other air rifle members. I did better than I expected. I felt proud of myself for training hard and persevering even though I doubted myself. Although I did not get into the top few, I was still proud as to how far I had come. I hope my success story will encourage others to be resilient and persevere.

Gabrielle Sophia Agustin Kapatagan
Class 2A2

It was just another normal school day. I woke up thinking it was going to be another boring school day, it being a Monday. Contrary to what I thought, that morning assembly briefing got me excited and I listened to it attentively. The teacher announced that all the Secondary 2 classes would be going for a camp at Labrador Campsite.

During CCE lessons, our teachers gave us the packing list. It was a two night and three day camp. Back at home, I packed my bag and waited excitedly for the next day to report to school and head for the campsite.

After our morning assembly, we boarded the bus and left for the campsite. When we arrived, we were brought to our bunks and started off with the day's activities that kept us on our toes right till the day ended. All the activities were rigorous and we had to work as a team. They were fun as we had to communicate effectively to execute the activities. All the excitement of the day ended at eleven. We were tired out and fell asleep easily.

We woke up at six the next morning and were brought to an open field where the high elements were. I had the greatest fear of heights and the first activity required us to climb up the pole which left me in great fear. I shivered in fear even before my turn was up. Anyway, I had to overcome the fear and gave it a shot.

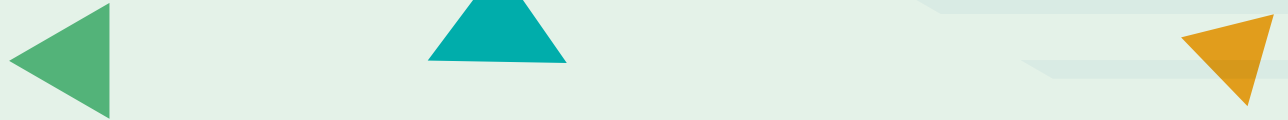
Well harnessed, I held tight onto the rope and started to climb. I sighed with relief when my feet stepped on the platform and what came next was the zip line that I had to breeze through in order to go to the other end.

Nerve racking, I closed my eye and zipped my way through swiftly. Before I knew it, I was at the other end of the line. I told myself to pluck what courage I had and become stronger at the end of it.

I needed to succeed in this activity in order to achieve a gold medal. Yes! I was able to overcome my fear for heights after this activity. During the prize presentation ceremony, my name was called out and as I walked proudly to receive my gold medal, I could hear the applauds from all my supportive friends and teachers.

This camp taught me independence, perseverance and determination, and apart from that it was an experience that would be etched in my memory forever.

Gurman Bir Singh Gill
Class 2A2



“Haziq, you will be the captain of our floorball team,” Miss Tan announced. I was selected by my form teacher last year to represent the class for a sports carnival. I was shocked that I was selected for this event as I was not prepared for it. On top of that, I had not been attending my floorball training session for quite a while. It was a challenge to take on that role but as member of the school’s floorball team, I could not afford to turn down my form teacher’s request and my classmates expectations of me. I knew that I had to try my best and come back with a trophy.

We scheduled our own training days and time. Rain or shine, we would be at the parade square, training very hard for the carnival. As some of my classmates did not know how to play this sport well, I had to teach them from scratch. “Hey! That’s not the way to pass the ball,” I shouted as I trained hard with them. Exhausted though, we remained undaunted. We were determined to bring pride and glory to the class.

On the day of the event, we were all ready. Two hours into the competition, we had defeated three classes easily and qualified for the semi-final round. As we braced ourselves for the semi-final, we gave it our best and before we knew it, we were in the final match. Our opponents were very strong but we were focused on our goal!

When the umpire blew the whistle to start off the match, it was attacking and attacking. We shoved our way, aiming for the goal post of our opponents as long as I could remember. What we heard was all the shouting and cheering from our classmates at the gallery. I was encouraged by their show of support and together with the other players, we went all out to win.

At the end of the forty-fifth minute, when the umpire blew the whistle to mark the end of the match, we led by a score of 15-7. Yes! We made it! We were the champions of the event. All the fatigue vanished when we saw the score on the board.

When our class was announced as the champion, we walked towards the stage to receive our trophy from the principal. A sense of pride and success engulfed me as I held the trophy in my hand and shouted, “Long Live 2A2!”

Muhammad Haziq Bin Maswan
Class 2A2

It all started when my form teacher walked into the classroom with a piece of news for all of us. I was in primary six then. What would come next would be a surprise for me and my friends

“Class, since you have finished your PSLE, the school has organised activities for each of the primary six classes,” shared my form teacher joyfully.

The class let out a big whoop! She proceeded to walk to the projector and started to show us the list of activities. As I looked anxiously for my name, I saw only the fun things lined up for my friends like rock climbing, swimming, ukulele lessons and even dance practices. Taking a closer look, I noticed that three names were highlighted and in bold. Before raising my hand to point it out, a girl from the back of the class yelled.

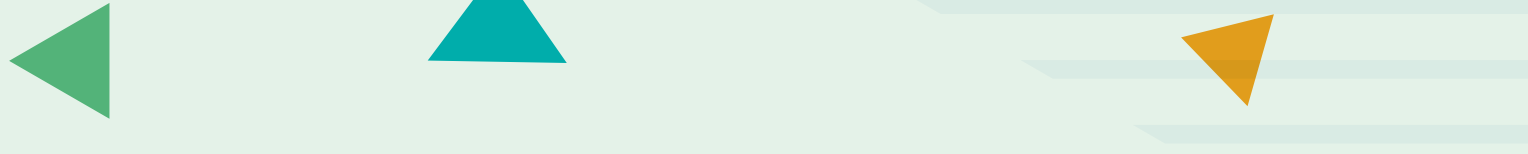
“Teacher why is MY name highlighted?” the entire class turned around.

I spoke up, “Yeah, teacher why mine, too?”

My teacher then explained that those highlighted would be participating in an engineering competition held in the school. At first, I felt disappointed that I could not do all the fun activities with my friends but I ignored those thoughts and went on as planned by the school.

Later that day, I went back to my classroom to work on my engineering project. There were the instructors who showed us how to properly build our project. That was when I learned what we were making. It was a remote control car and the competition was on whose car was the quickest and the most-well built in design.

For the next four weeks I was determined to do my best and win in the competition. I focused on all the things the instructors wanted us to do. I could see that the other students were working very hard on their projects, too. While doing this project, I was able to bring out my innovative spirit, and I came up with great ideas that would help my design and ultimately win in the competition. In that process, I learned the value of hard work that would stay with me forever .



On the day of the competition, I was a nervous wreck. I was unsure whether my remote control car could even work I had no time to test it out. When the time came to race our cars, the entire school fell into silence and a loud blast was heard. Some cars in front soon started to stall due to the poor design. Others fell out of the racing track and landed on the students.

The whole race was a lap around the school hall. The car that belonged to one of the girls in my class was faster than mine. On their last lap, my car was the only one left, racing its way to the finishing line.

When the flag was waved and the honk blasted, the race came to an end. Filled with happiness and joy that I could barely contain, my car was the fastest. That day I went home a happy boy with a shiny medal on my chest.

Mohamed Ilham Shah Bin Mohamed Aidil
Class 2A2

“Failure is success in progress!”

As a student, in order to be successful, I have to work hard. With perseverance, I believe that I can achieve what I aim for. Success is about not giving up; it's about trying my best and working hard. So I am going to share with you my success story.

“Bzz... bzz,” the buzzer rang to mark the end of the match. Our school played against Tampines Secondary School in the semi-final round of East Zone Basketball Competition. The score was 12-30. Our school lost to Tampines Secondary School. As the captain, I was really disappointed because I trained hard in these past few months and I thought we could win the match.

However, I remembered a quote my uncle shared with me once, “Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again. This time more intelligently.” So for these past few months, I really trained hard for our next basketball match and this time it was against Meridian Secondary School. I wanted to make my parents and the school proud.

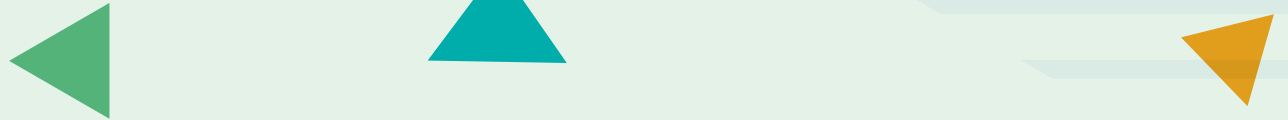
My good friends encouraged and cheered me on. I was really grateful to have such friends. Training was really hard for me because every Saturday I would have to wake up early, instead of staying at home to chill. I would always remember the student creed of my school: “With resilience, I will succeed” whenever I felt a little unmotivated. That creed spurred me on to do my best. Our coach was really tough on us but we were determined to win.

On the day of the competition, I was really nervous because I had heard from other people that the Meridian slingers were very good and we were not a match. Once we reached their school compound, they amicably greeted us and wished us luck. Once we reached the court, we did some warm up exercises before greeting our opponents.

The match was really intense and at one point I tripped and fell. One of the opponents helped me up, which kind of surprised me. We actually thought we were going to lose because we were tangled in a tie by the end of the first half of the match. Luck was on our side when one of the shots got blocked and we managed to score three pointers in a row, ending the match at 60-57. Yes! We won. We were really happy. Being the captain, I went crazy. I called my parents afterwards and told them the good news. They were really proud of me!

I have learnt that hard work pays off and with resilience, I will succeed.

John Rey Mayo Dilag
Class 2A2



“Dear 1A2, please remember to come back to school for the musical rehearsal on the 14th of June. See you all in the hall at nine in the morning,” reminded my form teacher, Miss Tan, in our class chat group. We had only about a week before the performance.

“Why must it be during the holidays? This is so upsetting!” I expressed my exasperation to myself.

However, I could not sleep the day before that. Feeling distraught, I sulked and I only had three hours of sleep. I thought of the embarrassment that I could have caused to myself should I fumble to act and dance well.

The next morning, I reported for the rehearsal. My classmates and I sat down in the school hall and whined on how the rehearsal was going to waste our time.

“Welcome back to our rehearsal rounds. I know that you are all enjoying your time at home but we just have to do it! Tell me, why do you think we’re doing this?” Mr Jones asked as he welcomed us.

“To showcase our talent!” one student shouted in excitement.

“To tell our future audience that Loyang View Secondary School students are capable of doing something amazing,” cried another student.

“Yes, both of you are right. This musical will add to the school’s reputation. This will also help you with your confidence. We want people to know that this is what we have at Loyang View,” Mr Jones explained.

Half an hour into the rehearsal, it was our turn to present the 7th scene which was the train scene. I had to be one of the passengers. “Oh dear! Not again!” I trembled. I looked around nervously. I smiled, thinking that it would be okay. After the train scene ended, I was relieved. I rushed back to sit down and followed the progress of the musical from the backstage.

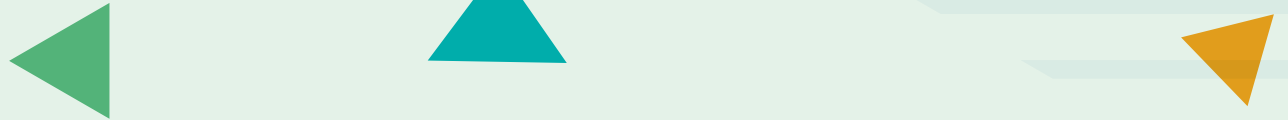
After spending so many months rehearsing, it was finally the day of the actual performance at Our Tampines Hub Theatre. We put on our stage make-up to make ourselves look great.

On stage, my feet started to wobble. I tried not to look at the audience. I felt stifled but I plucked up what courage I had, and delivered my lines like a cool cucumber. I just could not wait for my scene to be over, after which I rushed back to the waiting room, backstage, relieved.

For the grand finale, we had to do a dance entitled, 'We will get there' by Stephanie Sun. I danced to the best of my ability and jumped for joy when the dancing segment ended.

I was elated that I had put in my best effort into the performance. The experience was simply amazing. I hope to be given other opportunities to discover both my acting and dancing talent.

Nur Rusyidah Binte Rohaizad
Class 2A2



The sound of the alarm startled me. I unwillingly put my head up from my table. I disliked mathematics; this was obvious as I sucked at it. In my head I told myself: “Just 30 more minutes.”. It was a Monday morning, everyone in the classroom had the “Monday Blues”.

If you want to know how bad my math was, just think of a landfill on fire. The only good thing I could see about this was that it was the week right before the March Holidays, so I thought that I technically only had to get through the first day. I was ecstatic when I heard the Second Bell. I bounced up with the rest of my class as we greeted the teacher. The moment the teacher stepped out the door, I made a beeline for the Canteen. I sprinted down the staircase and corridor.

That technically explained my entire day as I did not do much apart from sit in a classroom for six hours.

On my way home, I heard from my mother that I was getting a new tuition teacher for Mathematics and that he'd be coming on Mondays and Wednesdays. After the totally crap day I had in school (Excuse my language), I was not exactly feeling up to getting another two hours of mathematics crammed into my already very forgetful head. Of course, this was my mother, so she didn't exactly care to respond to whatever I tried to express. So I, understandably took a shower and got ready though reluctantly.

An hour after I'd got home, the doorbell rang. I slowly dragged myself to the door and opened it. I let my tuition teacher in, he was potentially very strict upon first glance. I was not wrong. However, he also was quite cheerful when I did all the work I needed to do. I thought I could take advantage of this after he had assigned me homework and left.

I went into my room, got my computer out and played video games with my friends until midnight or longer, I can't exactly remember.

Tuesday passed by in the snap of a finger. I was relieved when I went home and spent the whole day playing video games. Not caring about any homework or chores I had been tasked to do. Then Wednesday came.

Wednesday like the day before went by like it never existed. Except when I got home, I was in for a bad time. My teacher was furious that I had not finished my homework and had the authority to take my computer, in which, he did. He also gave me loads of homework when he left.

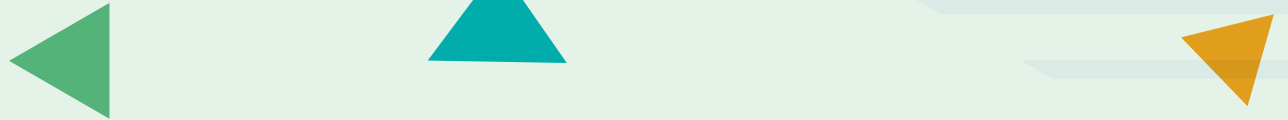
My mind was completely blank, neither anger nor sadness went through it. It was just blank. When I finally snapped out of it, I decided to sleep early. I earnestly did my homework when I came home the next day, and the day after that, and every day after.

My tuition teacher was genuinely happy when he came the following week. He chose to give me back my computer and I tried my best to control myself. I only played after I had finished my work.

The schedule was the same everyday for the whole year and when SA2 came, I was ready. For the first time in my whole life, I got a "B+". My parents were quite pleased with me and my tuition teacher also gifted me with a pen. Something that I needed since I keep losing my pens.

I learnt, this year, for myself, that hard work pays off in the end. If you study and put your work ahead of you, you will succeed. It's most definitely not easy. In fact, today, I still am not as great at doing what I wrote in this story. It really is hard to discipline yourself and honestly, I do not blame you if you find it hard. But the greatest way to become better is to at least try.

Ryan Mikyael Grosse
Class 2A2



Albert Einstein once said, “A ship is always safe at shore, but that’s not what it’s built for.”

It was a week before the start of the Values-In-Action (VIA) project in school. Everyone was thrilled to be going out of school to do plenty of fun activities. However, I was not fond of interacting with people. I just did not know how to especially if they were older or younger than me. I tend to get myself into the most awkward moments that would haunt me for life. What made it more daunting was that, we were assigned to go to the Lion Befrienders Centre, an Old Folks Home.

A few weeks before the visit, our class planned what we should do in order to interact and bond with the elderly. We thought of some activities like games sessions, sing-a-longs and performances. Introverted though, I still wanted to take part as I had grandparents at home who I always spend time with.

As soon as I put on my make-up and wore my costume, we boarded the bus and left for the home. In the bus, my feet wobbled and my heart pounded. “I can’t go back now,” I whispered to myself. I did not want to disappoint my teachers and friends. I just took a deep breath and walked in the moment till I reached the place.

Soon it was my turn to perform. John played the guitar and the rest of my classmates were clapping, singing, cheering and dancing. For once, in the moment, I forgot all my fear performing before the audience. It turned out to be the most memorable experience I will treasure for a life time. I will never forget how much I enjoyed myself.

On the way back to school, I decided to reflect on myself, and what I did at the Old Folks Home. I learnt that it was okay to be afraid of things because all of us have fears, and that day I realized something about myself. I could step out of my sphere of fear. It was a proud moment for me, my loved ones and my school, too.

Mercado Sophia Angela Cachero
Class 2A2

“Don’t let the fear of losing be greater than the excitement of winning.”

-- Robert Kiyosaki

Anyone who really loves camping knows the challenges and discomfort on every camping trip. Part of the joy of camping comes in the suffering. I remember how my classmates and I were told that the campsite would be in one of the northern islands in Singapore. It was a two day and one night camp. Though I was not a camping enthusiast, I had to go as it was part of the training.

When we disembarked on the island, we had to take a van to the campsite as it was a distance from the jetty. Along the way, we met the friendly villagers who welcomed us with open arms and broad smiles.

For a start, we had to do all the laborious tasks like pitching the tent, and collecting water from the well. As we hiked round the island, we had to collect some wood for our campfire, the following day.

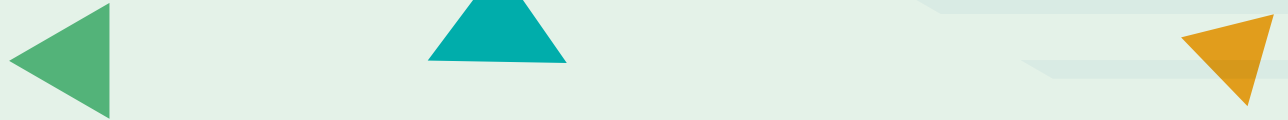
We were then divided into groups of fours and fives. In the course of it, I made new friends from other schools as this was a combined camp with other schools. Later in the day, we had our adventure activity, where we were led on a land expedition. What came next was some water activities like kayaking and jetty-jumping. We were drenched but the excitement was painted all over our faces.

Tired though, we had to cook our dinner, which was then followed by the campfire. We sang our lungs out in the sing-a-long session, and interacted with each other. As for the skit, the group members appointed me as the leader, and I taught them how to do a simple Laotian folk dance. To my greatest surprise, the members in my group learnt the dance so well that their performance was met with a thunderous round of applause.

The next day, we woke up early in the morning and had our physical exercises. After breakfast, we were brought to an open field where we had our rock climbing. As I had a fear for heights, I refused to try out. However, with the help of the trainers and being well harnessed, I gave it a go! It did not occur to me that I would be able to overcome that fear. “Yes! I made it,” I congratulated myself. It was like I had achieved success!

Before we knew it, it was time to say goodbye to all our new found camper friends. As I bid them farewell, I was overcome by a sense of victory. It was through this camp that I was able to overcome the fear of heights in me. I had achieved success.

Vongnakhone Vatsana
Class 2A2



“Hello, Mr Zainal, I’m Dr Chong calling from KKH (Kandang Kerbau Women’s and Children’s Hospital). The test result is out and I’m sad to share with you that your son, Zafry, has been tested positive. He’s diagnosed with ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder). He displays signs of inattentiveness, impulsivity, and hyperactivity,” spoke the doctor in a measured tone. I overheard the phone conversation and wondered what was in store for me. I was in Primary 3 then.

Miss Adriana was the first teacher to see the signs and advise my parents. I was just too active in class. I could not sit still. Other subject teachers of mine punished me by making me stay outside the classroom or isolate me at one corner of the class as they did not understand me at all. As I was always the first to finish my work, I ended up disturbing my classmates, wanting to play with them.

My uncle who was also aware of the symptoms, advised me to sign up for soccer, as he felt that it would allow me to channel my energy in constructive ways. At soccer training sessions, I discovered that I was the fastest runner in the team. My psychomotor skills were splendid as I put my super adrenaline to good use. Acknowledging my talent, I was nominated ‘captain’ by my team members and coach.

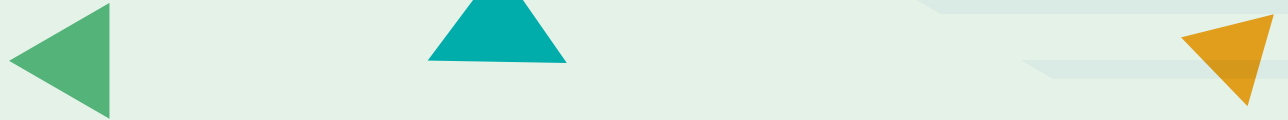
I was on regular medication as this would suppress my level of anxiety and hyperactivity. Though I was faced with the challenge of sitting for my PSLE (Primary School Leaving Examination), I abstained from taking my medication on all the four examination days. I was happy to see that I did not suffer any melt down. Instead, I pulled through and did well enough to qualify for the normal academic stream.

There was one day however, when I came close to a meltdown. It happened while we were doing our festive shopping. I got so impatient waiting for my mom and sister that I started to kick up a tantrum. Fortunately, my dad was with me. He pinned me down on the floor to stop me from hitting him. After a few minutes, I came through and we immediately went home. There were other episodes, too, but I could never remember them after the episode. What I knew was that, if anything to that effect happened, I needed someone who was physically stronger to put a strain on me.

All my immediate family members have come to terms with my medical condition. They are aware of what I am going through. They are always by my side to support me and encourage me to do to the best of my ability. I am determined to do well and on a positive note, I just need to channel my level of energy to good use, and excel in life.

Every day is a challenge for me, and as long as I am able to control my 'hyper', I would have achieved success in my own small way.

Ahmad Nur Zafry Bin Zainal
Class 2A2



Having spent a year in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS), I believe that success is more than an achievement and I think that it is more about gaining skills. My co-curricular activity (CCA) is band and it helped me a lot in the Road Run because in band I practise regulating my breathing so as to not get tired too easily. During the road race, I almost gave up but I remembered to persevere as I would get a medal.

For me that was one of the important goals that I had wanted to achieve. It was my first time pushing myself to the limits so I persevered and started to work harder than I usually did. I also started attending band practise more regularly as the year before I did not play well and that discouraged from going for practise. But after the Road Run, I saw the improvement I had made so I decided to attend more band practice. I also enjoyed it more as I had improved on my breathing so I do not get tired easily.

I have one more goal to accomplish. That is to pass all my subjects and get promoted. The only way to improve is to focus and be on task or I would end up with bad grades and not be promoted. It would be embarrassing if you are not promoted with your friends. It would also be sad. LVSS has taught me to be a better individual by showing me the importance of perseverance.

Muhammad Amirul
Class 2A3

You guys must be thinking what success is. Let me tell you that, to me, success is peace of mind, which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you have done the best that you are capable of doing. Success is also an attitude. But what does success really mean to me? I read a quote about success which really stood out for me, 'they say the road to success is tough. I say: that's what makes it worth it.'

Let me tell you a story about my journey towards success. My journey started on 1st March 2019 when my PE teacher told us that the whole school would be participating in the school's Road Run on 12th April 2019 and that each class would be selecting 5 boys and 5 girls to represent our class. I was excited because I could not wait to run with my friends and get selected to run for my class. We started off with a few practice runs before the selection date. During the selection, my class ran together, but to my horror I was in the 7th position and was not selected. I was furious at that moment, so I decided to give up on whatever I was doing. From then on, during practice, I decided to slack and skip PE lessons for a while.

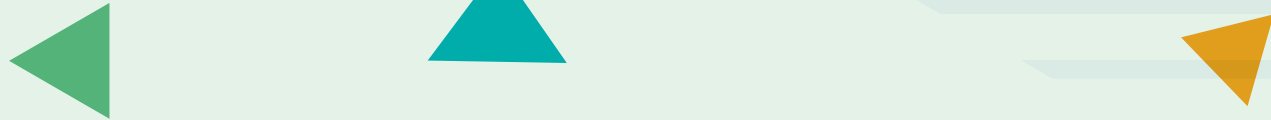
On my way back home, I saw a poster near my house that read 'success is not an accident, success is actually a choice', a quote by Stephen Curry. After reading that quote, I decided to change my mindset and the way I approached things, so I decided to set a goal for this year's run and my target was being in the top 30.

After much thought, I decided to make myself a timeline to see how many more days I had before the actual date. I was shocked that I only had 3 more weeks to train before the actual date. I decided to change my daily routine by running 5km after school and went to the gym on weekends. I decided to change my diet as well. While training, I always had thoughts of giving up but what kept me going was the quote by Stephen Curry. From then on, I kept on training non-stop till the day arrived.

After 3 weeks of intensive training the day finally arrived. I was standing at the starting line, getting ready to run. I took a deep breath waiting for the buzzer to sound. 'Beep!' the buzzer sounded and I started running as fast as I could. After running for about 10 minutes, I saw the finish line so I sprinted as fast as I could. Once I passed the finish line, I heard that my time was 11 minutes and 30 seconds and I was in the top 30. Even though I was not running competitively for my class, I had managed to be in the top 30!

I celebrated my success with my classmates and friends. I also would like to thank Stephen Curry for changing my mindset as without his quote I would not be who I am now. I do not know if this story of mine will motivate you but let me tell you that everyone is successful in their own way.

Andi Ng
Class 2A3



Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about experiences and values that we pick up along the way.

I participated in the school's Road Run. During PE, our teacher, Mr Terence, told us to start running so that we would be prepared for the Road Run. One of my personal goals was to complete the run within a certain time. I felt proud as I managed to complete the run that Mr Terence asked us to complete. After that, I felt more confident about the Road Run.

On the day of the run, I felt nervous as I was scared that I would not be able to achieve my goal to complete the run in time. When they blew the horn, we started running. My heart started pounding faster and harder as I ran. While I was running, my legs started to ache but I persevered. I wanted to give up many times along the way but I thought of my goal and I continued running. Half way through the run, Harith came over to motivate me. After completing the run, I felt very proud of myself as the last medal I won was in Primary school and I had never gotten a medal for running before. After the run, I collected the medal and the energy drink proudly. I looked at the medal and wanted to cry as I was so happy.

I learnt not to give up easily and to always remember the goal that I had set for myself. Some of the values that I have learned in Loyang View is perseverance and resilience.

Putera Anshar
Class 2A3

Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe success is more than achievements. It is about having an innovative spirit.

The event was the Road Run 2019. It took place on 12 April 2019 and we had to run 2.4 km. It was held at Pasir Ris Park.

Before the Road Run, I trained hard and paced myself to continuously increase my speed. I prepared for the run on weeknights and weekends by running all around my neighbourhood. I was building up my speed and stamina so that I could get used to it during the event. I was aiming to get into the Top 5. I practiced, practiced and practiced. Trained, trained and trained, pushing myself above my limits.

On the day of the run, I was really nervous as I knew that a lot of the Secondary two runners were fit and fast. I was telling myself that I had no chance of getting into the Top 5. The feeling disappeared when the race started. I told myself that I could make it. I was feeling normal because I was used to running long distances such as the 2.4 km run. That nervous feeling wasn't there anymore. I felt more confident as I continued running.

