

Signal

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NEWSLETTER

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JAN - JUN 2019



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Greetings to all!

The year 2019 started off well for the SDeaf with a variety of social, educational and fun programmes and activities for the old and young, such as terrarium workshop, visit to the new Jewel terminal, comic art class, SgSL Storytelling for children and floor curling game.

We were also inspired by the talk by Mr Anindya Bapin Bhattacharra, a Deafblind who shared with us how he was able to overcome the odds and learned to interact with others via a unique method of communication and assistive technology. We were no less encouraged by the achievements of some of our students at the 47th National Athletics Championships 2019 where they won 10 gold and silver medals in a variety of events.

The highlight of this first half of the year has to be the annual SDeaf Family Day, where almost a hundred members, clients and their families had a fun day out at the SuperPark Singapore. There were thrills and spills but all enjoyed the various games and obstacles that challenged their balance and coordination.

On this note, I would like to take the opportunities to thank the staff, volunteers and partners who have worked together to bring these activities and programmes to the community.

Last but not least, I would like to welcome back Ms Judy Lim, who has returned to the association as our Acting Executive Director in June. We look forward to her leadership in our endeavour to improve and increase services and programmes for our members and clients.



*Ernest Toh
Acting executive director*



(From left to right) SDeaf Honorary Treasurer Mr Jeremy Chan, President Mr Martin Marini, Council Members Ms Valerie Tan, Mr Eric Tseng, Mr Teo Bee Chuan, Mr Chew Mun Kai and Acting Executive Director, Mr Ernest Toh

Basic Health Screening + Terrarium workshop



SADeaf worked with Singapore Healthcare Society on an educational and entertainment event on Saturday, 5 January 2019. 23 participants attended this informative event where they picked up valuable health tips. In the second part of this event, participants made their own terrariums which they brought back to brighten up their homes.



DEAFinitely YOUTH



On Saturday, 12 January 2019, we organised Deafinitely YOUTH to reach out to promising deaf youths in Singapore. A total of six participants attended the programme with games and a presentation which aimed at recruitment of youth leaders.



Deafblind Sharing



Founder of BapinGroup, Mr Anindya Bapin Bhattacharyya, giving a presentation to an audience, using sign language, standing between two Deaf Interpreter-Guides (IGs).

Mr Anindya Bapin Bhattacharyya was holidaying in Singapore when we invited him to share with us his life experience as a deafblind person. More than 20 deaf and hearing members of the public turned up for the sharing session.

Bapin's wife, Ms Sook Hee Choi, with the assistance of Ms Lisa Loh, interpreted for him using pro-tactile sign language in his presentation and interaction with the audience.

There are many ways Deafblind people communicate and one of them is through their sense of touch. Bapin demonstrated this mid-way through the sharing. Another method is using technology such as a refreshable braille display with tactile dots from raised pins in the device.

The sharing session was an eye-opener for all who attended. They were especially inspired by the courage, determination and perseverance of Bapin in overcoming the odds to lead a successful life.



2019

Prosperity Lo-Hei

SADeaf ushered in the year of the Pig with 68 clients and volunteers on Saturday, 16 February 2019, tossing the Prosperity Lo Hei together for a year of blessings and good health. Participants showed great enthusiasm and creativity in decorating their Lo Hei sets. They also walked away with traditional gifts such as mandarin oranges, red packets and door gifts.



Functional Health Screening



SADeaf worked with Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) and vendor AsiaMedic on Project Silver Screen for the Deaf elderly on Saturday, 9 March 2019. A total of 30 participants attended and went through oral, eye and hearing tests. The participants also received individual consultation based on their screening reports.



Sharing Session with the WFD RSA YS

On Friday, 15 March 2019, the World Federation of the Deaf Regional Secretariat for Asia Youth Section (WFD RSA YS) visited SADeaf and gave a talk on WFD RSA YS's history. The participants enjoyed the sharing session and learnt a lot about WFD, WFD RSA YS and their work in Asia.



SgSL Storytelling



During the March school holidays, children and parents were allured with the world of storytelling in Singapore Sign Language at public libraries around Singapore. The stories of Cinderella and the Gingerbread Man were told completely in sign language.

Though the children were initially confused by the silent storyteller and the interpreter being the voice of the storyteller, they slowly adapted and understood their relationship.

Soon, the children were enthusiastically learning the signs taught by our storytellers and were helping them tell the stories! Even their parents were actively signing with their children.

When it was time for role playing, the children transformed into the characters from the stories and performed for their friends and parents. Their laughter and squeals of joy from the performance livened up the atmosphere in the library as they danced and chased the Gingerbread man.

Before the end of the event, each child was gifted a Merdeaf badge to show their support for learning Singapore Sign Language and building a more inclusive community.



