



# MONTFORT MOMENTS

52 HOUGANG AVENUE 8 SINGAPORE 538786 TEL: 6510 1588

WEBSITE: <https://montfortjunior.moe.edu.sg/>

MAY 2023

# Message from the Principal



This year marks the 107<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Montfort Schools. The Montfort story is one of Love, Care and Service. Through the many years Montfort Junior School have served the community, we have impacted the lives of many boys to follow in the footsteps of our Founder, to be a light to the World. Montfort Junior believes that the school is where our community come together to nurture fine young men, one boy at a time, to be A Man for Others.

Our Montfort education has always focused on the inculcation of virtues in our boys through our CHRISTE values. We want our boys to practice being of service to the larger community from when they are young. Montfort Junior School immerses our students in our Montfortian Education Charter and spirituality. We nurture each child to explore his potential, discover his gifts, and be inspired to carry himself as A Man for Others.

Guided by our charter, Montfort Junior School seeks to provide a balanced and well-rounded education. We want to give every child the opportunity to practice living out our school motto, Age Quod Agis. We believe that to prepare the boys for their future, we will need them to put into their daily practice the skills and dispositions that will carry them throughout their lives, now.

The school has grown together with our community but even as we appreciate the history and growth of the school, we will continue to look forward to the future to prepare our boys to be ready for a future which we cannot predict. As a community, let us design many opportunities for the boys to ignite their passion, their joy of learning, and for them to take their individual responsibility to explore their potential every day – to give them the opportunity to do their best in whatever they do, every single day.

***Age Quod Agis (Do Well In Whatever You Do)***  
Mr Victor Tan, Principal



## Strategic Thrust 1 Holistically Nurturing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Citizens



### START RIGHT PROGRAMME 2023

We greeted the new school year in 2023 with our "Start Right Programme" for all levels. Our Primary 1 students were warmly welcomed by all staff a day earlier on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January to be familiar with their new environment and learn the school routines. While they got to make new friends, their parents listened to sharing by our Principal, Mr Victor Tan and the different heads of department on the school's programmes.

The next day, all Primary 2 to 6 students were back at school. Our Primary 4 students were also assigned recess buddies to help introduce their Younger Primary 1 brothers to the new school.

The students from all the levels participated in various exciting programmes to build strong class bonds with their teachers and classmates. Many sharing sessions, hands on activities and games organised for the students to learn to better support their peers and develop stronger friendships.

Form Teachers used the time to establish the class rules and routines with their respective classes. We believe the many class based activities during our first week of school will help us to grow and strengthen our Montfortian family, fostering friendships to ensure a meaningful school year for all.

Age Quod Agis



Join us



First Aid



Racquets up



Robotics at Work



Strumming it

### CCA SELECTION DAY

CCA Selection Day was a day for all Montfortians from Primary 1 to 6 to choose their CCA. Students had the opportunity to visit various Co-Curricular Activities booths so that they can sign up for one that interests them the most.

Many of our students enjoyed the demonstrations and performances from the Taekwondo and Aesthetic CCA clubs. They also had the opportunity to try out the activities at the respective Sports CCA booths such as Badminton, Football and Table Tennis.



## Strategic Thrust 1

### Holistically Nurturing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Citizens

#### LUNAR NEW YEAR 2023

Our School ushered in the Year of the Rabbit on 20<sup>th</sup> January with a line-up of activities starting with the Hall celebration. Montfortians came dressed in traditional costumes and joined in the fun answering questions on cultural and common traditions of Lunar New Year. Apart from that, MJS Guitar Group and Dance Group adds on to the festive mood with their performance on stage. We also enjoyed watching the first ever Music Video by our very own MJS teachers and staff. The hall celebration ended on a high note with the spectacular live Lion Dance performance and Mass Sing-Along. Thereafter, students along-with their teachers spent time doing the handicraft and learning about Lunar New Year culture such as understanding the symbolism of Rabbit in Chinese culture.



Guitar Performance



Classroom activities



Mass Singing session with Mr Alvin Soh



We enjoyed the show



Happily with Chinese traditional clothes



Our little Emcees

#### TOTAL DEFENCE DAY

Singapore commemorates Total Defence Day annually on 15<sup>th</sup> February to mark our fall to the Japanese in 1942.