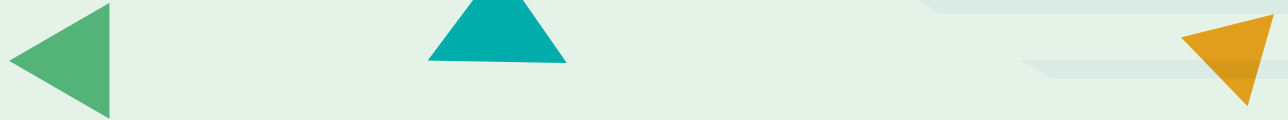
While I was running, many runners went past me. I jogged at the start to save my energy for the last part so that I could catch up with the runners who had ran past me. I saw many of the runners that passed me earlier losing their speed. I took the chance and ran at full speed for the last part. In the end, I got 4th place among the Lower Secondary male runners and I am proud of myself for being resilient.

At the end of the race, the Top 20 runners received a prize and a medal for our performance. When my name was called, my heart stopped and I walked slowly towards my Principal to receive my prize. My hands were shaking as I took my gift and medal. I took a picture together with my Principal. I felt honoured to be among the Top 5 runners out of the whole Lower Secondary boys. I was impressed with myself. I didn't think that I could get into the Top 5. I learned more about not giving up. At the start, we will always feel that we cannot achieve our goals but when we do it with complete confidence, we will feel that our goals can be achieved.

At the end of the day, I learned that pushing myself can make me achieve what I want. Even though I struggled a lot, I still pushed myself till the end and finished the race. We can all achieve our goals if we have values such as resilience and perseverance.

Looking forward, I hope I can achieve Top 3 for the next year. I will need to practice very hard for that.

Asyraf Yusoff
Class 2A3



The journey of my success story started on 12 April 2019. It was during the school's Road Run.

About a week before the event, I wasn't really ready. I was slacking and didn't really care for the event but as the day of the event got closer, I started to worry. I remembered last year, I went home empty handed so I wanted to accomplish something, maybe even get a medal. I wanted to get into at least top ten. I was confident. I believed I could even get into top 5. I had so much confidence. I looked at the Secondary 1s stamina and I was happy to note that many of them didn't have stamina. Seeing how slow they were made me have the determination to train harder during co-curricular activity (CCA). During CCA, I would do extra physical training such as running extra rounds to make me get used to running further.

About three days before the Road Run, I was ready. I thought I was. I started training more just to make sure I was ready, really ready.

On the day of the run, I was nervous and there were butterflies in my stomach. The venue was the same as every year, Pasir Ris Park. The temperature was warm. It was so warm that I started sweating even before running. I saw many Secondary 2s who made me nervous, but my goal was to at least come before my good friend Andi.

We did some stretching to get our bodies warmed up and then we went to the starting line. I started to get more nervous but I knew I had to overcome the feeling of nervousness. "3,2,1,.....beep!" the sound of the air horn erupted in the air. I started running, and I saw many Secondary 1s starting to sprint and overtake me. I wanted to catch up but I knew if I caught up, I would not have the energy during the latter part of the race so I paced myself. I would only burst at the end of the race to overtake the tired ones. That was initially my plan but half way through the race, fatigue started to set in. I was tired but I wasn't producing any saliva and I started to get dizzy. Luckily, my best friend Qoiz, pushed me. I started running faster and sprinted at the end of the race and got a placing. I've achieved my goal of getting a medal and also a placing of 22 in the competition. Even though I did not get into the top 10, I went home with something in my hand. And I was happy to hear that I came in ahead of Andi.

At the end of the day, I believe that no matter how tired you are, you have to keep running and never give up. I would like to thank Qoiz for helping me and I really appreciate it.

I hope to achieve top 15 next year and I will train even harder to achieve my goal and maybe even encourage others like how Qoiz who had encouraged me.

Danish Matin
Class 2A3

Success to me is passing examinations and getting good academic results. Success does not come to me easily as I have struggled to pass examinations. I have always wished that I were smarter and could ace the examinations with flying colours as some top students seemingly achieved each time with ease.

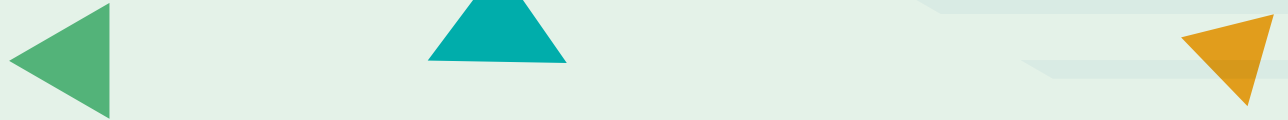
I confessed that my lacklustre results were due to me not putting in much effort as I had indulged in playing computer games and spending long hours watching my favourite YouTube channel “Geography Now!” Still I was taken aback when I did not make the cut for the Express stream in the Primary School Leaving Examinations and was posted to Normal (Academic) stream.

When I was in Secondary One, I made a resolution to focus on my studies and spend less time playing computer games. I paid attention in class and made sure I do my homework assignments. I revised my work and diligently did the questions in the assessment books.

All these efforts surely paid off! My results had improved. I achieved the Academic Excellence Award awarded by my school and I beamed with pride in front of teachers and classmates to collect my award! I also won the Education Merit Award awarded by the Pasir Ris East Community Club and I was thrilled to be given a hundred dollar worth of Popular Book Store vouchers!

I have tasted the sweetness of SUCCESS and feel proud of my achievement. I know now that hard work is the key to achieving success and I will continue to work hard to achieve it. No pain no gain!

Lim Si Yuan Darrin
Class 2A3



Do you know where success starts from? Well, for many people, it starts from a favourite game or even a favourite sport. I have had many favourite events in my time in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) but I have one event that stands out. It was the school's Road Run. Many people asked me what is interesting with just running and completing a run but this run made me have mixed emotions. That is what makes this event interesting to me.

During the run, I saw a teacher, Mr Ryan, running with us and encouraging us to run with him. I was happy to run with him as he was my favourite teacher since he was fun to be with and he was also my idol for being fit as he played badminton with our class. He competed against me in badminton and I beat him by a point and he congratulated me on my win. I was happy and I thought that I had found my idol in sports and in discipline. During the road run, I was running with Edmund, my best friend, and he bought for me a bottle of red bull before the run so that made me happy. I was surprised and thankful for that and wanted to repay his gift with a bottle of coke after the run. During the run, I ran with my favourite teacher and he helped me by encouraging me to run with him. Together with him, I ran as fast as I could while he continued to pick up students to run with him. There was another teacher with us who did the same thing, encouraging students to run with him. He also provided my friend, Jin Leong, with water.

What made the run unforgettable for me was that I learnt to push myself further and to enjoy the experiences in school.

Harivindh
Class 2A3

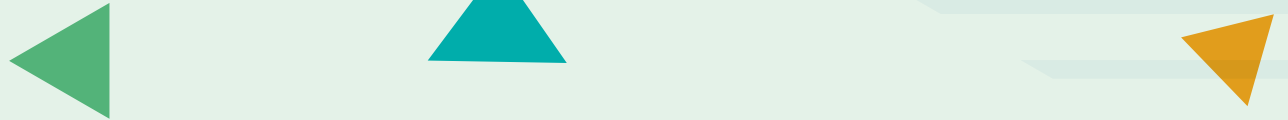
Success to me is about gaining experience because having been in Secondary school for two and a half years, success is about achieving my goals and pursuing my passion to become a pilot.

Recently I have been going through a course in the National Cadet Corps (NCC). It has been the toughest week I ever had because my NCC friends and I had to go through tough trainings to strengthen our body so that we would be fully prepared for the course. This was our only chance to get promoted to a higher rank and, if we failed, our rank would remain the same for the rest of the year. I was confident and prepared for the course until the day came.

On the day of the course, I put on my smartest NCC uniform and looked into the mirror believing I could do it and I felt confident. But when I stepped into the NCC headquarters, negative thoughts ran through my mind. I felt like I would lose confidence as I was so nervous. Luckily my buddy was there to cheer me up and tell me that I could do it. Time passed by so fast, and I could not believe I had passed the course with my buddies. I felt so happy after that. I thanked my buddies after the course. Unfortunately, two of my buddies did not pass the course due to injuries. I tried to cheer them up but we have to leave the past behind and look towards the future since we can't do much to change the past.

NCC has made me a confident and responsible person. They train us to be confident by having us take command of a company and they punish us when we are careless. Now I am a responsible and confident person.

Imran
Class 2A3



A success story builds over time. Having spent a year in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS), I believe that every single individual has a success story that is being built over time. Success to me is a powerful thing that can happen if you work hard for it. As part of the Loyang View school population, I believe that the LVSS student creed, 'I'm unique and worthy', has a powerful meaning to our success story as each individual has their own unique success story that has been created by their journey.

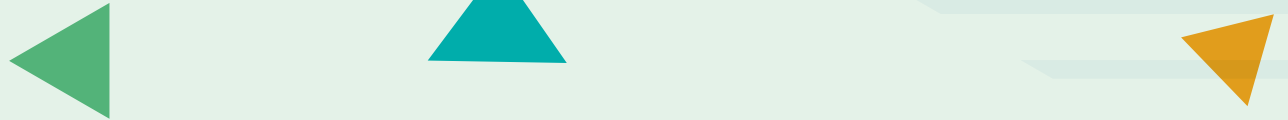
Throughout my time in LVSS, I believed that I had many different successful achievements. One of the achievements that I'm really proud of is being a participant in a marching contingent that represents my school's National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC). I participated in an event called National Police Cadet Corps Annual Parade (NPAP) held at the Home Team Academy (HTA). After vetting was carried out, I was shocked that I would be in the marching contingent. When I first volunteered, I thought to myself that I would be a reserve participant but I was wrong. I made it through and represented my school's NPCC. I had to sacrifice every Saturday until the actual parade itself. At first, I wanted to give up as I was very restless after almost half a day of marching and rehearsing repeatedly. After I marched on the actual day, I felt really happy and thankful that I didn't give up and leave my contingent as I made new friends from other schools and completed the parade with them. The experience was such a joyful one as it was my first time marching with other contingents in a parade. It was fun to be a participant and celebrating the Corps' 60th anniversary. This experience has taught me to persevere and not give up so easily. It has also taught me to be more socially confident as I have to go out of my comfort zone and meet new people and be friendly. It has also taught me to embrace diversity as I've learnt different people's characters throughout the training and the actual parade itself.

My other significant achievement is completing my Secondary two camp. LVSS is one of many schools in Singapore that provide National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) bronze and silver for Secondary 2 and 3 students respectively. Our school encourages students to achieve both NYAA bronze and silver. As I'm in Secondary 2, I'm qualified to be in NYAA bronze. My Secondary 2 camp was held at MOE Labrador Campsite. It was a 3-days-2-nights camp. Most of the activities involved high elements and we needed to go out of our comfort zone. On the first day, we had to go for rock climbing and I do not like rock climbing as it frightens me. I told my friends to go first as I was too frightened. When I saw my friend completing it, it motivated me to try. I actually reached the top of the wall. This taught me to go out of my comfort zone and not miss the chance to overcome and conquer my fears. On the second day, we went hiking and had an obstacle course. After the first day's experience, I felt more confident for the

obstacle course as I have tried it during my Primary 4 camp. For hiking, we went to Labrador Park. I've learned a lot about Singapore's History during World War II (WWII) and also some valuable lessons that we should not be too overly confident that we will succeed or win. On the last day of camp, I had to go home as I needed to rest and prepare for my first NPAP training the following day. This camp taught me to be socially confident as I learnt how to go out of my comfort zone and it has developed my passion for learning as I now want to understand more about Singapore's history.

In short, both achievements taught me how to be socially confident, embrace diversity and have a passion for learning. Winston Churchill once said, "Success is the ability to go from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm". These achievements have made me a more wholesome individual and these are also successes that I'm really proud of.

Muhammad Irsyad Bin Abdul Halim
Class 2A3



My greatest success in school this year has been my participation in the Loyang View Secondary School Road Race 2019. My PE teacher, Mr Terence, made me a class representative, and so I felt the burden of responsibility to bring the winning trophy to class.

I told my parents about what had happened during PE lesson, but they said that I wouldn't be able to compete against the whole cohort. I was angry and hurt because they didn't believe in me and did not encourage me to do well in the race. I decided to prove them wrong.

From that day onwards I always woke up in the morning and trained at Punggol Way. I sometimes invited my friends to go jogging with me. The training was very tiring but I knew it was worth the time if I were to do well during the run. One day, when I got home later than usual, my parents were worried as I was away for three hours and had not eaten anything that day. The next day I did the same thing and once I got home, my parents scolded me. They tried calling my friends when they couldn't reach me. I was upset and told my friends to ignore their calls. While I should have informed them, I was too focused on achieving my goal.

When the day of the Road Race came, I was nervous at the beginning but then I came to a conclusion that it was not all about the victory but all about the hard work that I put into this race. My heart relaxed and when the gun was fired, I started jogging for the first half of the race. In the next half of the race, I noticed some of the runners stop and rest. I knew that I was one of the few who were leading the run so I started running at my full speed.

I came in 6th and I was really proud of myself since I came this far with all the training I did. After that, my friends and I took some pictures together. I still remember the feeling I had when the announcer called the top 10 names of the runners from the lower secondary school list. I was elated going forward to collect my trophy. Once I got home I proved to my parents that I could do well. My parents were very proud of me and said they were sorry for not believing in me. To celebrate my success we went for lunch together as a family.

Success is truly believing in myself.

Muhammad Ishaq
Class 2A3

My definition of success has changed from the past years. I have learned that if you want to succeed, you have to work very hard to get it.

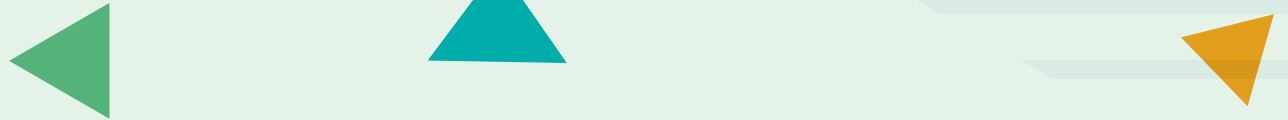
Having spent a year in Loyang View, it has taught me that it is not the end of the world if your grades are bad. You just have to work harder next time and get better grades. My success story is about the Road Race at Pasir Ris Park. It was held on 12th April. It was a good experience for me.

A few days before the race, I was afraid that I would be the last one to finish because my timing for 2.4km was terrible but I still continued to practice. After a few days, the day finally arrived. I was so shocked that I was chosen to represent my class as a competitive runner for the race. After the Loyang View dance and the warm-up, students gathered at the starting point.

After a while, we started running. In the middle of the run, I felt tired and I started walking and the other students ran past me. I looked at them and asked myself why I couldn't be like them. At that time, I felt like quitting the race but I got reminded of what my mother told me "no matter what happened, do not give up so easily." After that my friend ran to me and said "You can do it, do not give up!" After that, I told myself not to give up, so I continued running. A few minutes passed and, finally, I reached the finish point. To my surprise, I got top 30!

In the end, I learnt to not give up so easily. So this is my success story and I believe that everyone can be successful if they try.

Lee Lejia
Class 2A3



Sometimes, some things are just hard to explain. Just like the happiness you get when you succeed in something. The happiness that you feel is just unexplainable! It's priceless. You can never buy that happiness! I believe that I have been successful in some ways in Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS). Last year, I mentioned about improving in Mathematics as my success, and being braver. This year I have experienced success in other areas.

I would like to start off with my co-curricular activity (CCA). My CCA is drama. It may not be the best CCA, but it is a CCA I have a great interest in. Last year, we were part of the Loyang View Production, BAGUS KUEH. This year, we focused more on the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF). And I had a quite a big part to play too. I was the stage manager.

We started preparing for SYF from February. We had CCA sessions from 3 pm to 6 pm on many days. It was tough but we had to overcome it, and every session we learnt something new. That's when I realized that drama isn't easy after all. It requires skill, practice, focus and determination to master it. I enjoyed every session learning something new, although during some sessions, we got scolded but it was all a part of learning.

On the day of the SYF, I was really scared, everything was stressful, but we knew we could overcome this obstacle. Before we entered on stage we wished one another good luck. After the SYF, we felt good, we felt like we achieved something big. Although we only got an award of accomplishment, I'm sure that the drama club gave our best. I hope I can experience more accomplishments through drama in the future.

Leena Darshini
Class 2A3

Having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe that success is more than just achievements. It is about experiences and values that we pick up along the way.

I was part of the Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) Road Run in the month of April. I took 3 months to train for the Road Run. I trained for the run by running around Pasir Ris Park. I took that as one of my important goals. So I trained for it.

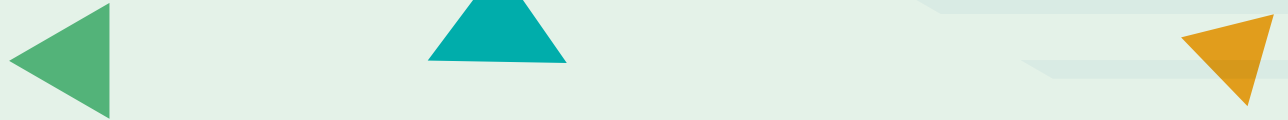
The result of my relentless training was good as I came in 13th position. That was a big accomplishment for me as it was my first time and I was shocked. And my timing was way better than my previous one. That was one of my goals that I achieved. But I had one more goal.

It was to pass all my subjects. It was the hardest thing for me to do as I am not very studious but I got myself to become a better person and to study harder. So I did. I started to ask my teachers questions to clear my doubts as well.

I started to finish all my homework and focused on the topics given. My teachers were quite shocked at how much effort I had put into my work.

It was the day of the results. When I saw my teacher holding my report book, I was speechless and nervous. So I waited to be called by my teacher and to get my report book. Soon, my teacher called me to receive my report book. I was not confident about my results and I was scared to open it, but I eventually did. When I first saw my results, I didn't know what to say as there was so much difference from my previous grades. I had passed most of my subjects. My teachers were proud of me. Then I realised hard work can make your dreams come true. This was my success that I accomplished with perseverance and determination.

Mateen Ashraff
Class 2A3



Loyang View Secondary School (LVSS) is a unique and worthy school. Since I came to Loyang View, my life has changed. Last year, I was successful in my studies, especially Mathematics. Mathematics was the subject I improved in when I entered Secondary school. The teachers in Loyang View are friendly and caring. They helped me with the subject I am weak at.

This year, I have had successes in my co-curricular activity (CCA), the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

In NCC, we went for camps. I especially enjoyed Camp Forge. During the camp, we had great adventures such as hiking, rock climbing and many more. I overcame my fear of heights and learnt to be brave enough. Besides camps, I learnt to march. We also had events called the NCC day when we had to march in front of the whole school during morning assembly. My Platoon Commander (PC) and Platoon Sergeant (PS) are friendly. So life in NCC has been fulfilling.

There was also the Farmer's Market that my class participated in. Our class made food like nuggets, hotdog, and many more. Our class also has a henna stall which was quite popular during the event. I was in charge of going around the canteen, holding a poster to attract people. Our class was successful in raising over \$150.

I thank LVSS for making me a successful person. When I leave the school, I will use the values that I have learnt such as 'within me lies the power to be the best I can be'. I am now a more confident person.

Shane Ethan
Class 2A3

My success story is about my achievements in life and studies. What is success to you? Success is about making your goals happen. Success does not come easily as you need to work really hard since all goals are not easy to achieve. Some people take years to complete their goals as they can be tough to achieve.

My success story is about my life and studies. When I was in Secondary 1, I was one of the worst students in class as I would not pay attention and would always talk to my friend during lessons. I did not have any interest in my studies as I thought it was not important. I started to fail most of my subjects and teachers started to have a bad impression of me. My teachers told me that I may repeat Secondary 1 as my marks were very low. I didn't know what to do at that moment as I felt everything just collapse.

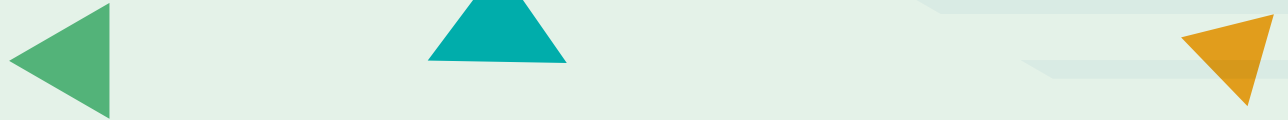
On that day, I decided to make a goal to pass all my subjects and change the bad impressions that my teachers were having of me. I turned a new leaf. I totally changed myself to a new person. I started to pay close attention in class, I finished all the homework the teachers gave me, I stopped talking to my friends during lessons and I asked my teachers when I had any doubts. Some of my friends were just shocked when they saw me putting in effort to do my work and not only were my friends shocked, but my teachers too.

Other than having problems with my studies, I had some issues with friends too. Not all friends whom I had were good. I had most of the bad ones. Soon after they saw me doing well in my studies, they started to talk behind my back. But I didn't take that to mind but continued to persevere and kept my mind on my goals. At that time, my goals were my first priority and the rest wasn't important. So I continued to work hard and I did.

My end of year results came. My teacher called to give me my report book, and I felt like death was looming above me. Because this was what was going to decide whether I was going either to Secondary 2 or to repeat Secondary 1 so everything was in the report book. I actually PASSED all my subjects as I didn't see any lines on any of my overall percentages to indicate failure. Instead, I had Bs and Cs. I could not believe what I saw on my report book. Even my teachers could not believe it.

I have learnt that making a decision to change is a great start but I will have to keep practising all the time to keep up my results.

Visveswaran
Class 2A3



There was one thing that I hated the most, and that was camping. In the past camps that I had participated, I faced many dreadful challenges. When I found out that the Secondary two camp was compulsory for all students, I was very upset. However, I had no choice but to go through with it.

On the first day, everyone at the camp was excited. I pretended to be in the mood like the rest of my classmates as I did not want them to think I was weak. We boarded the bus and set off for the camp site. The place was not as bad as I had expected. My class had to complete the low elements and abseiling activity, and it turned out to be fun! The only downer was that I did not sleep well that night, as I spent too much time thinking about what was going to happen the next day.

On the second day, we did the high elements and even attempted outdoor cooking. I learnt how to start a fire for cooking. After that, my class and I had to spell out the phrase “happy and caring school” using domino pieces. We ended the day with a campfire in the evening. I was very happy during the campfire as that meant that I would be going home the next day!

The following morning, we packed our things and headed back to school. Camp was finally over! All in all, I decided that the camp was not that bad after all. I did manage to overcome my fear of staying outdoors and even learnt some useful new skills.

Jims Naysa
Class 2E3

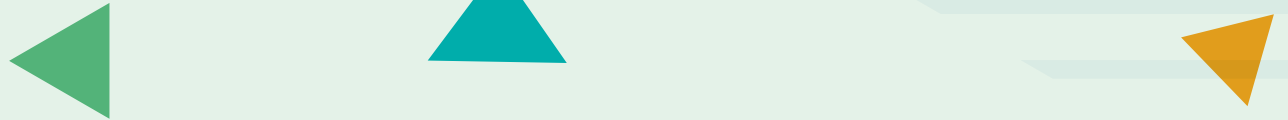
“Kieran, you will be representing the school in the air rifle competition.” I still remembered those words that my coach said to me. I had invested an unprecedented amount of time and effort to ensure my shots were on point. It was the day before the competition. Frustration filled my head as I saw the poor shot that I had made. I was going to give up at that point in time when I was reminded of what Dory said in the movie: “Just keep swimming, just keep swimming!” A wave of motivation overtook me and I became determined to do my best. Surprisingly, I did improve in my shooting.

The day of the competition arrived. I murmured repeatedly to myself: “Patience is the key to success.” The feeling of waiting for my turn was unbearable. I was ready to get the competition over with. Thinking of the tactics and strategies, I was overwhelmed with fear. I told myself that I had come so far and I was not going to let my effort go to waste. Sweat was trickling down my forehead as I entered the competition venue. I headed to my lane and said a little prayer. As I looked around at my competitors, I was stunned to see how big and buffed they were, and that they had on them special gears that I did not have. All I had were my rifle with its stand. I scanned the spectators’ area and saw two familiar faces. “Mum! Dad!” I shouted. Their presence reminded me of the many stories they had told me about themselves, including how they decided to get married to each other despite the objections of their family members. I mustered enough courage.

The competition began. As I aimed at the target, I was reminded of the days when my parents would take me to Time Zone to play Space Invaders. “10! 9! 10! 9!” I had been delighted at the spectacular points I scored. I was on point! Soon, the competition was over.

Although I did not get the first prize, I was proud of myself and the blood, sweat and tears I had put into my shooting. Like the school student creed says, “within me lies the power to be the best that I can be”. I was determined to shoot well, and I did. I will bring that determination with me to achieve other successes that will come my way in the future.

Kieran Foo Xiang Yu
Class 2E3



I had been in the school's rock climbing team for a year. During that time, I was not selected to represent the school in any competition, and only participated in the Pumpfest Carnival Climb. However, that soon changed.

It was just an ordinary day at home when my mobile phone rang, buzzing like a hive of bees. It was a text message that stated the names of rock climbers who were going to compete in the Xin Ming Secondary School competition. One of the names was mine! I was in cloud nine when I saw it. However, doubts immediately overcame me. I was wondering if I was good enough. It was the first time I had been chosen to be in a competition, and I did not have any experience or idea what it would be like being surrounded by many experienced climbers. The thought scared me but, in a strange way, also gave me some confidence as some of the Secondary one members were also participating, which meant I was not the only inexperienced person in the team.

Come the day of the competition, everyone, especially me, had butterflies in our stomachs. Even my seniors were telling us that they were very nervous. Soon, the first details were told to get ready. Time passed, and soon it was my group's turn. As I was walking to take up my position, I felt like I was stepping on Lego bricks. However, I convinced myself not to give up without a good fight. The whistle was blown. Twenty minutes of battle time started. I rushed to the walls. Route three seemed to be the easiest out of the six routes. It turned out to be wrong. Stretching to reach the handhold, disaster struck and I fell. However, I managed to complete my course after that. I carried on with Route One with some of the others. I was determined to do as best as I could.

Although I did not manage to get into the finals, I was proud that I had the will to try something new. I managed to snatch the seventeenth position out of more than thirty climbers. From that experience, I learnt to be resilient, which is one of the school's values.

Nur Fatasya Binte Amran
Class 2E3

Secondary two camp was my greatest achievement. Camps are hard as you have to do everything by yourself and you are often not allowed to have your mobile phone with you. I did not think I would be able to go through with the camp, but I managed to.

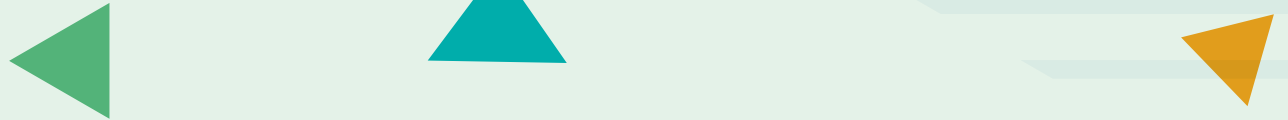
The first day of the camp, I was nervous and excited, but mostly nervous. My friends could see me shaking and comforted me that it would be all right. I was nervous because at home, my mom was the one who would do all the housework. Now, I had to do a lot of things by myself. I realised I could only get on with it, since I could not drop out of the camp.

