

2024 ISSUE 3

BB NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BOYS' BRIGADE IN SINGAPORE



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THE BOYS' BRIGADE

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The opinions expressed in the above articles are the personal view of the writers and do not necessarily represent the policies of The Boys' Brigade.



Jul - Sep Quarterly Highlights

In July, Boys and Primers from 93rd Singapore Company in Yuying Secondary School and 45th Singapore Company in Xinmin Secondary School came together in celebration of Youth Day for a parade of fun and games. Boys appreciated the well-planned event and look forward to more combined activities between the two Companies.



Boys from the Marching Contingent taking a group photo at the Padang

In August, we celebrated National Day! After going through months of training under the sun together with the RSAF and BB National Day Parade (NDP) trainers, our BB Marching Contingent comprising of 45 Boys from 14 Companies proudly participated in the NDP at the Padang. It was a proud moment as they exemplified the values of discipline, service, and brotherhood. On this day, we celebrated not just our nation's independence but the spirit of camaraderie and dedication that makes Singapore strong.

This quarter, we also held two of the most anticipated competitions - the Character Quest (CQ) for Juniors Programme (JP) and Seniors Programme (SP)! The CQ JP saw a turnout of 516 Boys from 39 Companies on 3 August while the CQ SP saw a turnout of 594 Boys from 47 Companies on 31 August. We congratulate the overall winning teams of the competitions, as well as the winning teams for the skit segments.

Also in this issue, read about Company updates from 64th Singapore Company in Ang Mo Kio Secondary as they organised an overnight camp in preparation for their combined Enrolment and Dedication Service together with the 31st Singapore Company in Bowen Secondary School and the three Girls' Brigade Companies! 66th Singapore Company in Woodlands Secondary School also shared more about their BB CARES activity and their new discoveries through the cleaning up of Changi Beach.



Boys and Primers from 93rd Coy enjoying dinner after a game of Captain's Ball



BBHQ Official Opening & Stedfast Summit: the ultimate game quest

The official opening of our BB Headquarters is on 2 Nov! Companies can look forward to the Stedfast Summit - a day of adventure, fun and fellowship among Boys. Attendees can look forward to redeeming a limited edition souvenir pin!

Future Ready

by Brigade President, LTA Patrick Koh

Preparing our Boys for the future is an important journey that shapes their potential and equips them with essential skills. As the world continues to evolve rapidly, effective mentorship can provide Boys with the guidance, support, and inspiration they need to navigate the complexities in their lives.

In today's changing landscape, fostering critical soft skills, such as problem-solving, communication and adaptability, are all equally important. Our Officers can engage their Boys in real-world scenarios, encouraging them to think critically and make decisions that will benefit them in the long run. This practical approach enhances their skill set and instils confidence in their abilities.

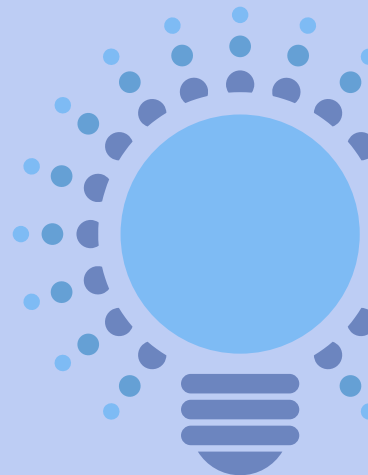
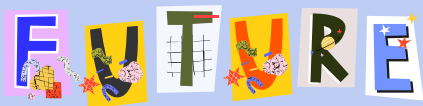
Officers can also be role models, exemplifying qualities such as integrity, resilience, and a lifelong learning mindset. By sharing their personal experiences, Officers can illustrate how setbacks can lead to growth and how perseverance is key to achieving long-term goals.

Additionally, networking is an invaluable resource that Officers can provide. Connecting Boys with professionals in various fields opens opportunities and helps them understand different career paths. This exposure can trigger passions and motivate young individuals to pursue their interests.



Boys enjoying their meal at the end of the Character Quest for Seniors Programme

Mentoring youth is a transformative process that equips them with the necessary tools to thrive in the future. By fostering a supportive environment, promoting essential skills, and serving as role models, Officers play an important role in shaping the Boys and empowering them to positively impact the world.