As part of MJS's Total Defence Day commemoration, we were honoured to have MSS's Uniformed Groups set up their CCA booths at our canteen during recess. Showcasing 2 of the pillars of Total Defence – Military & Civil Defence, our MJS boys had a fun and informative hands-on session experiencing what the CCAs have to offer.

Utilizing the principles of "No Play", "No Freedom" and "No Choice", all play areas and special rooms were closed during recess on 15<sup>th</sup> February and food stalls were only allowed to sell porridge, sweet potatoes, biscuits and water. This allowed students to experience the sufferings and oppression that our forefathers had gone through during World War 2.

We have come a long way since independence in 1965 and should never take our sovereignty for granted. All Singaporeans MUST remain prepared and do our part to safeguard our HOME!



1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and 5, continue .....



Hands-on Fun!



Ready... Aim... Fire!



Great presentation by the Scouts!



## Strategic Thrust 1

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#### MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE FORTNIGHT - CHINESE

In early April, our school celebrated the annual Mother Tongue Language Fortnight, organized by the MJS MT Department in support of the Ministry of Education's efforts to promote learning and appreciation of Mother Tongue Language and the different cultures. This year's theme being "Performing Arts" engaged our Montfortians in a variety of activities.

P3 and P4 had the opportunity to enjoy a live performance of traditional musical instruments which showcased the richness and diversity of cultures. Montfortians were also engaged in hands-on activities in the classroom. P1 and P2 were tasked with making their own opera masks, while P3 and P4 made their own stringed-drum and handheld drum, respectively.

As part of the programme, our P5 students went on a learning journey to the Festival Art Centre to watch "The Monkey King Borrows Treasure from Dragon Palace," a Chinese opera that delighted and entertained the students. Our P6 students, on the other hand, participated in an in-house play entitled, "Story Challenge" which they came up with storylines for the actors to act out. The students were able to hone their creative and linguistic skills.

Overall, the Mother Tongue Fortnight was a wonderful opportunity for Montfortians to deepen their appreciation for their Mother Tongue Languages and cultures.



P1\_making opera mask



P6 Skit\_students performing with actors



P34 live music performance\_  
students trying instruments



Busy making Udukai



making Musical Instrument



our Mask



Kathakali Dance Mask



Having Fun Time



Little Artist

#### MOTHER TONGUE FORTNIGHT - TAMIL

The Mother Tongue Language fortnight activities are organized on a yearly basis. Its aim is to create an immersive environment for the learning and appreciation of Tamil Language. It also provides a suitable platform for students to actively learn the language and culture in an authentic way with given opportunities.

As an annual event this year, we have focused on theme of 'The rich history of Indian Traditional Instruments'. 4 types of instruments such as string instrument, wind instrument, drums and percussion instrument from each Mother Tongue group (Chinese, Malay and Tamil) were introduced to our students.

Vendors were invited to conduct these activities which they explained the importance and how to use these Indian instruments. The Tamil department focused on Paarai, Kathakali and Udukai and the making of Udukai. These two eventful weeks were to deepen our students' understanding of their cultural roots and help to promote the learning of MTL in a fun and engaging way!



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#### MTL FORTNIGHT WEEK 2023 (MALAY LANGUAGE)

Across the three Mother Tongue Languages, the Mother Tongue Language (MTL) Fortnight Week was held from 3 April 2023 to 14 April 2023. With the theme of Performing Arts/Musical Instruments, cultural activities were planned and carried out in the span of two weeks. Specifically for the Malay Language Department, the students participated in the following activities:

The P1 and P2 students were engaged in learning some popular folk songs in the Malay culture. They learnt how to sing and dance to Chan Mali Chan, Rasa Sayang and Enjit-Enjit Semut.

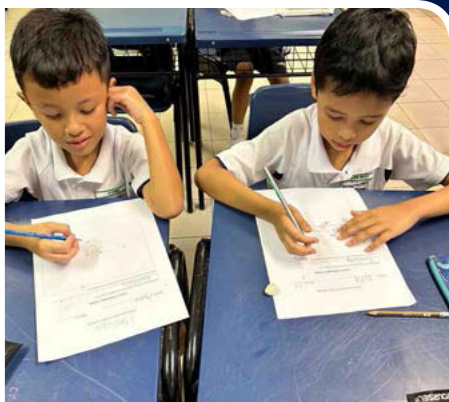
The P3 Montfortians immersed themselves into the world of Wayang Kulit. From the history of Wayang Kulit to a hands-on experience making shadow puppets, students participated in the activity enthusiastically.