When we reached the campsite, I was shocked to see our sleeping quarters. I thought there would be bunk beds like the ones in the military barracks, but it turned out that we had to sleep on dirty mattresses, and there were bugs everywhere. I was freaking out, not about the bed, but about the bugs. I have a phobia of bugs. Again, I could only get on with it and learn to put up with the situation.

The day when we had to complete a hiking activity was probably the worst as it was very tiring. The only thing that helped me put my mind off my body aches was goofing around with my friends during the hike.

When the camp was finally over, I was very happy to leave the campsite and go home, but I did miss the fun I had with my friends at camp. In fact, I would not mind going through a similar camp with my friends or family.

Nur Tahirah Binte Ruzaiman
Class 2E3



“Success is not final; failure is not fatal. It is courage to continue that counts” – Winston Churchill.

Looking back at the day when I had my first training session for the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF), I was under a lot of stress. My dance mates and I were under a lot of pressure to do well to secure a Certificate of Distinction, as there would be repercussions if we failed to do so. We did not want to let our instructors down, as they had done so much for us.

It was tough during the rehearsal period. We had additional practices on Saturday and my tuition lessons were affected. My parents were not happy that I was taking part in the SYF and tried to discourage me from continuing with it. I would often cry myself to sleep over this, but I decided to focus my attention on the SYF and told myself to bear it and get on with it.

My dance mates and I were very encouraged by our training sessions. We felt that we were definitely capable of getting that distinction. Then, we went for the dance vetting and saw the other schools' performances, they were very, very good. We thought that we were nowhere near their level, and that we were going to fail. Personally, I told myself that I had to work even harder. Two weeks before our presentation, I fell sick and could not attend many training sessions. I felt even more pressurised, but once I recovered, I put in even more effort in my training in order to catch up with the rest.

On the day of the SYF, it was pretty tense. I told myself and my dance mates to relax. Before we went on stage, we huddled together and cheered one another up. Perhaps it was from the tension we were feeling, but for some reason we broke out into laughter. By the time it was our turn, we were totally relaxed and ready. We did not feel nervous, pressured or tense. We had the confidence and energy, we could do this!

To our delight, our hard work paid off as we got our distinction! You should have seen our reaction. We screamed like those high school students who are accepted into an Ivy League university. I learnt that no one can always succeed. What we must do is to learn to continue with courage.

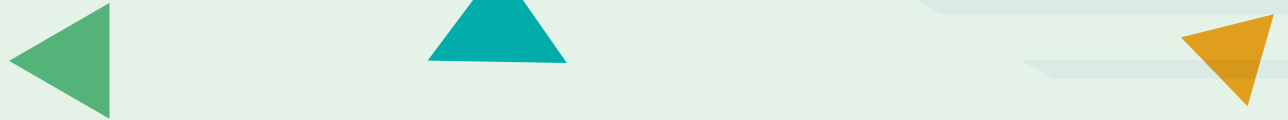
Shernice Loy Xin Yi
Class 2E3

For the past few months, I, together with the other urban farming ambassadors (UFA) from my class, have been working on our designated plot of vegetables and herbs in the school garden. My desk mate Agnes and I had volunteered to be UFAs at the start of the year. I was initially quite hesitant, but Agnes persuaded me to do it with her. Our teacher was very happy with us for volunteering.

We UFAs had to assemble at the canteen by 7.10 a.m. on our duty day. On the very first session of urban farming, I learnt that we had to pluck out weeds from our plots. It was very tiring. I never imagined that being a farmer would be so exhausting, as we had to bend our backs and pluck out the weeds one by one. Other than that, we also had to plant seedlings and then harvest the vegetables and herbs when they were ready.

After doing these chores several times, I have become used to them. Well, most of them. One thing that I still cannot put myself through is picking up snails. I find snails too disgusting to touch. Despite this, I have found the experience so far to be very enriching and educational. I have learnt so many things about farming.

Siti 'Aliyah Binte Azahar
Class 2E3



To most people, success is having fame, fortune and all the latest gadgets. To me, success can be as simple as taking part in a competition.

I was one of the few Secondary two students chosen to be part of the main band that was taking part in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation this year. We had to train really hard each day. We had training in the mornings, in the afternoons, and we even had evening rehearsals which ended at 9 p.m. On top of coping with this, I also had a lot of homework from my teachers, who said that SYF was not an excuse for not doing homework. I had no choice but to persevere and bear with the situation.

When SYF was over, we all felt very tired. When the results were released, we were quite disappointed as it was not what we had hoped for, but our teachers told us that we should be proud of ourselves as this was the first time students originally from two different schools had performed together. It has motivated us to want to work even harder for the next SYF, which will take place in two years' time.

Thahir Bin Javeed Maliq
Class 2E3

The Golden Voice Speaking Competition for the Secondary two level was held at my school. A representative from each class was chosen to take part in the competition. I was selected by my English teacher. "Huh? Why me?" That was my first reaction when my teacher announced that I had been picked. My English was poor and my pronunciation was not good. I could not understand how this could have happened. I was scared and nervous despite the encouragement from my teacher and classmates. On the other hand, I wanted to see how far I could go in this competition, so I decided to do my best.

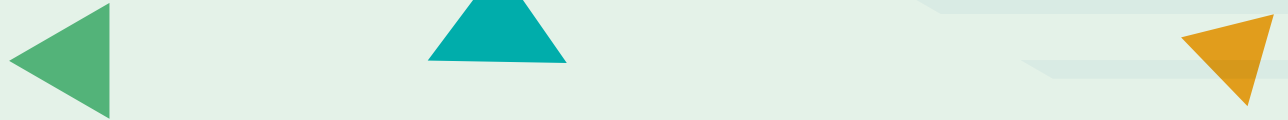
The night before the competition, I was up memorising my speech and rehearsing it. I practised my speech more than ten times in front of my brothers and guardian. They commented that I did not come across as very confident, as I kept moving my body and my legs were trembling. I kept making the same mistakes again and again, despite being reminded many times not to make them. In the end, I was too sleepy and tired, and decided to just go to bed and hope for the best the next day.

On the day of the competition, I was the third contestant to speak on stage. The performance by the first two contestants impressed me. They spoke so well and so naturally. I was understandably nervous after that. When it was my turn, I tried my best to motivate myself with positive thoughts. "Calm down, look in front, and maintain eye contact. Come on, I can do this!" I told myself aloud right before I went on stage. Throughout my entire speech, I kept staring at my classmates, and that helped to calm my nerves. I looked at the judges a few times to make eye contact with them. I felt pleased about my performance because my legs did not shake the entire time! My speech went well and fluently, and at the end I received a big round of applause from the audience. I believed that I had done myself proud.

When the results were being announced, my heart was pumping extremely fast and I was shivering with excitement and nerves. When the teacher announced my name as the best speaker for the Express stream, I was on cloud nine! I was completely surprised! "Really? Best speaker? I am the best speaker?" I said aloud. I just could not believe it.

In the end, I was very proud of myself. I had overcome the biggest obstacle in my term so far, and I was pleased with the result. I was also very thankful with the support given by those around me, and that I did not let them down.

Zhang Xiantang
Class 2E3



“Amy, can you help us out with the laptop during the class assembly presentation next week?” Mrs Rohana asked me confidently. “Of course!” I said as I packed my bag to go for the next lesson hurriedly.

I seized the opportunity when asked to help in the areas of IT and audio-visual aids, especially if I was required to facilitate the presenters’ task for an occasion like this. As a member of the Infocommunication Club, my teacher was aware of my flair and passion for IT and that was the reason why I was approached to do my part.

“Well, if I could contribute, why not?” I smiled to myself as I left her and the class. In class, when the teachers needed help with audio-visual equipment, I would be the one running to help them. I would also set up the system in order to facilitate the teachers’ lessons. I took pride in my task because my teachers trusted me so much.

Sometimes, in the midst of a lesson, the video would just stop functioning or the volume would go haywire. I would be there to troubleshoot and bring the equipment back to life. I was always complimented by my teachers and met with a round of applause from my classmates.

When the actual presentation day came, I was all prepared for my task. Apart from managing the laptop, I would also have to ensure that my nimble fingers struck the keyboard at the right time for the images and volume. I must be precise because the powerpoint slides, videos and presenters’ information must be synchronized. Just a slight delay on my part would turn the presentation topsy-turvy.

The practice sessions we had before the actual presentation helped me a lot because I was able to time myself with precision and accuracy. I was very confident of carrying out my tasks to the best of my ability. I always calmed myself so that I did not get nervous, which would have otherwise affected me.

At the end of the presentation, my teachers, presenters and classmates thanked me for a job well done. As I acknowledged their compliments, I could not help smiling from ear to ear. I looked forward to more tasks like this as it allowed me to showcase my flair and expertise in the areas of IT and audio-visual equipment.

Pang Thai Nhu
Class 2T1

All the classes were bustling with the preparation for our annual Chinese New Year celebration. It was the same for my class. My form teacher had assigned me to take charge of the classroom notice board decoration, and she had specifically instructed me to work on the festive theme.

“Hey, Arjun, would you like to be a member of my notice board deco committee?” I asked him as he was passing by my seat. “Why not?” he jolted, as he sat down with me and brainstormed some ideas on how to decorate the board. Along the way, I got Faiq, Micha and Wang Ke to be in my committee as these people were both artistic and creative. They were full of ideas to beautify the board and our aim was to retain the championship title which we won when we were in Secondary One.

I got Arjun to buy the materials needed for the decoration. We spent the least possible amount as we were told to use recycled materials, where possible. I also got my other classmates to bring to class their unwanted newspapers, magazines, red cloth and red packets. We also got some of them to bring paper oranges to be pasted on the board.

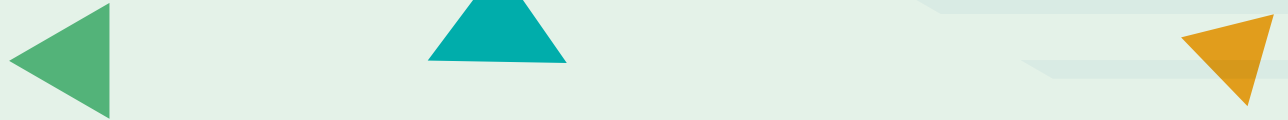
We stayed back on a few afternoons to decorate the board. I started by pasting the red packets on the borders of the notice board. To add a touch of racial harmony, we also pasted some green and purple packets to symbolise the Malay and Indian culture, respectively. We then made some paper lanterns by using crepe paper and hung them on the ceiling of the classroom. Wang Ke and Yi Ting helped write Chinese characters that symbolised good luck and prosperity and we pasted them on the walls outside the classroom.

On the eve of Chinese New Year, just before the concert, the teacher judges walked around the school to judge our classroom notice board decoration. I waited for them outside the classroom with my committee members. When it was our turn, we explained to the panel the idea of our class decoration, only to be met with applause and smiles from them.

At the end of the concert, when the time came for the school to announce the winner of the classroom notice board decoration competition, our hearts skipped a beat. We were hoping to clinch the championship title again. “The champion class for this year’s notice board decoration competition goes to Secondary... 2T1!” We jumped for joy when the result was made known to the entire school. We were able to retain our championship title.

As I shook the principal’s hand to receive the trophy, I shed tears of joy as I felt that I had succeeded in bringing pride and glory to the class.

Muhammad Danial Aliy Bin Abdullah
Class 2T1



“Jake, please get the visualiser ready and be there to help me with the lessons,” my English Language teacher says every time he gets into the class for our lessons. I would quickly jump out of my seat and readily volunteer to help him.

“Yes, sir!” I responded dutifully and promptly. The next moment, I would be seated where the visualiser table is to set up the system. Apart from making sure that the system is working, I also adjust the brightness so that my classmates can see clearly from far. Likewise, I would also ‘expand’ it should they not be able to see from where they are seated.

After that, I would tell the teacher that everything is ready and the lesson would start. As the teacher goes through the worksheet and elicits the correct responses for the questions, I would then help the teacher write the answers on the worksheet, after which, my classmates would copy them on theirs. Should they commit any error, they would correct their corrections on the spot.

Occasionally, I would respond to the questions and my teacher would praise me for sharing the correct answers with my classmates. There were occasions when the visualiser just refused to work. I would try my best to troubleshoot the problems and rectify them. More often than not, both my teacher and classmates would give me a round of applause for my skills and ability to fix them and hence facilitate the lessons.

I take great pride in helping not only my English teacher but also other subject teachers who need my help. I feel a deep sense of achievement when I am able to facilitate the teachers’ lessons. I have made teaching and learning effective through the skills which I have acquired. After all, when I was in primary school, I was a member of the Infocommunication Club and one of the skills training I had received was on how to operate the audio and video equipment used by the teachers in the classroom.

My contributions are acknowledged by my teachers and classmates. I feel a great sense of satisfaction when I am able to help them out. As long as I have the capacity to help, I would go the extra mile to facilitate teaching and learning in the classroom. It is my small little way of achieving success on a daily basis.

Jake Lestat Hugh-Raymond Rogers
Class 2T1

Every year our school organises a class noticeboard competition. My form teacher asked me if I could do it with my friends. We formed a group and started to work on it.

First, we collected all the recycled materials from our classmates. We asked them for help to donate to us those which they did not want to use anymore. We collected some red and green packets, crepe paper, vanguard sheets and red cloth.

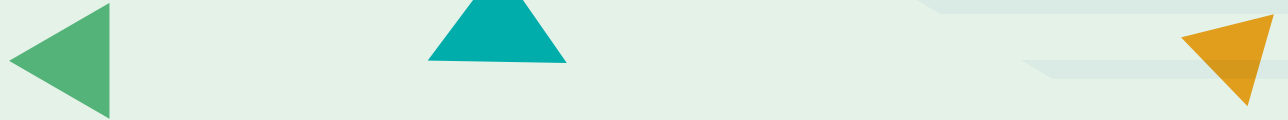
We used the red and green packets to make the border of our noticeboard. It looked attractive because of the colours. I used the cloth to make a 'mini-window' on the noticeboard. I also used the crepe paper to make flowers and pasted them on the 'mini-window'.

Tasyah used the vanguard sheets to write some lucky Chinese characters on them and she then cut and pasted them. We were given some money to buy other materials. Wang Ke, my best friend, bought a cardboard cut-out of the pig (it was the year of the Pig) and pasted it in the middle of the noticeboard. On the eve of Chinese New Year, a group of teachers walked past all the classrooms to judge which class had decorated their class best. I waited outside the classroom for them to come. When they stopped in front of my class, I explained to them the reasons why we decorated our noticeboard the way they did. They smiled and nodded their heads.

Later that day, we had our Chinese New Year concert. At the end of the concert, the results of the noticeboard competition was announced. "The champion Secondary 2 class for this year's festive noticeboard decoration goes to... Secondary 2T1." I was so happy. My form teachers clapped their hands loudly. Madam Rohana and I went up the stage to receive the trophy.

As I reached out to receive the trophy, I felt a sense of pride and glory that I had brought to the class. I had succeeded in carrying out the tasks assigned to me by my form teachers.

Chen Nayiting
Class 2T1

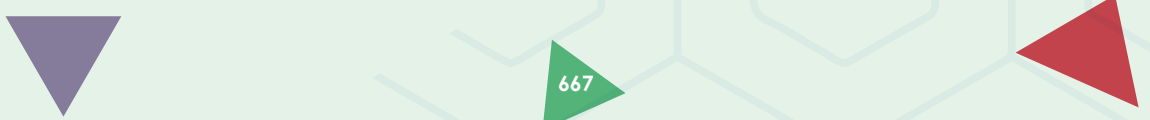


“Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it,” said Harry David. This quote inspired me to do things that I never thought I could ever achieve. With hard work and resilience, I finally succeeded. I beat everyone at a Remote Controlled (RC) Vehicle competition.

The very first Remote Controlled vehicle was a drift car with a body of an RX-7 FD, a popular car because of the unique engine it uses in the real world. My parents bought me this as my birthday present back when I was 10 years old. Over the years, I’ve grown attached to the toy that I was given, and I feel happy whenever I get to play it. There was a small track behind a shop in a nearby mall for RC users like me to play and I was a regular customer. As a young boy, I was very talkative and approachable, so the owner and me got close. With the passing of time, playing my RC car became a hobby. I never tired of it until one day the owner held a competition and invited me to participate. Without any hesitation, I agreed and registered my name for the competition.

The owner filled my head with information about the competition and he told me I would face a bug challenge but that did not change my mind. Instead, it motivated me to train, practice and do my research. From the research, I learnt how to drift corners faster and smoothly. I also researched about how to improve my car. My parents supported me when I was training and I appreciated them for it. I remember what the owner told me about the competition that was held a month later. My mind was set and I was ready to train. After weeks of training, the results of my car improved by miles and the body of my car changed to a SKYLINE R-34 with a customisation of my own. The very next day was the day of the competition. It was late at night, and I couldn’t sleep as I was too excited for the event but eventually I felt tired and fell asleep.

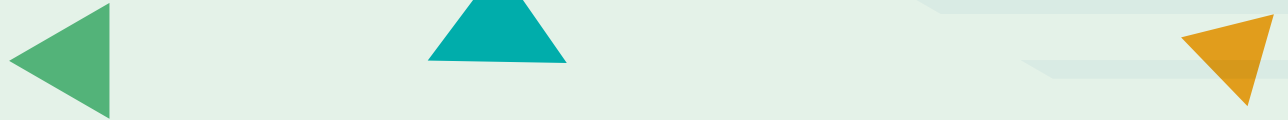
I jumped out of my bed, and looked forward to the event. I quickly got ready and packed all the things I needed and immediately headed to the track. My parents told me that they would be there as spectators, to watch my performance and cheer me on. Upon reaching the track, I saw many RC cars drifting. They were tuned, as their drivers added final touches to their cars. I felt butterflies in my gut when the announcer called all RC drivers to get ready. After the routine announcements, I learnt that I was in the first round. Me and my opponent got ready as the announcer read us the rules. My hands were shaking from nervousness but I heard my parents cheering for me, and that made me relax enough to get me through the match. Fortunately, I won and made it to the finals.



Before the finals started, we got a small break to inspect our cars but lo and behold, my car suddenly stopped working. I started to panic as the break was about to end but I managed to ask for more time to troubleshoot. I was losing hope, when all of a sudden, my mom shouted out a word of encouragement that spurred me on to get my car up and running. I became determined and I proceeded to the place I had to go. The battle started and it was a hard fight. During the match, memories of me training and practicing flashed before my eyes and within a blink of an eye, I heard people cheering my name and after some time, I realized, I won.

This experience has taught me the importance of remaining calm in the face of danger or trouble.

Muhammad Nor'abidin Bin Ariffen
Class 3A1



My success story is the result of the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out. In order for me to achieve them, I needed to be very resilient, persevering, determined, focused, patient and disciplined. Also, the right choices made a huge difference to how my life unfolded. Of course, I did it with the support of my mother.

From Primary One to Primary Five, I was a studious girl. My results were average although I put in a lot of effort unlike my brother who was always top of the class or level with just minimum effort.

About halfway through my Primary Five life, I befriended a girl who became my best friend. We would go home together and spend a lot of time talking in school. Then on one occasion, she asked me to accompany her to the shopping mall before school started. I told her that my mother would not allow me to do it. She told me to tell her that I had CCA. My mother bought the story. I was scared at first but as time passed I was confident. This went on until my final examination results in Primary Five.

My mother refused to sign my report card as I had scored really badly. I begged and pleaded with her but she refused. I cried and panicked because I needed to return the report card the next day. I pleaded again the next morning but to no avail. While she was eating her breakfast, I took my report card and implored her to sign. Nonetheless, she kept on eating oblivious to my pleas. I was at a loss because time was running out. Out of the blue, she took the report card from my hand and gave me a stern warning. "Are you going to study?" she exclaimed. At this point, I was so relieved, I replied, "Yes!"

I stayed away from that friend and studied every day. Of course, I did not score very well in the school preliminary examinations in Primary Six because I was just an average student. However, undaunted by my mediocre performance, I continued to put in effort everyday continuously. To my surprise, I scored quite well for my Primary School Leaving Examinations.

Nur Arina Hanis Binte Zainudin
Class 3A1

Success is when you achieve or overcome something you have not done before or was scared to do. My success story happened two years back when I was in secondary 1. We had to go for a Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) trail. My parents allowed me only to join the Netball team so I had to put in a lot of effort and get that as my CCA.

After the CCA trail, we had to wait for the results of our choice. I couldn't wait as I was really excited. After two weeks, the results were finally out. I looked from the top to the bottom of the list, one by one to find my name. I was really nervous and my heart skipped two beats. I did not want to disappoint my parents. I was relieved to see my name beside Netball.

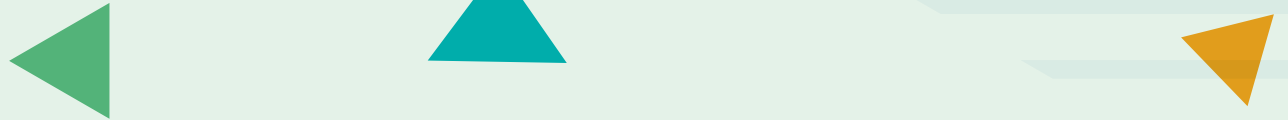
Like a number of students, I, too, had little knowledge of netball. The seniors and teachers took their time to teach us and help us understand the rules of the game.

After training for a few weeks, the teachers told us that we were going to Singapore Chinese Girls School (SCGS) to play matches with other secondary school Netballers. Most of us were excited as it was our first time playing a match.

During the match, we cheered and motivated our teammates. The whole process repeated at every match until they ended.

Lastly, we all gathered and waited for the prize presentation ceremony. When the name of our school was called out, we were very happy and excited. The teachers were also proud of our sportsmanship and the effort we put into our game. We took some pictures together and ended the day well.

Cherie Choo
Class 3A3



I have no idea what success means to me. Is it something I want or something that people expect me to have? I do not bother trying hard for success because I believe that success comes on its own. It is our choice whether we want it or not. Today I will share my success story with you.

I was a girl with a good mindset, and positive attitude towards everything. I never failed to make myself happy in any way. But that girl left me ever since I was introduced to a new friend named depression. Depression was there for me when no one was. When I cry alone, the little voice of my friend, Depression, says to me, "It is alright. Everything will be over if you end your life". That thought or voice in my head, made me feel unworthy, useless and unhelpful to others.

Depression turned me into a girl I never thought I would be. All the positive energy changed to negative nervous energy quickly. You know that 'curiosity killed the cat'. Well, it did not kill me certainly. I searched the internet about depression. As a result, I came across a website that gave me information about mental illnesses. Reading these stories and symptoms of depression made me acknowledge that I have not only made a new 'Friend' but also ruined my physical and mental state.

Immediately, I went to my friend who I trusted a lot with all my problems. My friend told me that she couldn't help me fully but she could try to see what she could do. I really do not like being a burden to others. So, I told her that it was okay. Instead I decided to help myself. I searched the internet for ways to beat depression. In other words, I needed to find a way to escape the dark hole I fell into.

Finally, here I am with not a fully recovered mind but by trying I managed to learn how to cope with depression and other mental illnesses. My success has nothing to do with school or home but it is dependent on my mental health. I am proud that I am recovering from depression and this is my success.

Fathinah Nurul
Class 3A3

My success story does not involve academic achievement. It started when I failed my sergeant promotion test. To me, success is something that you achieve in life with all the hard work and dedication that you put in. It is also defined as accomplishment after a failure.

Few weeks before taking the test, I could not be bothered as I was at the very end of wanting to give up. The drills were challenging for me as I could not do it. Even though I tried many times to improve on my drills, it was not what the examiners expected me to do. After many tries, I immediately got help from the expert.

During the official test day, I was extremely nervous as I was not sure if I could do it well. During the test, I made a few mistakes and started to give up. I could handle marching drills however I was weak at the rifle drill. The rifle was heavy and I had difficulty carrying it.

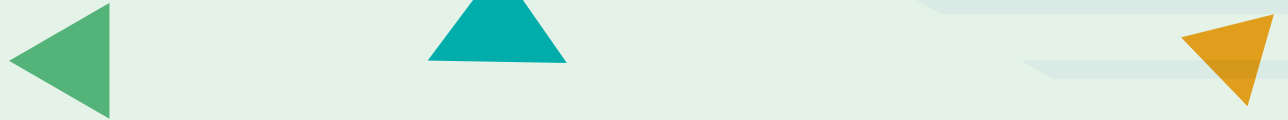
A few days later, when we got the results, I failed one of the components. It was unexpected. After the test, I immediately approached my senior to seek help and clarify my doubts. Upon clarifying, I understood what went wrong and kept practicing at home. Soon, I was comfortable with the drills and confident to retake the test. On the actual day, I gave my hundred percent focus and persevered in the hot sun, to achieve my best performance.

I was complimented by one of the station inspectors as they had seen a lot of improvement from me. I was delighted to hear that. Next week, they announced the number of students who got promoted to sergeant rank. I was one of them. It was unexpected.

After CCA, my senior called me to give me words of encouragement for me to work harder as they could see that I had the commitment to hone my skills.

In conclusion, to me success does not come easily. It requires a lot of hard work, dedication and commitment.

Humairah Sadali
Class 3A3



My success story is not related to academic achievement. It is related to the National Cadet Corp (NCC). During the March holidays, our school sent out 5 cadets to Malaysia to climb Mount Ophir which is the tallest mountain in southern Malaysia. We stayed in a resort near the mountain and on the second day, we started the ascend with high hopes of reaching the summit.

We went up the mountain with heavy backpacks which had water and some snacks for the climb, not knowing what was ahead of us. In the first hour, we thought it was pretty easy but in the second hour, all of us were sweating as it got hot and humid on the mountain. Some of the students who could not keep up, went to the back so as not to slow the others down.

By the third hour, we reached a natural water point on the mountain. It was a clear stream of drinkable water flowing down the mountain. The guide said that we could top up our water bottles here. By the fourth hour we were still trying to reach the next checkpoint. Some of us wanted to give up as going up the mountain was harder than we thought. The teacher who came along with us was also having a difficult time. All we had on our minds was to reach the summit.

By the fifth hour we were very close to the summit. We could finally see sunlight streaming through the thick canopy of trees. We pressed on and by the sixth hour we reached the summit. It was a great sight to behold! Whenever the cold wind blew, I could feel the clouds against my face. That is when I felt like I had succeeded in climbing the mountain.

Manish Hazra
Class 3A3

Since young, I've never known how to ride a bike. My dad brought a four wheel bike and that was pretty easy to learn and master. But, after I grew up, I was asked to ride a two wheel bicycle.

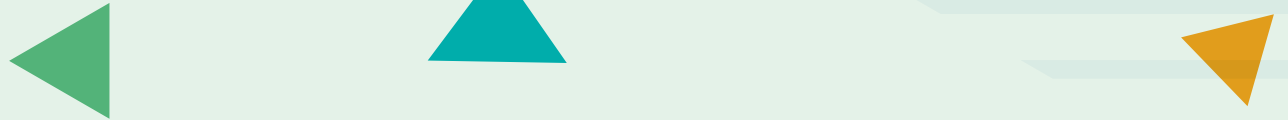
Learning a two wheel bicycle was so hard, I was always scared of falling down. Even though my dad wanted me to be independent and keep on trying, I eventually gave up. My mom, afraid that my dad would throw away the bike, gave it to my grandma and asked if she would help take care of it.

