

CON VER GENCE



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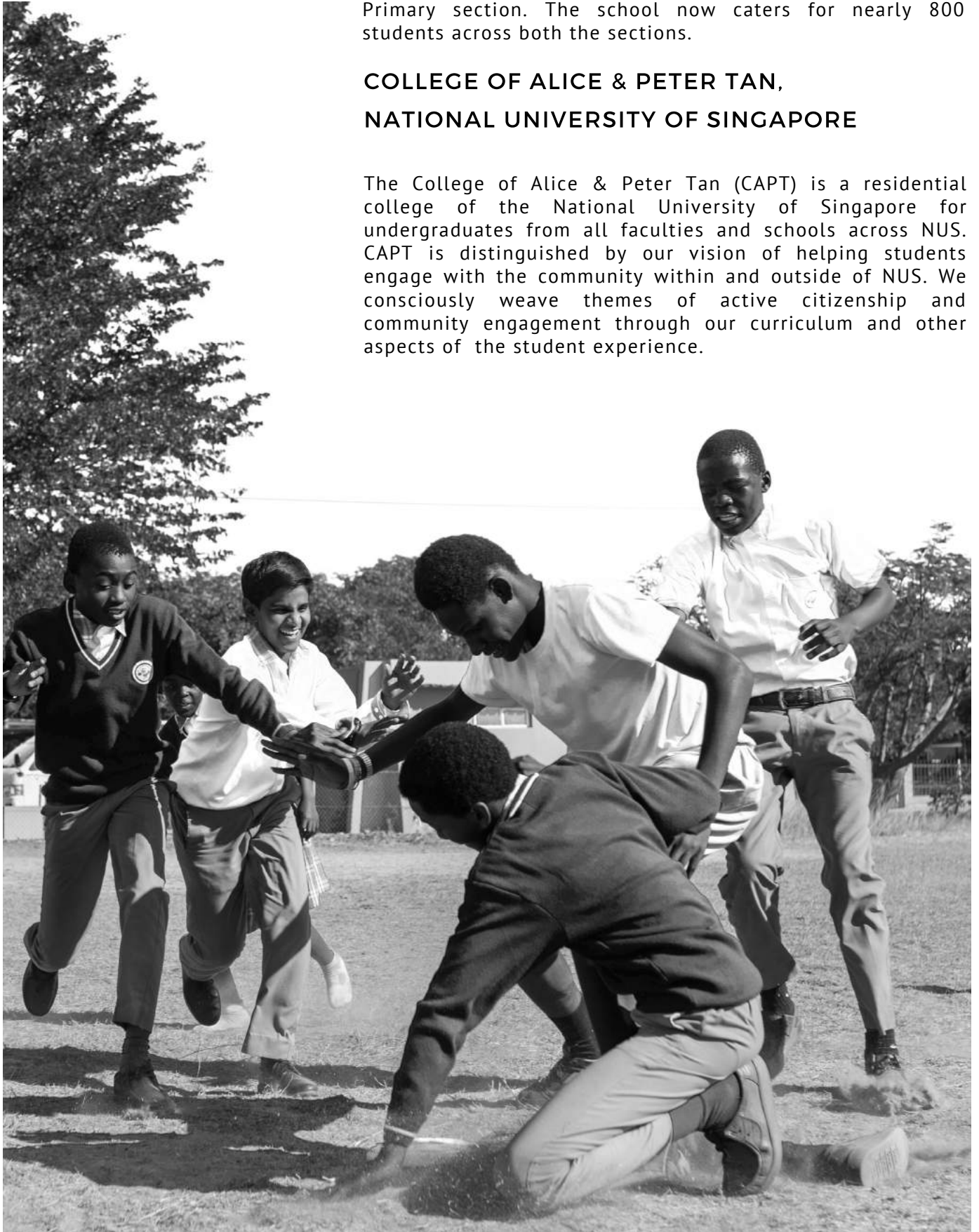
PARTNERS

DELTA WATERS INTERNATIONAL

Delta Waters International School opened its doors to students in 1993, starting as a secondary school and boarding school with only 90 students, and later growing to include a Primary section. The school now caters for nearly 800 students across both the sections.

