

SUNWAYIAN

The Sunway Campus Magazine

Issue 09 | May-Jun 2024



PHAM 2024 



"Did You Know?" Series

Malaysia's Harvest Festivals



CAMPUS UPDATES



CELEBRATING QUIRKY SHENANIGANS ON PARENTS' DAY



ZERO  PLASTIC HOUR

A Journey into Malaysia's Publishing Industry 



Sunway World Series Club: AUSMAT 





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Let's be friends:



Please recycle!

BE ONE OF OUR CONTRIBUTORS

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ALWAYS welcomed 😊

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Hello Sunwayians!

Welcome aboard our 9th issue express! Sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride through the latest instalment of the Sunway campus magazine.

Can you believe we are reaching the middle of 2024? We would like to thank Sunwayians for your long-standing support, which has allowed the magazine to thrive and evolve into its 9th stunning issue. We are delighted to share an array of captivating stories and updates that highlight the #MostHappeningCampus.

Our cover story, 'Celebrating Quirky Shenanigans on Parents' Day,' commemorates Global Parents' Day with humorous text exchanges between Sunwayians and their parents. Dive into these amusing conversations within the pages and enjoy a hearty laugh, capturing the unhinged chaos of family dynamics.

#CampusWithAConscience has always been a core value embraced by Sunwayians, and we are excited to introduce our 'Zero Plastic Hour' campaign aimed at eradicating the issue of single-use plastics on campus. Join us as we officially commence on 5 June in honour of World Environment Day, and collectively play our part in protecting our planet.

Continuing in the celebration of environmental awareness, be sure to explore our recap of the Planetary Health Annual Meeting (PHAM) 2024 in case you missed

it, along with our sustainable feature about Sunway's initiative to reduce food waste.

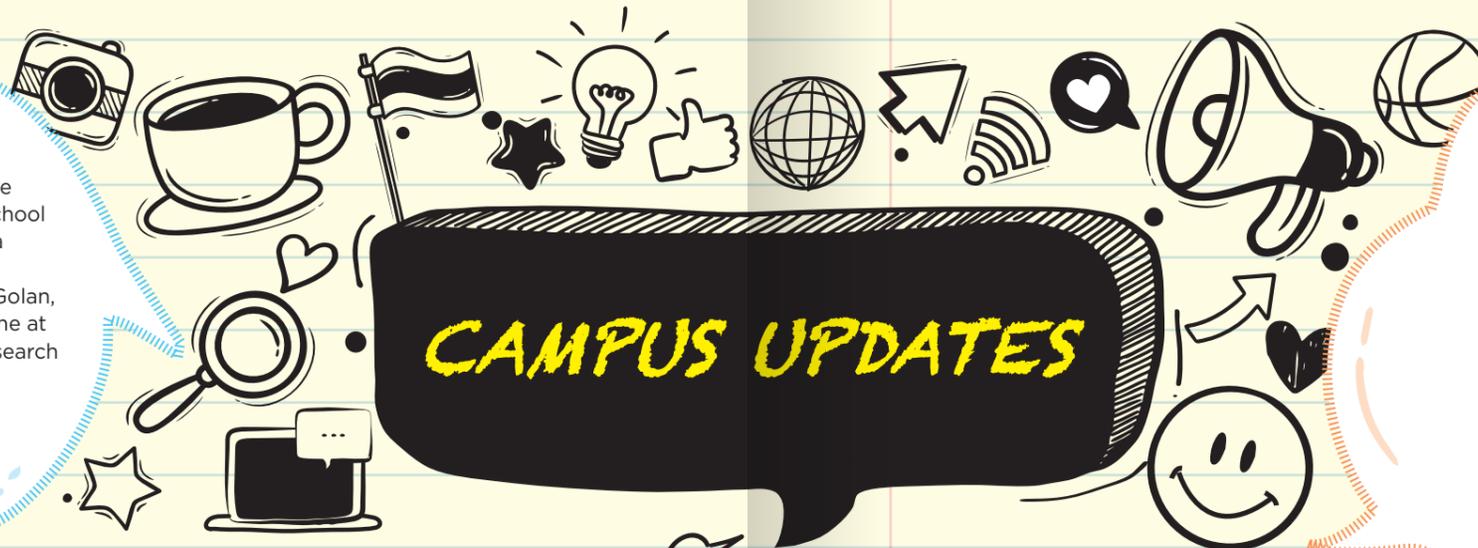
We have many wonderful achievements to celebrate in this issue, showcasing the remarkable successes of our university and our outstanding students. We are thrilled to announce Sunway University's continued reign at the top of Malaysia's Graduate Employability Index for the third consecutive year.