When I reached primary six, my parents brought me to my grandma's house for some catching up. My grandma asked if I wanted to try and ride the two wheel bicycle again. I got determined and said yes.

My grandma brought me down and she offered to teach me how to ride the bike. When I first started, I was scared, nervous, anxious, and afraid. I was still scared of falling down and bruising myself. My grandma held onto me and told me to just look forward and just go, I did what she said and I was at least able to move for a short while.

After many visits and practice, I am finally able to ride a bike, well at least for a few meters. But now, I'm not so scared anymore. I finally succeeded in overcoming my fear of falling.

Teng Qinlin
Class 3A3



What is success? To me success is achieving something that I had not thought. Last year, from being a member in the girl guides, I became a patrol leader. I was not expecting to be a leader, so, when my friends and seniors told me, I could not believe it. I thought they were playing a prank on me. I was away at a competition when the announcement of leadership roles was made. I could not believe my ears, until my teacher, Ms Hazel Lim, told me. It was truly unbelievable!

This year was a stressful year as I was in Secondary three. It was the streaming year, and I had many more new subjects to study. Besides the many subjects, I had coursework as well in the Food and Nutrition (F&N) module. There was a lot to memorise, and I was not the type of person who liked to memorise things. I had little confidence of getting good grades. I knew I was going to fail. However, when the results came out I was shocked. Do you know why I was shocked? I was shocked as I had got a grade one for my coursework. Never did I imagine that I would pass my coursework. I would like to thank Mdm Zubaidah, my coursework teacher who helped me in areas I needed to work on.

I hope to achieve many more successes this year and the next. I am very happy that I had achieved many last year and some this year. I am looking forward to more success in the future.

Shavonne Tan Hui Wen
Class 3A3

What does success mean? To me it means not giving up to achieve your dream or goals. This is my success story about how I made it to the school basketball team when I was in Secondary 1.

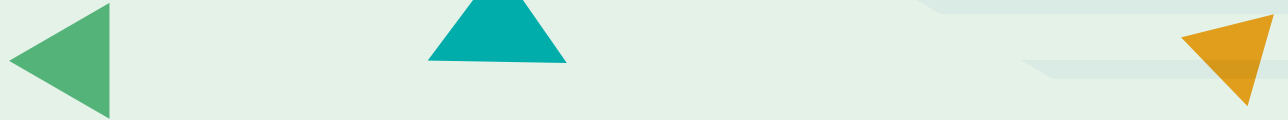
When I had just enrolled into Loyang View Secondary School, the school made us try many different Co-Curricular Activities like basketball, band, NCC, NPCC and many more. I was very lucky to get selected for basketball as I like to play sports. When I was selected, I did not know how the training sessions would be or how hard it would be. Our coach told us about the C division tournament that was coming up in July and there would be holiday training in June. I wanted to be in the school team so I constantly went for training, giving of my best.

During one of the training sessions, the coach selected people for the school team. I was very anxious as I was scared that I might not be selected but the coach called my name and I was very happy.

When I went home, I happily told my parents that I was selected for the school team. My parents took me out to celebrate my achievement and they bought me a pair of new basketball shoes.

I learnt that when people want to achieve their dream or goals that must work for it.

Lee Xun Cheng
Class 3A3



Success can be measured by many things, such as certificates, awards and trophies. What I see as an achievement is something that I really want and can be achieved by myself.

My greatest achievement was getting into the Top 20, lower secondary, female category annual Road Run organised by my school. The Road Run was held at Pasir Ris Park after school. I was nervous before the race.

There were some challenges that I faced during the race. I was discouraged when I saw that most girls had sprinted off immediately after the race was flagged off. I told myself to keep persevering despite how tired I already was as it was a school day. Running with, my friend, Aliyah really helped me as we pushed each other to our limits. We kept encouraging each other to carry on and not give up.

After finally completing the race, my friend and I congratulated each other for completing the race and giving it our all. Even though we did not win the class prize, our Form Teacher rewarded us by buying us ice cream. I had no expectations coming into the race but left completing the run and getting into the top 20. I was so proud of my achievement.

Nur Alawiyah Binte Zulfikkar Ali
Class 3E1

What is success? That is a question which everybody should ask themselves. Success is attained when people achieve something that they are proud of. Achievements can be small or big. For me, I have achieved a lot of things that I am proud of, but I would like to share with you a specific achievement which I am very pleased with.

On my first day at Loyang View Secondary School, I was amazed by the Student Councillors taking care of the new students. They were caring, creative, energetic and friendly. Even though I was inspired by them, I felt I could never be a Student Councillor, as I believed that I did not have any leadership potential in me.


After a few months, my Form Teachers selected me to be a Student Councillor. I was shocked! I even asked my Form Teachers why they had selected me. They said that they

saw leadership qualities in me. I was very touched. After that, we had an interview. They asked a lot of difficult questions but I could answer confidently. Fortunately, I got through the interview! I was really proud of myself.

The school has helped me to become a Student Councillor. Before, I was never able to communicate well with people around me since I was an introvert. However, after joining the Student Council, my seniors have helped me to come out of my shell. The Student Council was involved in multiple events and each time, I would take a step back when asked to help. However, over time, with the guidance from my teachers and seniors, I built up my courage and started helping out as much as I could.

Earlier this year, I even conquered my stage fright! This happened as I volunteered to be one of the Emcees for a school event after my teacher, Mr Devan had mentioned about having the courage to do something. I even volunteered at the Secondary One orientation camp! This camp has helped me to communicate well with everyone!

Nur Aliyah Binte Mohammad Noor Azman
Class 3E1



Farmer's Market is one activity that brought the class together. It was strenuous to prepare for but it was a joy planning and working on it as a class. Although, at first, it was tough to work as a team, after much cooperation, we did it successfully. That is my success story!

It was two weeks before the Farmer's Market event. My classmates and I were supposed to plan for the event during one of our Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) lessons. However, we were planning individually and no one was working with one another. Furthermore, only a few of us were actually working on the task. Upon realising what was happening, our teacher decided to group us and each group was assigned a task.

As for my group, we were in charge of making and packing the marshmallows. We discussed the houses to visit, in order to do the project and who to buy the ingredients. After much discussion, we managed to have everyone on task.

Few days went by and it was finally the day. Everything we made as a class such as food and bookmarks were on the table. We were patiently waiting for students to come to our booth, when one by one, students came and bought our food. We initially thought no one would come as our booth did not have as much food as the other booths.

We managed to sell everything and work as a class. At the end of the day, I could see our class spirit. Our bonds were tighter and we became closer.

Nurul Jannah Binte Mohammad
Class 3E1

“It is going to be the first concert I have ever been to!” I muttered to myself while I was on the bus to the Victoria Theatre as Loyang View Symphonic Band was about to perform there.

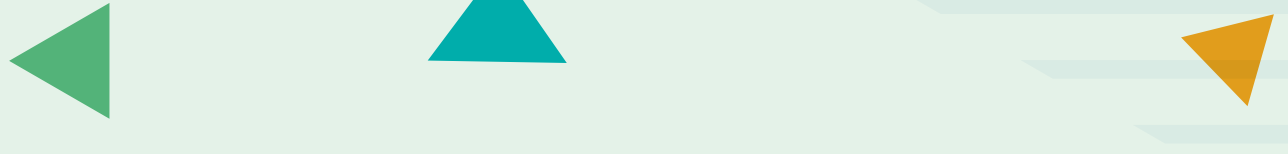
I was not a person with an impeccable sense of rhythm but I was ironically in the percussion unit. I played the Chime, an instrument that consisted of a set of tuned bells that were struck with hammers. It had superb tonal response and projection, which produced clear and loud high-pitched sounds. To add salt to the wound, I found that I had solo parts at the beginning and the end of the song. My friends bantered that I was the soul of the song. This actually brought pressure to me as I realised that I would be like a rotten apple spoiling the barrel if I play wrongly.

Furthermore, my conductor was always calling out my name, “Qiaoyin, your rhythm is wrong; Qiaoyin, this is quaver; Qiaoyin, look at the conductor.” My uneasiness grew every time my name was called. Even before the day of the concert, my part was still not flawless. On the way to the theatre, I kept practising my part to do the final struggle.

Finally, it was time. When we actually stood on stage, the light was dazzling, and I was unable to see the faces of the audience. It helped to relieve my stress somewhat. However, the thought that I might play wrongly occupied my mind. I bit my lips nervously and my hands turned clammy from perspiration. I felt an immense wave of pressure building up within me. When I saw the conductor lift his stick, I took a deep breath and said to myself, “Calm down. There is nothing to be afraid of,” and hit the first note. It was surprisingly smooth going; I was familiar with the beat.

The song ended, and the applause reverberated through the concert hall. I bowed, feeling exhilarated and triumphant for having finally defeated my fear. This is my success story.

Zheng Qiaoyin
Class 3E1



Success comes in many areas of life, one's studies, competitions or small and big goals that you set out for yourself. Many people have also discussed and even argued about how to succeed in life. One thing in common is that in order to succeed, you need to persevere in spite of hardships. My story reflects this principle, and has helped me to shape the person I am today.

I experienced success when I finally passed my Chinese End-of-Year examinations in Secondary School. Previously, I was constantly criticised by my fellow classmates in primary school for not doing well in Chinese. This led to me to many unhappy experiences of being mocked at. It was a challenging hurdle to surmount and criticisms did not help me boost my confidence levels. I felt helpless.

However, my life changed for the better when I entered secondary school. Instead of mockery, all my classmates were kind and determined to help me beat my inner demon. This gave me the determination to give it a shot. My passion for learning got stronger and I practiced learning new words each day from the textbook. Slowly, I saw many improvements as the days went on and my confidence also went up. Although I was not passing my tests, I was slowly improving, and my goal was to pass my End-of-Year examination.

Good things come through hard work and determination. Hence, all the effort that I had put into the study of Chinese led me to a pass. It was a huge step forward for me and I could not have done it without the help of my new friends. They were a huge support and I would not replace them for anyone else. This success may not seem amazing to others, but it was for me.

Dario Oh Yeow Yeong
Class 3E1

In order to succeed, we must first believe that we can. Telling ourselves that we can is a cheat code to every success. If we tell ourselves that we cannot then of course we will not be able to because we ourselves do not believe in ourselves.

When I was in Secondary One, I was in a different Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) than I am in now. I did not really know what I wanted at first but I just went to what I felt was fun. The CCA was fun and tough at the same time. We had to persevere through a lot of pain and sweat to build up our strengths and weaknesses. However, I felt that something was not right. My heart was not in it. I did not really know what I wanted.

Every recess, I saw the basketball boys playing at the Basketball court. At first I did not think much of that sport but after I started to play with them, I began to develop a love for it. I could feel the adrenaline rush every time I played the game. I was certain then, that that was what I wanted to do. I asked for a change of CCA and after the whole year passed, I finally got to join the team.

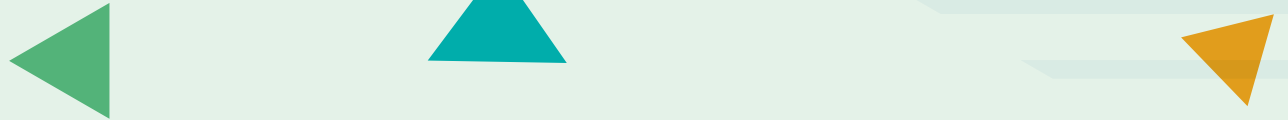
Basketball is not an easy sport. One has to put in the hard work, have the right attitude and most importantly, have the passion. The training was super tough. Every training session, I felt like my legs could just come off from its joints. I always told myself that I could not do it and I was not fit enough. Furthermore, I had joined a year later than the rest so that means that I was one year less experienced than all of them but that did not stop me.

My uncle was always there for me. I used to tell him everything about my life. He would always be there to listen. He was like my best friend. Even though, he is no longer around I still remembered what he used to tell me, "Don't wish things to be easier, wish yourself to be better." I was certain that I would do it for him.

Half a year passed and it was time for the C division tournament. We had to work hard in order to have a spot in the school team. It was a dream for me to be in the team. I had worked too hard the past half a year to not get in. I can do it. I can do it!

After we were tested, it was time to know who was in the team. I waited and waited and finally, I heard my name. I was happy that I got to play for the school, and it was because I put in the effort. Who said hard work does not pay off?

Hariz Mirza Bin Farhad
Class 3E1



When I first entered Loyang View Secondary School, as a Secondary One student, I was considered obese and unfit. I did not really care about my appearance. As I had expected, I failed my Secondary One NAPFA (National Physical Fitness Award) test. Following that, during every PE (Physical Education) lesson, we were required to run a few laps around the school to prepare ourselves for our school's annual Road Run. Most of the time, I would reach the finish line about 15-20 minutes after the majority of them had reached it. During the Road Run, I ran at my fastest speed, but by the time I finished, the teachers-in-charge were already cleaning up the area and packing up all the things! I was really embarrassed. My friends made fun of me and kept teasing me about the fact that I was one of the last few runners. This made me decide to change myself physically.

Having completed my Secondary One education, it was the holidays and I had a lot of free time. I decided to pay more attention to my health. Hence, I started using the free time that I had to exercise. One day, I forced myself to get out of bed and go to the park for a slow jog. It was a torture and I wanted to give up but after thinking about the end goal and the outcome of doing this, I persevered and ran almost every single day.


One of the days, I decided to pay the gymnasium a visit. It was my first time stepping into one. I was really fascinated to see all the equipment that they had and the people working out. At the start, I did not really want to use any of the machines, as I did not want to embarrass myself in front of the other people. Furthermore, I did not know how to use any of the machines and could barely lift any of the weights. After many considerations, I decided not to care about how the others judged me. Every visit, I increased the intensity of the machine to build up my muscle. After multiple visits, I improved tremendously. I also watched my diet very carefully as diet plays an important role in keeping fit and losing weight. I had to stop myself from going to my favourite fast food restaurants and go to salad shops instead. The hard work eventually paid off. I lost about six to seven kilograms in just two months! I felt very proud of myself.

After enjoying the holidays, it was eventually time to go back to school. I was more confident about myself as I would no longer be judged or looked down by other students because of my size and weight. When my friends saw me, their jaws dropped. They could barely recognise me. During my first PE lesson of the year, we were asked to run as per normal. The feeling of torture was no longer there; it felt more of an enjoyment. Unbelievably, I was the first to arrive at the finish line. My PE teacher was utterly shocked to see the drastic improvement.

Soon enough, our PE teacher informed us about the upcoming NAPFA test. I was delighted to hear about the news as I wanted to test myself and find out how much I had improved. When the test day came, I was extremely confident which was the total opposite of what I used to feel. The test was like a hot knife cutting through butter. It was way easier as compared to the previous NAPFA test. A few days after the test, my PE teacher was ready to release the NAPFA results. "The person who scored the most number of points is.....Russell! He will receive the gold award with a total of 27 points! Congratulations!" came the announcement. I was dumbfounded. 'How was it possible? For someone who failed his physical fitness test about a year ago!' I questioned myself. Nevertheless, I was even more motivated to continue training, and my passion for learning to be fit grew.

Thanks to my determination and hard work, I was able to succeed in terms of getting a gold award for my physical fitness test. In addition, I have learnt from the saying, "No Pain No Gain!" I have to put in a lot of effort to achieve success. I hope that I can continue to improve on my fitness. This is my success story, what is yours?

Low Xuan Zhi Russell
Class 3E1



I have had many good and successful moments in my years in secondary school. However, my greatest achievement is the progress that I have made in my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA), the National Cadet Corps (NCC). This is my experience from when I was an ordinary cadet in Secondary One to a Secondary Three appointment holder.

When I was in Secondary One, all of us had to take part in Camp Forge. Camp Forge was a one-day course filled with many obstacles and physical training. The instructors were at each station to ensure the safety of each cadet. After the whole camp, the teacher officers assigned us our ranks which would be later presented in school and handed to each cadet. Camp Forge was one of the many events and courses that cadets would experience.

When I was in Secondary Two, there were a variety of courses and camps that my CCA was willing to host for the cadets. The camp for the Secondary Two cadets was called Camp Steel. That was a two-day, one-night camp. All the schools in our zone came together to take part in this event. All of us mixed and learnt to socialise. We were monitored closely by the Teacher Officers for our discipline, physical abilities, knowledge in the CCA and most importantly, leadership. These would determine the selection of the Executive Committee the following year.

I have waited three years for that day when I would be told my role. All the sacrifices that I had made for NCC, all the memorable events that I had taken part in and the teachings of my seniors did not go to waste. As the saying goes, 'You reap what you sow.' Fair enough, I became the Platoon Sergeant for the Secondary Two students.

A cadet with a resilient mind is confident to take on challenges and overcome setbacks. It is a value that I still remember today.

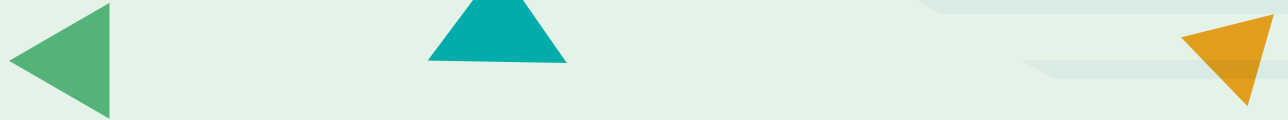
Muhammad Naufal Zandani B Z
Class 3E1

To me, to have succeeded is to have a sense of accomplishment and to have reached a goal. I used to be someone who always had stage fright until around the end of last year, when things changed for me. I used to never start a conversation with anyone and avoid having to talk to people as much as possible. I was never confident in myself either. I did not believe in myself and did not even think I could get into the express stream this year.

I was always terrified to talk in front of an audience and would get very anxious when I needed to, even if it was just in front of my class. The oral examination was always a struggle for me as I would be so scared to present myself in front of the teachers, even though it was only two of them. All this changed when I signed up to be a part-time social worker during the December holidays last year. I was supposed to help collect donations for a good cause and I was once in the shoes of the people who the donations would be going to, which was the main reason why I chose to help out. This job made me step out of my comfort zone and initiate conversations with people who I had never met before. Moreover, while doing this, I made many good friends who helped a lot by making this job more enjoyable for me. Ever since then, I did not mind talking to people as much as I did before this experience.

I never really had many friends till late last year. I was always introverted and never initiated conversations as I was scared of the reaction others might give me. However, after joining the part-time job that made me initiate conversations with others, I started thinking to myself, "What is the worst that could possibly happen?" and that made me overcome the fear of getting rejected by others when I try to talk to them. This made it easier for me to approach people, in school and out of school, when I needed help in certain things, for example, homework.

Last year, I went through many things that were really unexpected. There were many ups and downs. One of the main ones was school. I was going through some problems that resulted in my attendance for school being affected. I had changed schools and was hospitalised due to the problems I was going through. Even though I did not go to school regularly, I had a goal of getting promoted as I did not want to retake secondary 2. Thus, I focused on this goal despite the other obstacles I had to overcome and I studied on my own because I was too afraid to approach others for help.



However, I was not confident to do well enough in my examinations. This resulted in me always being very negative in whatever I did. Soon enough, I realised how low my confidence was and felt that I would not be able to overcome this and be a more confident and positive person by myself. Still, I really wanted to improve myself as that mindset was not doing any good for me. I started to seek help and that changed me to be the more confident and positive person I am today. Moreover, I studied hard for my examinations and did my best, which resulted in me reaching my goal.

Although these may not seem like big accomplishments, it still made me feel slightly better as I reached my personal goals, to be less negative, more confident, and to get promoted to Secondary 3. Throughout this journey, I have realised that things will not always go my way and thus, coping with the challenges that life throws at one is already something to be proud of. Moreover, I realised that I should always have a goal in life and it is very important to have confidence in whatever I do.

Divyadurga D/O Mohan Raj
Class 3E2

I achieve success every day, in my own small ways. The fact that I facilitate teaching and learning both in the classroom and outside gives me that sense of achievement and success. The teachers and my classmates are appreciative of my contributions and I am glad that the skills I have in me have enhanced teaching and learning.

I am blessed because I am born with some skills which others might not have. I can operate the audio-visual aid equipment, visualisers and computers at great ease. Hence, when the teachers or my classmates need help in these areas, I just step out and volunteer my service.

There was once when it was an English lesson and my teacher came in with two other teachers who wanted to observe his lesson. As usual, he came all prepared for the lesson. After he had shared with us what the lesson was all about, he went on and when the time came for him to show us a video to reinforce our learning, he was dumbfounded. When he clicked on the video player to start it, everything came to nought. The video refused to play and everything went blank. It was a total shutdown. Even the volume was muted all of a sudden. Panicked and running out of time, he was stunned.

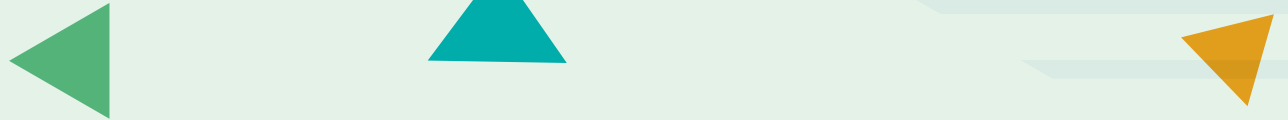
At that moment, I realised that something was not right. I jumped out of my seat, ran to the front of the classroom and got my nimble fingers into action. I unplugged the cables from both the laptop and visualiser. I shut down the system for a few seconds. After that, I relaunched the system and troubleshot the situation. I then clicked a few function buttons and relaunched it.

While I was busy doing all these, I could see cold sweat running down my teacher's face. He was clueless as to what had happened and relied on me to salvage the situation. Finally, the light and sound came back. What followed next was the video that my teacher wanted to play and let us watch.

The class clapped and smiles came back to their faces. I could hear my teacher heaving a heavy sigh of relief and the other two teachers exchanging information like I had done a good job to bring the class back to where we stopped.

I smiled and walked back to my seat proudly. My teacher gave me a pat on my back and thanked me profusely for facilitating the lesson.

Danial Iqram Bin Hassan
Class 3E1



My few years in both Green View Secondary School and Loyang View Secondary School have given me many opportunities to succeed. I was not the top student but just like any other student, I was constantly mugging through the night just days before the examinations. My grades were not as fantastic as I had wished them to be. However, the school still provided me with many opportunities to be successful.

One opportunity given by the school was the successful Values-In-Action (VIA) activity we did in Secondary three. We were going to spend the afternoon at a Student Care Centre with children aged 7-12. My classmates and I would guide them with their homework and then prepare some games to interact with them over the span of four hours.

As the VIA leaders of my class, my partner and I had the huge responsibility to prepare the class and make sure the event would go smoothly on the day itself. I would be lying if I said that there were no hiccups during the preparation and on the day but thankfully, I had a very reliable partner who was willing to work together and teachers who made sure that we were able to cope with the entire situation.

The day arrived to showcase our activity. We set off to the venue after school. The hours just went by in a blink of an eye as we interacted and mingled with the bunch of bubbly and high-spirited children. I would not deny that it was a challenging task as some of the children were not as cooperative. Even though my classmates were worn out from our morning lessons, we continued to persist through the evening till we wrapped up the event and called it a day.

Being an extreme introvert myself, I constantly found it very challenging to adapt in a new environment with unfamiliar faces. Hence, I was initially very nervous when I had to explain the game rules to the children and was also hesitant when I had to go to them personally but fortunately, the children were very amiable. From then, whenever I encountered a situation like this, I would always recount my past experiences and see how to solve it from there.

In a nutshell, my biggest takeaway from this experience has to be getting a chance to be in charge of a classroom of children who were younger than me. It brought me back to my days in Primary school and it was definitely a very meaningful one. Values that we were taught before, were put into good use once again. This is a success to me because my VIA partner and I managed to brighten up this event and of course, if not for the help of our teachers along the way, this success would not have happened.

Charmaine Goh Jia En
Class 4A1

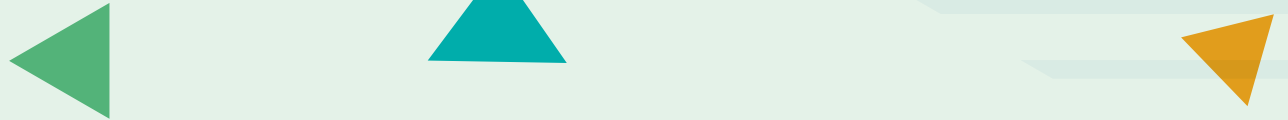
When you ask someone about an ideal success story, I bet their answer would be something phenomenal that someone did for a greater cause or a story about how they wined up getting to their dream university and how their commitment and resilience to their studies paid off. I am sorry to say that I am none of the above. I do not have your ideal success story. I am just a mediocre student who has done mistakes in the past three years and still has made it through. It is no big success, but I would think that it is a part of my success. I never pegged myself to make it this far.

I dreaded every waking moment. I despised school. Every corridor felt as if it were inching inwards. Every classroom felt like a portal grabbing me by the arm and taking me back to all the sorrows. Every face that I saw looked like phantoms. Every washroom then turned into a temporary sanctuary. Everyday felt as if I was being dragged into a haunted house and it was an endless cycle I could not break.

I could not put into words how it was like to live in fear. Seeing how I still managed to proceed gave me a little courage to overcome my cowardly state. It is currently 13 June 2019, 6:17 pm as I am writing this "success" story. Three more months to bear and I can go on to the next phase of whatever this life gives me.

They say time is the answer to every problem. No matter how deep you are drowning in misery, time would heal you. I never really understood or believed in this saying until I realised how things were eventually falling into place as the days passed. I would be lying if I say that the fear that I had lived with no longer scares me. It still does but just like after every heavy storm the sky still clears and the sun still rises from the east. With a little more time, I will heal and the school that turned into a haunted house will diminish into thin air.

Mikaela Giselle Gandia Malicdem
Class 4A1



It was a normal Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) day in my school. My CCA was National Cadet Corps (NCC). While I was commanding my platoon, which were the Secondary three students, my teacher in charge, Mr. Heng, asked me if I was interested to be a leader. He said that he saw the potential in me. Hence, I told him yes in a flash and he said that in order for me to be a leader, I had to complete a one week camp. I readily agreed. After that, he briefed me on the details of the camp.

When I was at the camp, I could recognise some faces from my Primary school and from past camps that I had gone to. Firstly, we were assigned to different platoons so that we could get to know more people in the camp. Once we were at our respective platoons, we had to introduce ourselves even if we were shy. After that we officially started our camp activities. Some of the activities were very torturous for me as it was the fasting month and we the Muslims were not allowed to eat from dawn to dusk. We had to do push ups, run and do foot drills under the burning sun which was really exhausting.

We did the same activities every day for the whole week. However, I realised that the number of people in the camp was getting lesser. This was because some people had either been forced to leave the camp due to health reasons or kicked out for poor attitude.