3D2N Bentong/Sky Mirror/Sekinchan



On the weekend of 22 to 24 March 2019, 21 clients took a 3-day 2-night tour to Bentong / Sky Mirror / Sekinchan in Malaysia. They enjoyed exploring interesting places and interacting with hearing participants in the tour group.



SPR
PRK

SUPERPARKS SINGAPORE

SADEAF FAMILY DAY 2019

A key highlight event at SADeaf was the annual Family Day 2019. This event was for all SADeaf members and clients to relax, have fun with their families and foster a stronger Deaf Community. This year, the Family Day was held at SuperPark Singapore at Suntec City on 8 June 2019.

Eager participants with children in tow started to arrive at 9:00am, all geared up for an action packed Family Day. Though the main attraction "All in One Activity Park" started at 10:00am, there were many fringe activities to keep the families occupied. Bento Lunch, goody bags, T-shirts and a lucky draw kept up the excitement and enjoyment for one and all.

In the afternoon our Guest-of-Honour, Vice-President and Chairman of Community Services (CS), Dr Zahabar Ali, graced the Family Day and gave an inspiring speech followed by the Lucky Draw. Lucky participants won attractive prizes, generously sponsored by Goodwood Park, Hotel Jen Orchard Gateway and Oni Global.

Although the official programme ended at 2:30pm, participants continued to enjoy the facilities at Superpark till 9:00pm. It was a successful and memorable event, made possible by the hardworking staff and volunteers.



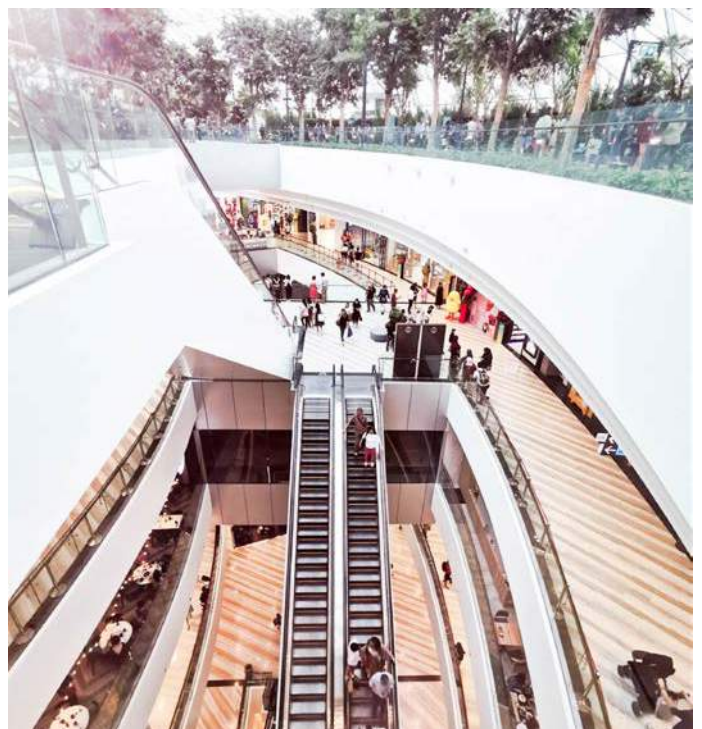


Jewel Changi Airport Preview

We had the opportunity to preview Jewel, the newest terminal at Changi Airport on Tuesday, 16 April 2019. Led by a guide who was a staff of Jewel, we were mesmerised by a 40 meter “rainfall” vortex fountain. Before we started exploring the whole of Jewel, we went down to B1 floor to have quick lunch to fill up our stomachs.

Jewel is a beautiful sight to be beheld. There were over 280 retail and dining options spread out across a massive 10-storey building. The combination of Jewel’s enormous glass dome structure with a steel skeleton, the huge indoor waterfall and the lush steeped greenery that formed the Forest Valley was simply enthralling.