Moreover, it is with pride that we highlight the accomplishments of two Sunway A-Level students who secured acceptance into the prestigious Yale University, as well as our Australian Matriculation students who showcased exceptional performance in the WACE examinations, earning top accolades.

In this issue, you will find highlights of Sunway Foundation Programme's HerMighty Girl Power Camp, Sunway International Schools' teacher appreciation, inspiring stories from our international students and alumni, as well as an exciting lineup of curated campus events and activities.

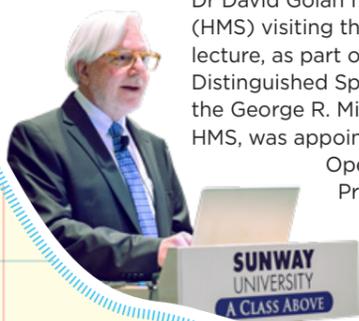
We believe in amplifying the voices of Sunwayians within our all-inclusive community and beyond. As we have half of the year remaining, embrace challenges without hesitation. Your future self will admire the courage of your present self.

Buckle up and let the 9th issue bring you on your next journey of fun and discovery.



Harvard Medical School's Dr Golan Visits Sunway University

Sunway University was privileged to have Dr David Golan from Harvard Medical School (HMS) visiting the campus and hosting a lecture, as part of the Sir Jeffrey Cheah Distinguished Speaker Series. Dr David Golan, the George R. Minot Professor of Medicine at HMS, was appointed as the Dean for Research Operations and Global Programs in August 2019.



MUFY Games 2024

The annual MUFY Games highlighted MUFY's dedication to promoting UN Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being. Featuring a variety of sports and games, including badminton, basketball and chess, MUFY students and staff were able to foster a vibrant atmosphere of sportsmanship and camaraderie.



Escape Room Adventure

Blending fun with education, the School of American Education (SAE) recently organised an exciting and innovative Escape Room inspired by the concept of gamification. The event successfully engaged students in a dynamic learning experience through six meticulously designed activities crafted by SAE lecturers. Participants embarked on an educational journey and explored various subjects typically covered in traditional classroom settings.



Business Careers Workshop with Glion - Les Roches

Secondary students from Sunway International Schools (SIS) delved into the latest trends in experience economy and explored the worlds of Luxury, Finance, Hospitality, Marketing, and Business in an interactive Mini Luxury Business Careers Workshop by one of the world's leading hospitality school, Glion - Les Roches.



Sunway FDTs at Sunway's 50th Anniversary

Sunway College Fashion Design Technology Studies collaborated with Sunway Theme Parks for a three-day fashion show at Sunway Pyramid Mall, celebrating Sunway's 50th anniversary. Featuring student-designed wedding costumes for Captain Quack and Lady Quack, the project provided valuable hands-on experience and culminated a successful debut show.



South Korean Students Visit Sunway Campus

The International Office welcomed visitors from South Korea for a campus visit. The group consisted of 80 students and six teachers from 16 middle and high schools across Incheon, Gyeonggi province of South Korea. The visitors were brought to enjoy our unique Chinese New Year celebration on campus, which included a lion dance performance.



Model United Nations

SIS students were brought together to simulate the United Nations' workings through Model United Nations. Putting themselves into the shoes of delegates representing various countries, they delved into in-depth discussions and debates on global issues. More than just role-playing, they applied various skills such as researching, understanding policies, and fostering diplomatic skills through engaging discourse and collaboration.



Cross Graded Learning

Grade 5 students from SIS Iskandar Puteri became mentors to their Grade 1 juniors on an exciting learning adventure through fun activities such as making clay digestive systems and using balloons to understand breathing, learning, and bonding with each other.

AUSMAT Class of 2024 Graduates with Global Recognition

The AUSMAT Class of 2024 graduated with honours, boasting impressive WACE results, including 32% of the students achieving an ATAR of 90 and above, with special recognition to six students scoring ATAR 99 and above. Five graduates earned global recognition for their exceptional performance in specific subjects, while 11 received book prizes from Australian universities.