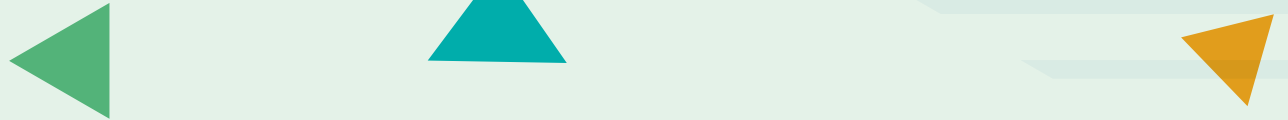
On the last day, we did not have any training, instead there was a ceremony for all the cadets who had passed the course. When my instructor congratulated me and gave me the certificate and the new rank, I was overwhelmed with joy! This is a success that I am still proud of. I would not have been able to achieve this without the support from my friends and commander. I learnt that success only comes to people if they are surrounded by like-minded people who are positive.

Mikaail Farhan B Abdullah
Class 4A1

What is success? It means accomplishment. That was exactly how I felt after the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) 5-days, 4-nights camp at Pulau Ubin. The feeling of success was overwhelming. I could barely express how I truly felt after I reached mainland Singapore. The satisfaction of knowing I had accomplished something big and meaningful meant so much to me.

First day at camp really felt like a drag. Time felt like it was passing by so slowly and minutes felt like hours. Activities we needed to complete felt like a heavy burden sitting on my shoulders. The people in my group probably made it interesting yet I could not wait for the camp to be over. Soon it was night and the pain of sleeping on hard ground did not make things any better. I missed my cozy bed which I slept on every single night. I missed my mother's cooking. All I could think of was going home. I could not possibly see this camp as an exciting and meaningful one because I saw it negatively.

The third day was the most challenging day. We had to hike for about 20 km. It felt like it was never going to end. By the end of the day, my legs felt like jelly. We also had to carry huge and heavy bags on our shoulders as we had to hike to another campsite. I suffered so many sandfly and mosquito bites yet I persevered. I knew that everything would come to an end eventually. The heaviness of the bag on my shoulders certainly did not help me in feeling a lot better. By the end of that day, I was simply too tired to do anything. I felt like I had no motivation to continue but I had no choice so I did what I had to. I assumed that I would have a nice rest but I was wrong. It was raining heavily and the tent was flooded with water as my partner and I had put up the tent wrongly. All our things were wet and it was so cold until I could not feel my muscles. It was a nightmare. We had to persevere and try to get some sleep after a long day.



The fourth day however was much more relaxing than I had expected. We had a water activity. We had to tie four big barrels together with ropes to form a raft. This by far to me was the easiest task to do due to my experience during my National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) camps. During NPCC camps, we had to tie ropes and pitch tents. This really came in handy during the OBS camp. Also from my knowledge of tying ropes, I was appointed as a leader to lead them in the forming of the raft. Using this raft, we had to row around the quarry and find the missing object to win the so-called “mission”. Our instructor also pretended to drown himself and we had to bring him up onto the raft and row him back to the land safely. This day is by far the most relaxing day and the most enjoyable time I had with my group mates. Finally the last day arrived. I could not have been happier. However, to be honest, without the support of my group mates and instructor, I probably would have given up long ago and would not have come thus far.

I truly miss OBS camp so much because if only I had seen the positive side of it since the start, I would have had much more fun. This only shows me one thing and that is that success only comes when determination and hard work are put in continuously. Achieving success does not just come by snapping your fingers, it takes time to reap success.


Mohamad Noor Hadi Bin Mohamad Razib
Class 4A1

As someone from a large family background with an average total income, I have gone through a couple of hardships here and there but I am not the least disappointed as not only did they help me to cope and react faster in harsh moments but also help me mature and grow as a person. Also, with a large family background of mine, I have learnt a lot from them and have applied them in my everyday life.

It was not always easy during school as it has been a year since my school merged with a different school which is now known as Loyang View Secondary school. With different and stricter rules applied, I was hesitant and reluctant to study as the environment and tension was quite stiff which affected my studies. However, as time passed in Loyang View Secondary School, with the help of the teaches and friends, I learnt to cope with the environment and gradually started to improve bit by bit. However, I still felt that the school was suffocating which was when the advice I received from my father kicked in. He told me that no matter how tough the obstacles were and how many times I failed, I just have to get back up and face it again. Eventually, I will realise how easy the obstacles have become and I will be able to overcome them.

Hence, with my father's advice stuck in my head, it gave me the motivation and courage to move forward in life faster than before which in the end made me the person I am today which is being confident, mature and wise. Being in this new school, I had managed to grow as a person and at the same time, become one of those wholesome Individuals.

Mohammad Mahathir B Mohammad Y
Class 4A1



For success to be achieved, hard work, perseverance and patience is required. With that being said, I can still remember the time when I was in Secondary three, my friend asked me to join their cycling team to enter a race that was going to happen in three months' time.

After thinking about it carefully for a few days, I decided to give it a shot and join his cycling team. I started to attend their cycling training. Although this was not my first time riding a bicycle, I found it difficult to keep up with their pace and struggled to find my place in the team. After a few training sessions, I asked the cycling Captain for tips on how to improve and keep up with them. He advised me to practise daily and I would steadily improve. I also realised that if I do not train hard and consistently, I would not achieve the result I want in the upcoming race, so I made it my goal to work hard and train every day after school.

After training diligently after school for two months, I gained more experience in cycling and could now keep up with the group during every training session. On the day of the race, I was really nervous and scared that I would not perform well enough. However, just before the race, the whole team came over and assured me that I would get the result that I wanted. The race began and I put in all the training I had done into good use. When reaching the finish line, I thought of all my hard work and with that, I sprinted toward the finish line with all my might and overtook the whole group to come in first. A sense of contentment came over me as I got off my bike and celebrated with my teammates who had helped me to achieve this amazing result.

I can say that to be successful, one needs to work harder than ever with perseverance, patience and the will in order to achieve the goal.

Ong Wei Cheong
Class 4A1

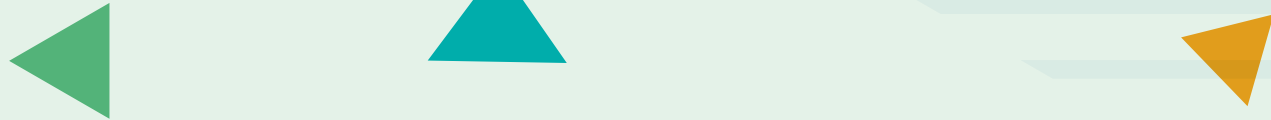
Some people think success is about winning a prize or a medal, while some think it is about having lots of money. For me, success is being able to learn values that I can apply in life.

In my time in Secondary school so far, I have learned different kinds of values which I feel are meaningful. These values are integrity, perseverance and compassion. These values that I have acquired, have made me into a better person.

Firstly, integrity is about being honest in whatever I do and not lie about anything even though I am in the wrong. I have the integrity to admit my mistakes and then treat my mistakes as a learning point. Next, perseverance is when I do not give up easily. I do not give up unless I really cannot continue. Lastly, being compassionate towards others in need. I would try my very best to assist others in difficulties and hopefully, they would do the same.

I still remember the time, before the changes I experienced, I was a playful student who always created trouble for the teachers. Hence, there was a huge decline in my studies. I decided to stop my bad behaviour and seek help from my peers to guide me to be a better person. This was the turning point in my life from being a bad person to a good natured person. The teachers really helped me a lot to overcome the obstacles during the period of my decline. Now, my studies have become a lot better and I owe my success to the people who have helped me.

Quek Zhen Wei Aloysius
Class 4A1



I was a few minutes away from my deepest fear which was talking in front of the whole school. When I was in Secondary one, I always had stage fright as I could not speak confidently or even look at people in the eye. I was working at the school bookshop during the school holidays when my Mother Tongue Chinese teacher approached me. He asked me if I was interested to become the Emcee for the 2017 Chinese New Year Celebrations. Since I had a phobia of speaking to a crowd, without hesitation, I rejected him immediately. I was relieved when he respected my decision.

When school reopened, during Mother Tongue lesson, my Chinese teacher asked the class if anyone was interested to become the Emcee for the Chinese New Year Concert. Suddenly, my best friend told my Chinese Teacher that I wanted to become the Emcee for the Chinese New Year Concert. Shocked, I quickly told my Chinese Teacher that he was kidding but that was when most of my classmates started saying that I wanted to become the Emcee. My Chinese teacher wrote my name down on a list, indicating that I wanted to be the Emcee. I was informed to come for the trials after school and I was greeted with a lot of other people. Each person was to read out a part of the script. As I observed, every performance was perfect. It soon came to my turn and as I looked at the script, I sensed chills down my spine as it was my first time reading the script. With trembling legs and hands and beads of perspiration forming on my forehead, I breathed in and slowly read it with expression. I could sense the pressure with everyone staring at me, but I did my best and finished reading the script. When everyone was done with the performance, we were all told that the chosen Emcees would be informed by being added to a WhatsApp group chat. I waited anxiously as the days passed.

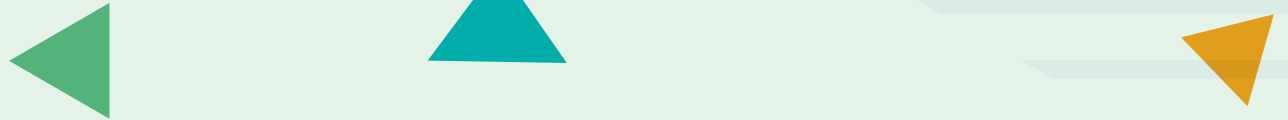
Two weeks before Chinese New Year, on a weekend, I found out that I was added to the Chinese New Year Emcee chat group. I was not sure who my partner was going to be and I was told to come for rehearsal every Monday and Wednesday mornings and during CCA days. When I came to school, I found out that my partner was my senior, and it was a girl. My Chinese teacher told me that I had less than two weeks to prepare, which made me feel like I had to practice day in and day out. I practiced during lessons, at home and even before I slept, as I was worried that I would mess up in front of everyone. It was one week before the concert, my partner and I could narrate without looking at the script. I was astonished at how amazing we were.

Days went by and soon, it was just one day before the concert. My heart was pounding so fast that it could burst at any moment. Nervousness had overcome me. I tried to sleep but I ended up only getting four hours of sleep.

However, things got worse when I realized that I had a sore throat when I woke up. I tried drinking a vitamin C drink and had a non-drowsy medicine to help me recover. As I got to school, I had to test the microphone, but my voice was a little soft and I could hear the difference. I started to get worried as I might mess up later. I told my partner and my Chinese teacher that I had a sore throat and they asked me if I could go on. I told them I would try my best. Not too long later, the concert started. It was pretty intense even when I was at backstage. I hyped myself up and as I was warming up my jaw, I was handed over the microphone, signaling I could start now. Without hesitation, I thought back on how much hard work I had put in and so, I walked out and put on my best performance. At first, it was pretty scary but as time went on, I started adapting to the atmosphere. I could hear people cheering my name and I felt very touched by that. We had a flawless performance and received an outstanding applause from the whole school.

I was glad that I could overcome this fear and that was just the beginning of my Emcee route as I went on to host more events in school such as Achievers night, Student Council Campfire, Secondary One Orientation, Secondary Two Campfire and Teachers Day. Each time, I improved even more and learnt new skills in public speaking. I am grateful that I was the Chinese New Year Concert emcee as without that, I would not be who I am now.

Sherman Goh Song Yuan
Class 4A1



As I grew older, I realised that having the ability to be socially confident is a blessing. I had this realisation last year when I was in Secondary three. My English teacher had given the whole class the task to prepare for a public speaking session in front of the whole class.

A bit about my personal character. I am the type of person who is really not shy around people whom I know. However, during that time, my school had just merged with another school bringing in many new friends into my life. At that time, when my English teacher had given us the task, I was not really close to anyone from the other school as we have not had the time to properly introduce ourselves. The fact that I had not even talked to almost half of the class made me deeply worried and nervous for the upcoming presentation.

Few weeks had passed and suddenly, I fell ill due to the drastic change in the weather. I was down with a fever for nearly a week and I still had not started on my presentation due to me having so much homework and being under the weather. I told myself that that was not an excuse to not start planning for my presentation. Hence, I started planning and writing down every viable thing that I could come up with. I was so physically drained that my body just gave up entirely, again.

Few days later, I was much better and was able to attend school once again. As I was taking the bus to school, I read my script over and over again, checking for spelling errors or any grammar errors that I had made. My class presentation was after school which meant that I had even more time to polish up my presentation before I present it in front of the whole class. The time had come, it was time for all of us to present what we had come up with. My English teacher decided that it would be easy to arrange us in our register number and lucky for me, I was the last one! I was afraid and nervous.

As time passed, I tried my very best to stay calm. I tried going to the toilet and drinking water but nothing was working so when it was my turn, I was extremely nervous to the point that my hands were physically shaking. I asked to be excused for a minute and my teacher agreed to my request. While having my break, I kept on telling myself not to overthink it so much and just get it over with. I kept repeating that over and over again to myself and finally had the courage to do so. I came into the classroom with the mindset that I had set for myself. I realised that my hands were not shaking anymore and I felt a bit calmer than before. I presented with a lot of confidence and was rewarded with a very good grade for it.

Yip Tze Yang
Class 4A1

Everyone has his or her own success stories. My success story starts in the fasting month of Ramadhan. As I was not used to not eating and drinking, I experienced tremendous difficulties, fasting.

On the first day, waking up to eat at dawn was a challenge for me. My mom had a very hard time waking me up at around four in the morning. If I felt too lazy or sleepy, I would just drink a cup of water and go back to sleep.

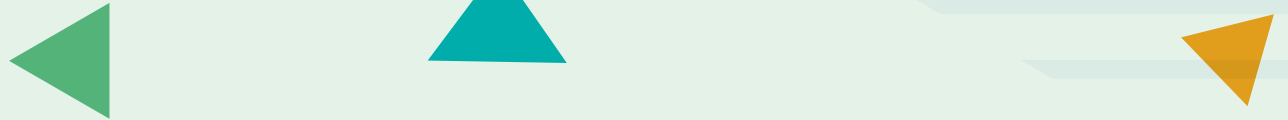
It was, also, really hard for me to resist the urge of eating during the day as my last meal would have been at the break of dawn. Whenever I felt the urge to eat, I would remember my parents' advice: "Fasting is not just about resisting the urge to eat but also to practice the value of resilience."

However, as the days passed by, it became easier to control my hunger pangs. I was able to keep my resolve, even in the presence of those who had their meals, in front of me, during the break. I would not disobey my parents. I took it as a test of my patience and resilience.

I realized that I had gained some invaluable lessons since I started fasting. I learnt to be patient and to be resilient. Values, I will be able to apply throughout my life.

I strongly feel that the fasting month is the best month for me to improve and build on my character and behaviour. I learned that no matter how difficult the situation is, there is always a way to overcome any adversities in life, and they make you stronger.

Lutfil Hadi
Class 4A2



To me, success means accomplishing something that you have wanted after going through a lot of obstacles. It means achieving a goal after working hard for it. Success comes in any form such as overcoming your fears and passing all your subjects. There is a saying that goes, “Success is not final, and failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.” This means a lot as when you fail, it does not mean that it is over but you should use your failure as a motivation to push you on.

When I was in Sec 2, we had a two-day camp that involved a number of outdoor activities. As an adventurous person, I would say, yes. Everyone was excited and ready for the camp. When the day came, everyone was assembled. We headed straight to our destination. On the second day, we had an activity that I hated a lot. It was called “high element”. Looking up, scared me more. When we reached the top, we were taught how to use our safety gear properly. I had all sorts of negative thoughts. What would happen if I fall?

We were split into three groups and I had to go to the highest level. As we climbed the stairs, I breathed heavily but I did not want to give up. I forced my stiff legs to walk. As we were setting up our belts to the rope, I saw how far up we were. This caused me more worry. When I was up, I took the first step and moved back. The instructor tried encouraging me to no avail. All my friends then started to encourage me to push on and I did. Our first obstacle was a bean bag blocking our way.

I remember looking down and being so afraid that I hugged the bean bag, shouting “I will die coach help me!” I closed my eyes and my body was stiff as a rock. I began tearing, and even though I was stubborn, my friends and teachers did not give up on me. I forced myself, and to my surprise, I completed my first obstacle course.

After that, I felt the courage to try new things. This had taught me a valuable lesson that there is no harm trying new things. Even though it might not seem big to others, but it is to me. I had overcome my fear of heights. As the saying goes, “A person who has failed is more courageous than a person who has never failed”.

Alif Matin
Class 4A2

Success may come in many forms, whether it is achieving a positive relationship or a desired outcome in school. My success story is about achieving a good score for my common test.

It was the common test week. I spent the week prior to the examination, going the extra mile to write and organize notes on the various components that would be tested in the specific subjects.

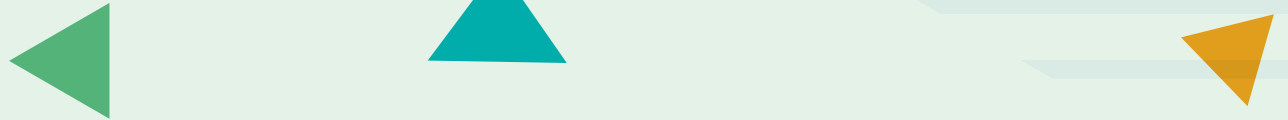
On the very first day, I entered the examination room, feeling nervous, believing that despite my hard work, I would not be able to achieve my desired results. The first bell rang, signaling the start of the test. In the midst of doing the test, I was somehow filled with confidence and courage because I started to realize that all the notes I had studied came in useful for the test.

After few hours, I was greatly relieved to hear the bell which indicated the end of the test. When the invigilator collected my paper, I heaved a sigh of relief to know that the examination was after all not as difficult as I thought.

As days went by and the examination was over, I was so happy to know that I had passed with flying colours. Thankfully, my hard work paid off. I had achieved 4 A1s making me one of the top students in my class. In recognition, I was given a gift from my teachers.

Thereafter, I became more motivated to work harder to become successful in life. I am even more motivated to work hard for my N-level examinations. However, I would not have been able to achieve these grades without the support of my teachers.

Muhd Irfan
Class 4A2



Well, as the wise British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill said, “Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.” He was a legendary man that saved Britain from any potential Nazi German invasion. I want to be as successful as him. But, I’m just a lonely student in Loyang View Secondary School. What can I do? What have I done in achieving success? Well, although I cannot save Singapore from any potential invader, I can achieve success in my studies.

Back in Greenview days, I used to be the best in History in Secondary 2. I was amazed by my thinking skills...my response to the essay and source based questions were brilliant. I was indisputably the best student. My confidence was high at that moment. I began to love History as a subject. However, in Secondary 3, at Loyang View Secondary School, I began to lose focus in my studies. I still thought that I was number 1 though I was neglecting my studies and my favourite subject. I was actually busy playing computer games like ‘Fortnite’ and ‘Counter Strike’. I got better at those games, and kept focusing on the ones that I loved.

I did not realise I was neglecting my studies until SA1 arrived. When I was doing my history paper, I did not know the answers to the questions. I found them really hard. I felt that my teachers had not given me the time to study for the exams. I was in an all-time low. I felt even more depressed as I did not know the exam format. Would we have Multiple Choice Questions? Source-Based Questions? Would I have to write long sentences for the essay just to appease my teachers? After the history paper, I felt down. I felt ignorant as I did not complete the paper. Why did no one try to help me? Two weeks later, I received my history marks, it was a fail! I was shocked. I was frustrated, horrified, angry, and anything you might imagine.

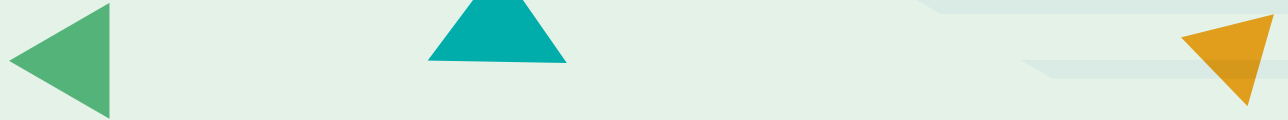
My emotions then started to be unstable as I did not know what to do. I spoke to my friends about the matter and requested for help. My heart broke as they asked me to continue playing computer games. I don’t want to be retained in Secondary 3. I want to be promoted to Secondary 4. Frustrated, I asked my history teacher, Ms Suhailah, for help. She told me that my standards were too low. I really needed to buck up. I began to stop playing computer games and started to take down every point that the teacher passed down into my head. I slowly began to regain my focus. I was studying again!

I decided to study in school. But, there were limited options as many students, like me, also chose to study in school. Luckily, there were places available at the 'Fish Tank'. I chose this study area as it was air conditioned. I knew this move would give me a boost. There is no way I am going to waste my time anymore. The newly built 'Fish Tank' also had round tables where I could study with my friends.

Soon, with all the hard work, I was ready to take on History though the standards required were higher. I was so nervous that my hands shook and my mind blasted with history words like 'Appeasement', 'Collectivisation', and 'Propaganda'. Then, I suddenly remembered the phrase that Winston Churchill once said, "Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts". That phrase boosted my morale and increased my confidence. I remembered everything. The paper was easy! I'm now back on track! I was happy to complete the paper with ease!

Although I did well in the History paper, I know I can do even better. I am willing to work harder on all my subjects to increase my chances of getting promoted to Secondary 4. I just have to lower my ego and start grinding for the Secondary 4 examinations. This is my success story.

Asyrul
Class 4A2



“Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.” This quote was by Winston Churchill. Success to me is accomplishing my dreams and getting the best results that I could get. I used to hate studying science but it all changed when I was in sec 3 as that was the first time I got a good result for chemistry.

My chemistry had always been very bad and I could not get a pass as I was constantly not paying attention in class and not doing homework that was given to me. At that time I was also addicted to playing games and gaming was like a drug to me and I was playing games from day to night, there as many points of time that I wanted to skip school and play games all day but I choose to go to school as my friends were there and they wanted me to come to school. I felt that school was just a waste of time and it was useless to go to school but I was wrong.

When there were tests, I will not study and keep procrastinating until the day of the test and my parents would keep nagging at me and I would just ignore them. My teacher was frustrated with me and decided to talk to me. My teacher told me that studying is important and science was an important subject and I needed to pass the subject to do well and go to a good course. I agreed with my teacher and learnt from my mistakes.

I started working hard and reduced my playing time to only an hour. I worked hard every day and put in a lot of effort in my homework. When the day of the next test came, I was confident as I had worked hard for the topics that were being tested. When I finished the test, I could hear many of my classmates discussing about the test. Many of them found it very difficult and were nervous about their results.

When the results were in, I was glad to see that I scored the highest in class and my teacher and the whole class were shocked. They did not believe that a person like me who hated studying could get the highest in class. I was elated and when I got home, I told my parents of the results that I had gotten and they were surprised and glad that I had worked hard in science.

That was my success as I accomplished a good goal and science became my favorite subject from that day onwards. I could never forget that day and I was glad my teacher did not give up on me.

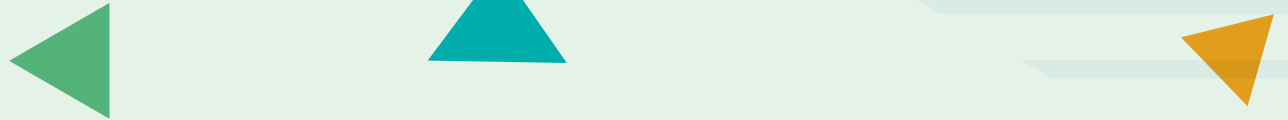
Matthew Lee Wee Hung
Class 4A2

Though success has many different meanings, it is something we achieve through hard work. Success can be a smooth journey or it can be a bittersweet journey. It can be a hard and tough journey. To me, success is something that is used to describe something I have worked hard to achieve. “The harder the battle, the sweeter the victory,” said Les Brown. This quote has motivated me to work harder whenever I encountered a problem or a setback in life.

It is never easy to gain success but I am lucky to say that I have felt the feeling of being successful before. I remember during our netball competition season, my team and I had gone through so much. All the blood, sweat and tears was worth it. There were times when I wanted to give up so badly but my teammates were always there for me, encouraging me and supporting me through those hard times. A couple of times when we fell and bled, we would still pick ourselves up and train hard. We did our best to train so as to keep the intensity up. It was never easy but supporting each other, and constantly being there for each other helped us overcome adversity.

I experienced the ultimate feeling of success when we won our hardest match ever against one of the top 4 schools in the East Zone. I still remember being so overwhelmed with feelings that we cried on the court. Indeed, it was a breakthrough for us. All this did not come easy. We fought hard for it, we cried for it and we sustained injuries for this victory. This is my success story together with my fellow teammates.

Teh Jeanne
Class 4A2



“There are no limits to what you can achieve, except the limits you place on your own thinking” – Brian Tracy

In my perspective, success is an accomplishment of an aim or purpose. My greatest achievement as a form of success is representing Singapore in the International Football Challenge Cup (ICC). The tournament consists of 6 teams from different countries. The teams are known as Johor Darul Ta’zim (JDT) from Malaysia, Matsumoto Yamaga FC from Japan, Promotional Fund of Vietnamese Football Talents (PVF) from Vietnam, Singapore Sports School, Singapore under-15 and also the team I was playing for, Football Association Singapore (FAS) Combined Centre of Excellence Selection (COE) from Singapore. This tournament took place last year during the November-December holidays. The age category of this tournament is under-15. I feel that this is an accomplishment to me simply because I was able to represent Singapore playing the sports I loved most, which is football. This is the opportunity, I appreciated most as I was able to gain experience and exposure playing against teams like JDT and PVF. I was really amazed at the way these teams played as their moves were simple yet beautiful. The way they executed the passing of the ball was top class. To be able to play beautiful football is not easy. I am happy with where I am now in football as this experience has definitely taught me to improve my football skills and techniques. I hope with this experience, I will be given another chance one day to represent Singapore again because this is just every footballer’s dream in life; to be able to represent their own country.

The school played a significant role in my achievement. It was through my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) that I got to improve my football skills. It saddens me that the football CCA is closing down in school and that this year is the final year. But nonetheless, we are now at the quarter finals stage of the National Top 24, and my only hope is to eventually do well. To conclude, I am grateful to have been able to represent Singapore and also the school in football. I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to my teacher in-charge of football, Mdm Sharina, for her endless support throughout my years in secondary school.

Muhammad Faisz Bin Kassim
Class 4A3

After having spent a year in Loyang View, I believe that success is more than just achievements. It is about experiencing something with pride and joy and learning from it.

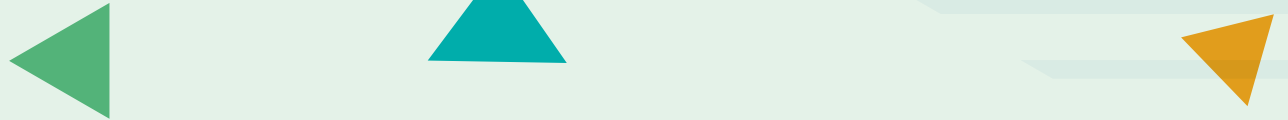
The school Road Run was held at Pasir Pis Park on 12th April 2019. We had to run together with the Secondary one boys. I felt very nervous at first but during the run, I decided to push myself to do well in the race.

I do not believe that I would have achieved this without my co-curricular activity (CCA) because the CCA has taught me and my team to push ourselves to the limits. During CCA, we would spend at least 30 minutes running and it helped us to prepare for the road race. Even though it was tiring, we did not give up or give excuses as we knew that we would not be easily defeated. Besides CCA, I trained and prepared myself by jogging every night and timing myself while jogging. This helped me to improve my stamina and also helped me to see how much more I needed to improve.