COLLEGE OF ALICE & PETER TAN, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

The College of Alice & Peter Tan (CAPT) is a residential college of the National University of Singapore for undergraduates from all faculties and schools across NUS. CAPT is distinguished by our vision of helping students engage with the community within and outside of NUS. We consciously weave themes of active citizenship and community engagement through our curriculum and other aspects of the student experience.





THE TEAM

We would not have been able to achieve nor take on that many side projects if it was not for these 6 weeks at DWIS being a 'team internship'. The 8 of us come from range from courses such as chemical engineering, biological sciences, architecture, medicine, industrial design and arts. Our different strengths and interests complement each other well, enabling us to create a wide range of lesson plans together that cater to the various interest of the students. There is a great degree of both self-directed and peer learning in this internship. We help to support each other and give advice and input. The workload is shared among all of the interns, making it manageable for each individual.

As a group, there is also the benefit of pooling resources, which has helped us tremendously. In terms of our living expenses, we have been able to keep our costs low, enabling us the ability to explore places outside of the school on the weekends and immerse ourselves in the community and culture. Being in a team enabled us to be more efficient in doing our administrative work and helped to expedite the submissions of all necessary papers in preparation for our trip.

JEAN HANN

EDITOR'S NOTE

Convergence, where two or more things, ideas and people come together. This partnership between National University of Singapore and Delta Waters International School is a beautiful reminder that human connections transgresses across time, different continents and culture. Even though Singaporeans and Botswanans come from seemingly disparate worlds, we were fortunate to meet and share memories at DWIS, over a two month period. This magazine is an attempt to put nuanced feelings and precious memories created over two months into a 20 page spread—an extremely difficult task because words would never be able to fully encapsulate this meaningful experience. Nonetheless, this magazine is a compilation of reflections from teachers and interns, as well as photos that will allow you to catch a glimpse of this convergence.

I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed retracing memories between each page while putting this together.





THANKSGIVING

BY MRS OLSEN

We would like to thank Dr. Tan Lai Yong for helping to create this valuable friendship between the National University of Singapore, College of Alice and Peter Tan (CAPT) and Delta Waters International School. Our students and teachers always look forward to the annual CAPT visit where students spend the day interacting at the school and playing cultural games. These visits have become one of the highlights of our year. It is through these visits that we realised the potential benefit of having some CAPT students volunteer at the school. We were aware of Singapore's good education system, and we could observe that the students from CAPT were energetic and eager to interact and learn with us.

After looking through the CV's, motivation letters and supporting documents of all the applicants the selection process was easy. All the applicants were experienced, knowledgeable and highly motivated and so we accepted ALL eight students who applied. We welcomed our first group of eight volunteers in May 2019 and were impressed from the start. Their eagerness to work, energy, dedication, diligence and kindness were tremendous.

They shared their knowledge and skills with the full range of students from preschool to secondary level, assisting in areas such as Art, Music and Dance, Biology, Chemistry, History, and Geography to mention a few. We are extremely happy to have had such a great team of students for our first group. We extend our gratitude to Lesego Olsen, our Operations Manager, for planning, organising, and overseeing the smooth running of the volunteer programme. We also thank all members of staff that worked closely with the volunteers and helped to make their stay meaningful and enjoyable. Lastly, the school would like to thank all the contributors for this magazine and Esther, for volunteering to put this magazine together. The magazine will help to showcase all the great memories that were made when the volunteers were at Delta Waters.

We look forward to having the next team of volunteers in 2020. Best wishes to Ian, Kuan, Jean, Elysia, Heather, Gen, Chloe and Esther. We miss you all!



RECEPTION

MUSIC . DANCE . ART AND CRAFT



Every individual inspires to be someone, somewhere, someday. Growing up from a humble background I constantly pondered if I would one day be able to achieve the wishes I had as a child. This was because back in my childhood days, my country was at the height of war. Every day presented itself differently, so my aspirations seemed impossible and uncertain.