JP Conference



JP Chairperson, LTA Gerard Su, sharing an overview of the revamped changes to the Programme

45 Officers from 40 Companies attended the Juniors Programme (JP) Conference on 9 July. The Officers were briefed on what to expect for 2024 Character Quest and the conference included a briefing on the revamp of the Juniors Programme in areas such as the Adventure & Character Quest competitions, badgework, curriculum and standardisation of practices.

“Opening BBAQ (JP) to all levels is a commendable move that will undoubtedly encourage greater participation and achievement among our Boys. I am optimistic about the positive impact these changes will have on our Companies and the broader Boys' Brigade movement.”

-LTA Jimmy Ong from 24J Singapore Company in Fuhua Primary School-

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Leaders' Retreat

The Leaders' Retreat was held on 6 July at the BB Headquarters. Some 40 participants, members of the Brigade Executive and invited Officers, were engaged in lively discussions in planning the future of the Brigade as well as a time of fellowship over a BBQ buffet!

“Attending the Leaders' Retreat was an incredibly rewarding experience! Although it was just a one-day event, I gained a new appreciation for our Brigade Executive and the work they do to uphold our mission and vision, as well as, the opportunity to engage in deep discussions with fellow leaders, through debate and collaboration for the future of the Brigade.”

-LTA Joseph Chen from 46th Singapore Company in Junyuan Secondary School-



North 1 Cluster Representative, LTA Daniel Tay, sharing his suggestions



Officers got the opportunity to mingle and bond with each other over a BBQ dinner

“With the Object in mind, the retreat gave me a glimpse and provided a platform for Brigade Executives and representatives from various BB Companies across Singapore to come together and discuss both the short and long-term considerations of BB.”

-2LT Chan Qi-En, Samuel from 12BR Singapore Company in Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)-



Officers in discussion groups for brainstorming

Character Quest (Juniors Programme)

The CQ (JP) competition was held on 3 August at Tao Nan School. A total of 95 teams consisting of over 450 Boys from 40 Companies participated in this annual competition that showcased the Boys' skills, teamwork and character development!

This year, the competition centred around the theme of "Extraordinary Compassion", and Boys were challenged not only to demonstrate their physical abilities and mental acuity but also to embody the essence of compassion in all their tasks. Throughout the competition, participants encountered various scenarios that required them to think beyond themselves and act with kindness and consideration. These tasks were designed to reflect real-life situations where conflicts and challenges are common, encouraging the Boys to find compassionate solutions and to support one another. There was even a thrilling Virtual Reality simulation of a deep-sea exploration, with the key learning outcome of strengthening hope in unity.

An additional skit competition segment allowed whole Companies to come together creatively to produce videos relating to the theme. We were honoured to have Rev David Lee, Chairman of the Education Board of the Diocese of Singapore, as our Guest-Of-Honour to present the awards to the winning teams.



Navigating through obstacles to complete an activity at a station



Working in a team to solve a puzzle



Keeping in step to reach the finish line while being tied to one another

Navigating through obstacles in order to reach the finish line



"I am grateful to be the group leader for Team 32 in the competition this year and it is by grace that we clinched the first position. My peers and I made sure that our group travelled together and we did not leave anyone behind, and this simple act actually provided us with a time advantage as we cleared the stations together."

-Assistant Chief Lead Boy, Nathan Tneh Yi Heng from 33J Singapore Company in Fairfield Methodist School (Primary)-



Team 32 from 33J Coy



Team 14 from 12BR (J) Coy



Team 26 from 24J Coy

Congratulations to the top 3 overall winning teams of the competition:

Champion - Team 32 from 33J Singapore Company in Fairfield Methodist School (Primary)

2nd place - Team 14 from 12BR (J) Singapore Company in Anglo-Chinese School (Primary)

3rd place - Team 26 from 24J Singapore Company in Fuhua Primary School

Congratulations to the 3 winners of the skit segment:

1st place - 33J Singapore Company in Fairfield Methodist School (Primary)

2nd place - 24J Singapore Company in Fuhua Primary School

3rd place - 5J Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Primary School

All Encompassing Leader

by Brigade Chaplain, Rev Daniel Tong

When commissioned an NCO, CSM, Officer Cadet, Officer, Captain, Chaplain, etc., we would be assigned a group of Boys to lead. Some would be our choice and joy, some we might wish were in another group or Company; but regardless of our preference, all are under our care to be equally nurtured and led. This is one of our challenges.

I know, for when I dedicated my life to Christian ministry, I told God that I loved Him, but could not say that I loved EVERYONE.