Even though I did not get first place, I felt like I tried my best and I felt proud of myself as I managed to get into the top 15. This was one of the important goals that I had wanted to accomplish. I have learnt perseverance and patience. I have one more important goal to accomplish and that is to do better for my next road race.

I aim to be in the top five among the Upper Secondary boys. In order to do that, I think I have to train harder. I could start by training earlier before the next road race. This will help me be better prepared and more able to achieve my goal.

Harith Fathullah
Class 4A3



Eric Thomas said, “When you want to succeed as badly as you want to be able to breathe, then you’ll be successful.” This means that if we want to be successful, we must work hard at it and not slack. We must put in a lot of effort to be successful and the journey may not be easy. Success for me is about being proud to achieve a goal, no matter how big or small. For example, completing our homework or waking up to go to school everyday can give us small doses of success.

For me, personally, I have felt some success in my life. When I received the bursary award and commendation letters, I felt as if I had improved both physically and mentally. One of the best achievements is receiving the bursary award twice at the Pasir Ris Community Club. When I received the award the first time I was amazed as I got the certificate for improving my studies and behavior. The second time, I got the certificate for being top 25% in my cohort. I received a certificate as well as a sum of money. I also received an award for improving my fitness. From 20 push-ups, I was able to do 40 push-ups. I also clocked a better time for the running segment. I am confident that I will get a gold award for the coming NAFA Test. All these achievements have motivated me to aim for greater success in the future.

Getting those awards was not that simple! I had to make some changes such as reducing my time spent on games and loitering around. Every week, I would have tests or consultation with my teachers as I needed help on my weak subjects. Most of the time, I would have consultations with my Math teacher as I knew that my Math was weak. But now, most of the time, my teacher would test us to check for understanding. I find these tests helpful as they help me to figure out what it I don’t understand. I will then work around these areas. I also, draw up a time table at home, so that I would be able to balance my time in both studying and playing. I have also started to learn how to relax as I would get stressed easily.

With my teachers’ support, I am able to score better grades. I realize that teachers will scold and give extra lessons as they want the best for their students. I feel like giving up sometimes but with the help of my teachers and my friends, I have felt more motivated during my dark times.

In conclusion, success is not easy. It comes with sacrifices. We need to work really hard to be successful.

Ridzwan Rashid
Class 4A3

Many times when we face difficulties, we would tend to just take the easier route out and give up, however I will always remember this quote that has been etched in my mind for the longest time now. "Success is not final, failure is not fatal, however, it is the courage to continue that counts"

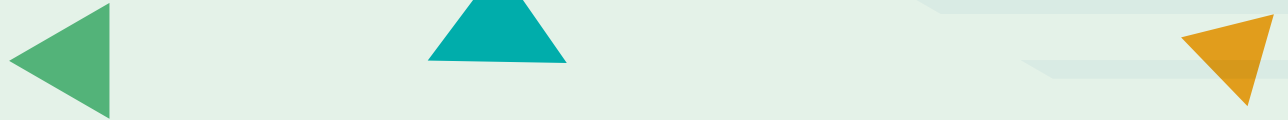
I have never been a studious nor hardworking person. Any chance I got, it would have been used to procrastinate and avoid the responsibilities given to me as I never had the motivation to want to do anything since primary school. School was just a chore or a necessity for me and I never once put in any effort as everyday just felt very mundane to me. My life was just a continuous routine and I was honestly heading nowhere in life, as I thought that I was still young and a vision or a goal to work towards was not necessary yet. However, I carried that mindset with me into secondary school and still continued to procrastinate. I only began to realise when I was in secondary three that I was not coping very well in my school work and I remembered how crucial secondary three was as the following year would be my national exams year. I knew that if I did not start to put in more effort or buck up now, I would be putting my secondary four results at risk as most of the syllabus tested in 'N' levels mostly come from secondary three work.

Step by step, I slowly started to work extra hard and studied more than I have ever did in the past years. During the end of year examinations period, I faced many doubts and anxieties whether I would have been able to promote to secondary four because I knew that my foundation was much weaker compared to the rest of my classmates. There were many times I was tempted to just give in to my thoughts that I was not smart enough and give up, but I shrugged off all the unnecessary thoughts instead and continued to work even harder and even burned the midnight oil on many nights.

After everything was settled down and I got my results back, I was dumbfounded and shocked, but I knew I had worked hard for the results I got, it may not be 100% passes or extremely good but it was much better than what I expected it to be.

No matter how hard things may be, what I learnt was to always keep trying and working towards your aim and goal because hard work and effort does pay off and you would be proud of the outcome. Success does not come easy. However with hard work and perseverance, you will succeed.

Kasie Neo
Class 4A3



Success to me is when you have achieved something that you always wanted to achieve and the motivational quotes that I look through every day is by Norman Vincent Peale. He says, “Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.”

I recently just joined football for my CCA from basketball. I was very scared as I did not know any of the football players. After going for my first training, I felt welcomed as the football players and the teacher in-charge was very kind and supportive.

After training for about a month, it was time for our competition. I am very proud to announce that I got to join the school team and played in the starting line-up. When we played our first game, we felt devastated as we lost to Anglo Chinese School to a score of 3-0. After that devastating defeat, we felt that we could not go far.

Our teacher, however, motivated us and we went back to train harder again. Since that day, after the motivational speech by our teacher, we played our second match against Bowen Secondary School with confidence, and beat them by a score of 1-0. We felt very happy as it was our first win.

Later that season, we played against three other different schools, and won 2 games and drew by one. We were thrilled to advance to the national round of 16. We could not express our feelings as we could not believe what had just happened. It was a huge success for me as we had gone very far as a team.

Syukri B Haji Abdul Rahman
Class 4A3

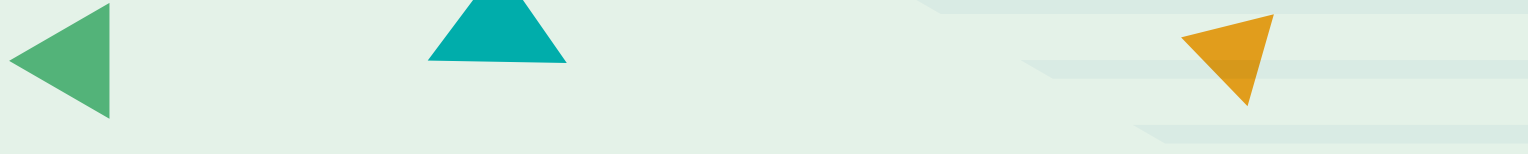
The definition of success is not fixed and differs for each individual. Broadly speaking, success can be defined as the accomplishment of an aim or purpose or the achievement of a goal or target through effort and determination. Common marks of success are found in outward appearances of academic achievements, financial gain or elevations in socio-economic status. However, the success story I am sharing today is a little closer to home and comes in the form of overcoming a personal fear.

Last year, the whole cohort of Secondary three students was required to participate in the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. I was terrified as many of my seniors told me that it was tough and torturous. I kept asking for more information in the hope that it would ease my anxiety, but all the answers I received were the same. They said that I would know when I got there.

I am not the fittest student among my peers and I usually choose to avoid physical activities for fear of embarrassing myself. Furthermore, acrophobia is my greatest weakness. All the weeks leading up to OBS, I was looking for a hundred and one excuses to get myself gracefully out of the obligation. A week before OBS, our teacher asked us to submit the signed consent forms. Without any excuse to avoid it, I reluctantly walked to the front of the classroom and placed my form on the teacher's desk. My fate was sealed.

The first-day of the OBS Camp was marked with ice breakers and bonding games. I was lulled into thinking that the camp was not as horrifying as our seniors had led me to believe. It was a fruitful day and I got closer with my teammates. The following morning arrived uneventfully with no signs of the hellish experiences that lay ahead. Our team guide brought us to a secluded tower-like facility that loomed five metres above our heads. This structure featured a tall plank bridge suspended with nothing more than a roughly woven rope. He started distributing harnesses and my blood pressure immediately shot up with cold sweat running unchecked down the back of my neck.

On the plank bridge, my leg was shaking and I felt my strength seep away though my teammates kept encouraging me. "Kai Dong, you can do it!" "Kai Dong, you're the man!" Everything passed in a blur in the next five minutes or so. All I remember were the encouraging calls and loud claps from my friends and the next thing I knew, I found myself on the opposite platform making my way down the ladder to the other end of the obstacle course.



After I landed on solid ground, I bent down and enjoyed the smell of the green grass. I have never liked the ground as much as I did at that moment. I had succeeded! I had succeeded in overcoming my fear and completing the obstacle course that had been keeping me up late at night for weeks. I succeeded in overcoming my internal limitations and arriving at a new milestone.

Thinking back, my achievement at OBS was quiet and mostly unnoticed by my teammates. Even today, few of my friends realise the extent of my acrophobia or how I felt embarrassed about my lack of physical prowess. But I think that one thing I have learnt is that success comes in big and small packages, and its significance is best felt by the person in question. Overcoming acrophobia was one of my greatest achievements in recent years.

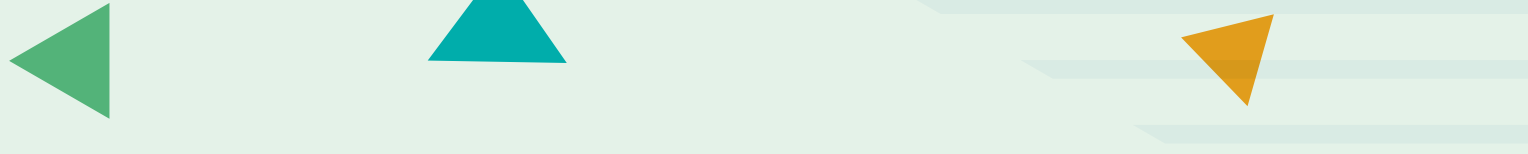
Jiao Kai Dong
Class 4E1

To me, success is the accomplishment of one's goal. In my case, it is to command my very own platoon in my co-curricular activity, the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

Rising through the ranks of Corporal to Staff Sergeant was not an easy task, but it was an extremely meaningful journey for me. There were many preparations required, including physical training and the revision of basic NCC knowledge and information. The process physically and mentally drained me. As a person who does not exercise regularly, I found the advanced physical training sessions excruciatingly difficult to a point where I had wanted to give up. However, I pushed beyond my limits and was able to do 30 push-ups and 50 sit-ups. These results improved after numerous training sessions. I also had to revise and memorise my basic NCC knowledge. After studying the information for 2 weeks, I was able to memorise most of the information that could be tested.

On the day of the specialist assessment, which was the test to determine if I could be promoted to third sergeant, I was extremely nervous, but felt a sense of confidence as I had spent weeks preparing for this test. To my surprise, I did 42 push-ups and 57 sit-ups for the physical fitness test, which was a major achievement to me. I was able to get a score of 90% on the basic NCC knowledge test, and I was elated with joy. When we returned to school, I was glad to know that our whole platoon was promoted from Corporal to Staff Sergeant ranks. With a great sense of accomplishment and our teacher officers' permission, we celebrated by throwing our berets in the air.

This, however, was not the end of my journey, our teacher officers selected seven cadets from our platoon to participate in a 3-day, 2-night camp, the Senior Specialist Leaders Camp (SSLC). This was the final test to determine if I deserved to be promoted to staff sergeant. When we first arrived at the camp, the camp leaders started to shout at us because of our sloppy uniform and movements, even though we were in groups with cadets from other schools. This was the most arduous and vigorous journey I had ever been through. During the camp, I had to get out of my comfort zone, assume leadership and responsibility for my platoon mates, and use nothing but only my voice to guide them to the location we needed to get to while blindfolded. I felt a sense of achievement and confidence knowing that I could lead my platoon in an efficient and orderly manner with time to spare.



SSLC allowed me to prove to myself that I can actually lead, and soon enough, I was chosen to be the platoon commander of the junior cadets. I was able to gain confidence to lead my very own platoon. I am grateful to my NCC teacher officers for giving me the opportunity to be able to progress closer to my dream every step of the way.

I hope to continue to guide and lead my juniors and impart my leadership skills to them so that one day, they too would be role models for their juniors. This is my success story.

Joshua Devan Senthil Kumar
Class 4E1

Failure is not an alternative. It is something to be avoided, but it is also a temporary setback on a bigger and more significant course. Everybody encounters failure at one point or another. What truly matters is how you react and learn from that failure.

Since primary school, I had always wanted to be a prefect, to be able to lead and serve the school, but unfortunately, that dream of mine did not come true. At that point, I felt like an absolute failure, seeing all my friends being able to get their spot as a prefect. The opportunity that was not given to me threw me off my perfect life dream, and I told myself that I can never be one, even in the future.

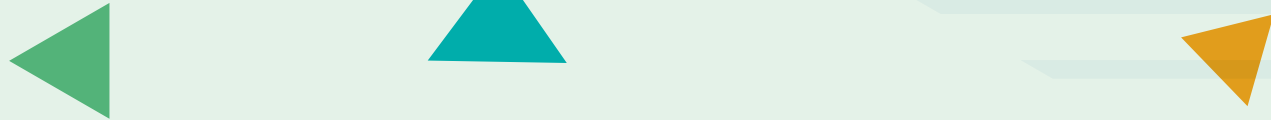
At Secondary school, the changes were tremendous; everything was so different from the Primary school. I used the feeling of being a failure in my Primary school as a motivation to work even harder. When my form teacher, Mrs Sing, started handing out the forms for the student councillor interview, it turned out my hard work was not for nothing, and I jumped with joy when I received the form for the interview. I told myself that I would not throw this golden opportunity away and believed that within me lay the power to be the best I could be.

After the day of the interview, I waited anxiously each day for the results to be released. Less than two weeks after the day of the interview, the results were out. A teacher went to my class and started calling out names, and I heard my name being called out. She said she would like to see us outside the class for a short moment. When we went out to meet her, she broke the news that we were now part of the student council. I was so happy that the anxiety that I had felt for the past few days was immediately gone. In my head, I kept on repeating that I had finally achieved the dream.

Two years flew by in a flash. Last year, when I was in Secondary 3, I felt it was time to stretch myself and undertake new opportunities to be part of the executive committee of the student council but I wondered if I really wanted the responsibilities that came with the position. But I did not want to give up the opportunity and aimed for the highest position in student council. I wanted to be the President. Now that I am in Secondary 4 and having stepped down from all the major roles, I am so glad that I had made that decision not to throw away the opportunity that was given to me. Now I am proud to say that I did become the President of the Student Council and I was even made Captain of the Basketball team.

Sometimes, failure will tell us to stop chasing our dreams and to give up, but we should not listen to that voice in our heads, and just keep pressing on and working hard. We never know when opportunities would knock on our door for us to achieve our fullest potential.

Matthew Tng Sue
Class 4E1



Success to me is never something I find easy to achieve. Whenever I do achieve it, I always manage to unintentionally twist it into some kind of failure. Most times, it is because I feel that I do not deserve it. I am not one to be elated with pride for having achieved something through my hardwork. One of those reasons is that unlike what some people think of me, I do not strive to be the best. I would settle for mediocrity any day, and hence do not work as hard as I should. Whenever I win an academic award, I always think that there is somebody else out there who has worked harder and deserves the award more than I do.

Every time I voice out these opinions to someone, they always tell me that I should appreciate what I have and use it to my advantage. Though I agree that I should have a more optimistic view on such things, I still think that success should not come this easily to somebody who does not want it. I do not study for my examinations expecting to get the highest score. I study to pass with a decent grade, and that is not exactly the kind of attitude a student winning an academic award should have.

However, this does not mean that I think students should not feel proud of themselves for earning such an accomplishment. Not everybody has the same idea of success, after all.

Now, as a Secondary Four student studying for the national examinations, I am working harder than I have ever had. I have broken my terrible habit of procrastination and have started doing work more quickly and efficiently. That, to me, is success. Just attempting to better myself as a student and a person is already an accomplishment to me.

My definition of success may be different from others, but I stand by it nevertheless. I believe that success is not about the end product but how hard you work to achieve it. Somebody could spend whole days and nights studying and still not achieve award-winning grades, but even just improving by a little bit is an achievement in itself. The effort that is put into working to reach a goal should be commended, not the result.

I feel that we should start seeing simpler things like cooking a dish for the first time, sleeping earlier than usual or learning a new instrument as accomplishments and victories. By doing so, I have become happier and more accepting of my success. I no longer see it as a difficulty. Hopefully, others will not too.

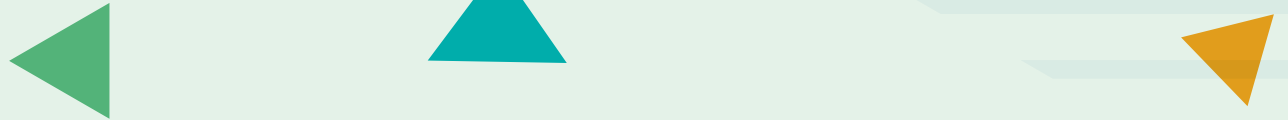
Nur Ellysa Nasida Bte M D
Class 4E1

Through my four years at Loyang View Secondary School, I have learnt many values, as well as made many new friends along the way. Of course, there have been many ups and downs during this journey, but I managed to overcome my problems by holding on and persevering. I feel that I have matured, not only in my appearance or age but also in my attitude towards life. I was able to accomplish many of my goals from my deep engagement and participation in my Co-Curricular activity (CCA), the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC).

In Secondary one, I was not passionate or even interested in my CCA. It was not even my first choice during CCA selections, and I felt as if it was a burden. As I continued having more training and bonding sessions in the CCA, I started to grow fond of my squad mates. I also found training sessions more interesting. I used to regret selecting NPCC as a CCA choice, but I am very glad and proud to say now that that was the best decision I have made in my Secondary school journey.

When I was in Secondary one, I used to be very impatient and shy as I did not really like to talk much, but soon after I joined NPCC, I noticed that my bad habits were changing for the better, as values such as responsibility, patience and discipline were inculcated in NPCC. As my journey progressed in Secondary 2 and 3, I joined many competitions and participated in many events, which taught me many new life skills which I could apply to my life. As I turned 15, my seniors, who I know and love, had to step down from the CCA and my batch had to take over. I was appointed the deputy chairperson of my unit. I was very happy and grateful for that appointment, and I even managed to receive the Best Unit Cadet Award. These are some of my biggest achievements that I am truly proud of. It is a testament that my efforts in training have paid off, and that I have improved to become a better person.

Puteri Hadeel Amani Haji R
Class 4E1



In January 2018, I represented the school in the Air Rifle team shooting competition at the National University of Singapore Invitational Shoot. All of my peers set high expectations on me to do well in that competition. I let them down that day. Saddened by my extremely low scores, I stood in front of everyone in grief. It was emotionally unbearable for me.

After that nightmarish tragedy, I could clearly tell that every person in the club had lost faith in me as that shooter with the greatest potential. Even my coach acted differently in training sessions after that incident. I reflected on my actions. Instead of being regretful, I told myself this:

“Why should I mourn over this? Sure, my coach and peers have lost faith in me, but I shouldn’t lose faith in myself. I have one more year remaining for me to get back on both of my feet and improve on my shooting standards. All I have to do is believe in myself, be optimistic about this and be determined to try again.”

Exactly a year later, I went back to that same competition venue and represented the school as a school team shooter at the National Technological University of Singapore Invitational Shoot. Miraculously, after pouring my blood, sweat and tears in all those training sessions, I stood there, in front of my coach and peers once more, and presented my personal best score. To my surprise, I impressed all of them. My coach gave me a pat on the back and congratulated me, while the former captain of the Air Rifle Club was so impressed with my performance he agreed to reward me for meeting the target.

In the span of a year, I’ve become mentally tougher as an athlete. In order to bring success in this sport, I have learnt to take all of my performances neutrally. If my performance is too poor, I shouldn’t be remorseful, and if I perform splendidly well, I shouldn’t be complacent. In addition, I’ve learnt to approach my performances positively by taking each one as a learning point in order to do better the next time. This attitude fuelled my eagerness to work harder.

As a Secondary 4 student currently, I am training very hard, to have a fighting chance to qualify for Temasek Junior College, my dream school, through the Direct Schools Admission path to pursue my true passion for shooting.

Sharifah Sha’ista Bte Noorazmi
Class 4E1

We were all sweat and grit, as we prepared for the face off. We did our warm-up exercises vigilantly to ensure that we were physically ready for our fight with Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School, which had one of the top 4 Netball teams in the East Zone School District. I could hear everyone panting after our continuous sprints during the warm-up routine.

The shooters, including I, were under tremendous pressure, as we could not afford to miss a shot. We practised a few shots before the match. I reminded everyone to breathe in and breathe out before shooting, and how critical a shooter's role was in the team.

Five minutes before the game, we listened attentively to our coach's game plan and strategies. Our game plan was team defense. We hugged one another and expressed our affirmations loudly with pride.

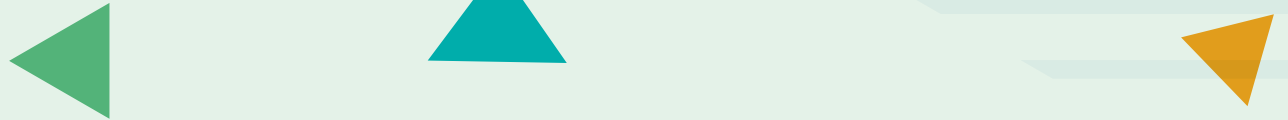
In the beginning, we were tight on defence, and we did our best to shoot as many baskets as possible. But at the end of the first quarter, our opponent led by two points and the score was 5 to 7. We stayed strong for both the second and third quarters. We changed our strategies and game plan so that we could intercept their passes.

After the third quarter, the gap between our scores was 1. It was the last quarter and all of us were drenched in sweat. I was playing as a goal attack for all four quarters and was extremely exhausted. When I got the ball, I tried to pass it to my goal shooter. "Target! Target!" my teammate yelled. We had ten seconds to score a goal or defend our opponents tightly so that they would not score. Fortunately, my shooter and I scored the last goal.

When the umpire blew the whistle, I looked at the score board. Loyang View Secondary School scored 25 points while Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School scored 23 points. I dropped to the floor and burst into tears. For the first time in our history, we beat a top 4 Netball team! We thanked our opponents and I hugged my two netball friends from Paya Lebar Methodist Girls' School. We were in the same under-14 East Zone Netball team two years ago. I wished them all the best for their upcoming games, too.

However, one of them was my defender and her arm was injured when she suddenly tripped on my leg during the game. I apologized to her and hugged her. She needed to go for physiotherapy. Anyway, my team and I were glad that we created the first ever Netball history in Loyang View Secondary School!

Siti Nur Jannah Bte Mohamed R
Class 4E1



Mention success and it often conjures images of wealth. But to me, success is more than just earning money. In my opinion, success refers to the attainment of one's goals or the overcoming of obstacles. In my fairly short sixteen years of life, my biggest success was in being able to survive the gruelling 7-hour cycling expedition during the Outward Bound Singapore School (OBS) camp. I have always shunned physical activities and lived my life surrounded by creature comforts. The OBS experience really changed me for the better as I learnt to cope with many new experiences.

When I first arrived at the OBS campsite, I was stunned beyond words. The spartan accommodation and dining facilities were stripped of all the usual comforts I normally enjoyed. They were the first hint that I would be taken out of my comfort zone. Apprehension crept into my heart. It was accompanied by a sense of foreboding because I have always been physically weak. Due to that fact that I suffer from anemia, I have often avoided physically challenging activities. Although my anemia is not severe, exercising more than I am used to will bring on dizziness, nausea and hypoxia. The campsite resembled a rural, poverty-stricken region which was forested. What was worse were the many flying insects that dominated the site. They seemed intent on making my stay a living nightmare. Within fifteen minutes of stepping foot on the campsite, I yearned to leave. Since that was impossible, I consoled myself that this was a new experience that might be fun so I had to start with an open mind and give it a chance.

On the second day of the OBS camp, we had to cycle from the campsite in Punggol to Pasir Ris, and then to Seng Kang Hockey Stadium. Discomfort set in after just thirty minutes of cycling. How was I to survive another six hours on the hard, unforgiving triangle of a bicycle seat? I felt light-headed as I veered the bumps along the route, and there were many on the trail. It was like another blow to an already bruised spot. Before long, I was on the verge of nausea. Giving up was all I could think of. Hence, I approached the coach to tell him I was unwell. When he told me to try to strive on, I replied that I was the kind that could not ever complete the standard 2.4 kilometre run that all secondary students had to undergo. But my coach's next response made sense. He said, "If you want to give up now, I won't force you to continue. But you may never grow in confidence and will always feel that you cannot rise to this challenge. In contrast, when you do your utmost to complete this expedition, when you recall your OBS experience in future, you'll be proud of yourself." His words were heartening and I did not want to be looked down on, least of all, by myself. So I pedaled on to complete the seemingly impossible journey.

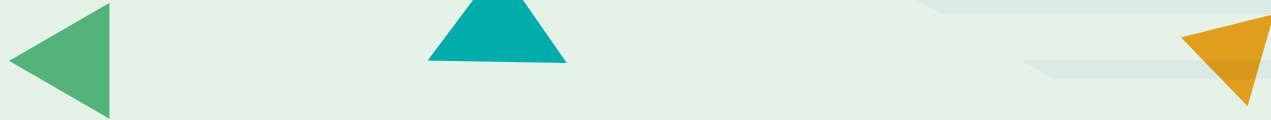
At many points of the journey, my group members would stop to wait for me and motivate me to carry on. Some even offered to carry my bag to lighten my load. Their optimistic and caring nature made me feel fortunate to have such loyal friends. Each time I felt like giving up, I told myself not to let my

friends down. About one kilometre away from the final destination, a growing sense of achievement filled my heart. When I finally arrived at Sengkang Jockey Stadium, I was so elated and felt such a sense of victory that I punched the air triumphantly. I commemorated the achievement by taking a photograph of myself beaming from ear to ear at the stadium.

Later that day, I was dismayed when the coach told me that the school had decided to cut short my camping trip due to my health issues. They said that the activities on the subsequent days may be more demanding and they did not want me to over-exert. By then, I had developed a positive feeling for OBS and was heartbroken not to be able to undergo the rest of the camp. Before leaving, I told my coach and my group members that I would never forget them and would treasure all my experiences.

While being driven home mid-way through the OBS camp, I realized that the camp had helped me to become a stronger, more resilient person. I was glad to persist in completing the cycle against all physical and emotional odds. In the process, I have gained first-hand knowledge of teamwork, friendship, perseverance, resilience and self-belief. Because of that, I feel I have succeeded in conquering myself, and breaking out of my comfort zone. I know these will form the basis of future successes!

Wang Yuqi
Class 4E2



I have had only a few unforgettable experiences in the sixteen years of my life thus far, but out of all, the most positive unforgettable experiences I can think of is the success of overcoming my fear of heights. It was also the moment when I realised teamwork is one of the keys to success. The experience took place during the Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp.

Last year, in mid-November, the school organised a camp for all the secondary three students at Pulau Ubin. The first time I heard this news, I wasn't particularly excited because I do not like being somewhere foreign and unfamiliar as this makes me feel insecure.