EDUCATION IS NOT SO MUCH MAKING A LIVING AS MAKING A PERSON

TARA WESTOVER

Thankfully, when I grew up, I was fortunate enough to fulfill my aspirations and teach at Delta Waters International School. DWIS provides a completely different learning environment from my childhood. This is why I encourage students at DWIS to appreciate and take advantage of the conducive learning environment that is provided at DWIS. Our school had the privilege of Singapore interns coming to our school to exchange teaching ideas and we were able to share about our cultural differences. This valuable experience is not something every school is privileged enough to have.

F. MLAMBO



LITTLE THINGS

F. MLAMBO

COMMITMENT

Commitment is an important aspect if students are to achieve set goals. This is because commitment demands for hard work and dedication. I have noticed that students who commit to their work do well both in and outside the classroom.

GOAL SETTING

It is crucial for students to set their own goals. These will act as a guide to keep them on track to achieve their future aspirations. It is also important to have the goals set because they allow students to evaluate what they do on daily basis. This will allow students to reflect if their lives are in sync with their goals. It will also give students room to augment their goals when they realise that these goals are not realistically attainable.



**FOUR SMALL THINGS: BE FAITHFUL IN SMALL THINGS
BECAUSE IT IS IN THEM THAT YOUR STRENGTH LIES**

RESOURCEFULNESS

Students must learn to be resourceful. I encourage students to tap into the resources and wisdom of the school and teachers. I urge them to take advantage of what the school offers them as resources and use them wisely to improve their academic work. Resources need to be taken care of and used with outmost care so that it can be beneficial for students.

TIME

Time is a very scarce commodity that has to be used wisely. Time lost can never be recovered. So, I was happy to see how the students spent their time with the Singapore interns. I could see that they were interacting in meaningful ways and exchanging ideas. I hope that our students can one day use their time meaningfully like the Singapore interns, where they go to different environments to gain new experiences.



FROM ME TO YOU

MRS MUSHIPE, RECEPTION CLASS TEACHER

First of all, I would like to thank the school for inviting the Singaporean interns to our school, Delta Waters International School, Botswana. I enjoyed sharing of ideas and the new class activities that the Singaporean interns brought to classes. I felt like they were physically and mentally beneficial for the children. Their presence in class, art and music lessons would always make our day filled with joy.

I have so many fond memories of the Singaporean interns. Just to name a few: circle time, telling stories to children and singing songs is a lifetime memory for us in reception. Till this date, we are still singing the songs that they have introduced. The Singaporean interns have left their prints on our hearts and mind. We appreciate the knowledge you shared with us, especially sharing with us more about Autism and Dyslexia. It was an honor to learn more from you and I hope you have learnt from us and enjoyed your time with us too.

I would definitely wish to see more interns coming to our school and to my class. I have learnt new skills and ideas from them and would love to continue this engagement with them.





STANDARD

ART ENRICHMENT . MUSIC . TEACHER SHARING



ART CLASSES

ROSEMARY DURURU

It was a moment of pure joy as my students and I interacted with the Singaporean interns. I enjoyed learning new ideas from them and I noticed that they had good rapport with my students. The interns will always be remembered for their love, patience and commitment which they showed as they interacted with the students and myself. One thing which left the deepest impact on me and believe, the students, is how one of the students, Ian, drew extraordinary drawings for each and every one of us. He drew a portrait of me and that will remain in my memory forever. I was very touched by his gesture because he spent a lot of time drawing all those images, which are close to 30 altogether.

This shows great dedication in him to make us happy. He also guided the students to be better in drawing. I would really want to express my sincere gratitude for their visit to our school and appreciate their presence. I would also like to encourage them to continue in that spirit of dedication and hard work, and stay focused in their studies. It would be very good to continue having more interns coming to our school and to my class, because it promotes cultural exchange in the areas of Dance, Art and Music.

In conclusion, these interns has inspired and impacted the students in a big way.



