



PERSPECTIVES:

## When Hard Work and Resilience Pays Off

A Merahan's journey through BMSS starts with the Secondary 1 Registration, and ends with the collection of National Examinations results at the end of four (or five) years. In the years bookended by these two significant events, Merahans no doubt go through a mixed basket of highs and lows- but what they can be certain of is that the Bukit Merah Secondary School family is always behind them.

Here are the stories of three Merahans, who each have done the school proud.



**JOHN ALICANTE EMBILE**  
Class of 4E3 2018  
Vice Captain (Floorball)  
Awarded the ST Young Star Award 2018

"School was tough as juggling both sports and studies was tremendously difficult. It was hard to keep my grades up but in my graduating year especially, I began to open up and become more outspoken. I often hounded my teachers for help after school- it was definitely exhausting both physically and mentally, but I knew I had to do it for the people who care for me.. My Floorball teammates and supported each other, both in academics and competitions, without giving up on one another.

We are now going our separate ways but I could not be more grateful for everyone around me for shaping me to become who I am today. I plan to further my studies and achieve my passion in life, while also keeping in touch with my friends from BMSS."

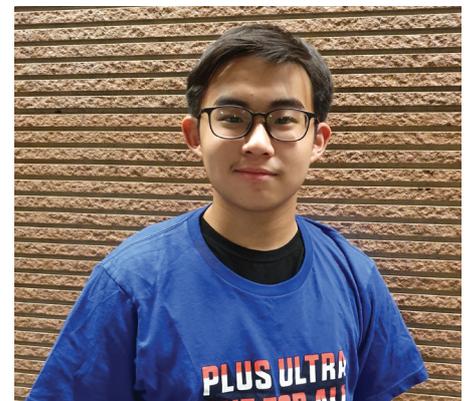


**HU HUI LING**  
Class of 4E4 2018  
Senior Patrol Leader (Scouts)  
Recipient of the Resilient Achiever, and Academic Achiever Award

"Looking back at my secondary school life, there are too many memorable events for me to share them all. In BMSS, there are many activities that helped us to settle in to secondary school life. I learnt many new things from my CCA, Scouts.

The constant help from my subject teachers made me realise that I am very blessed to have so many teachers who are willing to give me their time. They were always patient and encouraging, and my peers from CCA and class were also a big reason why I was able to overcome the challenges I faced in academics and at home.

All in all, I am glad that I chose to attend Bukit Merah Secondary School."



**KANG KUAN YANG**  
Class of 4N1 2018  
Upper Sec Section Leader (Concert Band)  
Recipient of the Resilient Achiever, and Academic Achiever Award

"When I first entered secondary school, I was determined to improve my character and academic results. As my results improved, I grew in self-confidence that I really could do well if I put my mind to it. My teachers were kind and understanding and I learnt that it is fine to ask for help from others.

In my final year in BMSS, I had a plan for the N levels. This came with a lot of sacrifices and along the way, I also helped my friends in their studies.

I believe that hard work and effort will always pay off no matter how long or how much it takes.

Thanks HSS and BMSS for an unforgettable ride!"



OUT OF SCHOOL CURRICULUM:

## EPIC Camp 2019

At the end of Term 1 this year, a class bonding camp, called the EPIC Camp, was organised for the 1T1 students. The 3-day camp gave students opportunities to get to know themselves and each other better. Let's read about their experience, in their own words.



On the first day of the camp, we participated in a team bonding activity in the school hall. We played a lot of games like 'Face the Cookie Challenge' and 'Spider Web'. At first, we felt bewildered as we did not understand the games. But during the games, we felt delighted as we were working with each other. We got to know each other better by playing these games together.

*Written by Anaqi, Leonard, Bertrand, and Ryan*

We went to the Labrador Outdoor Learning Centre to participate in the Caving activity. We had to crawl our way through the narrow space, as it was very tight. We felt excited and amazed because many of us had not done Caving before. We had to wear protective gear, and when we were inside the cave we felt both uncomfortable and happy. It was enjoyable because we were doing the activity together as a class.

*Written by Danial, Julius, Wen Jie, Krishna, and Alif*



At Labrador, the girls took part in rock climbing. The instructor told us to put on our harnesses and helmets. We felt frustrated while we were struggling to put on the equipment, but we helped each other. We took turns to climb; we felt nervous and scared, but we encouraged each other.

We learnt to face our fears.

*Written by Dian, Heryza, Nabilia, and Ayu*

We had our Dragon Boat activity at PassionWave@ Marina Bay. The experience was fun. While we were wearing the lifejackets, we felt delighted because it was our first time doing it. During the activity, we learnt to paddle together. It was exhausting and we got all wet, but we learnt how to help each other. We look forward to participating in more events like this.

*Written by Aisyah, Aliyah, Elfi, and Elqy*

We went for an Amazing Race, and visited several places like the National Stadium, Kampong Glam, and Istana Park. We had to run to the destinations to solve the puzzles written in the clue cards we were given. We felt lethargic because we had to run to a lot of places, but when we completed the Race, we were proud of ourselves. We had good teamwork and we did not give up. We learnt how to do things together, and to never give up.

*Written by Pravin, Marzuqi, Azli, and Qistina*

On 8 March, we went to the school hall. Ms Neo gave us a briefing about what to do, and gave us the dominos to arrange. While we were arranging the dominos, some of us accidentally hit the dominos but we were lucky that the dominos were not connected to other groups' arrangements. If not, we would have ruined the other group's hard work.

After we finished arranging the dominos, Mr Apollos came to see us, and asked how we came up with the designs. He started off the dominos, and we packed away all the pieces.

*Written by Lili, Theodora, Kishore, Aryan, and Rey*



Our principal, focused and taking aim!

