

# Student's Voice

Bi-Monthly Newsletter June Issue

BCA ACADEMY  
of the built environment

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## Foreword

Dear students,

In this second issue of Student's Voice, among other things, you'll learn about a lunch-time performance by year 1 students and an inspiring talk by a landscape expert. Read about all these events in Student's Voice. Let this newsletter be a platform for you to express your views and also to hear what fellow students have to say.

**What better way to learn than through play? That's what Year 1 students discovered as they presented a lunch-time performance for their People Management 1 assignment.**

## Learning through play - It's lunch time!



After a week's preparation, our team performed during the lunch-time break. It was for our People Management 1 assignment. We learnt a lot from this experience.

Well, teamwork is the first thing I want to emphasise. There were many teams which did a wonderful job because there was good cooperation among their members.

Secondly, I learnt about time management. It was a challenge for each team to complete their performance within the given time. The assignment gave us an opportunity to learn about time management in a fun way.

Thirdly, through the performance, we improved our thinking skills. We discussed how we should perform, and how to make it creative. There were always surprises from other teams.

The happiest thing was I became more familiar with my classmates. I hope all my classmates had fun while doing this assignment. **Hu Yang Li - DCE1B**



**Want to find out more about what it takes to pursue a career in landscaping?**

## Talk by landscape expert - Mr Patrick Ng



We were most privileged to have Mr. Patrick Ng of DLQ Design Pte Ltd who had taken time off his busy work schedule to present a talk on landscape design on 12 July 2010.

Mr. Ng, with 26 years of expertise in the field, shared his experiences with an eager audience. He talked about the projects he was involved in and the design principles that guided his works.



Despite the technological convenience of using CAD for designing, Mr Ng reiterated that planting trees, fertilising soil and watering plants are the fundamentals in landscaping. What makes landscape design interesting is how the softscape complements the surroundings to create an ideal ambience for a lasting impression. Mr Ng also advised would-be landscape consultants to be familiar with the plants and know the names at their fingertips.

So, design students, if you really have the passion for landscape design, start setting goals for yourselves today, to become professionals in this industry!

**Jason Chan Fu Xiang -DDIL 3B**

Let's find out some useful tips to cope with study-related stress.

## Study Tips - How to cope with stress

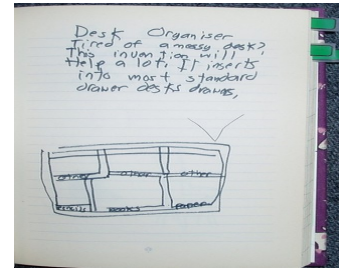


Stress is a feeling of anxiety and worry when facing difficult situations. It is inevitably faced by students. If managed well, stress can be a motivation. However, if it is badly managed, at worst, stress may even lead to tragedy such as suicide. So students should learn how to deal with stress effectively.

Firstly, be positive. Students should face their exams with a positive mindset. They should take the exam as an opportunity to test their understanding of what they have learnt rather than seeing it as merely exam grades.

Next, prevention is better than cure. Good management planning is crucial for students. They should prioritise their tasks. A study conducted by American Psychology Association (APA) shows that good preparation will greatly reduce stress and anxiety.

In conclusion, no one can do well if they are under excessive stress. When viewed positively, stress can transform into motivation. **Jeff Chong Weng Soon - DCE2B**



Want to find out how one Internet savvy classmate uses the Internet for study and play?

## Use of technology - How I use the Internet for study and play



Nowadays, it is common for people to surf the Internet for millions of reasons. Being a student of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, I use the Internet for learning and leisure.

First of all, I surf the web to search for resources for my assignments or projects. If I need to know more about something, I visit Google or Yahoo website. Amazingly, a lot of information about the topic will appear in the blink of an eye.

On the other hand, I also use the Internet for entertainment. As I am a teenager, I play a lot of online games. Some of my online friends may be thousands of miles away. I do hope that anyone who uses this convenient technology will also use it wisely. **Kaung Myat Htut - DCE 2B**



Want to know how your Burmese classmates celebrated their New Year - Thingyan?

## About Myanmar - Thingyan celebration



We, Myanmar people are carefree and fun-loving people. We celebrate many festivals the whole year round. Among these, is 'Thingyan' which is Myanmar's traditional New Year festival, also known as Water Festival.

'Thingyan' is a word from Sanskrit meaning change. 'Thingyan' festival is thus the festival of changing from the old year to the new year. The prominent feature of 'Thingyan' is throwing water at each other to purify the mind and wash

away the sins. During the celebration, temporary stages are set up in some well-known places around the city.

'Thingyan' is also a merry-making day. The monasteries are crowded with merry makers and people free live fish into the ponds. Come to Myanmar to experience our lovely culture and its atmosphere. Come join us for 'Thingyan' festival'.

**Yu Sandar Min - DCE2B**



Like to try a local food which is a favourite with many people?

## Great Indian food - Roti prata, anyone?



Roti prata. What's that? You may ask.

Eating roti prata is part of the Indian culture though many non-Indians love it too. Roti prata is made from flour that is cooked over a hot plate.

How is it made? Firstly, you add water to the flour and knead the dough. Then, you flip the dough into a large, thin layer before folding the outside edges inwards.

Next, you cook the dough on a hot plate. Flavourings or toppings are then added. You can have garlic, banana, chocolate, cheese or and even durian toppings!

Then there is the 'tissue paper' prata. It is pan-fried with butter, rolled into a cone shape and sprinkled with sugar. You can eat prata at any time of the day as there are many 24-hour outlets. Try one today. Your Singaporean schoolmates will tell you it's very *shio*!

**Nanthankumar - DME 2B**



Let's hear what your classmate has to say about our new improved facilities.

## My say - What I think about BCAA's improved facilities



I have been studying in BCA Academy since Feb 2009. I am rather pleased with the improved facilities, especially the Resource Centre.

The Resource Centre is a newly renovated school library at ZEB. There are many reference books and a wide range of reading materials. We can read the newspapers or surf the Internet on the school's computers. The

Resource Centre aims to meet the needs of students and researchers - now and in the future, especially when BCA Academy is expanding.

The canteen has also been improved. Since eating is an everyday activity, it helps when we eat in comfortable surroundings. It improves our appetite and provides more energy for studying.

In the long run, BCA will have more improved facilities. These are helpful in providing a conducive learning environment for students.

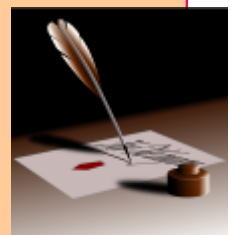
**Jeremy Xie Shu Qiao - DCE 2B**



Students, stay 'tuned' to the **Student's Voice** to hear what your schoolmates have to say. You will discover more about them and their cultures.

**Calling all budding writers!**

Contribute your articles to the newsletter to make it a vibrant, diverse and interactive platform for your views and ideas.



### Student Council Editorial Team

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