IMPORTANT DATES:
February – mid-March 2016

16 Feb.        CCA Open House
22 Feb.        CCA Season 3 begins
29 Feb – 4 Mar. G3 – G5 UOI Exhibition
4 Mar.         PYP Unit 4 UOI Assembly
7 – 10 Mar.    Science Week (M/H)
14 – 17 Mar.   MYP Class Assessments
24 Mar.        Easter Activities (K)
25 Mar.        Good Friday Public Holiday
28 Mar – 1 April. Easter Holidays

Introducing our new Principal
We welcome Mr. Seah Poh Chua to Hillside World Academy! He comes to HWA with a wealth of experience from a number of different schools, including the Anglican High School, Tanjong Katong Secondary School and most recently, as the Director of Academics and School Administration of the Singapore Sports School, a specialized independent school.

Mr. Seah’s experience in bilingual and bicultural schools, his interest in holistic education and his familiarity with the International Baccalaureate programme, will greatly benefit the Hillside. Having graduated with honours from the National University of Singapore in Chinese Studies, Mr. Seah was appointed by the Ministry of Education (MOE) to the committee on the Appreciation of Chinese Culture. In 2011, he was invited to be a member of the MOE’s Secondary Chinese Language Curriculum Steering Committee reviewing the curriculum.

During Mr. Seah’s time at the Singapore Sports School, the school qualified as an IB World School with its first batch of students scoring an average of 40 points. His experience and contribution to education have been recognized several times within the education community, including through the Caring Teacher Award by MOE and the Inspiring Chinese Language Teacher Award.

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS:
Introducing Mr. Seah Poh Chua, Thank you to Mr. Keegan, Grade 3 – 5 UOI Exhibitions, Science week, Middle School Assessments, Chinese New Year celebrations, PSG BBQ, Field Trips & HWA in the community.

Over the next few weeks, students, staff and parents have the opportunity to get to know Mr. Seah and welcome him to the HWA family.
Thank you and good luck Mr. Keegan

Hillside World Academy would like to thank Mr. Keegan for his great effort and contribution to the school. His sense of humour, approachability and leadership will be missed by HWA teachers, students and parents. We wish him all the best in his new position, which will see him start a new school in China, where he will also be closer to his wife. Before the Chinese New Year holiday, our sister school Beijing Huijia Private School came to Hillside to bid farewell to Mr. Keegan with presents and kind words.

Grade 3, 4, and 5 UOI Exhibitions

Following on from the success of our Unit of Inquiry Exhibitions for the younger years last year, we invite you to come and see the G3 – G5 exhibition from 29 February to 4 March. The students’ exhibits will be on display in the Town Hall. It is a great way for students to show you how and what they learn in class. We seek parent involvement in both supporting the students in their planning for the event, and making it a point to visit the exhibition.

Middle and High School Science week

The students of Middle and High School will be able to participate in a variety of activities, exhibitions, field trips and other learning opportunities from 7 to 10 March. Science activities are always on-going at HWA and before the Chinese New Year holiday Grade 4 hosted a Science Exhibition, as did Grade 9. There was much excitement in High School during both osmosis and dissection sessions.
Middle School assessments
Class assessments will take place in mid-March. The assessments will give us a good indication of the progress of the students as well as the efficacy of the courses we run. Parent-teacher meetings will be held after the Mid Semester assessments. It is a good time to touch base with your child’s teachers. We welcome parent involvement throughout the year.

Chinese New Year celebrations
We ushered in the Year of the Monkey with much fun and fanfare during our Chinese New Year celebrations. Students impressed both teachers and parents with their performances - songs, dances, plays and recitals - all in Mandarin. Thank you to all the Chinese teachers for their outstanding effort in getting all the students ready in less than three weeks!

PSG BBQ success
The PSG BBQ was a great day for the school community. Many thanks to the parents who cooked, planned and made the preparations for the day. We welcomed parents, students, staff and teachers for what turned out to be the biggest BBQ turnout so far.

If you are interested in joining the Parents Support Group or would like more information, please contact Ellen at ellen@novusasia.com

For more photos from Chinese New Year celebrations and the PSG BBQ, please visit https://www.facebook.com/HillsideWorldAcademy
Field Trips & HWA in the community
Just before the Chinese New Year break, Kindergarten and Primary classes took part in ‘KidsFest 2016’ and went to see Room on the Broom, a play based on a book by Julia Donaldson. It was a great day out for all! KidsFest is a three-week long festival of theatre for young people in Singapore and Hong Kong and a platform for family interaction and literature and language. For more information about KidsFest, please visit [www.kidsfest.com.sg](http://www.kidsfest.com.sg)

Middle and High School students participated in the Yale-NUS Asia Pacific Model United Nations in January. The conference bring together some 1,000 participants from over 30 countries. HWA students participated in the General Assembly committees, as the World Health Organisation and regional groups such as the African Union and the European Union. It was a great learning opportunity - the preparation of position papers and resolutions, the exposure to professional and diplomatic protocol, and a chance to engage with real global issues.

Grade 12 attended a talk by Professor Pomeroy entitled ‘Sustain and Retain’ on cultural sustainability. The talk centred on ways to preserve traditional social and spatial practices and safeguard against the imposition of a modern environment without cultural relevance. HWA students asked about urban island heat in Singapore and architectural geometrics.