This internship experience was completely different from how it was 2 years back. Back then on 2016, I arrived in Botswana for a mere 2 week stay. Little did I know that it would be transformed into a 2-month residence in Maun. Till this day, I will always remember the smiles, the laughter, the inside jokes and big-hearted people I have met there. The art club holds a special space in my heart because because I created inedible memories there. It would be an exaggeration to say that the experience was life changing. Yet, it would also be an understatement if I were to say its just another trip. I would not exchange this for any other, both the good and the bad serve to make this experience whole.

IAN MUN





ENRICHMENT LESSONS

KUAN MEI

I had many experiences in my time at Delta Waters International School. In the first two weeks of the internship, I co-facilitated the primary school debate competition practice every afternoon with another intern, Heather. While, in the last 2 weeks of the internship, I co-taught music and dance lessons for the primary school with Jean Hann and Elysia in the last two weeks of the internship.

I gained better communication and collaboration skills through the 6 weeks of living independently with the team and working at the school with the teachers. Being away from home for an extended period of time and living with people I just met on the trip was a new and learning experience for me. I realised that the internship honed my interpersonal skills, where I was required to be attentive, articulate and persuasive while working with preschool and primary students, in order to get their attention.

This programme has left a great imprint and impact on me. The bonds I created and strengthened with the interns' team and the DWIS students. The 6 weeks will always be a beautiful reminder that Botswana is a beautiful country— an unpolished diamond that has plenty of unfulfilled potential and capabilities.



FORM

SUBJECTS . DANCE . WORKSHOPS



COORDINATOR

MRS KORVI

I was given the opportunity to coordinate the volunteer programme for the Singaporean interns. As a coordinator for secondary school, I had to provide all the resources and a conducive environment where they could accomplish their tasks allocated. They were very cooperative and made use of the facilities provided to them. The interns were very hard working and assigned themselves various tasks in making the learning environment very lively. They interacted well with the students and helped students in various activities like photography, dance, music, art, presentation skills, goal setting, study patterns and many more.

Amongst many things, the one thing I appreciated most about the interns is that they were always enthusiastic about sharing their knowledge and experiences with everyone.

This internship exchange shows that Delta Waters International School is a school of excellence, where students learn to compete with one another and more importantly, engage with various communities compassionately. I hope that students will start to understand the value of education and move on with a positive attitude towards life. Students must be encouraged to prove their talent as every individual has vast potential.



MR SSEJJOBA

I enjoyed interacting with the Singaporean interns. I fondly remember their openness, perspectives, and positive attitude towards their work. They displayed teamwork and showed us how we can work together as one. They were also very approachable and mixed well with the learners at DWIS. I have many favourite memories of the interns. I remember the local food that they prepared for us. It was simple, yet unique and delicious. I was also able to learn more about Singapore's culture and social issues through them. I also realised that there are a lot of commonalities between Botswana and Singapore. For example, both countries have a multicultural demographic.

I hope that they come to DWIS again. There is a need to have more interns like them to come to our school, especially to the Geography, Economics, Development Studies classes, so that our students get to learn different perspectives and more about the world around them. This is important for my students as the Geography, Economics, Development discipline is based on interactions with other people from different countries and societies. Students will get exposure to people from other walks of life, like Singapore. This will help to broaden their perspective and break them out of the conventional education and perspective that they are used to.

EFFECTIVE LEARNING WORKSHOP

During my internship, I co-facilitated the Effective Learning Workshop for Form 4 and Form 5 students. This group of students was selected for the workshop as the team felt that the note-taking and revision skills would benefit most from it, as the students are preparing for their IGCSE examinations.

At the workshop, we conducted a learning style questionnaire to introduce different types of learners- visual, audio, and kinesthetic- to allow students to understand themselves better. This questionnaire was well received by students as they were able to identify and understand the learning methods that suit them. This allowed students to be more targeted in acquiring knowledge, or when doing their revision. After the questionnaire, we shared about the different note-taking methods and introduced learning aids, such as mind mapping and sequencing events chronologically through the use of a timeline. We gave students examples of how it can be applied to their school work and encouraged them to start making their notes with these tools.