The P4 students on the other hand had the opportunity to learn to play the Angklung. At the end of the session, they were proudly playing the angklung to the tune of Rasa Sayang.

The P5 boys took a notch up by learning about the Gamelan. As gamelan comprises of more than one instrument, it was quite a challenge for them. However, they did rise up to the challenge and tried their best to play the instruments such as saron, ketuk kemplang, kenung and gong.

Lastly, the P6 boys were exposed to Dikir Barat which involves singing in groups and performed with a percussion instrumental accompaniment like the rebana.

Overall, students gave feedback that they truly enjoyed the activities planned for them as for some. This is genuinely their first time learning about the folk songs, angklung, gamelan and dikir barat. They also gave some ideas as to what other activities they would like to see next year. This is heartening to know that the students are truly interested to be part of the Mother Tongue Fortnight Week activities.



P1P2\_folk song



P3\_Wayang Kulit



P4\_angklung



P5\_Gamelan



P6\_dikir barat



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#### INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY 2023

In Singapore, schools commemorate International Friendship Day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of April annually. Led by the Primary 5 teachers, interactive learning activities were planned and carried out to engage and enthuse our MJS students.

With the worst of the pandemic behind us, a day was set aside to create a carnival-like atmosphere during the 3 recesses for our students to enjoy. Our commemoration for 2023 revolved around the purpose of ASEAN and its 10 member nations with a particular focus on Myanmar and Indonesia. Kudos to all our parent volunteers as they served up a storm by providing our students with an entertaining repertoire of fun games and immersive learning.

For 2 weeks in April, selected traditional ASEAN games were also weaved into the school's PE lessons. Coupled with a short history of the games' origins, it provided the students a greater understanding and appreciation of the lives of their peers living in ASEAN. In addition to that, animated ASEAN folk tales were also screened during the classes' respective English library periods. By infusing values of ASEAN cultures and linking them to our school's CHRISTE values, it allowed valuable life lessons and morals to be explored and shared.



Peak-a-boo!



Experiential learning in progress!



Let's build ASEAN together



Effortlessly done...  
no sweat at all!

#### FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

As part of Montfort Junior's Celebration of its 107<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day, the school celebrated the occasion with a Mass on Tuesday, 25 April 2023. The celebrant was Rev Fr Simon Tan, an alumnus from the Class of 1980.

He shared his story about his life when he was in school and encouraged the students to continue to live up to the school motto 'Age Quod Agis!'

After the Eucharistic Celebration, Montfort Junior School was consecrated to Jesus Through Mary after 33 days of preparation. The certificate of consecration was then signed by Mr Victor Tan, Principal of Montfort Junior and Bro Dominic Yeo-Koh, Supervisor Of Schools.

On Friday, 28 April 2023, the One Montfort Family - Staff and students from Montfort Junior School and Montfort Secondary School, School Management Committee delegates, Alumni and parents gathered together to celebrate the school's 107<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In the past 107 years, our alma mater has progressed from humble beginnings at the premises of the Church Of The Nativity Of The Blessed Virgin Mary to our present campus at Hougang Avenue 8.

We were privileged to host **Dr Peter Tay Buan Huat** (Class of 1967 'A' Levels), the retired CEO of Singapore Food Industries as our Guest of Honour.

After the Founder's Day Hall Programme, Rev Msgr James Yeo (Class of 1976) blessed the new Montfort Chapel and celebrated the first Mass in the chapel.



Blessing of the chapel



International Dance Boys



Our GOH Dr Peter Tay



## Strategic Thrust 1 Holistically Nurturing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Citizens

### MONTFORT JUNIOR SCHOOL GRIT RACE 2022

GRIT race has always been the signature program of Montfort Junior School. We were excited to receive overwhelming participation and positive feedback from everyone when it was first held in 2018 to commemorate Montfort's 100<sup>th</sup> year. In 2022, our 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the GRIT Race, we saw rousing success, as our parents and boys displayed the spirit of resilience as Montfortians, overcoming difficulties to complete the obstacle course that was designed by our PE team for the event. The boys experienced the challenging obstacle course which put their fitness skills and determination to the test. This year's GRIT race, there were many heart warming moments when we witnessed parents going through the obstacle course with their children. Our Montfortian family had a great time through the obstacle course and demonstrated their spirit of Age Quod Agis by persevering through and completing the race.