CELEBRATING QUIRKY SHENANIGANS ON PARENTS' DAY

Happy Global Parents' Day to all the incredible moms and dads around the world! Your day-to-day shenanigans (read: love and care) always keeps us entertained. Check out the interesting conversation exchanges between fellow Sunwayians and their folks. Here's to the superheroes in our lives for their endless love and sacrifices.



Mom: I'm going to bring Sakura (our dog) to the clinic now

Mom: There's parcels on top of the postbox but it's wet because of the rain. What's inside?

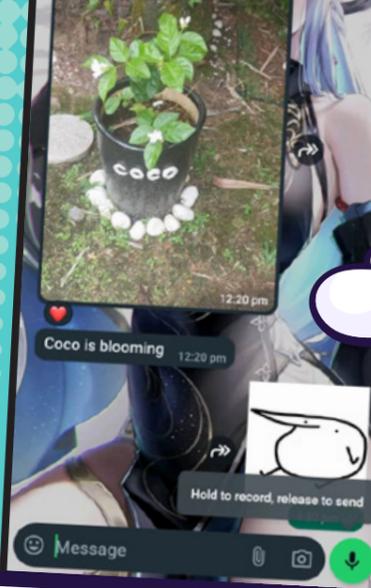
Mom: Oh there's another 2 inside the postbox



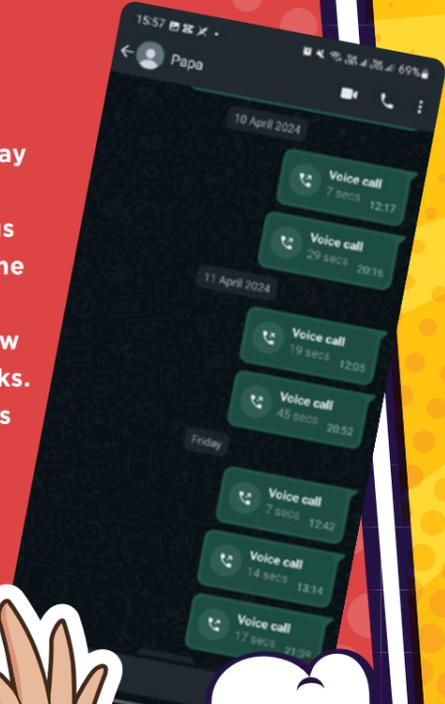
Me: I think parcels from Shopee will reach today

Mika Hashimoto, Diploma in Digital Creative Content

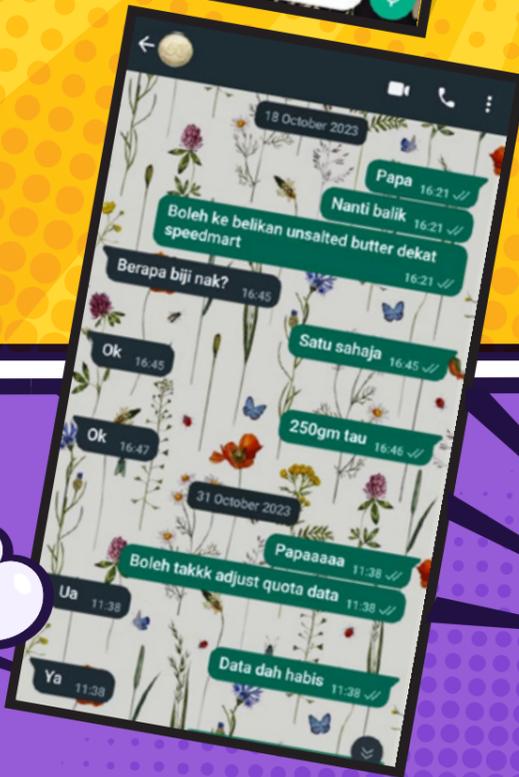
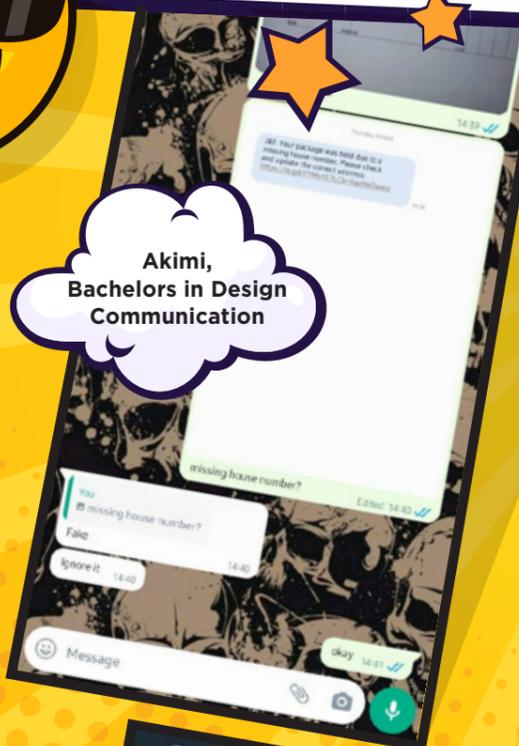
Me: I think it's a shirt and a bag