MEGA EVENT DAY EXTRAVAGANZA PART ONE:

## A Carnival Celebration with the Community

If you could dunk a teacher, whom would it be?

In an interesting show of affection and appreciation, students of Bukit Merah Secondary School nominated eight teachers to be dunked during the BM50 Carnival, out of which one escaped unscathed. The Dunking Tank Station was but one out of 32 games and 9 food stalls dotted all around the school for the BM50 Carnival.

The Carnival, which was held in conjunction with the National Day

celebrations 2018 and was a part of the school's 50th anniversary celebrations, also gave Merahans a good opportunity to reach out to the community by hosting guests from the community, like Queenstown Primary School and the Enabling Village. The event was a meaningful learning experience for the students of BMSS; a large number of them were involved in the running of the day's proceedings, ranging from being a part of the Uniformed Groups marching contingent, to manning the various stalls.

At the end of the day, Merahans felt that their fatigue from the busy day was definitely outweighed by the renewed sense of camaraderie strengthened by the successful conclusion of the Carnival.

*“ It was a memorable day, and the students and guests enjoyed the carnival a lot. Kudos to the Carnival Committee for planning such a fantastic event!”*

MR ZUBI KEK  
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Our Merahans, together again!

MEGA EVENT DAY EXTRAVAGANZA PART TWO:

## The Merahan Family comes together!

“Memories have faded but the spirit remains strong and tonight we are all school children again. Thanks for bringing us back.” - Adapted from a comment by Mr Koh Seng Choon, class of 1973.

If the school hall at Bukit Merah Secondary School could talk, it would probably tell you how most evenings offer a peaceful respite, as the day's buzz of activities

softens to a murmur. Hence, it was a rare sight to see 500 members of the Merahan family- alumni, pioneer educators, current staff, previous school leaders, and the School Advisory Committee-gather there on 16 November 2018, filling the air with excited chatter while connecting with each other and reminiscing days of yore.

They had gathered to attend the Homecoming Dinner, which was the culminating event of the year-long celebration of the school's 50th Anniversary.

A highlight of the evening was the Book Launch, which unveiled the BMSS 50th Anniversary Yearbook, and Merahan Memories, the latter containing 50 stories contributed by alumni and ex-staff. The Class of 1982 showed their appreciation to the school by presenting the Class of 1982 Alumni Awards for current students.

Time seemed to melt away as old friends were embraced and new ones made, and the evening drew to a close with a renewed sense of belonging to Bukit Merah Secondary School.



**GLOBAL MERAHAN PROGRAMME:**

## Sawadee Ka Phayao!

The Land of Smiles welcomed 28 students from Bukit Merah Secondary School, who were visiting Phayao as a part of the Global Merahan Programme.

During their trip, Merahans were treated to the warm hospitality of the students and staff of Srinagarindra the Princess Mother School, Phayao (SWPY) in Chiang Mai. They attended Geography and History lessons with their hosts, and even got the chance to stay in the SWP boarding school! Waking up in the morning was definitely much easier with friends around.

Some highlights of the trip included visits to the Golden Triangle, where Merahans were captivated as they stood at the point where Thailand, Myanmar and Laos meet, and the Opium Hall, where they got to learn about the history of opium trade in Thailand.

Another memorable experience was the visit to Bang Por Rong School where students got the opportunities to interact and teach Primary School children simple English and Art & Craft Lesson.

All in all, the students returned from the trip more aware of how they can help others.

**OUTREACH PROGRAMME:**

## SAMFest; Never the SAME



SAMFest- which stands for Science, Art & Maths Plus Festival- has grown over the years to include other disciplines like the Humanities and Languages. It is a day of celebration of Learning, as Merahans proudly showcase what they have learnt within and beyond classroom lessons.

A highlight of the SAMFest is the

school's Applied Learning Programme (ALP) and Learning for Life Programme (LLP). The ALP station gives students the opportunities to try their hands on coding with drones and mbots, while the LLP station allows students to get a taste of Floorball.

What is more significant, however, is the interactions between Merahans, their invited primary school counterparts, and of course, the BMSS community.

**Are you curious to find out more?**

Scan the QR code to visit our school website!



Scan Me

## AT A GLANCE

**ADDRESS:** 10, Lengkok Bahru Singapore 159050

**MRT STATION:** Redhill MRT

**BUSES:** 14, 32, 33, 63, 64, 120, 132, 139, 145, 147, 196, 197, 855, 961

**MOTTO:** Sedia: Always be Prepared

**FOUNDED:** 1968

**DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMMES**

- ALP: Creative Robotics and Engineering
- LLP: Character Development & Leadership through Sports

**SUBJECTS OFFERED**

- Additional Mathematics
- Basic Chinese
- Basic Malay
- Basic Tamil
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Chinese
- Chinese B
- Chinese N(A)
- Combined Humanities (S,G)
- Combined Humanities (S,H)
- Combined Humanities (S,L)
- Combined Humanities (SS,LC)
- Computer Applications
- Design & Technology
- Elements of Business Skills
- English Language
- Food & Nutrition
- Food and Consumer Education
- Food Studies
- Geography
- History
- Malay
- Malay N(A)
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Principles of Accounts
- Science
- Science (Chem, Bio)
- Science (Phy, Bio)
- Science (Phy, Chem)
- Social Studies
- Tamil
- Tamil N(A)

**CCAS**

- St. John Brigade, Scouts (Boys & Girls), NCC (Land), Concert Band, Modern Dance, Info Media Club, Drama Club, AVA Club, Library Society, Student Activity, Engineering & Innovation, Young Entrepreneur Club, Basketball, Floorball, Tchoukball

**AGGREGATE RANGES (2018)**

- Express : 189 - 256
- Normal (Academic) : 152 - 189
- Normal (Technical) : 118 - 153