### PRIMARY 6 GRADUATION DAY

We bade farewell to our P6 cohort when we had our P6 graduation ceremony on the 17 November 2022. It was heart warming to have many parents as our distinguished guests in this year's graduation ceremony after the covid pandemic for the past 2 years. It was significant for this batch of resilient P6 who have to overcome all the challenges of the pandemic years to reach this major milestone. We celebrated the day with awards given to affirm our students' success in their academic and CCA achievement. Many of us had enjoyed the special performances being put up by our exceptionally talented Montfortians to display their talent in singing, dancing and even performing magic tricks. It was unforgettable to have our school leaders and Brother Dominic to remind our students to continue to be the beacon of light as they moved on into the Secondary school years. The highlight was to have the teachers lighting the candles made by the students as a symbolic act of encouraging them to "light the world" in their next academic endeavour. The ceremony ended on high note with the P6 cohort singing the school song at the end of the ceremony and the presentation of the graduation bears. We would like to wish the class of 2022 the best for their next lap and thank them for all the memories in school. Once a Montfortian, Always A Montfortian.

AGE QUOD AGIS.



## Strategic Thrust 1 Holistically Nurturing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Citizens

### PRIMARY 1 & 2 SEMESTER 1 ACTIVITIES

To provide our lower primary students a balanced and well-rounded education, we give every child the opportunity to practise the skills and dispositions that will carry them throughout their lives. Our Wednesdays Talent Management Programmes, SSGLM PAL (Programme for Active Learning) and day to day lessons are designed to give our students opportunities to ignite and enrich their learning and at the same time, allow them to take the responsibility to explore.



Art Lessons



Anyone can do Coding



Reading Made Fun in Groups



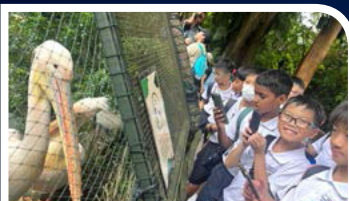
Learning to Respect our Environment



TMP Speed - A Race to Win



TMP Science - Learning about Animals



Students understanding Pelicans behaviour and their diets



Students learning about the CATS family traits.



Listening to trainers on how the animals in the wild survive



Students learning how the elephants keep themselves cool in tropical climate



Students at the Primate Kingdom



Photo taking time at the Giraffe enclosure

### P4 MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE LEARNING JOURNEY TO THE ZOO

As part of experiential learning, the school organised a **learning journey** for the Primary 4 students to the Singapore Zoo on 5 May 2023. This outdoor activity exposed the students to authentic application of Math and Science learning.

During the trip, students learned about the different animals and their habitats. They learned about animals' diets, behaviours and how they interact with their environment.

As the students explore the zoo, students had to complete the given worksheets and carried out the suggested activities to reinforce their learning.

In all, the learning journey to the Singapore Zoo have been an enriching and engaging experience for the students. They have learned about the importance of conservation. They also have gained a deeper appreciation for the natural world and how Mathematics and Science learning can take place while they enjoy the trip.



## Strategic Thrust 1 Holistically Nurturing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Citizens

### MJS CCA ACHIEVEMENTS

CCA in Montfort Junior allows students to discover their interests and talents while developing their competencies. Besides this, the programme also provides opportunities for them to represent the school in various National School Games and competitions to instil school pride and confidence among them.

Congratulations to our Badminton and Football Senior boys for being Champions of North Zone in their respective games. We would also like to thank our athletes for taking part in the competitions listed below.

Sports & Club	Competition 2023
Badminton	Senior – Champions of North Zone NSG Badminton Championships
Football	Senior – Champions of North Zone NSG Football Championships
Chinese Chess	Char Yong Cup Students Xiangqi Championships – Under-12 Individual Champion Zheng Hai Feng of 6 Compassion



Champions of NZ



Champs Of NZ



Montfort Family



Chinese Chess



Proud moment



we ARE Montfort!