I mean, honestly, most would be strangers, not to mention those who are all-talk-but-no-action, moody or temperamental, from different socio-economic or educational backgrounds, unable to tell their right from their left, and a thorn in the flesh, etc. I loved some people (family and friends), but to love everyone was a challenge.

Yet, to love everyone is exactly what we are called to, as individuals, and more so as leaders – showing no bias, giving to everyone our very best – encompassing everyone in love.

We do so having been shown the same loving mercy and grace by our Lord Jesus Christ. We do so seeing the need in our Boys for a nurturing leader, guide and friend. We do so, because it is our Lord Jesus' desire for all to receive His saving grace, grow in godly character, and achieve their highest potential.



One of the Senior Boys leading through service in the cleanup at a resident's home for BB CARES Anchor Event



Boys employing their best throwing skills to get the ping-pong ball into the bowl at one of the CQ (SP) stations

We joined the Brigade because we are drawn to the programme. We enjoy the Brigade because we relish the camaraderie. We stay and serve in the Brigade as we learn to love people, all people.

To nurture Boys and prepare them for the future, we must grow a heart of compassion as all-encompassing as that of our Lord Jesus, who: "When ... He saw a large crowd (of strangers from diverse backgrounds, gender and age) ... felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and ... began to teach them many things." (Mark 6:34)

Leadership in our Lord Jesus and the Brigade, is not about lording it over others, but the giving of ourselves to bless and raise others to be the best that they can be.

We lead out of love for others, which draws us to die to ourselves (Luke 9:23), and humbly be a servant to all (Mark 10:42-45). This love is from God, and it is because of it in our lives that we are able to love all others ... because He first loved us (1 John 4:7-21). In this love, there is no FOMO (Fear Of Missing Out), just the joy of serving our Lord God, and being a blessing to others.

May our leadership be permeated through and through with the love of God, and encompass the nurturing care for everyone who is a part of our Brigade family and beyond!

31st & 64th Coy Unity in Action

BY SGT WARREN GOH AND SGT FOO KAI ZHE FROM 64TH SINGAPORE COMPANY IN ANG MO KIO SECONDARY SCHOOL

The 64th Singapore Company in Ang Mo Kio Secondary School and the 31st Singapore Company in Bowen Secondary School organised an overnight camp at St Margaret's School (Secondary) from 13 to 14 April, together with the three Girls' Brigade Companies from those schools. This was a day before the combined Enrolment and Dedication Service and it served as a cohesive and enriching experience for both the Boys and girls.

During the camp, the Senior Boys showcased their basha tent-pitching as well as knot tying skill and everyone participated in team-building exercises which further enhanced the sense of unity among them. This unity was displayed during the combined Enrolment and Dedication Service, when they came together as one Brigade to celebrate the renewal of commitment by the respective members.



Taking the lead in basha tent-pitching



Organising Committee comprising of Officers & Primers from 64th Coy and 31st GB SPARKS

"Participating in this overnight camp in preparation for our combined Enrolment and Dedication Service was very refreshing as we got to know other BB members from the 31st Singapore Company as well as those from the Girls' Brigade. Even though our interactions were initially awkward, we managed to break the ice and got to know our group members better as we spent time together on activities. I am thankful to be able to experience this opportunity before I step down as Company Sergeant Major!"

-SSG Thad Kee from 64th Singapore Company in Ang Mo Kio Secondary School-



Participating in balloon sculpting activity



Advanced Officers Training Course



Officers participating in the theoretical component of the Design Thinking module

The Advanced Officers Training Course (AOTC) was held on 27 July at the BB Headquarters and attended by 23 Officers from 16 Companies. They were introduced to the module on Design Thinking in the morning, followed by an Action Learning Project Briefing in the afternoon. The course emphasised practical and theoretical components tailored to enhance the Officers' capabilities in guiding and nurturing the next generation of Boys. May the Officers apply what they have learned back in their Companies!

"In AOTC, we delved into the principles of human-centred design (Design Thinking). This innovative methodology places the user at the heart of the design process, emphasising empathy and iterative feedback. We were divided into groups and paired up to apply the design thinking principles to design a camping experience. This collaborative exercise allowed us to explore and experiment with the methodology in a practical setting."