Vignesh, Diploma in Digital Creative Content

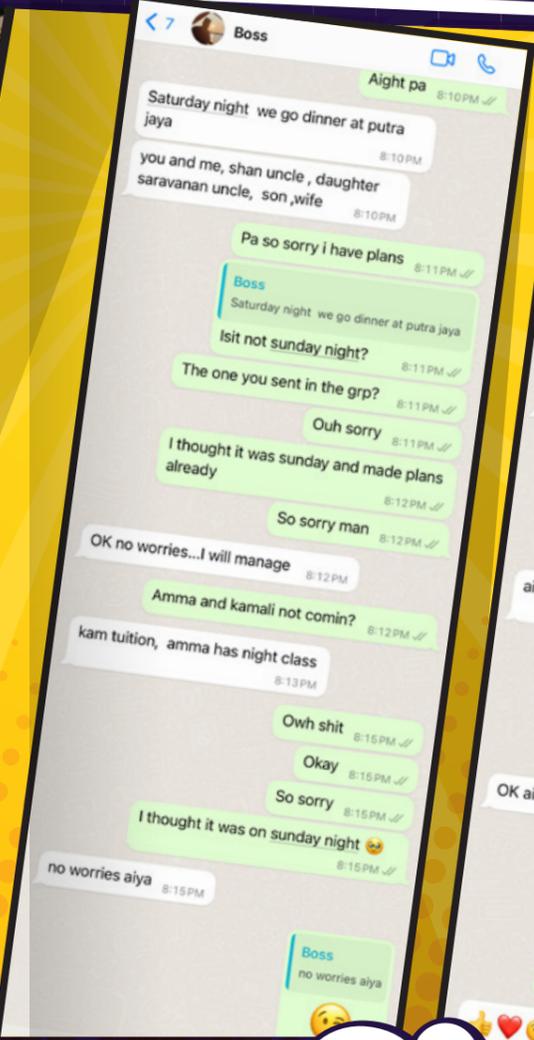


Akimi, Bachelors in Design Communication



Michelle Loo Xi Ying, A-Level

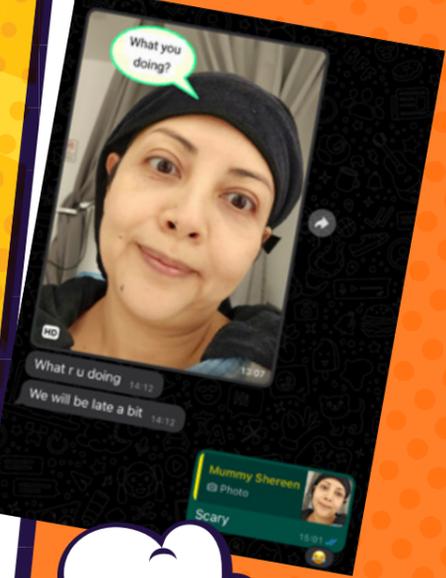
Adeela, ACCA



Shaktivel Krishnakumar, American Degree Transfer Program 1



Adrian Antony Louis, A-Level



SUNWAY UNIVERSITY LEADS THE WAY AS MALAYSIA'S



IN GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY

FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE YEARS

Sunway University has been awarded the number one position in the Graduate Employability Index among all universities in Malaysia by Talentbank for a third consecutive year. The University received 6 Stars Employability Rating in 25 different fields of study including Accounting, Actuarial Science, Engineering, Hospitality Management and many more. The recognition provides confidence for school leavers and parents who are considering university options with employability upon graduating as essential priority.