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#### P4 NE/SS LEARNING JOURNEY TO GEYLANG SERAI

Earlier this year, the Primary 4 cohort embarked on a NE/SS learning journey to the Geylang Serai Heritage Gallery (GSHG) as part of Montfort Junior School's Museum-Based Learning (MBL).

During the learning journey, students were accompanied by museum educators with expertise in both the heritage gallery and artefacts within. Playing the role of young explorers, students had the opportunity to discover the rich history as well as the significance of the area to the Malay Muslim community. Through hands-on activities, objects and images, students were able to learn about games from the yesteryear, the unique offerings of Geylang Serai Market, as well as the special occasions celebrated by the community in Singapore.



A mock-up of a traditional provision store



Exploring Geylang Serai Market



A long long time ago...



Can you feel our excitement...



Mmmm... I smell food!



Hands-on fun!



Traditional kampung games



Geylang Serai Heritage Gallery



## Strategic Thrust 1

### Holistically Nurturing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Citizens

#### P5 NE/SS LEARNING JOURNEY TO INDIAN HERITAGE CENTRE

As part of Montfort Junior School's Museum-Based Learning (MBL), the Primary 5 cohort embarked on a NE/SS learning journey to the Indian Heritage Centre (IHC) earlier this year.

During the learning journey, students were accompanied by museum educators with expertise in both the galleries and artefacts on display. Through interactive and immersive learning experiences, students were able to learn more about the Indian culture and the local Indian community's contributions to Singapore. These also included the opportunity to observe the artefacts face-to-face and discover the rich trove of stories behind them. A multi-sensory learning journey which included storytelling, tactile objects learning and a tour of IHC's permanent galleries, it was definitely a fun and enriching experience for one and all!



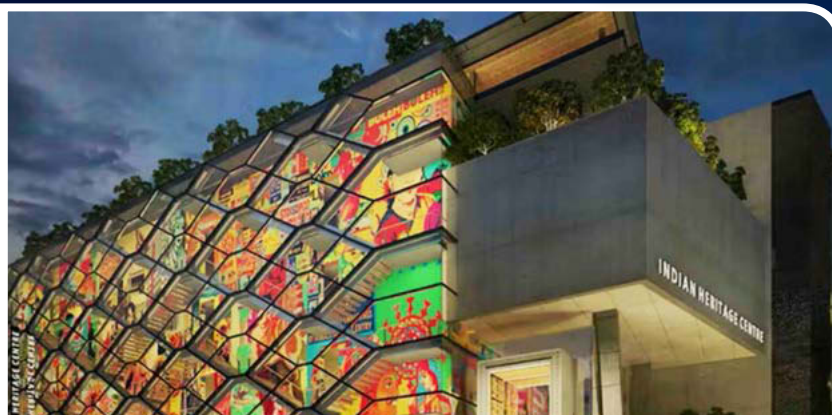
Briefing prior to the tour



All about spices!



Piecing the story together



Indian Heritage Centre



These artefacts are ...



Happy & excited to be here!



Understanding the significance of flower garlands



Yes! I'm on camera!



## Strategic Thrust 2 Developing a Professional and Nurturing Staff

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT

"Every nation owns a leader .... and every classroom needs a teacher.." Our students are the future of our nation and our teachers are key to helping the school achieve students' outcomes.

Staff Development in Montfort Junior plays an important part in the school's strategic plan. The department has been instrumental in planning school-based workshops to update our teachers in pedagogy and content knowledge. In Montfort Junior, professional development of every staff member is important. With the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, the staff was able to go through a myriad of physical workshops, courses and conferences to learn new pedagogies to enhance teaching and learning. In addition, Staff Bonding Activities also play a great part in fostering closer ties among the school staff.



Catholic Education Conference



End-Of-Year Whole-School Review & Planning



KP's Bonding



Staff Bonding - Making Soap



Staff with their newly-made soap



Workshop On The Use Of The Bernina Machine



## Strategic Thrust 3 Strong Partnership with the Community

### MJPC (MONTFORT JUNIOR PARENTS CONNECTION)

#### FAREWELL FOR MR WILBUR WONG AND APPRECIATION FOR PARENT VOLUNTEERS NOV 2022

The MJPC, in appreciation of all the wonderful work that Mr Wong did at MJS over the 8 years that he was the principal, organized a Farewell event for Mr Wong. Aside from the parents who were there in person, many others penned their virtual messages of thanks and well wishes for Mr Wong on Padlet, which was then presented to Mr Wong with a small gift of appreciation from the MJPC.