-2LT Gideon Wong from 77th Singapore Company in Choa Chu Kang Secondary School-



Basic Officer Training Course

On 21 Sep, a total of 35 Officers from 20 Companies attended Day 1 of Basic Officer Training Course 2/24 at the BB Headquarters! They went through the Intentional Mentoring Programme conducted by 2LT Terence Chow, who introduced BB's mentoring model, offered insights into managing mentoring relationships, and shared practical skills for effective mentoring with Boys. The Officers also engaged in "Games That Teach With Facilitation", facilitated by trainers from Singapore Adventure and Leadership Training (SALT).

Through interactive games, they learnt how to draw valuable lessons from activities to help guide Boys. It was a fun and engaging day for these Officers, who are committed to becoming strong role models and mentors by offering guidance and honing their facilitation skills to bring out the best in the Boys.



16th National Camp

From 21 to 24 August, 40 of our Boys together with cadets from the 9 other Uniformed Groups (UGs) were gathered at Maju Camp for the National Camp! With the camp theme "United in Diversity", our Boys had the opportunity to meet fellow students from other UGs in this biennial camp, exchanging knowledge and skills, while broadening their perspectives. Boys had the chance to impart their knowledge on Knots & Lashings, as well as its application and usefulness during the Skills Exchange segment with fellow cadets. We trust that the Boys had a wonderful time learning new things and getting to know new friends!

"My experience at National Camp 2024 has been incredibly enriching and thoroughly enjoyable. I encountered numerous opportunities to learn new skills and gain fresh perspectives from peers representing a diverse range of UGs. From the engaging skillset exchanges to the challenging hike, every activity contributed to a deeper understanding of the different UGs. These experiences have broadened my knowledge and provided practical insights that I am excited to bring back and apply at my own Company."

-SGT Nathan Tang from 33rd Singapore Company in Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary)-

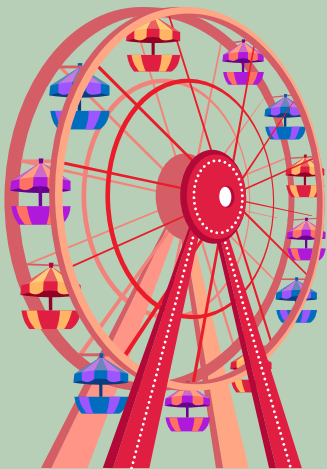


10th and 76J Combined Outing to USS

BY LCP GARETH CHANG FROM 10TH SINGAPORE COMPANY IN BEATTY SECONDARY SCHOOL

On 17 August, the 10th Singapore Company in Beatty Secondary School and 76J Singapore Company in First Toa Payoh Primary School went to the Universal Studios (USS) for a combined outing! We travelled there by bus from Toa Payoh Methodist Church and were divided into two groups. The groupings were created by South 1 Cluster Representative and Captain, LTA Daryl Chen, to split the Boys according to how adventurous they were with the rides. My group happened to be the more adventurous group and we were open to go on all the rides. The first ride that we went on was the Transformers Ride. There was a very long line and we waited for two hours. But the ride turned out to be fantastic and it was worth the long wait!

After the Transformer Ride, we proceeded for lunch. Even though the prices for food and drinks were expensive, the servings were large. After lunch, we headed to the water show and enjoyed the performance. There were interactive scenes where the audience could experience being splashed by the water and it was exhilarating because of the guns and cannons which were used to simulate explosions. We then proceeded to the Jurassic Park restaurant and took the Human Ride. Finally, we went on the Jurassic Park Rapids Adventure ride which was the highlight for this trip. I thoroughly enjoyed the time spent with my peers and juniors during this combined outing!



The President's Award Presentation Ceremony —

The President's Award Presentation Ceremony was held at the Istana on 23 July. This year, we proudly honoured 9 exceptional Primers whose dedication, perseverance and commitment exemplify the highest values of The Boys' Brigade in Singapore. Surrounded by 35 distinguished guests, including Honorary Office Bearers, Brigade Executives, and family members, the atmosphere was filled with pride and hope. We were most honoured to have our Boys' Brigade Patron, President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam, present the highest award in the Primers Programme to our deserving recipients.

The President's Award recipients of 2024 (in alphabetical order) are:

SCL Caleb Pang Yi Yang (12I)
 SCL Ethan Chin Jia Rong (60th)
 SCL Jarrod Chay (14th)
 SCL Jayden Clemen Lim (12BR)
 SCL Lee Kah Fai Benjamin (12I)
 SCL Luke Quek (ITECC)
 SCL Nathaniel Josiah Tang Kai En (33rd)
 SCL Ooi Wee Hong (64th)
 SCL T Jeffrey Samuel (60th)



Recipients interacting with President Tharman Shanmugaratnam

"The President's Award is extremely meaningful to me, not just because of its prestige, but also because it is a testament to my growth and development during my BB journey. I am grateful for the countless opportunities to be able to further develop myself and learn skills that enable me to make a bigger positive impact by taking on additional roles within the community."