Talentbank's National Graduate Employability Index functions as a benchmark to measure the employability of graduates of higher education establishments in Malaysia. The recent survey assesses the preferred recruitment choices of employers, focusing on some key questions such as employer's opinion on their preferred universities, the number of graduates hired from these universities, and whether the employers will continue to hire graduates from the same universities they had previously chosen.



Professor Sibrandes Poppema, President of Sunway University said, "Sunway University considers this prestigious award as the most important recognition of the unwavering dedication and excellence of our faculty, staff, and students to achieve the best possible preparation for employment. We remain steadfast in providing outstanding education, characterised by research informed knowledge, skills, values and mindset and creating a meaningful impact in the academic world and the nation."



Associate Professor Dr Felicia Chung Fei Lei, cancer research expert at Sunway University's School of Medical and Life Sciences also shared, "At Sunway University, students benefit from the culture of innovation, state-of-the-art laboratories and the expertise of our world-class faculty. We also frequently engage with industry experts to provide career talks and engagement sessions, to expose our students to the diverse range of career opportunities beyond graduation."



The Dean of Sunway University's School of Engineering and Technology, **Professor Ir Denny Ng Kok Sum** said, "It is truly an honour for our university to top the Graduate Employability ranking for three consecutive years. This reaffirms our commitment to continue pursuing academic excellence and preparing our graduates for successful careers. We are immensely proud of our graduates and their achievements."

In addition to this accolade, Sunway University has been ranked the #1 Private University in ASEAN by the AppliedHE Private University Ranking ASEAN 2024. Sunway University also dominates the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2024 as Malaysia's number one non-government-linked private university.

AVENUE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Scholars Achieve First Class Honours

Heartfelt congratulations to our outstanding scholars from the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, Sunway-Teach For Malaysia, The Star Education Fund, and Sin Chew Education Fund. Their remarkable accomplishment of achieving First Class Honours is a testament to relentless hard work, perseverance, and dedication to academic excellence.



Sunway A-Level Students A-cing the BBO '24

Sunway College A-Level students excelled in the 2024 British Biology Olympiad, with a notable 33% increase in award recipients compared to the previous year. 82 students were recognised with prestigious awards, reflecting their outstanding performance and commitment to excellence.



SMLS Postgraduate Students Win Awards at the WWF Malaysia Climate Communication Challenge

Two postgraduate students from School of Medical and Life Sciences (SMLS) won two awards at the Climate Communication Challenge 2023, organised by WWF Malaysia. Soong Wei Si (MSc in Life Sciences), one of the recipients of the Special Jury award, received RM1,000 cash prize; meanwhile Tan Yi Huan (PhD in Biology) is one of the recipients of Outstanding Award and received RM500 cash prize.



MUFY student becomes the Top Scorer across all MUFY providers

MUFY student Ivan Wong is the recipient of the prestigious MUFY Excellence Award, achieving an outstanding overall score of 99.95% - the highest globally across all MUFY providers. His academic brilliance extends beyond this award, with top subject scores in Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics, and a Monash High Achiever Award scholarship from Monash University Malaysia.



Domination of JSAC Aquathlon Competition



Our Sunway International Schools (SIS) Iskandar Puteri champions dominated the JSAC Aquathlon Competition thanks to their superb teamwork. Chye Shinyun took home the title while Ethan Low was placed second in the U11 Boys category. Kim Ji Soo came in fifth in the U11 Girls category and Soshi Shuto was placed fifth in the U9 Boys category. The team amazed everyone with their superb sportsmanship and perseverance.

Tiny but Mighty Triathletes

Carrie, Sean, Isabelle, and Kohki from SIS showcased their extraordinary skills and resilience at the triathlon competition where Carrie shone in the Under 6 Girls Category, securing the Silver medal with an outstanding performance in swimming, cycling, and running. Meanwhile, Sean and Isabelle dominated the 7-8 Age Group Category, both earning the prestigious Finisher medal after competing in swimming, cycling, and running challenges. Last but not least, Kohki emerged as Champion in the 100m swimming, 4km cycling and 750m running categories.



