



CAMPFIRE

Light

營火

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCOUT GROUP

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HIGHLIGHTS

CNY Lohei
Cub Mind Quiz
Pioneer Award Assessment
CH Sc Leadership Course





EDITORIAL COMMITTEE 2019

**ANDREW CHUA
PRISCILLA TNAY**

FORWARD

This year, our Cub Scouts, Scouts and Ventures participated in events, camps and competitions that challenged their limits, helped them grow as leaders, and reminded them of the spirit of camaraderie.

The pictures and articles in the 59th issue of Campfire Light is a reflection of the open hearts, teachable attitude and persevering spirits of our Cub Scouts, Scouts and Ventures. We hope you will enjoy looking through our troops' journey in 2019. May it serve as a reminder that the experiences gained, lessons learnt and friendships forged through our journey, is what matters most.



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Tel: (65) 6282 7893 Email: design@innoprintgift.com

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TUAN QING

This year, we celebrate our Scout Troop's 71st anniversary. A sense of pride overwhelms me as I witness us growing from a small group of 8 people to a large troop of more than 70 people working together to put the Troop at the top. Tuan Qing is a big milestone for me as I was promoted to a Venture. As the saying goes, "The end of a journey is a beginning of another." My promotion to a Venture brought about a new experience complete with different sets of responsibilities, friendships, experiences and more opportunities to serve the troop. We had a yearly tradition of having a cake and a photo-taking session to remember and appreciate the people who make up our scouting journey. Through the games we played with both the Scouts and Cub Scouts, we forged new memories and shared lots of laughter. During the ceremony, we also presented Mr Andrew Chua with the Friends of Catholic High Award for his unwavering support to the Scout Group.

Avern Tan, Venture



CNY LOHEI



Prior to the celebration, Ryan and I went to buy the necessary materials for a typical Lohei Celebration. We did this as we believed that it brings good luck to the Troop. Throughout the celebration, we were all in high spirits as we offered our Chinese New Year greetings and well wishes to each other.

During the lohei, we sprinkled, tossed and threw in the condiments as we recited the phrases that wishes everyone around us good fortune in life. When it was time to start the lohei, something unexpected and funny happened. Our Scout Leader, Mr Cai, rushed towards us and started to toss the lohei high up. We all laughed as the contents fell all over us.

It is precious moments like these that means the most to me as I get to spend time with people I have grown with, and grown to care about.

Ian Chien, Venture



WORLD SCOUT DAY



On 22nd February, in commemoration of World Scout Day, the Catholic High Scout Group decided to present a short film to the school to showcase our achievements. The event started with the SPL giving commands to the school, in preparation for the National Anthem. Then, our Scout Leader, Mr Quay, gave a sharing about the history of Scouting.

Throughout these years, the Catholic High Scout Group has achieved monumental achievements such as winning 5 out of 10 competitions in the NPC, making us the best Scout Troop in Singapore. Our scouts are also highly disciplined and we take pride in pulling through difficulties together, growing together and improving together.

Being the SPL of the Scout troop in 2019 has not been an easy journey. As a junior in the past, I always had someone to approach when I was in doubt. Now, as a leader, every activity, every action is my responsibility. I hope that Catholic High Scout's Troop will always be a troop that aims to always be the best.

Lim Ni Ler, SPL



BUKIT TIMAH TROOP HIKE



On the 23rd of February, the Level Two to Four Scouts gathered at the entrance of MacRitchie Reservoir to start our hike. Before we started our hike, we did some stretches to prevent injuries. We were then assigned ventures who would join us on the hike. After hours of walking and practising our orienteering, we finally reached the top of Bukit Timah Hill. In the end, my patrol ended up walking over 20 kilometres, gaining invaluable experiences through activities like mobile lunch and orienteering. Throughout the hike, we also learnt how to persevere and push ourselves beyond our limits and to continuously improve ourselves.



Nathanael Tan, Junior Patrol 2



VISIT TO HOME FOR THE INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED



On 1st of March, we went to the Bishan Home for the Intellectually Disabled. 45 Cub Scout members gathered at toucan cage to wait for the bus to arrive.

When we arrived at Bishan Home, I felt nervous when I saw everyone. I took a deep big breath and tried to remain confident in front of them. After taking a closer look, I felt sorry for them as they do not have a proper home like we do.

Our first session with them was colouring. I met a very active lady who coloured really well. I had a fun time interacting with her. After the first session, all Cub Scouts went on to perform the dance "Baby Shark".