-SCL Jarrod Chay from 14th Singapore Company in Anglican High School-



Distinguished guests at the ceremony also included Honorary Office Bearers and Brigade Executive members



Recipients of the 2024 President's Award with Honorary Brigade President, LG (Ret) Winston Choo, President Tharman Shanmugaratnam and Brigade President, LTA Patrick Koh

I believe the most important aspect of this journey is the willingness and courage to try, no matter the challenge. Apart from the achievement, what is truly admirable is striving to give our best regardless of the outcome."

-SCL Ooi Wee Hong from 64th Singapore Company in Ang Mo Kio Secondary School-



Character Quest (Seniors Programme)

On 31 August, a total of 133 teams comprising of 594 Boys from 47 Companies participated in the Character Quest (CQ) for Seniors Programme at Orchid Park Secondary School!

This year, the theme of the competition is “Extraordinary Compassion”, which is crucial in today’s world, where conflicts and misunderstandings are increasingly common. The competition aims to inspire Senior Boys to rise above everyday difficulties and challenges them to embrace and demonstrate empathy, kindness and support. As our Guest-of-Honour, Ms Chia Poh Fang, puts it, “compassion is love in action; noticing the needs around us and acting upon it to meet those needs”.

The competition started with an indoor quiz segment, followed by the games segment. The Boys were challenged to work in teams, devise creative solutions to overcome obstacles and demonstrate empathy and communication at various stations. One of the stations required them to be blindfolded while navigating through obstacles, putting the team to the test where they had to provide clear instructions for their teammate while considering his needs and difficulties. We were honoured to have Ms Chia Poh Fang, Executive Director of Our Daily Bread Ministries, Singapore, present the prizes to our winning teams and to give words of encouragement to our Boys.



Winning team from 53rd Singapore Company in Bukit Batok Secondary School with Brigade President (LTA Patrick Koh), GOH (Ms Chia Poh Fang) and Chairperson (Mr Joshua Khoo)



Congratulations to the top 3 overall winning teams of the competition:

- Champion** - Team 92 from 53rd Singapore Company in Bukit Batok Secondary School
- 2nd place** - Team 68 from 39th Singapore Company in Swiss Cottage Secondary School
- 2nd place** - Team 14 from 10th Singapore Company in Beatty Secondary School
- 3rd place** - Team 30 from 14th Singapore Company in Anglican High School

Congratulations to the 3 winners of the skit segment (in no particular order):

- 5th Singapore Company in Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School
- 14th Singapore Company in Anglican High School
- 27th Singapore Company in Presbyterian High School



Walking in unison to complete an activity at a station

“During the outdoor segment, our team made some mistakes and lost points. This posed as a challenge for us because we were worried that our team ranking would fall. However, we overcame this with our team strategists, Elson and Justus, who told us to calm down and work out the best course of action. This was crucial for our success and is also a lesson that I took back from the competition.”

-PTE Sashank Sathivada from 53rd Singapore Company in Bukit Batok Secondary School-

Blindfolded Boy relying on his teammates for instructions to navigate around the classroom



Boys working in a team to transport balls of various sizes using tools such as markers



Throwing hoops over the bottles to pull them towards the end line



Primers Summit



Engaging in an outdoor activity during the Sports Science for Adventure Races workshop

22 Primers from 9 Companies attended the 03/24 Primers Summit at the BB Headquarters on 17 August. It was a good time of learning for the Primers who went through a workshop on CV Writing by Singapore Adventure and Leadership Training, and a Sports Science for Adventure Races workshop. For the CV writing workshop, the Primers learnt how to craft a well structured and visually appealing CV that captures attention and tailor their CVs to different job positions and industries effectively. They also learnt to communicate their skills, experiences and achievements concisely and persuasively on their CVs. For the Sports Science for Adventure Races workshop, the Primers were taught how to organise adventure races and gleaned pointers from a sports science perspective. The workshop also trained Primers to craft race preparation plans for Boys.

"With the experience and the knowledge gained through this workshop, my biggest takeaway from the Sports Science for Adventure Races workshop is the importance of customising training sessions to fit every individual."