SUNWAY World Series CLUB

**AUSMAT: Top 2% Globally
in the Western Australia
Certificate of Education
(WACE) Examination**

**ATAR - Australian Tertiary
Admission Rank**
Class of February 2024



Arshinie Saravanan
ATAR - 99.55



Benjamin Lee Jing Guo
ATAR - 98.95



Celine Goh Wen Yee
ATAR - 98.9



Cheryl Lee Xin Qian
ATAR - 98.95



Chong Jie Xin
ATAR - 98.1



Gizelle Gan Gen Xee
ATAR - 98



Lim Kian Bong
ATAR - 98.55



Mireille Wyern Kho
ATAR - 99.85



Newaashini Prakash
ATAR - 98.2



Nyam May Anne
ATAR - 98.5



Sanjna Nair Mahandran
ATAR - 98.65



Shelly Song Si Ni
ATAR - 99



Tan Zi Shan
ATAR - 99.3



Tei Chun Wei
ATAR - 99.6



Wendy Khong Wen Xin
ATAR - 99.35



Yeong Chung Jin
ATAR - 98.85

From Pen to Print: A Journey into Malaysia's Publishing Industry

Sunlight filters through glass windows, casting golden hues on rows of bookshelves, each hiding literary wonders waiting to be discovered. The air hums with gentle whispers of manuscripts and the rustle of pages, a symphony of stories longing to be told. Editors, designers, and writers huddle in quiet corners, the raw essence of an author's thoughts is transformed into ink and paper in this sanctuary.

The publishing industry reveals a reality that is far from the glittering portrayals we often imagine. Amidst the glimmers of success are countless rejection letters and sleepless nights that serve as reminders of the arduous publication journey. The publishing industry is a testament to the resilience and unwavering passion of those who embrace the difficulties and intricacies of bringing words to life.



WHAT IS PUBLISHING?



Publishing involves creating and disseminating written works to the public. It involves editors refining manuscripts, designers navigating the balance between creativity and market expectations, marketing teams striving to distinguish products in a saturated market, and publishers facing financial uncertainties and adapting to evolving reader preferences.

Traditionally, established publishing houses were responsible for selecting and publishing books. Manuscripts were chosen based on market trends and their quality. However, the introduction of digital platforms and self-publishing has broadened authors' options to release their work.

THE EVOLUTION OF MALAYSIA'S PUBLISHING INDUSTRY

In the early 1800s, Malaysia's first publishing initiatives began with the Translation Bureau of Sultan Idris College to produce public reading materials and books for Malay schools. The National Book Council of Malaysia (NBCM) was established in 1968, and the Malaysian Book Publishers Association (MABOPA) represents genuine publishers. Since then, the National Book Policy has recognised the book industry as a necessary industry, and the government's support has made publishing and printing key contributors to Malaysia's economy.

Locally published books in Malaysia primarily focus on educational resources and non-fiction, with a limited selection of English novels. Aspiring authors face challenges in the publishing industry.

Written by: Chloe
Edited by: Ruby



Unveiling the Publishing Process with Local Author Lilian Li

Introducing Lilian Li, a local author who has captivated readers with her compelling storytelling. With her books *House of Koi* and *Duet Me Not*, she captures the essence of Malaysia and the nostalgic memories of her childhood. Join us as we delve into Lilian Li's journey as an author and her experience in the publishing world.



What inspired you to start writing and how did you navigate the publishing process?

In my second year of university, I pitched an idea about Malaysian international schools and was accepted for a publishing programme. Inspired by my grandmother's experiences, I wrote a book on language barriers and self-acceptance. My second book focused on sports culture and perfectionism. I self-published shortly after gaining some experience in the publishing industry.

What were some of the biggest challenges you faced and how did you overcome them?

I was fortunate to find an opportunity to convey my vision to cover designers, overcoming challenges in Photoshop and distribution. I was also grateful for the supportive social media community that helped me overcome obstacles in the second book.

Did you pursue traditional publishing or self-publishing? What factors influenced your decision and what were the advantages or disadvantages you experienced with your chosen path?

I chose hybrid publishing, a mix of traditional publishing with a professional team and self-publishing where I owned all rights. Having a professional team and guidance helped a lot given my busy schedule of classes and national swimming competitions. However, I did face a lack of post-publishing support.

