

The Vibes Newsletter

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National Day Rehearsal

By: Alvis (1CMT), Iwani (2ETP) & Jennabel (2INT)

Don't get me wrong, National Day can be incredibly exhilarating, but what truly interests most students is the hard work and dedication that goes into this sensational event. While we enjoy the celebration, it's crucial not to overlook the blood, sweat, and tears that the UG members and performers have invested in rehearsing countless times. Let's hear some of their thoughts on the rehearsals!



“The NDP was vibrant and energetic, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Despite the juniors' lack of experience, I had a wonderful time.”

—CPL Ng Bin Rui (NCC)

“It was a new experience for me, as I only had the chance to join the NDP in Secondary 2. I enjoyed it immensely with my fellow batchmates. Enduring the hot sun was quite challenging, but I persevered and have become more realistic now.”

—LCP Tiara Sri Qis'tina (NCDCC)



The somber atmosphere during the Uniformed Group (UG) rehearsals stood in stark contrast to the lively ambience of the dance and ensemble performances. Despite it being just a rehearsal, both groups worked tirelessly. On the first rehearsal day, a heavy downpour prevented the UG members from marching at the parade square. However, they didn't let this setback dampen their enthusiasm. Instead, the show continued in the hall, where they shared the space with the concert rehearsal.

During the second and final rehearsal just before the official event, the UG cadets assembled in their smartly-pressed uniforms to complete a full dress rehearsal for the National Day Parade. Unfortunately, midway through the rehearsal, the skies opened again, forcing them to return to the hall to join the performing arts groups once more.

“It was certainly a heartwarming and memorable experience to catch a glimpse of all the various Uniformed Groups coming together as they rehearse and prepare to celebrate Singapore’s 59th!”

—CPL Er Jun DA (RCY)

Although the weather was an obvious hindrance to the UG throughout their rehearsals, their determination pulled them through successfully. We should not forget to thank everyone for their hard work in delivering such mesmerising performances!

National Day Parade at The Padang

By: Caius (3INT)

In the late hours of a bustling and busy day, Secondary 3 students from all over Singapore flocked towards one particular place that evening. Dancing crimson lights decorated Padang as cheers of ecstasy could be heard from miles away. Before we knew it, we found ourselves seated comfortably amongst a sea of red and white. "Can you hear me, Singapore?" The emcees' voices boomed over the microphone.



A sea of red and white erupted into roars of approval and enthusiasm. The crowd's energy is infectious, especially when the emcees initiated the renowned Kallang wave. My friends and I raised our hands in the air following thousands of people moving in unison. Watching the entirety of Padang raising their hands up and down in cadence, invoked a thoughtful reminder of the diversity and unique concept of racial harmony in Singapore.





Next up, minute clouds of scarlet and ivory could be spotted descending from above. With precision and grace, they landed on the field, the noble Singapore flags fluttering in the wind behind them. Then came the thunderous roar of fighter jets soaring overhead. These jets zoomed by in tight formation, leaving behind trails of red and white smoke, matching the colours of the Singapore flag.



Last but not least, streaks of iridescent sparks shot towards the sky, ending off the spectacular celebration with a bang. I had always watched the parade through a screen every year, but being there in person was a whole new different experience entirely.

China Overseas Learning Journey

By: Hallie (3ITG) & Garrett (3THK)

Stepping foot into a beautiful new country, we were elated to experience this foreign sensation. From strolling along the Great Wall to watching cricket fights, this trip to China created memories that we would hold dear to us for the rest of our lives. When we first landed in Tianjin after a 6-hour flight, the first thing I noticed was that the buildings were a lot more different compared to back at home. The intricate architecture was both breathtaking and incredibly beautiful.

Located in the middle of the Hutong village, could you guess what was awaiting us? Crickets!



In China, cricket fighting is a sport that involves – well, crickets! In the past, the emperor would gather a group of people in a room for one night and release hundreds of mosquitoes to feed on them. At dawn, the mosquitoes would be captured and fed to a single spider. This spider would then be crushed into a fine powder, unofficially known as 'cricket steroids.' This powder was believed to nourish the crickets, making them grow larger and stronger for the competitions. The crickets could grow as big as half the size of an average hand.