Through these interactions, I learnt to communicate and accept others who are different. I also learnt to appreciate what I have and will continue to try my best to care for the less fortunate people.

Ipcolas Loh Ye Jun, Orange Six



3R CAR DERBY



Building a car is fun but you have to be focused and put in a lot of effort and hard work.

On 9 March at Raffles Institution, I felt very anxious and was deciding if I should add my rubber band motor. It was a hard decision to make but I finally decided to use my three rubber band motor.

It was my turn to run the car, it went about 39 meters out of 50 meters. After the longest distance test, it was time for the most interesting car test. Samuel and I explained to the scouts in charge about my car and why we picked the parts. I was really nervous about what score I would get and I was delighted and happy when I was awarded Silver for the long distance test and Gold for the most interesting car test.

Tristan Ong, Blue Six



CUB SCOUT MIND QUIZ



On 9th March 2019, I attended the bi-annual 6th Cub Scout Mind Quiz held at Raffles Institution together with 7 fellow Cub Scouts. The event comprised of two segments, the preliminary and final rounds, each testing on Scout knowledge, Scouting history and current affairs.

A few weeks before the event, we were given a copy of Baden Powell's, "Scouting for Boys". I enjoyed reading the chapters in the book, each talking about a different segment of Scouting.

When we arrived at the event, we were led into a classroom where we sat for the preliminary round, which was an examination paper to be done individually. We tried our best for the paper, though at times the paper was quite challenging.

Later, we were ushered into the auditorium to watch the final round and to receive our results. Even though none of us were chosen for the final round, we did finish in the top 50% tier, with one of us being awarded Silver and another being awarded Gold! I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the event. It was like being in the audience for a live game show! The final round was held with the top five teams on stage, each team with a buzzer and microphone. Questions were flashed on the projector screen and the team that clicked the buzzer for the question got to answer first. There were also other rounds where the five teams chose a set of questions and answered them or where each team took turns to pick a number that would reveal a question.

Joshua Lee Xing Hern, Red Six



JOB WEEK CAMP

Job week 2019 was a first for me. Through the entire experience, I learnt a variety of things, from having to muster up the courage to knock on strangers' doors to being on my best behaviour in public. At first, I was hesitant to knock on doors as I was unsure of how they would react to it. After a few tries, I slowly got more comfortable doing it. On the second day of job week, I wanted to challenge myself further and set my goal to earn the most amount of money in my patrol. It motivated me to work harder and to put in more effort. There were times when I felt drained of all my energy and wanted to give up but my goal helped me to persevere and not to give up.

Overall, I had an enjoyable time during Job Week Camp. Everyone in the patrol got to know one another better and this was an enriching and beneficial learning experience for all of us..

Audric Tan, Junior Patrol 2



SCOUT INVESTITURE CEREMONY



During the night of the March Camp, the troop gathered for the investiture. I did not know what to expect, but I knew it would be an important milestone in my Scouting Journey. The ceremony was officiated by the GSL along with the SL. The Sec 1s took turn receiving their national scarf. When it was my turn to march to the center and recite the Scout Promise, I really felt a sense of pride for myself and for the Troop. That was the day I became a true Scout, having declared my commitment to the Troop and Scouting Movement. From then on, I made my commitment to help people in need, and to keep the Scout law.

Fang Xuhui, Junior Patrol 4



CUB INVESTITURE CEREMONY

On 15 March, I attended the Investiture Ceremony where 36 P3 and P4 new recruits officially turn into Cub Scout members.

We went to the hall as it was where the ceremony was held. After all the other cubs were presented their woggles, it was finally my group's turn. Our GSL made us recite the Scout Promise and the Scout Law before the red scarf was presented.

Later, we had a potluck party at the canteen. I chose a pack of Ribena drink, a slice of pandan cake, a snack and a few pieces of nuggets. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and am proud to be a part of the Catholic High Scout Group.

Gan Seng Loke Ian, Yellow Six



CATHOLIC HIGH SCOUTS



THIS COURSE WAS TOUGH BUT SELF FULFILLING AS IT INCREASED MY SELF-AWARENESS AND HELPED ME IMPROVE MYSELF AS A LEADER.

SIM HON JUI, COBRA PATROL



THIS HAS NOT BEEN AN EASY EXPERIENCE, BUT IT HAS DEFINITELY HAS BEEN AN EYE OPENER AS I GOT A TASTE OF LEADERSHIP AND LEARNT MORE ABOUT VALUES LIKE TEAMWORK AND RESPONSIBILITY.