Were there any significant revisions or rejections you encountered along the way? How did you handle rejection or feedback and how did it shape your writing?

I had early knowledge of the story's beginning, end, and characters, and faced no rejections in my first book due to self-publishing. I sought and welcomed feedback from beta readers and readers to improve the story.

In what ways can readers support local authors?

There's a lot to improve in the publishing industry. I think a main one is removing the discrimination against self-published authors. I hope distributors and bookstores would also stop categorising local writers in the Asian Fiction instead of their own genre, as if they can't exist beyond being an Asian who writes fiction. Readers can support authors by buying their books and following their social media because even seeing comments or receiving messages will help authors more than you know. Also, telling your friends to support local authors will help a lot!

Lastly, what advice would you give to aspiring authors who are starting their own journey towards publication?

Keep writing from the heart. Gain confidence first before diving into this crazy world because once you put your work out there, it doesn't belong to you but to the readers. You have to be okay with not everyone liking your story. As long as you keep true to yourself and your writing, then you can make it. A lesson is to read over your contracts carefully and to not be afraid to ask questions or negotiate. Aside from your friends and family, make sure you have beta readers and strangers to read your work before you publish. Be open, be kind, and share stories that uplift the world.

How involved were you in the cover design and marketing aspects of your book? Did you have any input or control over these elements, and how important do you believe they are in the overall success of a book?

I think covers are crucial for a book's success. I was very much involved in the cover design and marketing for my first book, *House of Koi*. We focused on a soft blue cover design and utilised social media to reach readers. The Malaysian book community helped us find readers, and the second book allowed me to share my journey.

Can you share any memorable or surprising moments from your publishing journey? Is there a particular achievement that stands out to you?

Memorable moments include reaching MPH bestselling list twice with *House of Koi*, and having a sold-out book launch for *Duet Me Not*, as well as a pre-order exclusive edition.

Is there anything you would have done differently in terms of your approach to publishing or promoting your work?

No, because I wouldn't be where I am without having to learn and navigate the industry, especially in Malaysia. If I did know what I know now, there's still hardly anything different I'd do because there aren't many choices in the publishing industry.

How do you see the future of publishing evolving, and what advice would you give to authors navigating these changes?

I haven't started this journey for that long. I was in and out of the publishing industry, having to focus on graduating and getting a corporate job. I think people are becoming more open to self-publishing and selling their books on their own instead of relying on publishers. My advice would be to believe in yourself and your story, and to not let anyone tell you your worth.

PHAM2024

Successfully Held at Sunway Campus

The 2024 Planetary Health Summit and 6th Annual Meeting (PHAM 2024), co-hosted by Sunway Centre for Planetary Health (SCPH) and Planetary Health Alliance, was successfully held at Sunway campus in April 2024. Themed “From Evidence to Action: Confronting Reality,” the Summit emphasised the imperative to translate scientific research into tangible solutions.

Professor Tan Sri Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, Executive Director of Sunway Centre for Planetary Health said, “Bringing the Planetary Health Summit to Asia and to Malaysia this year meant that we could demonstrate our commitment to planetary health, while learning from and sharing our experiences with others – all in pursuit of a more liveable planet and good health for all living things on Earth.”

On another note, SCPH has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with WWF-Malaysia (World Wide Fund for Nature Malaysia) to tackle environmental and public health challenges. By combining expertise and resources, Sunway and WWF-Malaysia shall work towards promoting planetary health awareness and related initiatives from community to global levels.

Additionally, SCPH has partnered with Pacific Disaster Centre (PDC) to address the impact of disasters on human health and ecological systems, leveraging their expertise and data-driven approaches to mitigate disaster risks and build resilience.

Professor Sibrandes Poppema, President of Sunway University said, “I am pleased to sign these MOUs of the Sunway Centre for Planetary Health with WWF-Malaysia and with Pacific Disaster Centre, both organisations that walk the talk towards a planet that is healthier than today for the benefit of a population that will also be healthier than today”.

“We are honoured to forge these strategic partnerships that solidify our commitment to a healthier planet. By working together with WWF-Malaysia and PDC, we can amplify our collective impact in tackling critical planetary health challenges,” Professor Tan Sri Dr. Jemilah Mahmood concluded.