As I was more of an introvert, I didn't get along very well with my group mates many of whom were from other schools. The groups were split in such a way that there was no one familiar in my group. I thought to myself, "Just endure five days in this dreaded camp and you will be free".

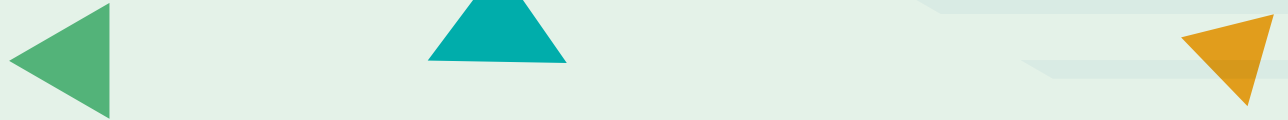
On the first day, we had some ice-breaking activities so that we could get a bit more comfortable with our instructors and group mates. The second day was when the adventure began. We set off carrying helmets and harnesses along with us. I was very curious about what we were going to do so I asked the instructor just to find out more. Right when I was about to ask him, I caught a glimpse of someone walking on a tight rope. My instructor then said, "Welcome to the High Elements Obstacle Course."

As my roommates were talking about how much fun it would be, I couldn't stop thinking about an incident which happened during my primary five camp. At that time, I wasn't as scared as I was now, but rather a bit more courageous to try the High Elements. As I walked on the tight rope, I missed my step and fell and that was the moment when my fear developed. I swore never step onto the High Elements tightrope ever again.

No matter how much I pleaded with my instructor, he wouldn't allow me to skip the High Elements course. As each one of my group mates went up and completed it, my heart raced faster and faster. When it was my turn, I was shaking like a pig that was waiting to be sent to the slaughterhouse. My legs quivered like jelly at the thought of walking the tightrope. I was hesitant about going forward but when I looked down, I saw my group mates cheering me on. I knew I couldn't disappoint them so I decided to give it a try. Also, the only way to get down was from the other side of the course.

As I slowly took my first step onto the rope, I started recalling what had happened again. I shook my head and flushed away my negative thoughts and gathered all my courage to continue. With constant effort and motivational cheering, I managed to reach the other side end hurriedly got down without even thinking twice because the longer I stood there, the more I got scared. The moment I got down was the moment it felt like heaven but one thing was bugging me. I wanted to try the course again because of the adrenaline rush I felt up there. That was the moment I realised I had overcome my fear of heights. It was really a meaningful experience for me as I had done the impossible, overcoming my fear of heights. I've also learnt that teamwork makes the dream work. With constant motivation from my friends, I managed to do it. If given another try, I would go for it without hesitation. The taste of success was sweet and will forever remain in my heart.

Edmund Ng Zhi Hao
Class 4E2



I still remember when I first joined Loyang View Secondary School. My initial plan was to join the school band as I had been playing the piano and violin for over seven years. I was sure that I would not join any CCA involving sports as I was physically very unfit although I did love playing football for leisure. When I went for the band trials, I was very confident that I would get selected. However, I was told to go for the floorball trials instead. I was actually quite reluctant to go for the floorball try-outs as I had already decided that I should join the band. When I completed every station during the floorball try-outs, I was told that I had been short-listed. My initial thought was, “How did I get accepted into floorball?” I was very surprised as I did not think that the floorball coach would choose me.

When I went back home and told my mom that I was going to join floorball, my mother was shocked. She then asked me, “How can a plump boy like you make it into an intense CCA such as Floorball?” After I heard this, I started to reconsider my decision to join floorball and was not as sure as before.

The next day, I was told to go for training. When I saw my seniors doing push-ups, I got frightened as I couldn’t even do a single push-up or a single sit-up. Whenever the team went for physical training, I would always lie about how I was sick or I would not do the exercises properly. Whenever there was training on Saturdays, I would just tell my teacher that I was sick but in actual fact, I was just very lazy to go for training.

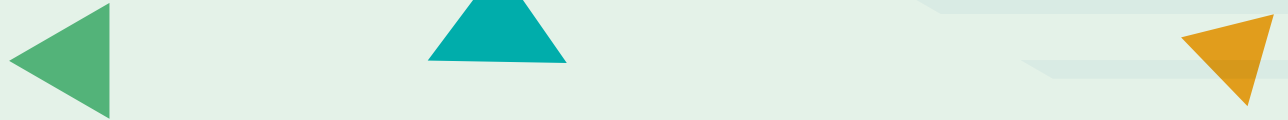
However, all this changed when my coach spoke to the team. He told my seniors that if we did not train properly, we would not be cheating anyone but ourselves. I was really taken aback as I realised that all the training I had until now had been completely useless.

I started to exercise more frequently at home. Whenever I had free time, I would go outdoors and run. When it came time for the C-division team to be chosen, I didn’t think that I would be selected. However, my name was called and I was elated. I was a bundle of nerves as this was the first time I was participating in a floorball competition.

After the C-division competition ended, I had to participate in the Cross Country race. When I ran, I did not care who overtook me. I just did my best and in the end, I came in sixth. I did not know that I had such a potential.

After four years in Floorball, I am proud to say that I do not have any regrets joining the sport. It made me physically and mentally stronger, and a better leader. Like my coach always says, "If you do not do it properly, the only person you are cheating is yourself".

Jordan Say Kang Rong
Class 4E2



My success story happened in the year 2018. It was when I had to participate in a 5-day,4-night course called OBS (Outward Bound Singapore) and complete it.

It was a tough course, a group of new friends from a different school and I went through some hardship like carrying a big and heavy hiking bag from our base camp to a stadium, pumping two raft boats. Then, we had to carry them from the stadium to a small river invested with mosquitoes. The bites during our journey were unbearable but these activities weren't the hard part of the journey yet.

The hardest part was when we had to hike in a forest; it was tough and tiring but we persevered even though we were quiet throughout the journey. Before we knew it, we had already completed it. Those five days in the course, went by really fast but I survived it. Well, there were other successful moments that had occurred during the course that gave us a sense of accomplishment like making new friends and cooking delicious food even though we lacked the experience. For example we cooked ourselves macaroni with pasta sauce and it turned out fine, and pitching tents correctly for the first time was a success too. Overcoming my fears, throwing away my bad habits and making sweet memories was a success, too. Well, this is my success story.

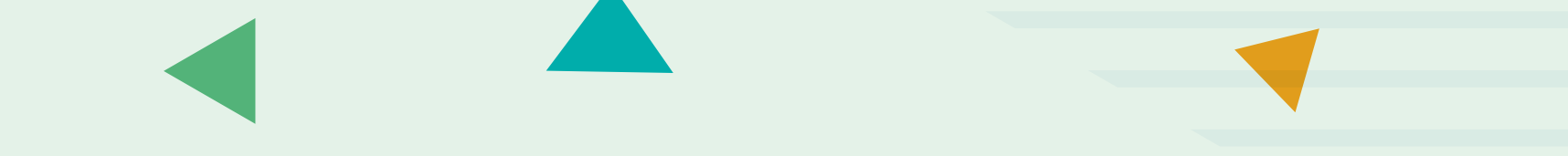
Mohammad Wafiy Danish B Roslan
Class 4E2

According to the Oxford dictionary, success means the accomplishment of an aim or purpose. I experienced one such achievement and when I was promoted to the various ranks in my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA), the National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC).

In Secondary One, I joined NPCC as I was interested in the CCA. During the first training session, I was shy and did not make many friends. When more sessions had passed, I started to get bored and originally wanted to change my CCA to National Cadet Corps (NCC). When I decided to approach the teacher-in-charge to make the switch to NCC, my seniors were surprised. I told them that the training sessions were boring but my seniors retorted, "Life is a rocky road, so never give up." That phrase resonated with me and made me want to continue my journey in the NPCC. After many weeks of training and dedication to the CCA, I got promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal as I did well on the promotion test.

In Secondary Two, I went for many courses that I enjoyed and built stronger bonds with my squad mates. With the passing of time, I became more eager to attend NPCC training sessions. I became more disciplined and felt like a leader. By the end of Secondary Two, I had attained the rank of Corporal.

In Secondary Three, I was surprised that I had made it this far in NPCC. We went to leadership camps such as the Survival Training Camp (STC) and Annual Camp. During the camps, I faced so many problems but we all persevered. I thought it would take quite some time for Greenview and Loyang NPCC cadets to bond but after these camps, the bonds between us grew stronger and we became united as Loyang View NPCC. This was the year when we would take over from our seniors and become Cadet Leaders (CL). Before the Secondary four cadets had their Passing Out Parade (POP), I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. On the day we were appointed to our roles in the CCA, I was nervous and scared that I would not get the role I wanted. When my name was called, I realised that I was appointed Secondary Three Coordinator and Secondary One Squad Leader. My teachers and officers informed me that I had worked hard and improved tremendously in every training session. I had officially become a Cadet Leader to my juniors. I had gained leadership skills and learnt to be proactive. After that, just when I thought it could not get any better, I got promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant.



In Secondary Four, this year, I would be having my Passing Out Parade (POP). I trained my juniors to the best of my ability and hoped to be a good role model to them. I hope that my juniors would look up to me as a leader and train hard in NPCC. It was truly a tough journey in NPCC but I managed to keep moving forward and training hard. I managed to overcome every obstacle I faced in the NPCC and achieved my goals. If I am able to attain the SPF NPCC badge, it would mean an even bigger success for me. NPCC, was the CCA I have been serving for four years and I can tell myself in my heart, “Congratulations Hakim, you have succeeded and achieved your goals.”

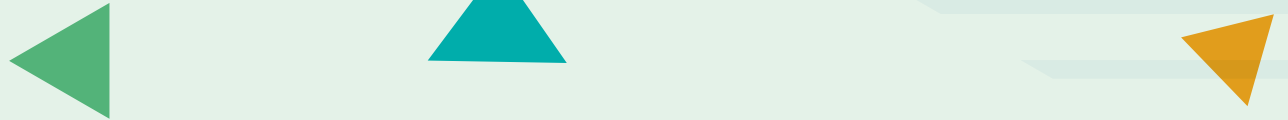
Muhammad Hakim Bin Mohd Raziff
Class 4E2

What is success? Some say success is being well-known, famous or being extremely wealthy but that's not all true. Everyone has his or her own way of achieving success. To me, success is when you can fully express yourself and be the best that you can be without having to worry about being made fun of. My journey in achieving my first success was something I thought I would never have accomplished and that was losing weight.

It all started in Secondary Two when I realised that I found normal daily activities such as walking up the stairs to class and taking strolls very exhausting. I would perspire so much that my uniform would be completely drenched. For example, after recess I would feel embarrassed to walk into class as my uniform would be soaking wet. I was extremely insecure about exposing my body even at home. When I had to change into my P.E. attire for the lesson, the fitter boys would tease me about my saggy and jelly-like chest as well as my belly that would overlap my P.E. shorts.

As the weeks passed, I was slowly feeling more ashamed and depressed with my body that I felt that it was a crime being fat. I was tired of having to laugh off the criticism, disguising the fact that I was sad inside. I decided to make a change that in turn had a big impact on my life. The first time I started to exercise, I absolutely hated it and I would always postpone my exercise sessions or procrastinate and tell myself I would do it the next day, but I never did. When I finally started on my exercise routines, I was perplexed as I did not seem to lose weight. At that point, I felt as if I had fallen into a deep abyss and just wanted to give up. Hence, I decided to seek help and when I did, I learnt that results do not appear overnight but only through hours of sheer hard work and effort.

With that surge of motivation, I started to dedicate myself to taking my exercise routines more seriously and within a few weeks I finally started to see results which encouraged me to keep on exercising. I had an abundance of encouragement and support from my family and school. My mother would cook delicious and very healthy meals to help me increase muscle mass and my P.E. teacher would give me enjoyable yet efficient activities specifically for losing weight. It was very easy to adapt to my new and improved routine set by my teacher. It was very productive and easy to sustain independently.



Months later, I slowly started to feel a great sense of satisfaction when I noticed that I was beginning to lose weight. I no longer had an abnormally sized chest and I could see that my belly would no longer overlap with my waist. I became more resilient as I fought and overcame the hard times. I became more disciplined and resisted the temptation to eat my favourite junk food. I also began to respect myself and did not feel ashamed of my body anymore. My journey of losing weight had taught me that you can really achieve any goal as long as you are willing to be committed to putting in the effort into achieving it. Muhammad Ali once said, "It doesn't matter how hard you fall but what does matter is if you can pick yourself up and keep going." Thus, to me, this quote has helped me to achieve my success and I am proud that I have overcome my challenge.

Santiago De Castro Sacro
Class 4E2

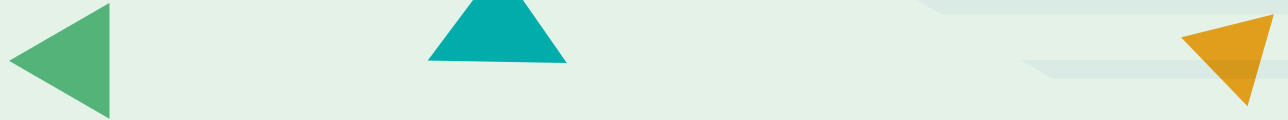
Success to me is achieving my own goal in life. There will always be challenges and problems in my journey towards success. My Co-Curricular Activity, National Cadet Corps (NCC), nurtured me and changed me. It has taught me the values of respect, responsibility and how to care for friends. My goal in NCC was to be an appointment holder which is also a leader. I also had to work hard so that I could achieve my success.

2018 was a year full of challenges. Last year, we were called Cadet Leaders. The term 'leader' meant that we were the leaders of the whole National Cadet Corp company after the seniors had stepped down to focus on their national examinations. For the first term, the seniors taught us everything they knew so that we could lead. When the seniors showed us the way to be leaders, I started working towards achieving my goal. I wanted the leadership role and help the juniors in my CCA. One of the seniors motivated me after he told me that I could be a leader. My sibling also said that if I became a leader, it could boost my CCA points for my O-Level results. I worked hard to be a leader. I dedicated all my efforts to my CCA by attending every training session. I also took part in most activities and volunteered to be the timer at foot drills. I also put in my best effort.

After every training session, I would ask for tips and advice from my seniors on how to improve myself. Unfortunately, being physically fit was a prerequisite to be a leader in NCC and I was unfit. That was my biggest challenge and I had to persevere to overcome it. Sometimes, I worked out by going to the gym. I trained hard, and I did more push ups and sit-ups. The time finally came when the teachers would release the results of who the leaders would be. I was chosen to be a leader but the lowest ranking one. However, this was not the end as we were under probation until Term 3 when the confirmed results would be out. I continued to dedicate myself and work hard to try and get a promotion as I was not too happy with my role.

The following term, I received good news of my promotion to S4, Head of Logistics. I was finally happy with what I had achieved, and I valued my official appointment in the company. This year, in January, I was promoted to 1st Sergeant which is the third highest rank you can be as a cadet in secondary school. It meant a lot to me as I have achieved my goal of being a leader and playing a part in leading my CCA before I step down and focus on my National Examinations. To me, I have achieved my success.

Wazir Ali S/O Warasat Ali
Class 4E2



Success is something anyone would yearn for. Some people may say that only a few are successful, but I believe that everyone is successful in their own way. I attained several personal goals within the four years of my secondary school life. My journey to success began in Secondary 1 when I was selected for a promotion test to become an Express student in Secondary Two. I was a Secondary 1 Normal (Academic) student. This was just the beginning of my success as I had made it through the test and was promoted. I felt overjoyed the moment I heard the news but soon I heard I was the only one selected. Right at that moment I knew I was going to go through more hardships like adapting to my new class and making new friendships. My new learning journey had just begun.

This taught me that if one has a personal goal and puts in enough hard work and time into something, success will happen as one's success depends entirely on one's effort. Another challenge I needed to overcome was my performance in the Mother Tongue examinations. It invariably pulled down my overall marks throughout my school life. However, with the help of my Malay Teachers, throughout the years I had managed to finally pass after years and years of effort. The thought of me passing last time was inconceivable but now it seemed possible as I knew that I had the help of my friends and teachers.

Throughout my years in school, my teachers and friends have been supportive and helpful. I was in the Dance CCA and was the only male Dancer in my cohort. This made me stand out a bit compared to others and feel unique and worthy as I did not care about the opinions other people had. My close friends were supportive of me also throughout this journey as they helped me not to be afraid to do the things that others did not believe I could do.

Now my journey in Loyang View Secondary School is coming to an end and I feel overwhelmed with all the things I have accomplished in my four years of learning. I believe that this is only the beginning of my many successes, as once I graduate I hope to achieve many other goals.

Zainal Ariffin B Zainol Abidin
Class 4E2

I still have not grasped what 'Success' would be like, but I want to. The idea of success to me right now is achieving something you're passionate about, or generally something you would be proud of. I am not contented yet, not proud yet, not happy yet. I am inexperienced, not skilled enough and lazy. I hate the idea of waiting for something to happen, but I especially hate pushing and forcing my way in but I will do something about it.

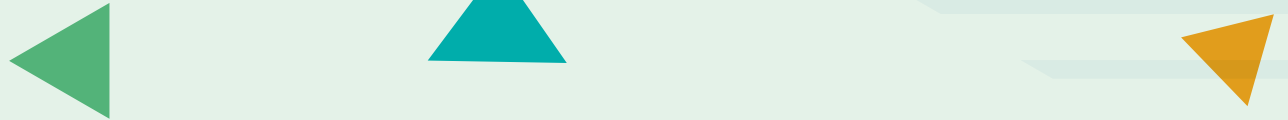
I do want to get better at what I'm currently enjoying, which is drawing. I love the feeling of getting lost in the process and just being stuck in my own personal space with my arm moving on its own with the flow. It feels so empty yet so relaxing with a floaty feeling like a small dip on the water surface with a slow ripple effect, one movement affecting the other. It just wants to make me be able to sleep while doing it; it feels therapeutic to me. Imagine making progress in my sleep, no time wasted, just progress. I hate explaining or have a hard time expressing my thoughts, so that's why it's useful to me. I do get annoyed because of this one dilemma of drawing, where you start out good and when you start thinking that way, it gets to you and you just destroy everything.

My interest in art probably started in primary school. I had friends that watched anime who were huge nerds. My friends drew so of course I did too. They were so talented that it made me look like a huge disappointment but I became even more interested in drawing. I hated them for it but I also appreciated them for their talent. One of my friends was really good at Art and I tried competing with him in vain. My sister tried doing art, too and tried going to the School of the Arts but failed. It's not easy to excel in Art but I will certainly try.

I do want to use this skill in the future because it is the only one I'm confident in. However, if I do Art for a living, I fear losing the current enjoyment and freedom I feel when I draw. I don't want to feel the stresses and pain when drawing just because I'm doing it as a job. The main reason why I do it is because of the great sense of accomplishment and enjoyment I feel. I don't want to lose that feeling.

I guess I have to do my best for this year's 'O' level coursework, and continue to explore various forms of art to develop my interest and passion in the subject.

Crystal Mutiara Barrow
Class 4E3



An American pianist, Herbie Hancock once said, “It’s part of life to have obstacles. It’s about overcoming obstacles; that’s the key to happiness.” My success story isn’t just any success story. This story has changed my perspective on trying to overcome my fears, one of it is that of heights.

About a week before Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp, I was afraid to go as I was certain that there would surely be an activity such as high elements. I never really enjoyed activities that involved heights, even fun activities such as rollercoasters that are really high as I will tend to be too scared and could even have a breakdown halfway through. However, through this course and with the support and help of my friends, I managed to complete something that I never thought I would do.

OBS is a five-day camp where students are put in groups which contain students from other schools as well. I am so happy and proud that I had positive and outgoing people in my group which made us bond with one another and get along really well.

On the third day of the course, we were tasked to complete the high elements. As it was raining heavily that morning, we proceeded indoors to scale a rock wall instead. Initially, I was relieved because I realised I did not have to do the outdoor high elements which seemed so wobbly and dangerous from my point of view. As I entered the indoor high elements hall, I was shocked. For someone who is not that tall, it looked extremely high and terrifying. At first, I was unsure and I refused to complete this challenge. But with the encouragement and support from my friends, I finally managed to step out from my comfort zone and proceeded to climb, feeling extremely anxious at the same time. A quote I once read and still remember till this day goes, “Don’t let fear or insecurity stop you from trying new things. Believe in yourself and have faith”. This made me motivated in completing this challenge as I realised that life is short and this could possibly be my only opportunity to overcome my fear of heights.


We were told to complete this challenge with a partner. I decided to partner with Ahmad. Ahmad has been very supportive and has helped me a lot since the beginning of this course, which made me trust him even more. Having Firzanah as the belayer, I knew I could count on her with her rock climbing experience, and having the rest of my friends encouraging me below made me feel more secure and confident. Knowing that I was afraid of heights, my partner guided me as I was too scared to look down in order to see where I was stepping on. At one point of time, I slipped as I refused to look down just

as I was about to reach the top part of the rock wall, which was really high from my point of view. As it was already so high, I decided to pull myself up to prevent myself from falling which could possibly cause a terrible injury.

Right after this incident, I was too focused on making sure that I did not fall and eventually forgot about all my fears as I felt that my life was just so important at that point of time. Together with the support given from my friends and instructors, I persevered and continued climbing to the top. Suddenly, I realised I was touching something that was so dusty. I decided to look up, and I realised that I have finally reached to the top of the rock wall! I was extremely proud of myself and felt a sense of achievement. Once I got down, I couldn't stop thinking about what had just happened. I thanked my instructors and Ahmad for guiding me, and my other friends for giving me their fullest support. If it was not because of their encouragement and support, I do not think I would have done this successfully. In fact, this was my first time reaching the top of a rock climbing wall. No words can actually describe how incredibly proud and happy I was.

Ever since that day, my fear of heights is not as bad as it used to be. I'll never be able to forget this memorable experience. I hope to be able to fully overcome my fear of heights one day.

Emilya Bte Aerwan
Class 4E3



I have a few successes that happened in my life in 2018. 2018 has been a rough year for me but throughout that year, I have done a lot of activities that defined my success. One of them would be the 5-day Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp that took place in Pulau Ubin. I would never have thought I would succeed in anything during my 5-day camp because I felt that my weakness was going to overpower me and I would give up. However, during OBS, diversity was embraced, everyone became more socially confident and there was a large dose of innovative spirit.

Being socially confident is a great way to start a bond with others. I was very timid and quite shy when my group gathered in one spot, in a circle. However, I realised that all of us had the same trait when everyone kept quiet for a minute. Since the silence was becoming very awkward, I asked a Temasek Junior College student to step up with me to lead the group so that everyone could feel comfortable with one another quickly. In one day, my group became closer because of the great bond we had. For example, we worked together to set up our bunks, played bonding games and talked to one another during our break. I felt so comfortable talking to them and very proud of all of us as we got along with one another in one single day.

Embracing diversity and accepting others' differences can make for better teamwork. We need to have friends of all races that we embrace and we need to respect one another despite differences in religion, race, culture and language. In my group, there were students from different races whom we learnt to respect and interact with to ensure cohesion. It was a success because I learnt something from my interactions with them about their culture.

I expected the OBS camp to be exhausting but I conquered difficult tasks by not giving up in the face of pain and exhaustion. Land and sea elements are the main components of the OBS camp. Land elements include trekking that I think is the most tiring activity I have ever done as we needed to walk from Campsite 3 to Campsite 1. The trek was very dangerous to walk as there were no safety borders to protect us and we needed to walk on a hillside that was so slippery that all of us could end up falling into a ditch. I helped my group to carry our resources, and keep up and persevere with the destination in mind. I have succeeded in walking the long route to Campsite 1 and moreover, my group mates have succeeded in staying strong and not giving up.

I am very proud of what I have accomplished. I expect to achieve more goals in the years to come, and I am very sure, I'll face challenges in my career once I start working but I will fight to succeed as I had done at the OBS camp.

Aiman Hakim B Md Roslan
Class 4E3

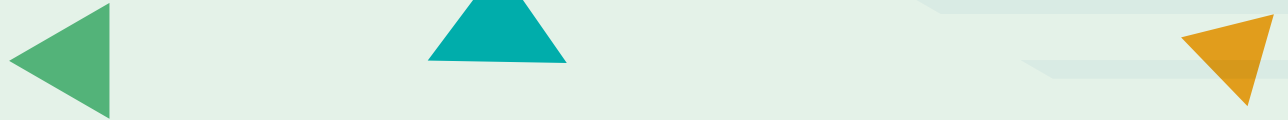
“Champions keep playing until they get it right.”- Billie King Jeans. Success to me is not about winning and being on a level ahead of everyone. It means keeping a positive mindset, overcoming one’s deepest challenges, and discovering and developing one’s inner strengths with pride.

When I was young, I kept having this mentality that “losing is not an option.” No matter what I did, I expected to triumph and dominate over other people, and the word ‘lose’ was never in my dictionary. Little did I know, life does not always go your way. It all started when I was in my primary school. This is my success story...

Personally, I have accomplished many achievements in school but one of the greatest milestones I had achieved is qualifying for the semi-finals with my floorball team. When I first joined floorball at the age of 10, it was not easy for me to pick up the skill sets. Needless to say, my team and I had to trained together to the point where we reached our limit in order to develop the physical standards and attributes to prepare ourselves for our upcoming C Division tournament. We went through countless physical training sessions and lectures from our coach in order to push ourselves to be ready to face our future opponents. The training we went through were exceptionally tough and intense as it required us to push our limits beyond what we thought we could achieve.

Along the journey, there were many ups and downs, such as players from my team eventually quitting floorball due to stress and conflicts with my coach. However, despite the tough times, I still enjoyed the process of training as I got to know myself, as well as my teammates better in various ways. For example, my floorball CCA would organise a camp at the end of every term for us to bond with one another, as well as to train our physique and stamina.

Throughout the entire year of tenacious training, I had never given up. My commitment was recognised and acknowledged by my teammates and coach, and I was nominated to be the captain of the team. I vowed that I would give of my best to lead my team to victory and prevail against our opponents in the upcoming tournament. Soon enough, it was match day itself. My team did wonders for the first and second round of the tournament, where we had a winning streak against a total of ten teams. It was



not easy to participate in the tournament, as we were playing in an environment where there were many people looking at us and spectators inspecting us, as well as our opponents. Still, as a captain, I persevered and guided my teammates to a victorious start.

However, as we went into the quarter-finals, our complacency cost us the win against Victoria School. The quality of my team's passes, drills and shots were drastically deteriorating as we had an arrogant mindset, thinking that as long we made it through the second round, we were untouchable. I was devastated by the loss, and could not help but feel extremely guilty, as I was the captain of the team. That was when my coach decided to gather us for a team talk, encouraging us to not give up so easily as there were still opportunities for my team to get back the win. My team was motivated by the support from my coach, and my peers told me not to feel bad as I had already given my best for the team.

We carried these painful memories all the way to the B Division game. My team and I continued to train, with the mentality of not being over-confident. Our discipline and determination paid off as my team and I managed to qualify for the semi-finals as we held the top four position amongst all the teams we faced in the quarter-finals. Even though we took a loss for the semi-final match, I sincerely felt that my team had already given their best in the game. Despite us having to carry the burden of losing the C Division match, entering the semi-finals alone was the biggest milestone my team had achieved in our three years of play in our school. Of course, without the support from my coach as well as my teammates, this accomplishment would not have been possible. This is my success story.