RAYN TAN, DOLPHIN PATROL



THIS COURSE WAS MEMORABLE AND FULFILLING. IT REALLY PUSHED US TO OUR LIMITS, AND I LEARNT THAT IT IS A MATTER OF WHETHER WE WANTED TO DO IT, NOT IF WE CAN DO IT.

LIM ZHI XIAN, EAGLE PATROL



THIS COURSE WAS VERY MEANINGFUL AS IT PUSHED US ALL TO OUR LIMITS. IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO SEE ALL OF US PERSEVERE THROUGH PRESSURE, FATIGUE AND STRESS.

ZHANG RUI JIE, PIGEON PATROL



LEADERSHIP COURSE

Part I : 2-3 Nov | Part II : 8-10 Nov

THROUGH THIS MEANINGFUL YET EXHAUSTING COURSE, I LEARNT TO BE SITUATIONALLY AWARE AND CARE MORE FOR THE PEOPLE AROUND ME.

AUDRIC TAN, RHINO PATROL



THIS COURSE HAS GIVEN ME GREATER EXPOSURE TO UNFAMILIAR AND TOUGH CHALLENGES LIKE BUILDING HUGE STRUCTURES AND COOKING UNDER THE HOT SUN. IT TRULY HAS BEEN AN EYE-OPENING EXPERIENCE.

SEAH ZHANG QI, SHARK PATROL



THIS COURSE WAS VERY EXHAUSTING BUT IT WAS REWARDING. I LEARNT TO STEP UP AND VOLUNTEER MORE TO HELP THE TROOP AND I ALSO REALIZED THE LATENT POTENTIAL HIDDEN WITHIN US.

FANG XUHUI, TIGER PATROL



THIS COURSE ALLOWED ME TO BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND LEADERSHIP IN SCOUTS, MAKING ME CONFIDENT IN THE TROOP'S POTENTIAL AND THUS ALLOWING ME TO BOND EVEN MORE WITH MY TROOP MATES.

DANIEL ONG, WOLF PATROL



SOUTH AREA ORIENTEERING COMPETITION



Our troop had formed several scout and venture groups to compete in the Annual Orienteering Competition and each team would have to go from checkpoint to checkpoint in Singapore's Botanic Gardens to find specific numbers. Our teams trained extremely hard for this competition and we went through intensive orienteering trainings in school as well as the Botanic Gardens to familiarise ourselves with the area.

Our leaders often told us that knowing the terrain would make challenges easier as we would not feel like we are in the unknown. The competition got off to a difficult start as the map given was filled with many different routes and we were unsure of which path to take. However, over time, we grew used to it and slowly regained composure. We were far into the challenge and was on our way to the Tanglin Gate to take a group picture when I slipped on the wet pavement and sprained my ankle. It was extremely difficult to carry on but I did not want my team members to worry so I pushed on. In the end, we ran back to the finish line together. My team earned Gold and we were relieved to see that our hard work had paid off.

Alexander Ang, ASPL



PIONEER AWARD ASSESSMENT



千里之行，始于足下

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step ~ Lao Tzu.

When the 5 ventures first registered for this Pioneer Exploration Assessment Hike, we knew that this was going to be an arduous challenge, set to test our mental thresholds, physical capabilities and character. In order to overcome this challenge and win this "war", we would need to go through extensive amounts of preparation and know ourselves, the weather, and the terrain.

At the end of our journey, our energy was depleted but we were beaming with pride that we had overcome yet another mountainous challenge in our pursuit of the President's Scout Award. This month long journey of preparation and execution has shaped us to become better Scouts, as we learnt what it means to be the best in all areas, be it packing our backpacks with the best possible arrangement, or laying out the neatest inspection, or drawing the most detailed and organised map sketch.

智仁勇，日行一善，深谋远虑。

Tan Jen Kai, Venture



JUNE CAMP



The theme for 2019's edition of the anticipated June Training Camp was "智仁勇", held at Ubin Living Lab from 7th to 10th June. Throughout the camp, the Scouts bonded and pushed themselves to the limit. The rural surrounding of Ubin brought out the best conditions to develop the Scouts. The camp ended with announcing the results for best patrol and most outstanding Scouts. However, far more important than the achievements the Scouts got was the memories created, bonds forged and lesson learned throughout the camp.

