



THE DUNMAN INSIDER

FOR DUNMANITES, BY DUNMANITES

GETTING TO KNOW OUR PRINCIPAL, MR TOH THIAM CHYE



We thank Mr Toh for his time and inspiring words:

"I hope that all Dunmanites, wherever they go, will possess the same spirit of innovation and giving back to the community."

We all know Mr Toh as our Principal, but did you know he's also a writer, photographer, artist, singer—and even a bit of a science geek? His curiosity and creativity make him more than just the face of our school.

Mr Toh shared that one book that deeply moved him was *Tuesdays with Morrie*, which tells the story of a dedicated professor who never stopped teaching, even on his deathbed. That same passion for learning shaped Mr Toh's journey too. He fondly remembers how a simple leaf introduced by a primary school teacher sparked his love for biology.

When asked what advice he has for students, he encouraged us to pause and reflect before making decisions—wise words we can all learn from.

ONE DUNMAN EXPERIENCE (ODE25)

The One Dunman Experience (ODE) is truly one of the most unforgettable moments for many Dunmanites. It's where new friendships spark, laughter fills the air, and students bond over exhilarating games, cheered on by their lively facilitators.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated team of Dunmanites worked tirelessly for months to bring the event to life, with planning beginning as early as June 2024. Students were carefully sorted into their roles — Facilitators, Station Masters, Administrators, and Logistics — each playing a vital part in creating the magic of ODE.

For Secondary One students Sara Jazilah Binte Sahrizal and Dytian Paul Michael II Angeles from 1A, the highlight was clear: the games. Paul shared that his "fun and chaotic" classmates made working together even more exciting, while both students described ODE as "thrilling" and a wonderful chance to make new friends.

With another successful ODE completed, preparations for the next one are already on the horizon — and we can't wait to see what's in store.



OUTWARD BOUND SINGAPORE (OBS)

In February, Dunmanites set off on their OBS adventure — a journey full of challenges, new experiences, and unforgettable memories. To capture the spirit of the experience, we spoke to a few Secondary 3 students.

Maeve (3E) shared that what she cherished most was the time spent with her group during the toughest and most gruelling moments. When asked about the biggest challenge she faced, her answer surprised us: the food! She described it as bland, stale, and frankly, a little underwhelming — but it was all part of the experience.

Wayne (3C) reflected fondly on his kayak expedition across the island, calling it one of the highlights of the camp. He also enjoyed cooking with his group — a messy but memorable experience that brought everyone closer together.

When asked for advice for the next batch of OBS adventurers, Maeve and Wayne said: **stick with your friends, stay focused, and listen to your instructors.**





During EL/Lit Week, Dunmanites came together to vanquish the maleficent Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) – with the power of creativity and everything that makes us human. It was a chilling reminder for some that sci-fi stories may not be so far-fetched after all.

Parents added to the lively atmosphere by setting up booths in the canteen to play word games with students during recess. Mdm Aaisha, a parent volunteer, shared, ***“Most of my experiences are from books; I think reading has shaped who I am today.”***

Another highlight was the Secondary 3 Debate Challenge. After fiercely contested semi-final rounds, 3E and 3F faced off in the finals, with 3F emerging victorious. Rheeya Kaur (3E) was named Best Speaker in the finals, while Sarvesh (3E) was Best Speaker overall. Reflecting on the debates, Suhas (3D) said, ***“I learnt the importance of communication – of forming ideas quickly and presenting them in a structured manner.”***

DO WE REALLY KNOW OUR SCHOOL STAFF?

While we see our teachers daily, we often overlook the other important members of our school community – our support staff. One familiar face many of us recognise is **Mr Renganathan**, our ever-cheerful security officer who greets students each morning.

When asked why he makes it a point to greet us, his response was thoughtful: “It helps pull students out of their own thoughts, even for a moment.” **He hopes his greetings remind us to be present in the moment.**

A typical concern in his day? Students crossing the road while distracted by their mobile phones. He urges us to stay alert and prioritise safety. In his free time, Mr Renganathan enjoys morning walks. Though he once played soccer, a knee injury prevents him from doing so now. Reflecting on young people today, he shared that he admires how openly students can talk to their parents.



Brought to you by:

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DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ ABOUT IN THE NEXT ISSUE?

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