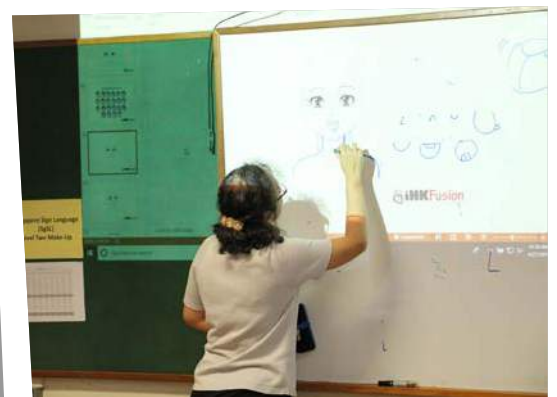
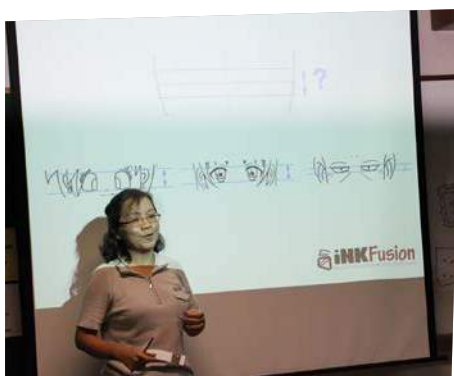
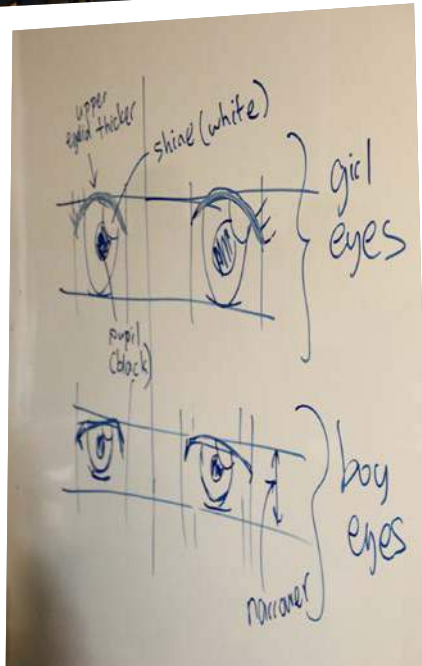
After the tour, we went home excited to share the beauty of Jewel with our family and friends.



Drawing Comic Style



The participants who turned up for the Drawing Comic Style workshop on Saturday, 27 April 2019, went home with art pieces of their own caricatures drawn by themselves. They enjoyed learning many styles of drawing of body parts such as eyes and faces. Participants also discovered a variety of methods to draw exaggerated poses. Throughout the workshop, the participants were attentive and responsive to the lecturer, Jiahui, who was very impressed with them and declared that it was her best class she had ever taught.



Art & Craft Activities



SADeaf partnered with a group of Hwa Chong Institution students to organise an afternoon of activities for the elderly. A total of 10 participants played games and won snacks and drinks. They also learnt to make terrarium and origami. All of them walked away with new found skills and most importantly, great memories.



Donation

The Singapore Association for the Deaf (SADeaf) is a voluntary welfare organisation that serves more than 5,400 Deaf and Hard-of-hearing persons in Singapore, providing a gamut of services such as sign language interpretation, notetaking, Deaf awareness workshops, employment support, counselling, financial assistance, sports and recreational activities.

Mode of Donation [Please tick (✓) according]:

- ☐ Cash (please make the donation in person at SADeaf during office hours - Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5:30pm, closed for lunch hour from 1:00pm to 2:00pm)
- ☐ Cheque (please make cheque payable to "The Singapore Association for the Deaf" and do not issue cash cheque)
- ☐ Credit Card Donation (Donate via Giving.sg Donation Portal at www.giving.sg and select "The Singapore Association for the Deaf")

Please tick (✓) the boxes below if you wish to have tax-deductible receipt. All monetary donations are tax deductible up to 2.5 times of donated amount).

☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of Donor/Company: _____

NRIC/Company Registration No.: _____

Address: _____

Contact No.: _____ **Signature/Company Stamp:** _____

Prata Workshop

Written by Dorina Yee, SADeaf Igniters



On Friday, 14 June 2019 afternoon, Igniters and members of our Deaf community headed out to Casuarina Curry Restaurant for a Prata workshop.

On arrival, they were greeted by a friendly chef who kickstarted the workshop with a cooking demonstration and introduced

different ways prata was folded in Asia. Everyone was awed when chef skillfully flipped and spun the dough in the air, around his arm, before cleanly catching it.

Kneading seemed easy, but once everyone got their hands on the dough, they realised it was not that simple after all!



The prata workshop concluded with an intense competition to flip the largest prata without any holes.

After the workshop, everyone settled down for the highly-anticipated free flow of delectable assorted pratas. They contentedly had their fill with pratas with egg, honey and even chocolate.

To round off the trip, Prata Scholar Certificates were individually presented to each participant. It was a well-spent afternoon.



Singapore Floor Curling



On Saturday, 15 June 2019, a floor curling event was held for the first time at SADeaf. It was an eye-opener for nine deaf participants who learned about the origin of floor curling and how it was being played.

Although, many of the Deaf participants could not understand the rules of floor curling, they eventually got the hang of it and began playing with enthusiasm.

We would like to thank Ms Sherry Chow, Managing Director of Singapore Floor Curling Federation Pte Ltd and Crocodile International for the sponsorship of the floor curling equipment.