-SCL Ernest Chua from 62th Singapore Company in Orchid Park Secondary School-



Participating in the CV writing workshop

Seniors Programme Conference

On 6 August, a total of 67 Officers from 43 Companies attended the Seniors Programme (SP) Conference held at the Headquarters. The Officers had a time of celebration to share about what the Boys had experienced through the National Leadership Assessment Camp (NLAC). Officers were also updated on Global Awareness (Master) and were presented with an overview of the SP events for 2025. To end the conference, a briefing was conducted by the Character Quest (SP) Chairman, Mr Joshua Khoo, to share about updates and information relating to the competition.

"Attending SP Conference is always a joy, giving us the chance to catch up with fellow officers and meet new ones. It was a heartening experience to hear the presentations and the Question and Answer segment on the SP curriculum as well as the briefing on Character Quest (SP) 2024."

-LTA Jared Choo from 12BR Singapore Company in Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road)-



58th Coy Marching with Pride

BY 2LT ALBERT TEO FROM 58TH SINGAPORE COMPANY IN RIVERSIDE
SECONDARY SCHOOL

8 August is a day that will be etched in the memories of the Boys from Riverside Secondary School, who participated in the school's National Day Parade (NDP). Preparation for the event began as early as the June holidays, with Riverside's Secondary 3 Boys' Brigade seniors guiding the selected Secondary 2 and 3 Boys to perfect their drills. This year, five Uniform Groups (UGs) participated in the parade: the National Cadet Corps Sea, National Police Cadet Corps, National Civil Defence Cadet Corps, Girls' Brigade, and of course, The Boys' Brigade.

The lead-up to the parade was not without its challenges. As Term 3 commenced, the Boys dedicated long hours after school to refining their drill techniques. The Secondary 3 Executive Committee (Exco) members took on additional responsibilities such as drafting scripts for both the Dry and Wet Weather Plans and mentoring their peers to achieve a high standard of performance. One notable moment occurred during a rainy afternoon drill practice, where the Boys marched undeterred through the downpour—soaked in rain, but unwavering in spirit.

The pace of preparation was intense, and the atmosphere in the days leading up to the parade was charged with anticipation. On the morning of the event, the Boys made sure their uniforms were immaculate, waking up earlier than usual to prepare. Despite their eagerness to showcase their skills outdoors, an unexpected drizzle moved the parade indoors, switching to the Wet Weather Plan in the school hall. Nevertheless, the Boys, alongside the other UGs, embodied resilience and professionalism, giving their best throughout the parade.

In conclusion, Riverside Secondary School's NDP was an event that fostered camaraderie, created lasting memories, and provided a valuable opportunity for Exco members to hone their leadership skills.



SGT Chai Kai Rong Jimmy holding the National flag with cadets from other UGs



"Being the flag bearer was a challenging experience. Holding the flag at a perfect 90-degree angle and handling it with precision was no easy feat. However, I persevered alongside my fellow Colours Party cadets. The NDP experience helped me forge stronger bonds with my teammates."

-SGT Jimmy Chai from 58th Singapore Company in Riverside Secondary School-



National Leadership Assessment Camp



On 13 and 14 July, the second round of the National Leadership Assessment Camp (NLAC) was held and a total of 103 Secondary 3 Boys from 16 Seniors Programme Companies attended! Through a variety of team-building exercises, campers were tested in their abilities as leaders. These exercises challenge participants to work under pressure to accomplish difficult objectives. As the Boys continue their journey in the BB, may they apply the principles they learned back in their own BB Companies, having been blessed with leadership opportunities and new friendships during their time at the camp!

"I learnt a lot about leadership during the recent NLAC, having just gotten into the norm of leading my Company as the Company Sergeant Major. I gained new insights from the camp, such as how enabling others to shine is just as important a leadership quality. The camp has made me reflect on the kind of leader I would like to embody and how I can contribute to the team even when not assigned a leadership role."

-CPL Chan Kin Hey from 73rd Singapore Company in Bukit View Secondary School-



Officer Cadet Orientation

On 7 September, 43 Officers from 24 Companies attended the Officers Cadet Orientation (OCO) Course 02/24 at Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church (PSPC). PSPC was where the first BB Company was formed in 1930! The Officers started off by practising basic foot drill and were inspected for their uniforms. They were then introduced to the BB Tradition which included the BB History and reasons for serving. They were also taught on the BB Beliefs and Method, as well as the roles and responsibilities of a BB Officer.