Wong Zheng Tat, Venture



CHIEF COMMISSIONER AWARD



On 6th July 2019, 11 of our Sec 4 scouts attended the Chief Commissioner Award (CCA) ceremony held at Zhonghua Secondary School. Catholic High Scout Troop had the greatest number of awardees among all the schools.

The CCA is the highest achievable award that a Scout can attain in their 4 years of Scouting. It is only presented to Scouts who have displayed an exemplary commitment to Scouting. The CCA serves to recognise the efforts and commitment by Scouts and is also a reflection of their scouting journey. Looking past the award, the lesson learnt, friendships forged and challenges conquered are the true rewards reaped.

Wong Zheng Tat, Venture



CUB GAMES DAY



The Cub Games Day was held on 19 August. We represented Cub Scouts in Soccer, Floorball, Captain Ball and Handball.

I joined Soccer as I thought it would help me understand more about teamwork. I was the defender and did my job defending and kicking the ball away from our goal post.

I learnt that if you are in a group, you need to have teamwork, sportsmanship and cooperation to work well. We won the Silver award that day.

Ivan Wang, Red Six



SOUTH AREA FIELD DAY

On the 31st of August, 25 Cub Scouts were chosen to participate in the South Area Field Day at Gan Eng Seng Secondary School; 10 of which were part of the competitive team. The four competitive games were Sour Grapes; Telematch; Chariot; and Caterpillar.

The first game was Sour Grapes. We needed to climb up a tall 3 metre structure. A lot of teamwork is involved here as one person had to climb up, and the 4 of us had to hold the structure firmly. All of us needed to conquer our fear of height and to trust our teammates to hold the structure below.



The next game was Telematch. Each member of the Telematch had his own role to play. If one member does not play his part, the Telematch cannot be completed. This was a chance for us to bond with our friends and also to revise our knots.



For me, I participated in the Sour Grapes and Telematch game and watched my team play the other games. It wasn't easy for them to carry the chariot as it was very heavy. To successfully walk the caterpillar, all had to be patient and to coordinate among themselves to place and lift the correct foot.

Bradley Chang, Blue Six



SOUTH AREA AKELA AWARD CEREMONY



On 19 October, 34 South Area Akela awardees from 9 schools received the most prestigious award in Cub Scouting. Daniel Ho, Jermaine Liew, Ong Jiunn Xiang, Jovial Tan and Tan Jen Yih represented Catholic High School for the Akela Awards. To achieve the Award, we had to attain the Bronze, Silver and Gold Arrows. We also had to get the First Aid Proficiency Badge along with 6 other proficiency badges. After being nominated by our school, the candidates had to attend the assessment and interview to see if we have the qualities required to be an Akela Awardee.

I felt honoured to receive the Akela Award at the Presentation Ceremony. Since joining Cub Scout in P3, I have learnt many important values such as perseverance, teamwork and leadership. Most importantly, I was overjoyed to have the presence of our CSL and GSL at the ceremony to lend their support.

Tan Jen Yih, White Six



PRESIDENT SCOUT AWARD CEREMONY

I am Lecarl from CHS Graduating Class of 2015 and I am honoured to be the recipient of the President's Scout Award 2019. I was the Patrol Leader of Eagle Patrol before serving 2 years as a Venture. Thereafter, because of my NS commitments which did not allow me to attend the key interviews, I extended my PSA time by 2 years.

This year there were a total of 12 recipients from 6 schools. The badge presentation ceremony took place at CHS Auditorium on the 16th Nov. I had nominated our GSL, Mr Chua to present the badge to me. Attending the ceremony at CHS was also our previous Principal Ms Soh. The Presentation at the Istana took place on the 4th Dec. The new Principal Mr Poh was present at the Istana Ceremony.

Lim Lecarl, Venture 2017



BAND OF BROTHERS



Scouting was a big part of my life during my secondary school and JC days. I spent my afternoons in the den with my batch mates, my weekends at Jihe and campfires, and attended camps during the school holidays. The tough moments were the ones that formed the greatest memories for me.

I joined scouting in 2007 when I was in Sec 1. Many of us went for Ubin camp that year and I recall it being tough. It was a crazy but enriching experience that tore down my physical limits. Fast forward 2 years later, we were all seniors and became leaders of the troop. We learnt many lessons on leadership as we led the troop through the many troop activities.