Separately, in appreciation of all the parents who had volunteered in 2022, certificates of appreciation were presented to them by Mr Wong.



#### PI ORIENTATION

MJS welcome the Primary 1 parents and students for 2023.

An opportunity for parents to meet fellow parents, the form teachers, MJPC, the outgoing and incoming principals.

The incoming boys had a sneak peak preview of their future classmates, their classrooms and their form teachers. After which, they were given a tour around the school.



#### START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR JAN 2023

A new school year and a new batch of P1 Monfortians! It was a very exciting first day of school at MJS with art and bonding activities for parents and the boys to ease the transition and calm the nerves. Thanks to all the parents and caregivers who came and supported the boys on their milestone day.



## Strategic Thrust 3 Strong Partnership with the Community

### CNY CELEBRATIONS AT MJS JAN 2023

CNY celebrations are not complete without decorations! From decorating the school, to ushering in the festive spirit, it was all happening at MJS this year as we hopped into the Year of the Rabbit!



### BREAKFAST WITH THE PRINCIPAL FEB 2023

This was a really good opportunity to meet MJS's new Principal Mr Victor Tan and for Mr Tan to get to know the parents and caregivers. It was a good session that kickstarted an exciting year at MJS as we got to know Mr Tan better and his vision and mission for MJS. Welcome to the MJS Family from the MJPC, Mr Tan.



### INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY APRIL 2023

After a 3-year hiatus, MJS celebrated the International Friendship Day by showcasing the cultures and food – with games and fun-filled activities – of our Indonesian and Myanmar friends. The boys had a great time and many thanks to the MJPC volunteers and MJS teachers for all their support!





## Strategic Thrust 3 Strong Partnership with the Community

### RECESS ACTIVITIES

2023 continues to be a better year for our Montfortians as recess activities went into full swing from the get-go! Our boys have been able to enjoy their favourite activities at the Tinker Shop, Lego Room, Marble Machine Room, the digital art room and the library. As the health and safety of Montfortians are of utmost importance, disinfection and cleaning will continue but we are so happy that our boys can enjoy the full breadth of all on offer!



### COME JOIN US!

Follow our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MJPCConnection> **OR** get in touch with us via your class chat groups. *We are looking forward to hearing from you soon!*

### INCLUSIVE EDUCATION (A/W/WA PARTNERSHIP) 2023

Inclusive Education is the vision of our founder, St Louis Marie de Montfort. Our founder's core values are inclusion, non-discrimination, respect, and participation for all. As Montfortians, we follow our founder's direction and create a conducive environment for every child in our school. Montfort Junior School is a place where students with or without learning differences learn and work together instead of being apart.

A school that is inclusive of all sections of society without discrimination. Inclusive Education has always been a part of our Montfortian Education.

"In your life, it is your aim to assist the poor, the outcasts, the despairing and the lame. All those by the world rejected, on your love have greater claim." (Hymn 149)

In Montfort Junior School, we ensure that students with special educational needs are included within the mainstream school environment. We want everyone to be treated the same and we do our best to uplift our boys both academically and mentally. In addition, teachers are paired with coaches to share and guide with their experience to develop every Montfortian to be A Man For Others.



## Staff News

### NEW STAFF



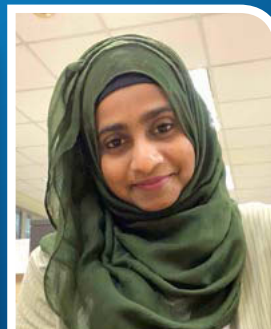
Mdm Amanda Wong



Mr Ng Chong Gee



Mdm Liu Xiwen



Ms Rabitha



Mdm Nur Akashah



Ms Amanda Hii Xixin



Ms Lee Yu Ying



Ms Chen Jiaying



Ms Diyanah



Ms Jessie Lau Luyi



Ms Teow Wen Yan

### NEW BORN BABIES



Jiayi's bundle of joy

### LIST OF PROMOTEES

Mdm Jamalizah Jammain

Mrs Jasmine Lee

Ms Li Jia Xin

Mrs Koh Ee Hway

Ms Jessie Lau

Mr Ignatius Lee

Mrs Suguna Sampath

Mr Tan Wee Boon