The experience went beyond classroom teaching as the Officers participated in the BB Founder's Trail to trace the steps of our Founder, J M Fraser, and were guided on a heritage gallery walk around PSPC. They also had time to network and mingle with fellow Officers over lunch. May these new Officers gain a deeper appreciation for the long-standing heritage of BB and prepare their hearts to serve at their Companies!

"The initial motivation for my involvement in BB was to help support the operations of the 69J Company in Xinghua Primary School. After attending the OCO and having learnt more about the history of BB and its beliefs and methods, I feel inspired to make a difference and to impact the lives of our youths in BB."

-OCT Soh Chee Seng from 69J Singapore Company in Xinghua Primary School-



The Officers also had a chance to appreciate artefacts which were carefully curated and preserved in the Heritage Corner at PSPC

66th Coy BB CARES at Changi Beach

BY CPL LIEW QI ZHENG ZDEN AND CPL GUPTA GAURANG KUMAR FROM 66TH SINGAPORE COMPANY IN WOODLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL

As part of our Company's BB CARES (Community Activities Rallying Everyone to Serve) initiative, we decided to organise a beach-cleaning effort at Changi Beach. What we initially thought would be a boring and mundane task turned out to be a fun and enjoyable experience. Despite a few moments of playfulness and going off task, we largely managed to stay focused and eventually collected 7.7kg of waste from the beach shoreline, along with a block of wood that had nails protruding out, which could have been dangerous for the beach-goers. There was a remarkable difference in the appearance of the shoreline after our clean-up, but we also know that it was just a small portion of the entire beach and everyone plays a part in ensuring the cleanliness and safety of our beaches.

After the beach clean-up, the instructors from Young Nautilus, our education enrichment partner, also showcased various artefacts of marine life that could be found at these beaches. We learnt about a class of organisms known as echinoderms, which include sea stars (not starfish, as they are not fish), sand dollars and sea urchins.

We learnt that echinoderms were invertebrates, which meant they do not have a backbone. They also exhibited "radial symmetry", meaning their body parts are arranged around a central point. This is particularly noticeable in sea stars and sea urchins. Lastly, echinoderms have a water vascular system, which is used for feeding and respiration. The system is operated using water pressure and includes structures like tube feet.

We found the activity extremely eye-opening and informative. Many of the artefacts we held and learnt about would not have been available in our classrooms, and it was truly an experience to be up close and personal with such wonders that we otherwise would not encounter in our everyday lives. On top of it all, we also grew collectively as a company as it reinforced the idea in each of us that caring for our environment is a shared responsibility. We hope to adopt more sustainable practices in our daily lives and will do our part to encourage those around to do the same. What we initially expected to be a boring Saturday morning turned out to be a truly memorable experience, and we walked away as a company instilled with a stronger sense of social responsibility.



Boys learning more about echinoderms discovered from the beach cleanup



Neighbourhood Carnival

On 21 September, more than 350 people attended our Neighbourhood Carnival at the BB Headquarters (BBHQ). BBHQ shifted to 10 Kwong Avenue since the start of the year and this event was designed to engage with the nearby Sennett Estate, Potong Pasir and Bidadari residents!

Residents were able to participate in activities such as pilates workshop, fitness challenge, ocarina playing, tag archery, obstacle course, even a soccer tournament and many other games. Apart from the activities, participants were treated to mouth-watering and nostalgic food such as curry puff and fishballs from Old Chang Kee, muah chee, kacang puteh, cup corn, and even ice-cream sold by a traditional motorcycle vendor. Residents also went on a guided tour to explore our Heritage Gallery and learn more about the history of The Boys' Brigade. This event was graced by Advisor to the Potong Pasir Grassroots Organisations, Mr Sitoh Yih Pin. He met our Brigade Executives and Officers and got to understand the work that we do in the Brigade.

We are most grateful for the warm responses from the residents, and for this opportunity to introduce BB to the neighbours. Special thanks to our partners: REVL Training, Move Therapy, Ocarina House and LTA Gerard Su for the fun, exciting and challenging booths and the Sennett Estate Residents' Network for supporting this event. We look forward to deepening ties with residents and businesses in the vicinity in the years to come!

"I am truly grateful to The Boys' Brigade for organising the Carnival at Sennett Estate. It was a wonderful treat for the residents, featuring door gifts, plenty of food, and games, including a football match! This event provided a great opportunity for residents to come together and enjoy some fun. I really appreciate the effort put into creating a positive experience for us."