Hari Raya Celebration



Hari Raya Celebration was first initiated in 2018. The purpose of having the celebration is to bring the Deaf community together regardless of race and religion. This day also allow people from other races to understand the connection between fasting month, Hari Raya and Malay culture.

This year, 40 deaf participants came and took part in the event. Interesting games prepared for the event were 1) Treasure Hunt – in which the participants had to find all the photos related to Hari Raya, 2) Traditional Games – such as capteh competition, pick the stick and 5 stones. The participants took part in the game as a team and the winning team was rewarded with prizes.

Participants also enjoyed the food and a sharing session where the Deaf gathered information on the Malay Culture shared by our Community Interpreter, Ms Rashidah Binte Zulkifli. She also shared some of the cultural practices that a Muslim does during Hari Raya such as home visiting, green packets to the elderly and children, and so on.

The event ended with the prize-giving session to two winners with the best traditional dress voted by the Deaf participants.



Presidential Visit At Beatty Secondary School



President Halimah Yacob officially opened D'Connect in Beatty Secondary School, on 22 February 2019, a room dedicated to enhancing learning experience and to create a conducive learning environment for our Deaf students. She was accompanied by Mrs Lucy Toh, Divisional Director, Special Educational Needs Division from the Ministry of Education, and other distinguished guests from MOE.

Our Head of State was warmly welcomed by the entire cohort of Secondary One and Two students with a gracious “Good morning, Madam President” in sign language. In attendance of Deaf students and Resource Teachers, Madam President declared D'Connect officially open.

D'Connect was retrofitted with collapsible walls to accommodate three partitioned rooms, fitted with air-conditioning system, short-throw projectors and smart display device, and movable storage-display cabinets. The room was designed for specialised teaching during pull-out sessions for supplementary lessons after school, and for counselling and mentoring of the Deaf students.

The Deaf students had the opportunity to interact with Madam President as they gave her a tour of D'Connect. Madam President also witnessed a pull-out lesson on social skills conducted by Resource Teacher Mr Lim Chin Heng for the Secondary One Normal (Technical) students, watched an enriched Normal Technical Programme, a Cajon percussion performance by the Secondary Two Normal (Technical) students and finally, an observation of the Secondary Four Normal (Technical) Smart Electrical Technology (SET) lesson, showcasing students using the Home Automation Kit to programme and activate different home automation scenes.



47th National Athletics Championships 2019

By Lee Yong Cheong of Class 4T1, Beatty Secondary School

Six students with hearing loss from Beatty Secondary School put up a tremendous performance at the 47th National Athletics Championships 2019, which was organised by Singapore Disability Sports Council (SDSC).

The annual track and field championships was held on 16 March 2019 at the National Stadium and the Home of Athletics at Kallang Sports Centre.

We did the school proud by bringing back an impressive total of ten medals – seven Gold medals and three Silver medals. We participated in the 100-, 200-, 400-, 1500-metre track events, as well as the javelin and shot put field events.

We practised regularly in school before the Championships and our efforts indeed paid off. Congratulations once again to all winners, and we would like to express our deep appreciation to our teachers who have guided us patiently!



TRACK EVENT

100 m	Men Open	Mudhammad Nur Syahir b Haroon	14.60 s	Gold
100 m	Women Open	Khoo Si Tian	19.71 s	Silver
200 m	Men Open	Lim Jun Hao	35.30 s	Gold
400 m	Men Open	Lim Jun Hao	1 min 17.26 s	Gold
1,500 m	Men Open	Mudhammad Nur Syahir b Haroon	6 min 15.94 s	Gold

FIELD EVENT

Javelin	Men Open	Muhammad Haziq b Razali	18.13 m	Gold
Javelin	Men Open	Lee Yong Cheong	13.83 m	Silver
Javelin	Women Open	Khoo Si Tian	11.12 m	Gold
Shot Put	Men Open	Lee Yong Cheong	5.14 m	Gold
Shot Put	Men Open	Chee Zi Xiang	4.30 m	Silver



DEAFINITELY DURIAN

An annual fundraising for the Singapore Association for the Deaf



Come join us on a Durian Feast for a good cause!

Enjoy durians including Mao Shan Wang as well as other seasonal fresh fruits

**No takeaway*

Saturday, 7 September 2019

7:00pm - 9:00pm

The Singapore Association for the Deaf

227 Mountbatten Road Singapore 397998

**\$150
per person**
(adult)



**\$50
per child**
(below 12 years old)



**\$2,000
Corporate booking**
(max 8 persons)

**For registration or more details, contact Ms Tan Li Zhen
at 6344 8274 Ext 23 or email lizhen@sadeaf.org.sg**