The very first school we visited was Tianjin Binhai Foreign Languages School, where we participated in their daily morning exercises. The students there were helpful and patient, making us feel accepted as if we were a part of their school community. We also joined an art class, where we learned about pottery shapes and designs, which was different from our regular Art lessons, where we focused on drawing and portraits.

We were quite wowed by the Chinese acrobatics, also known as Chinese Variety Art. It develops styles based on traditional ancient art forms such as dance, theatre, martial arts, and magic shows. These influences enable acrobats to incorporate traditional skills and physical exercises into their performances. From ladder climbing to performing complicated gymnastics, the acrobats who are dressed in beautifully detailed outfits that match the specific acrobatics they perform mesmerised the crowd.



Beijing also has many tourist attractions such as the Imperial Palace Museum. The Imperial Palace, also known as the Forbidden City, is a vast complex of ancient buildings and gardens. Consisting of over 90 palaces and courtyards, it has 980 buildings and over 8700 rooms, everything was meticulously designed and constructed according to the traditional principles. During the guided tour, I learned that on every roof of a building, there are statues of mythical creatures from ancient Chinese legends, which represent all kinds of magic. As the number of mythical creatures on the roof increases, the higher the palace is ranked.



After all that cricket fighting and traveling, our enriching trip eventually came to a close. This trip was both exciting and fruitful in providing insight on the wonders of Chinese culture, enabling us to deepen our understanding of China and make us appreciate Chinese culture more.

Food For Thought:

- Does this article make you more interested in Chinese culture? Why?
- If given the chance to travel to China, which state would you visit?



Sports Carnival



By: Falisyah (3ITG), Xuan En (2RSP) & Jean (1INT)

The tension was palpable as I heard my housemates cheering us on from the sidelines. Adrenaline surged through my veins as I focused on the soccer game. My eyes widened when I saw my teammate's shot narrowly miss the goal post. The question lingered—would we secure the win?



As I took part in the school's Sports Carnival, my thoughts were filled with the excitement of the competition. From floorball to captain's ball, beach volleyball to basketball, soccer, ultimate frisbee, and various mini-games, EVGians were immersed in a whirlwind of activities. The fighting spirit was intense among us, fueled by our competitive nature and determination to see our house emerge victorious. During my downtime, I wandered the field, observing how my other housemates fared. Hearing other houses cheer for their teams gave me goosebumps, cementing my own resolve to support the athletes representing David Marshall—my house!



Road Run

By: Falisyah (3ITG), Xuan En (2RSP) & Jean (1INT)



It was the second road run held by Evergreen Secondary School since the pandemic, the school's energy was like never before. The OCBC arena was filled with colour as EVGians adorned their coloured house T-shirts with pride. The air was full of loud cheers as our inter house runners came back from their tiring run. Although many of us were left panting after the run, we undoubtedly learnt the value of resilience and felt a sense of accomplishment after the run.



The highlight of this eventful day was definitely the house cheer competition. Hearing screams of elation with everyone having their faces and arms painted with their house colours coming together to support their houses made me ecstatic for my own house cheer. I felt a great sense of gratitude towards our house captains for their commitment in making these cheers possible.



That marked the end of a tiring yet fruitful week for EVGians. These two significant events not only created fond memories with each other but also instilled a sense of belonging, pride and sportsmanship in our EVG community.

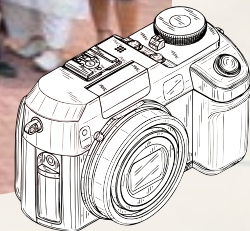


Racial Harmony Day

By: Clarinda (3ETP), Meranda (2CMT) & Cherry (1DYN)

The moment I stepped into the classroom, everyone around me was wearing some sort of ethnic costume, and somehow being in school attire seemed out of the norm. How could this be? I wondered, walking around the room seeing the people wearing clothes that were once the same as mine. Asking around, I realized that it was Racial Harmony Day. I must've forgotten. How could I forget?

Racial Harmony Day is celebrated in schools to teach students the importance of keeping racial and religious harmony in Singapore's multicultural society. In fact, we just commemorated the day itself a few weeks ago! The celebration was full of events and surprises that were filled to the brim with fun and enjoyment!