-Lim Hui Fang, Sennett Estate Residents' Network-



Advisor to Potong Pasir Grassroots Organisation, Mr Sitoh Yih Pin, learning more about the history of BB at the Heritage Gallery from our Brigade President LTA Patrick Koh



BB CARES

On 20 July, we held our BB CARES Anchor Event at Bendemeer Road and a total of 64 Boys from the 7th Singapore Company in St Andrew's Secondary School, 21st Singapore Company in Geylang Methodist School (Secondary) and 48th Singapore Company in Zhonghua Secondary School participated in this meaningful project, partnering the volunteers from City Development Limited (CDL)! The Boys cleaned houses, transformed living spaces into cleaner, more comfortable environments and distributed goodie bags filled with essential items and treats. Beyond the house cleaning service, Boys took time to befriend the residents, listening to their stories and building genuine connections. This event highlights our commitment to community service and the power of empathy and kindness in making a positive impact for the underserved.



Bringing smiles through service, our Boy ensures that furniture are thoroughly wiped



Boys from 48th Singapore Company and CDL volunteers as they show that service is more than just cleaning, it's also about caring for others



"By cleaning houses for those in need and spending time interacting with them, we were reminded of how fortunate we really are and learnt not to take what we have for granted. BB CARES is a meaningful experience as it provides a platform for Boys to empathise with the less privileged and to give back to society."

-Kevion Kong from 48th Singapore Company in Zhonghua Secondary School-



"Participating in BB Cares was a truly humbling and rewarding experience. Although it was only a two-hour experience, it opened my eyes to the struggles many face in their daily lives and reminded me of the importance of compassion and generosity. A key takeaway is that small acts of kindness can have a big impact and can all help uplift others in meaningful ways."

-SGT Justin Chionh from 21st Singapore Company in Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)-





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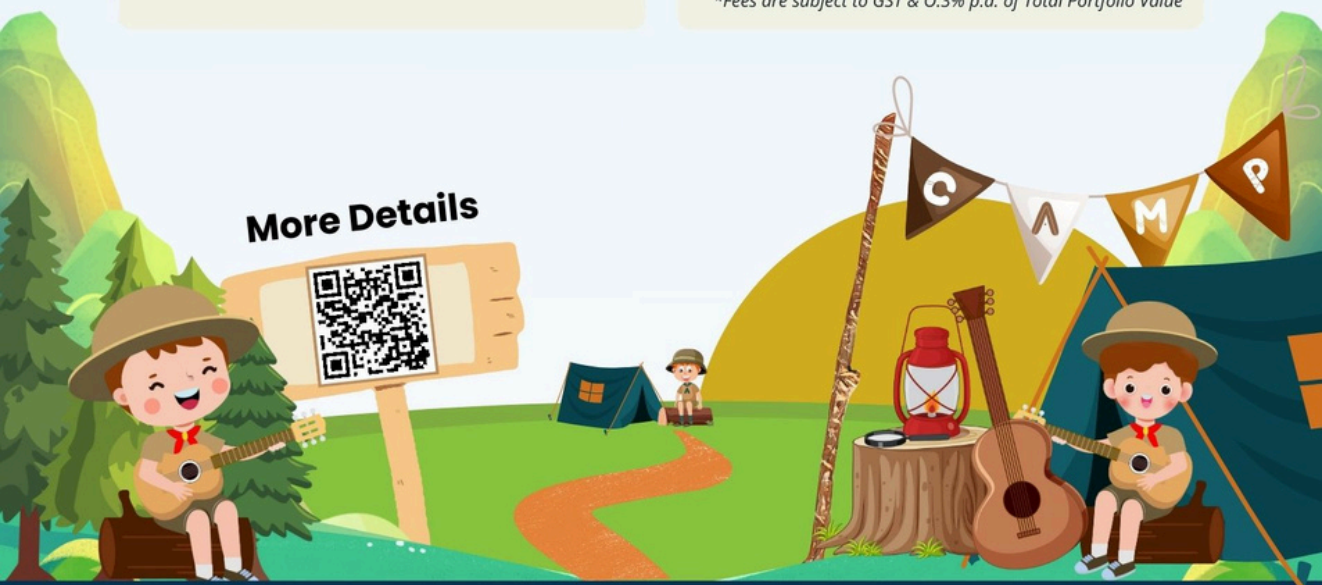
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