Scouting was and will always be a defining moment in my growing years. I learned so many valuable soft skills that shaped my character. Scouting is also where I made many memories and friends that I intend to keep for a lifetime. I did not mention any names in this writing as every one of my batch mates have made an impact in my life and I cannot simply single out any one. If you are reading this as a Scout, I hope that you will have a wonderful experience in scouting, make many memories and friends, explore beyond your comfort zone and push your boundaries!

Jeremy Thng
Rhino 2007-2008
Tiger 2009-2010



ONE STEP AT A TIME

Scouts was my first family outside of home. At the seasoned age of twelve I convinced myself that it was an international movement so joining it would be like working in an MNC. It was as mysterious to me as the freemasons, and it gave me a reason to escape home as we were promised lots of camping in the woods. Outdoors swiping mozzies and getting mud-caked trekking in the mangroves appealed to me.

Wolf Patrol was the alpha of the Scout group. We competed at all levels. Not just where it should count – winning the inter-patrol games and getting the badges. We had to be the earliest to arrive and last to leave. When the other scouts were drinking Fanta and figuring Chinese chess at the void decks of the HDBs during Job Week, Wolf Patrol would be combing unit-by-unit to ensure that not just our Patrol but all of us would finish top for Job Week earnings.

Well into the 21st century the lessons learnt is still very much instilled in me. Now as a parent, I remind myself, that even with the least expectations we might have of our children, life skills can be learnt one clove hitch at a time.

After all, you can't hope that your son will become Bear Grylls someday, and yet worry today if they get mozzie bites.

Pan Zaixian

Wolf Patrol 1988-1991



点点滴滴话当年

今年4月初，接到Andrew Chua老师的邀请，写一篇有关我在2106公教童军时的生活感想，当时的脑子是一片空白的，加上好久没正式提笔写字，恐怕有负期望，但是蔡老师盛意拳拳，感情难却，唯有欣然接受。

开始闭目回忆，忆起初中一时，学校要求同学都得参加一个制服团体，只记得班上大部分同学都选了童军，而我心中也没有特别属意的，就糊里糊涂的跟大队，开始了我的童军生涯。

再进一步回想起来，总觉得当时童军给人的印象是“包家廖”的制服团体，但凡有什么喜庆欢宴或文娱活动，有需要人力搬运器材、布置场地等等的苦力活，都有我们的份，因做的都是粗重活，童军就没有像其他团体，如：陆军团、学警团、铜乐队和红十字牛奶等，有华丽并烫得笔直的制服和擦得亮亮的皮鞋。但我们轻松简单的制服和黑布鞋，更显得多了一份潇洒感（哈哈）。话需如此，我至今还是很庆幸当时选择了童军，尤其是公教童军，除了我们每周六集合的独立式锌顶木板屋之外，团部周围的大空地都能让我们有很大的空间，尽情的创造各种多姿多彩的活动。

记忆中有倒钩过史丹福大水沟、跳高墙、爬旗杆、篮球赛和其他体能活动等等。夜间活动当然离不开烧烤、营火会等等。玩累了就在团部过夜，那些精力旺盛的团友还会到对面st.Joseph操场或福康宁山公园夜间探险，这种多姿多彩的团体生活，我想其他的制服团体是不可能感受到。

若周末在团部过夜，周日几位志同道合的团友通常会约好脚踏车远征，骑着脚踏车到处游山玩水，一天下来就蹀了几十公里，不费钱又能锻炼身体。

一年一度的露营都会在Sarimbun Camp Site 举行。当时难得有机会离家数日到户外生活，大家的期待和兴奋是可想而知的。（相比如今每个家庭一年出游数次，是体会不到的）。从每队各自搭建那几天的爱窝和自己设计的生活配套，期间的营地检查（Standby bed），户外生活/课程，水上活动等等，都有教练和师兄们评分，全部活动都是团体记分的。若要胜出，唯有2个字“团结”，这也是团体生活不可缺少的一个重要环节。所以当时我们最Hit和最熟练的歌就是“团结就是力量”。

祝大家身体健康！

Chen Chea Kok
Tiger Patrol 1988-1991



CONGRATULATIONS

to **GSL Andrew Chua**
on being awarded the 60-year Long Service Award
on 22 June 2019



to **SL Cai Wenchuan**
on his marriage
on 22 June 2019



to **SL Cai Wenchuan**
on being awarded the 5-year Chief Scout Commendation Award
on 10 July 2019