Chin Yan Xi
Class 4E3

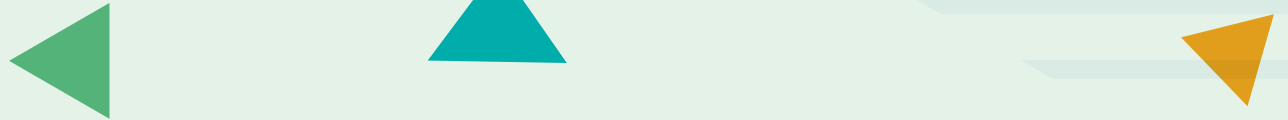
When I was growing up, I always heard this saying, “You never try, you never know.” I never found out its real meaning, as I was too occupied reading books, doing homework or playing games. Little did I know, I would find out the meaning while conquering my fear. This is my success story.

I have always been afraid of heights since young as it would always give me the goosebumps. When I look down from a high place, I would always feel the adrenaline running through my blood. My brothers would always go to high places and come back flailing their arms saying it was fun and all. I never really believed them because they were always screaming their lungs out when they were up there. I would always want to follow them but I did not have the courage.

However, during Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp, we had to go up a tall tower and complete the mission which was to unhook a piece of paper which would tell us what the next mission was. The tower’s peak reached a whopping 50 metres! I paired up with someone I was not familiar with. We had yet to reach the top and he was already trembling, I assured him that things would be fine. When we reached the top of the tower, I decided that we would be one of the last pairs to complete the mission as I was scared and was unclear what to do. I saw how other pairs worked together to get across the tower and took some tips like synchronising each other’s movements. As it got closer to our turn, my palms got sweeter and my legs started to tremble. When it was our turn, I looked at my teammate only to see a guy even more afraid of heights than me. Someone had to take charge, so I stepped up although inside I was feeling very scared. I encouraged him non-stop although his trembling made getting across the tower much harder. When we reached the end, I thanked him for allowing me to have this opportunity to gain leadership skills and bring him and me across the tower.

In life, you need to take risks and try new things, you never know what you can gain out of it. I took the first step by conquering my fear, as the phrase goes, “You never try, you never know.” This is my success story.

Lee Maximus
Class 4E3



To me, success means overcoming obstacles and eventually achieving the goal by respecting others, while taking responsibility for your role.

In Secondary One, I was instantly offered and accepted in basketball due to my experiences in primary school. Every training session, I would always try to participate but I always ended up sitting out because of my weak body. With this consistently happening through many sessions during which I vomited or fainted, for a year, I was recommended to change to another Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) of my choice.

In Secondary Two, I joined the Air Rifle CCA, a sport that required mental and physical strength. I felt this was what I needed. I felt nervous with the eyes of the teachers and seniors on me, as if they were saying, “Another transfer? Just let him shoot and leave. We can’t have anymore.”

During the trial I was taught the basics and I gave it my best shot. The coach surprised the range by recruiting me into the club. For the next session, we started off with a physical training exercise. I realised I could easily bypass the training they did; I even raced with a senior. I impressed my senior and club-mates. Many training sessions passed and the coach entrusted me with a spot in the national team. With only a month of preparation for my first competition, it turned out disappointing. I ended up third from last because of the vast amount of nervousness from everyone watching me. I understood the meaning of mental battles. However, my coach saw it coming and told me to take this as an experience and overcome it.

In Secondary 3, I became a member of the executive committee of the Air Rifle Club. As a leader, I guided my juniors with what I had learnt while preparing for my next shoot with tougher training. I managed to juggle my studies and CCA with all the help and support from my friends. Despite the fact that I was a transfer student, I was determined to be one of the best. After August, I came back from my competition, leaving my name on the first five positions on the scoreboard. I succeeded in overcoming my past obstacles. Instead of running away from it, I took it as a lesson and learnt from it. This is my success story.

Loo Guo Quan Carlos
Class 4E3

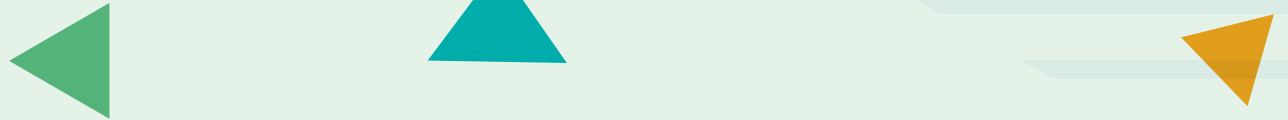
It was a cool Saturday morning in school. We were going through a briefing by our officer on how to recruit more Secondary One boys into the Boys' Brigade, my Co-Curricular Activity (CCA). I volunteered to usher the Secondary One boys to our recruitment game booth on Tuesday as I felt that as a Secondary 4 boy, it was my duty to aid in the recruitment of new boys.

On Tuesday, I walked to the third storey to bring the Secondary One boys to the booth. I felt uncertain about recruiting at least five boys as more boys favoured sports CCAs. Once we arrived, I was told that the booth was still being set up, so I took the opportunity to chat with the boys. The boys felt more comfortable talking to me and started to share jokes with me, which made me more confident about the recruitment. Once the booth was set up, I went in to help out at a game station. I encouraged the boys to challenge their friends at the game station. After the activities, I was told to stay in school on Thursday to answer the questions that boys might have about the CCA. I agreed as I felt that the activity we conducted was a success.

On Thursday, I was anxious, as what I would say would determine the number of boys joining our CCA. I brought three boys into our CCA room. I was accompanied by the assistant Company Sergeant Major to help answer the questions which the boys may have. As the time passed, more boys were brought in by a teacher. There were nine boys crowded into our small room. During the session, I ranted about other CCAs, saying that those CCAs were not worth their time because of the disadvantages such as more stress and more time-consuming activities. Before I knew it, the session felt like an improvised comedy show. I also mentioned that the Boys' Brigade teaches a badgework syllabus that builds character and values. I managed to convince some of the boys to join our CCA after two days of trying to cover my lack of confidence. We managed to recruit around ten boys into our CCA.

After the recruitment, I learnt that success can be achieved though volunteerism and confidence. If you are confident that you can do it, you will do it and achieve success.

Ngiam Zun Yi Fabian
Class 4E3



To each individual, success has its own unique definition. Some people may view success as simple as completing their holiday homework before the school term starts while others may see success as reaching for greater heights such as in the case of Mark Zuckerberg who created Facebook and changed the world. Even though my success story is not world changing, it is still memorable for me.

On the fourth day of our trip to Wu Yi Shan, China, the tour guide thought that the cold, cloudy weather was perfect for hiking up one of Wu Yi Shan's most distinct mountains, The Roaring Tiger Rock. As soon as I stepped out of the hotel lobby and got on the bus, I felt butterflies in my stomach. I was definitely not ready to overcome my fear of heights and did want people to see a fountain of vomit coming out of my mouth.

After a two-hour bus ride and a good hearty lunch at a restaurant, we arrived at the foot of the mountain at four in the afternoon. I tried to calm myself by doing breathing exercises at the count of three. The tour guide, a man who so far seemed to only own one coat and a pair of jeans that he wore repeatedly, gave us a history lesson about the mountain that was the icon of Wu Yi Shan. At the very next moment, all I remembered was regretting not standing at the back of the group as we hiked up the mountain so I that would not get pressured to go faster to not slow people down.

I remember telling myself that I could overcome it and to not stop. The steps were not difficult as there were railings provided. Everything seemed easy until I tripped a little off the edge and had the feeling of no railings supporting me. With my legs turning to jelly and a horrifying sight in front of me that had me feeling as if a stake had been driven through my heart, I stopped. I looked at my friends behind me and then the steeper steps in front of me. A few of them stopped and looked up at me. Paranoia overcame me. All eyes were on me. I froze as I could not think and allowed fear to swallow my self-confidence. I could not move, I could not speak. I started weeping and I heard people behind me shuffle their feet and there were numerous gasps.

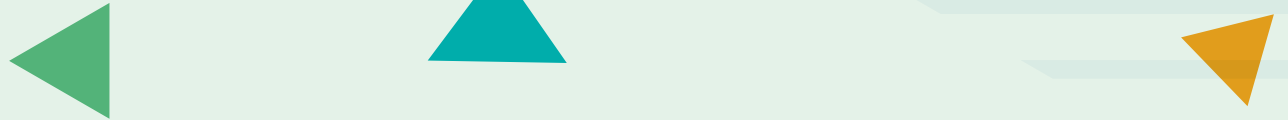
“Hey, look, open your eyes. You’re halfway up. Don’t give up now and all your efforts would bear fruit.” I turned, shocked and confused that the guide was not mad at me and instead gave me a wise piece of advice. Then I heard shouts from my group members, cheering me on and encouraging others to not give up. I decided to take a deep breath and started clawing up the mountain as I felt soil digging into my nails and covering the soles of my shoes. I knew I could not stop and let everyone and most importantly myself down.

As I looked up again for the second time, I realized that I was only three steps from the peak. I hurriedly went up and did my happy dance. I was crying tears of joy. All the effort put into hiking those steep and absolutely exhausting steps was all finally worth it. I smiled and hugged my teammates and thanked all of them for their support and being patient with me. Going down was much easier than the hike up. It was as if the builder of those steps wanted to teach us an important lesson.

The mountain essentially symbolised the challenges we face in our life. Climbing up the steps symbolised the effort required before one can attain success. The less steep steps implied that certain things may not be as tough but as you continue the workload can get a lot more difficult and that is where you have to push on and persevere. The railings symbolised the support you get from family and friends which is something that you may need as they encourage you or tell you what to do. However, most of the time in life, people have to depend on their own will and grapple with things themselves. The peak symbolises the success that we have achieved and gives us the most joyous moments to cherish.

The hike up the Roaring Tiger Rock in Wu Yi Shan made me realise that there is nothing easy in life as I sat back and looked back down at the steep steps that I had climbed to reach the peak.

Fatmah Bte Mohamed Faizal Khan
Class 4E4



In secondary school when I had to choose a co-curricular activity, I knew I wanted to join a sport, and out of all of them I was shortlisted for netball. It was a sport that made me feel included though I have always enjoyed ball sports. However, the head teacher of the PE Department, asked me to reconsider my choice because of my age. There is an age limit for netball. Only girls under the age of seventeen could play netball. At the time, I was sixteen so I only had one year left. I had to work hard in order to be able to be chosen to play in the yearly zonal tournament. It was hard because the competition was tough, and the other girls had many more years of training compared to me, but I stood firm with my choice.

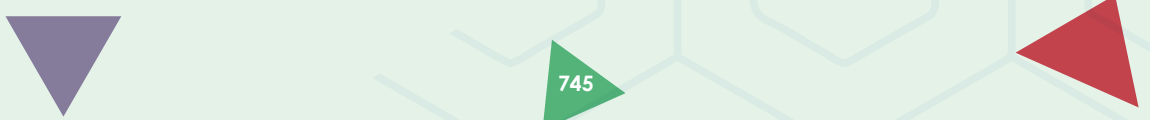
At first, it was challenging because I had to be taken out of my usual training with my friends to train with the B division girls who were training and preparing for zonal tournaments. It was intimidating at first. I kept telling myself that I could do it, that I could catch up. It came with a few breakdowns that I kept to myself because I wasn't comfortable or close to the girls in the B division team to open up and speak about how I felt. But of course, in all situations, not all things go the way you want it. I found it very hard to cope with the challenges I faced, especially when I was not the type to be open about my struggles. I kept having all these feelings of insecurities and expectations of myself that I had to be a good enough player. I kept comparing myself to the other girls. Still, I composed myself and pushed myself to try my very best. Sadly, when the time came for the coach to choose the team to play in the zonal tournament, I wasn't chosen. I felt like giving up. It was nothing like I've felt before. Everything I had put into it, my effort and time, was all gone.

My greatest achievement is that even though I did not qualify to play in the zonals, I still learned a lot in netball. I am able to overcome my mental obstacles and gain confidence in leading my teammates now, and I have begun to think less of what people thought of me. I began to have realistic expectations of myself and not to push it too far. I decided to continue to focus on giving of my best in netball despite me not having any reason to do so. It is all because of how much passion I have for it. It spurs me on to do better than what I think I've done.

Netball is a place where I leave my studies behind, where I truly can be myself because sometimes it gets kind of tiring to be with the same people all the time. It's refreshing to be around teammates with different experiences sometimes.

I would consider this to be my greatest achievement in secondary school so far as it has been a big part of my life and it means a lot to me. I have learned to embrace diversity and teamwork, and most importantly I have accepted myself for who I am. I know my capabilities and love the person I have grown into.

Rachel Aw Xue Qi
Class 4E4



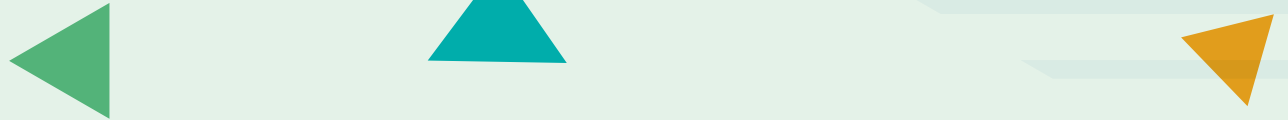
What is success? Success is when you achieve something you set out to do in a particular field or area, and give it all your best. It may be something you have never done before or something ordinary. It may seem easy but it requires a lot of resilience, determination and hard work to achieve success. I have achieved a few small successes but the most recent one was during my Outward Bound School (OBS) camp in Singapore. The camp was very fulfilling and it taught campers like me many important values in life, especially resilience.

During OBS camp, we had many activities like rope climbing, canoeing, and hiking. To me, the most challenging activity was hiking and rope climbing. For rope climbing, there was a pirate ship structure with many ropes that we had to climb from the bottom to the top. It was around 10 metres high, so it was quite scary as it was very high for beginners. There were four routes for us to climb. Two of the routes were at about half the height of the ship and the other two routes were to the top. I chose the higher one as I thought if I were to climb to the highest point, I would be able overcome my fear of heights. When I was in the midst of climbing, I took a peek down and it made me very nervous. But with the encouragement of my teammates and friends, I continued climbing. After I reached the top of the ship, I realised that it wasn't that scary after all and I felt very proud of myself for having overcome my fear of heights.

Hiking was also a challenge for me as I'm not the sporty and fit type. I prefer staying at home to going for a jog or going to a gym to exercise. At first I thought that the hike would be quite easy, as I didn't quite understand what it would involve. I thought hiking would just be a stroll in the mountain. When I realised that we would have to carry our bags filled with food, cooking items, clothes and other things up the mountain, I was shocked. I was even more surprised when I could not stand upright with my bags. I felt I could topple over anytime. In addition, we had to carry our bags from one site to another, which was a long distance to travel for someone who never exercised. But my group managed to reach the destination, and we took one hour less than the estimated time required. I achieved something I had never done before.

Success to me is as simple as overcoming my fear and completing something I have never done in my life. This to me is success.

Velyn Siow
Class 4E3



“All secondary three students, please proceed to the performance theatre for your outward bound course briefing.” Instantly, this announcement triggered memories of what I had previously gone through. It’s been four months since my outward bound course. As a matter of fact, I still vividly recall the “dreadful” day I stepped into school, before boarding the bus to “hell” and even the “last supper” we had as a group before the course concluded.

The “dreadful” day, 19 November 2018, was the first day of this five-day-four-night course that was made compulsory by our school for all students. I uttered a prayer under my breath, “God, please make me sick so I would not have to attend this course. Amen.” I’ve dreaded this day for the last two weeks. All the positive stories my seniors had told me no longer had the magic that had made me excited for this course initially. The outward bound course is carried out by an international network of outdoor education schools that were founded to foster the personal growth and social skills of students by using challenging expeditions to take them out of their comfort zones. In 2020, it will become compulsory for all secondary three students in Singapore to attend this course.

Anyway, upon reaching school, the whole cohort was split into different groups, later to be joined by students from the integrated programme at Temasek Junior College. We were later “forced” to board the one-way transport to “hell” also known as a 40-seater bus headed for the outward bound campsite in Punggol. Upon reaching the campsite, we were again divided into two separate groups; one group would stay in mainland Singapore while the other would reside in Pulau Ubin over the span of the course. I was lucky enough to stay in the mainland, at least “lucky” for now. Trouble descended on me the very next day.

Thinking that staying on mainland Singapore would be less strenuous, I carried myself in an unpresentable way, never paying attention to safety briefings and constantly joking around. Little did I know, my group was later told that we had to cycle around Singapore. By then, I had already bonded with my group mates through a series of bonding games focusing on embracing diversity. We were later informed that we had to cycle a whopping 56 km over the span of four days. Soon, we were already on day two, the day of our first expedition cycling trip. We quickly packed our day packs, filling them with basic necessities such as toiletries and food. For our first cycling trip, we had to cycle from Punggol to Pasir Ris for a high elements course. I already had a phobia of heights and could not imagine I would have to abseil 20 m down. At that point in time, words cannot describe my fear. Eventually, I managed to overcome my phobia with the continuous support from my group members. Looking back four months later, I feel I conquered my fear of heights by abseiling down. After our high elements course, we continued our

journey, cycling from Pasir Ris Park to Changi Beach, which was our second campsite. Finally, day two was over with three days remaining.

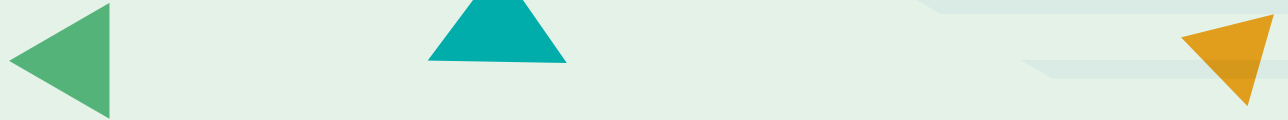
Day Three. With our muscles aching from the cycling and having slept on hard ground, we were forced to wake up at five in the morning. This time, we had to cycle from Changi beach to East Coast Park. Halfway through our journey, disaster struck. It was the rainy season in November; the clouds darkened and before long, rainwater started flowing down like a waterfall. Having to cycle in low visibility and having to endure getting wet made this journey cumbersome and unpleasant. Looking back, this experience of cycling in such difficult conditions taught me the value of perseverance. Over the course of the remaining two days, we were seen cycling between different outward bound campsites.

Soon, we were already having “the last supper”, the last dinner we had as a group before the course finally came to an end. At the end of the dinner, we, as a group, reflected on our achievements and accomplishments during this course. This by far was the best day of this course when we continued mingling with our group mates and even our instructors.

Not long after, we were once again boarding a bus, this time back to school. On the journey back to school, I muttered yet another prayer. “God, please let time reverse. Amen.” I couldn’t believe it. It was so difficult bidding farewell to my friends from Temasek Junior College, my instructors and even the bike I had used.

By the end of the course, having reached home, I contemplated on the course. “Hell” became “heaven” for me, having made so many friends. Overall, this course taught me the importance of perseverance and I overcame my fear of heights and cycled in horrendous conditions. In conclusion, many people have different perspectives of the term ‘success’. To most people, success represents achieving or receiving an award or trophy. Last year, while writing another success story, my perspective of the term ‘success’ was receiving a certificate of participation. In the span of one year, my viewpoint has changed drastically. Currently, success could even mean reaching an end result after persevering. In this case, completing my outward bound journey triumphantly is my success story.

Gan Hon Wai Gerald
Class 4E3



What is success? To me, success comes when you are acknowledged by everyone, having achieved what you sought to do. However, without the acknowledgment of others, it cannot be considered a success.

This story begins in Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) camp. At first, I was absolutely nervous just as everyone else was. My family members and friends who had gone through OBS told me it was like walking through hellfire. There was nothing but wilderness and you had to do activities that constantly left you strained. The stories were so menacing that I thought OBS camp was going to give me a glimpse of National Service.

Soon, I met the rest of the people who I would be spending my next five days with. I did not want to judge others but all my group mates from the other school looked academically talented but incompetent in terms of doing outdoor activities. "This is going to be tough," I thought to myself.

During the ice breaker, we each had to share one of our fears we had when embarking on this journey. When it came to me, I told the group I was scared of doing sea-related activities, as I could not swim that well and had a deep fear of the sea. I do not know what it is about the deep sea but it petrifies me. So, I froze, hearing the instructor announce that the next exercise was going to take us to the sea. Multiple shivers went down my spine and all I could do was nervously smile. I also nearly fainted but that did not happen, so thank God for that.

We spent the first day learning about the different parts of the vessel we were going to be using and sleeping on for the next two nights. During that time, we got to know each other a bit better as loading the equipment on the vessel required more than one person.

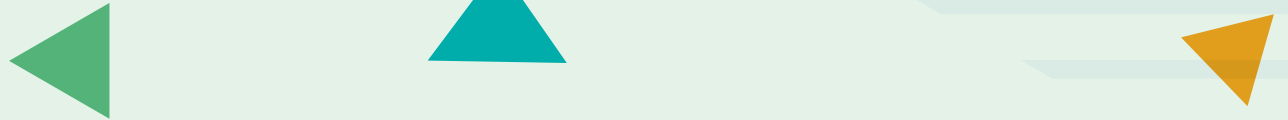
On the second day, we started to finalise the things we needed for the journey and the route we would be taking. Every time I looked out at sea, I would have the sensation of peeing in my pants but I knew I had to 'man up' as I would be spending the next three days surrounded by water. I was comforted however to be with people who I knew would help me and back me up in an emergency.

Soon, we set off on our journey. The sensation I got when I first stepped onto the vessel was pure fear. My legs started to wobble and I felt my head getting lighter. I was about to vomit when I suddenly remembered the promise I made to myself to 'man up'. Even though we were still in Singapore waters, it felt like we were on a journey to search for lost treasure.

Soon, the sun set. It was pitch black. We were still at sea as we had completely missed our goal for that day which was to reach the checkpoint and eat our dinner on land and then to get ready for the next day. Everyone was starting to get cranky. The instructor then told us to lower the main sail and roll it up. During the lowering, one of the ropes connecting the spare boat to the main vessel snapped. Instinctively, I jumped to grab it. I realized then how strong the currents were. The sea was also menacingly dark and the only light source came from the main vessel. I started to panic and breathe heavily. The instructor demanded I stay calm and assess the situation but I could not do it. The strong currents crashed against my face, I felt its salty taste in my mouth, and the adrenaline rush. It was all too much to handle.

Somewhere in that struggle to not die and bring the spare boat back to the main vessel, I was reminded me to keep calm as panicking will not solve anything. I took a deep breath and ignored all the water that surrounded me. I looked around and saw my instructor shouting instructions at me while my group mates watched helplessly. Then I remembered the spare boat. I could get onto the spare boat, catch my breath, and then row back to the main vessel. I lay on my back and allowed the strong current to push me towards the spare boat. Once I was in, I began to catch my breath and could think more clearly. I also felt some of my strength coming back. I took the paddle that was in the spare boat and started rowing as hard as I could back to the main vessel. Slowly, I reached the main vessel. My hands were wrinkled and blistering, my mouth had a salty taste to it and my whole body was tired. I knew I had to keep going, otherwise this would all have been for nothing.

When I was near the main vessel, I threw the part of the rope that was still attached to the spare boat for my instructor and other group mates to catch. Luckily, the instructor caught it but of course with everyone else's help. The instructor had to jump out of the main vessel to catch the rope as I threw it because the current was still pushing the spare boat backwards. The instructor fell into the water but the other group mates held him. He then got pulled back to the main vessel, and everyone started to pull me back by tying the rope that was attached to the spare boat to a longer rope so everyone could help. That moment was absolutely spectacular. I wondered how people who have not known one another came to my rescue just like that.



When I finally boarded the main vessel, my body was extremely exhausted. My lungs were burning and my fingers were wrinkled and blistered. The last thing I remembered was lying down on the main vessel and seeing the constellation, the Orion's Belt. The next moment I woke up, we were all on the beach and all my other group mates and instructor were all very tired but ultimately, relieved.

During our reflection time that night, we all could not stop talking about what had happened. I later found out that there was a thunderstorm soon after I was back on the main vessel and they had to adjust the sail multiple times to try to get the wind to push us towards the beach. I was very fortunate I had them as group mates because who knows what might have happened if I was with a different group? We would have probably been pushed into Malaysia's waters by then. However, during the reflection, my instructor praised me for overcoming my fear. I myself did not realise how tedious the task was to row the spare boat close enough to the main vessel while fighting against nature and your body. Inside me, I was like, "Oh yeah, I did do that and I guess I'm not as afraid as I used to be." Everyone else also praised my actions that led to the rest of our expedition to go on smoothly.

For the days that followed, I felt my fear slowly fading away as I began to enjoy the splash of sea water on my face and the sea breeze. I guess everyone can overcome their fear no matter how deep it is.

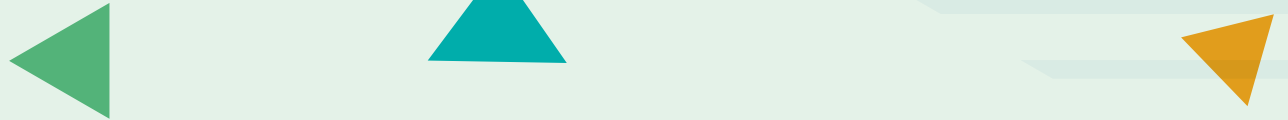
Syabil Hayyan B Abdul Hafiez
Class 4E3

Last year, Loyang View Secondary School emerged as the top 16 in the B Division National Soccer tournament. That was also the first year Loyang Secondary School and Greenview Secondary School had merged. Being in the top 16 was the best result we had achieved for Loyang View Secondary School soccer so far. The team for that year was the best team I had ever played with. I was in the school's soccer team but I was only able to play in the second round of the tournament as I was still healing from an ankle injury during that time.

Some of us were not close to one another as some were from Loyang Secondary and some were from Greenview Secondary, so we had some bonding sessions before our school was merged. It only took us about 3 to 4 weeks to bond with one another so we had more time to train together. Trainings for the tournament were way more intense and tiring as we got to the next round. At almost every training session, there would be fitness sessions before we ended the training. Although we were really tired after training, in the long term, this would help us build up our stamina and increase our fitness level to perform better during the matches.

All these training and bonding sessions made us more confident to play in matches and have helped us build up our fitness level. Even though we did not make it to the semi finals, we still did our best and have improved significantly since the merger of Loyang Secondary School and Greenview Secondary School.

Effy Shazril B Aidil Tamzil
Class 5A2



We all want success. We want to be successful and feel successful. We chase money, fame, power, education, relationships and a thousand other things without ever stopping to ask one essential question: What, actually, is success?

To me success is about achieving your dreams and not giving up. Back when I was in Primary 1 I felt that I couldn't do anything right. I failed all my subjects not matter how hard I tried. In Primary 3, I got diagnosed with dyslexia. I was very sad. I lost all hope of studying. But my late grandmother told me not to care about what people said. You know yourself. You can do this. That speech changed everything. When I was in Secondary 1, I received awards, as I aced all my subjects. And then in Secondary 3, my dad went for a bypass operation and it worried me because I was scared that I would never see him again, but the operation was successful and my dad survived the heart problems. I was inspired to be a heart surgeon. I decided then that I would make some changes in my life, I started studying more and having extra lessons to achieve my dreams.

Muhammad Khaireel B Mohd Azman
Class 5A2



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