We also conducted a sharing session with the teachers, to share the results of the questionnaire we conducted for the students. We also wanted to highlight the need for teachers to tailor their teaching methods to suit different profiles of learners in the class. This is crucial as teachers are pivotal in encouraging students learning and more can be achieved through their help. I would like to thank DWIS for allowing us to interact with your students and teachers. We have definitely learnt a lot from you and I hope you have learned a little more about us too!

GEN



DANCE CLASSES



Throughout my time there, I was constantly inspired by the warmth shown by our hosts and the children that I had the privilege to meet. I spent most of my time teaching primary and secondary school children dance. I had an extremely enjoyable time sharing my passion for dance with these children as they were so enthusiastic and excited about everything. It was truly a joy to dance and have that special connection with the children. I even managed to choreograph a dance specially for the dance team that I had gotten to know well throughout the week which we danced for everyone outside their classrooms. Such experiences were incredibly special, and everyone had an enjoyable time throughout.

I am very thankful for this opportunity to intern in Botswana because I have learnt so much. The entire group internship was also in itself a great experience as I got to interact and work with others from different faculties across different batches that inspired me in their own ways. As a medical student, it is easy to forget that there are so many others working hard to make this world a better place and I was thankful for this opportunity to be humbled and reminded of the goodness in people.

CHLOE



THANK YOU

My six weeks at Delta Waters International School in Maun, Botswana has taught me more than I ever expected to learn. During my six weeks there, I worked with the form classes and my work consisted of lesson observation, biology lessons for Form 3 and 4 classes and combined science lessons for a Form 2 class. In the later few weeks, our team conducted a presentation skills workshop for the Form 1 class, and I followed up by creating a presentation-based assessment for their Travel and Tourism class. We also conducted music and dance classes for some selected standard classes, which I enjoyed even though it was something out of my comfort zone. Besides the day-to-day work, there were also feedback and sharing sessions with the school staff and teachers. These various experiences shaped my time in Maun and I learned a lot from them.

There are so many moments during my time in Maun that I hold close to my heart. The heart and sincerity of the teachers in Delta Waters will always inspire me and remind me of what a teacher is and should be. The hospitality of the Delta Waters managers, teachers and staff, and the enthusiasm of the students took away my home-sickness because I had never been away from home for such a long time before. Even though there were difficulties along the way, I appreciated it as a smoothly paved road in the bush is never as exciting as the tough and bumpy trails.

Thank you, Delta Waters for the memorable encounters and precious interactions that will always have a special place in my heart. Wishing everyone all the best for the roads ahead that you will walk, stay inquisitive, work hard, and dream big. I will be back one day!

ELYSIA



ENGLISH FORM 4M

ESTHER TEO

I am not sure how time flew so quickly over the past few weeks in Maun, Botswana. But it surely did and I found myself grappling with memories of what was. I fondly remember the dusty roads, interactions, smiles, and people. When I was at DWIS, I was privileged to work with students across the Reception and Form classes. I taught the Reception students Art and Craft as well as Music and Dance. I am terribly shy when it comes to singing and I cannot sing to save my life. However, students and teachers were always encouraging and nonjudgemental. So, for the few weeks I was there, and we sang our hearts out. It was also in Reception that I realised that my name “Teacher Esther” could be called that many times in 2 hours.

I also took Form 4M for English, where we focused on writing skills. I remembered stepping into class each day being reminded of why teaching is so close to my heart. For that, thank you. Thank you for all the lightness and brightness you bring and for giving the best hugs.

“Have faith that in this love there is a strength and a blessing so large that you can travel as far as you wish without having to step outside it.”

Thank you for allowing me to travel far and wide, even though I am now back in Singapore.

“Things aren’t all so tangible and sayable as people would usually have us believe; most experiences are unsayable, they happen in a space that no word has ever entered, and more unsayable than all other things are works of art, those mysterious existences, whose life endures beside our own small, transitory life”

Rainer Maria Rilke