The morning assembly at the parade square was filled with students in their traditional outfits, ranging from Cheongsams to Baju Kurong! Everyone looked ready to go to a fashion show, and storm the runway. Not to mention, my friends strutting into the school entrance were stunning. Of course, I didn't pass up the chance to take photos with my friends who were dressed in stunning ethnic costumes.





Do you remember the mini booths at the hall and canteen? There were multiple mini booths at the hall and canteen! At the canteen were two booths, one showcasing the process of making Ketupat and clay moulding. At the hall, there was an even wider range of traditional practices such as Rangoli painting!



The highlight of the Racial Harmony Week was definitely the outstanding musical performance by Singa Drum Gaia, presented by Nadi Singapura. What made this performance so special? The instruments they used of course! Their adept drummetry got the whole school clapping to the energetic rhythm.

Reaching the end of Racial Harmony Week, I start to wonder what it would be like if I wore my ethnic costume, and what a missed opportunity I had. However, the positive events that took place outweighed the regret I felt. Thus, I wish everyone gets a chance to wear their own ethnic costume to symbolise their pride in their unique cultures.

Teachers' Day

By: Aisha (3T#K), Maryam (2T#K), Hannah (1ETP) & Estella (1C#R)

Teacher's Day was first celebrated in Singapore on September 1st 1966, marking a tradition of honouring teachers' passion and dedication to educating the nation's youth.

Our Secondary 2 prefects, and class chairpersons were part of the committee behind the planning of the celebrations. The prefects planned activities for the hall segment while some were in charge of the Teacher's Day Musical. Meanwhile, the class chairpersons were in charge of the activities during the class segment. The committee began preparations as early as June, holding rehearsals and meetings nearly every week to ensure every detail was meticulously planned and executed.



From the interviews with our musical performers, we learnt that some actors struggled with memorising lines. "Stressful parts would probably be the deadlines. Due to the limited time we have and the 40+ page script we all had to memorise," one of the actors explained. During the musical rehearsals, we saw students putting in immense effort, not only memorising their lines but also actively engaging in scenes even when it wasn't their turn.

The class segment faced some difficulties. However, at the end of the day, the Secondary Two Chairpersons sorted out the issues and continued with their plans.

The class chairpersons meticulously coordinated the class activities, ensuring everything ran smoothly. They hope that the Teachers would have an enjoyable class party. Meanwhile, the prefects dedicated themselves to putting together a fun hall programme. Thanks to the unwavering dedication of the organising committee, the Teachers' Day celebration was an outstanding success!

Their tireless efforts paid off, making this year's event truly memorable for our beloved Teachers.

Flash Fiction

Rookie Mistake

By: Aisha (3THK) & Yan Xi (3RSP)

Rain droplets grazed against my umbrella, falling onto the surface of my loafers. Tears dripped down my pale skin mistaken for rain. Soft footsteps squishing on the damp soil approached me, a hand gentle on my shoulder.

“It wasn’t your fault.”

“It was, Clara. You don’t have to sugarcoat it.” I croaked, never being able to wash off the blood on my hands.

...

“I just want to save lives.”

A familiar mocking voice played out in my head, “Really, or are you just in for the money?” I felt my face scrunch up, displeased by his remark. “No. Do you find joy in teasing others?” I snarked back.

“Probably.”

Would I have been able to save him if I wasn’t so careless?





Wheels rolled onto the clean tiles lining the floor, clashing conversations filled the hall. Paramedics ran through the entrance of the Emergency room, their sweat soaking through their heavy clothing.

“Patient has a laceration between the left arm and shoulder blades, fractured left knee and multiple puncture wounds throughout.” One paramedic rattled off the injuries as they all pushed the patient into the middle of the room.

I stood in the corner doing the regular routine, clean, sanitize and double-glove. My co-worker, Clara, was hooking the patient onto the monitors next to the surgical table, others were removing the remaining blood-soaked garments, examining the patient’s status.

As I tread towards the table, my heart sank.

How could you be so reckless?

The constant noise of the flattening heart monitor echoed against the pristine walls of the room. The screen displayed a single steep before a straight line followed. Blood-soaked gloves fell against the stained sheets of the surgical bed. A loud clatter of tools against the iron table as I rushed around the table to notice the crimson swell forming around a stitched cut.

“We lost him.”

A rookie mistake.

Credits!!!

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And all our sublime
Vibes' writers!!!