As the successful event was brought to a close, we are reminded to be united in our dedication to protecting our planet. Together, students and staff can make a significant impact through collective action and shared responsibility. Let’s continue to work together towards a sustainable future for all.



PHAM2024



Hey Sunwayians, surely you would have heard of our newly launched Zero Plastic Hour campaign by now. What does it really mean and how can fellow Sunwayians play their part?

We are thrilled to announce that all our F&B tenants and vendors have pledged to no longer use single-use plastic on campus in a bid to help save the environment. A Zero Tolerance policy will be in place after 5 June to eradicate single-use plastic from all outlets and vending machines across campus.

Single-use plastic is one of the main causes of environmental pollution. To this end, Sunway Campus vendors have partnered with Sunway Education to launch the Zero Plastic Hour initiative to help advance planetary health and sustainability as part of our ongoing #CampusWithAConscience ambitions.



ZERO
PLASTIC
HOUR

Mr Gary from Advance Campus, one of Sunway’s beloved tenants for close to two decades, expressed his pride in heading towards being a plastic-free campus. “We hope students and staff can support this campaign by bringing and actively using their own reusable containers, tumblers and cutleries for their takeaway orders,” he commented, emphasising that a simple action as such goes a long way in saving our earth amidst increasing awareness of climate change.

Mr Steven from yet another crowd favourite, Bite and Taste, echoed the sentiment, further sharing that students and staff can also encourage their family and friends to practise the habit of bringing their own reusable containers and cutleries. Though the habit may take time to develop, it is better late than never.

While our vendors will do their utmost to continue providing you the best service – tirelessly supported by our dedicated and reliable Facilities Services – you, Sunwayians, can get involved in this joint effort too!

We invite all Sunwayians to bring your own cutleries, food containers and bottles in support of this noble ambition that will make a huge difference to our daily lives and the environment.

Join the cause now and take care of our planet together as there is no Planet B.

The **C O U N T D O W N** to Zero Plastic Hour has begun.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STORIES

My name is Fathmath Rubaa Nadhir, and I am a 20-year-old student from the Maldives, currently pursuing Diploma in Event Management at Sunway University.

Sunway University is renowned for its exceptional hospitality management programme, consistently ranked among the top universities with over 20 years of scholarly achievements. I was particularly drawn to Sunway University because it offers the exact programme that I wanted to pursue—event management.

Growing up in the Maldives, surrounded by breathtaking natural beauty, cultivated in me a deep appreciation for creating memorable experiences. This enthusiasm for crafting unforgettable moments inspired me to

pursue event management. Sunway University's emphasis on experiential learning, which enhances teaching through practical experiences beyond the classroom, is invaluable to me. It equips me with the skills to apply theoretical principles effectively to real-world scenarios.

These experiences, thanks to Sunway University, have not only enriched my talents but also broadened my professional network, providing valuable connections and opening doors to new opportunities for growth and development. The knowledge, abilities, and experiences which I have gained here not only enabled me to achieve my academic objectives but also equipped me with the skills and insights necessary for a successful and rewarding career in this industry.



Fathmath Rubaa Nadhir

My experience living in Malaysia as an international student has been truly transformative. From the moment I arrived, I was embraced by Malaysia's warm and inviting culture, which instantly made me feel at home. The people here are incredibly polite, welcoming, and always eager to assist. Their kindness and hospitality have greatly facilitated my adjustment to life in a new country, allowing me to immerse myself fully in this vibrant and diverse community.

After completing my diploma, I would like to continue my master's degree to help me expand my expertise in certain areas of event management while also staying up-to-date on industry trends. Subsequently, I hope to secure a job in the event management industry in Malaysia after completing my studies.

As an international student, I would like to share my advice with others who are studying abroad like me, to always stay positive and resilient in the face of challenges. While studying abroad can be difficult at times, it is important to remember that you have the capability to overcome obstacles and thrive in a new environment. Maintain your focus on your objectives and always believe in yourself.



My name is Yosafat and I come from a town just outside of Jakarta called Bekasi. I am currently pursuing Actuarial Studies here at Sunway University.

From a young age, my deep fascination with numbers and data has driven me towards exploring actuarial studies. I believe that actuarial studies would provide me with a solid foundation in mathematics, statistics, finance, and risk management, which are highly valued in various industries. It would open door to endless opportunities and career prospects that will broaden my horizon.

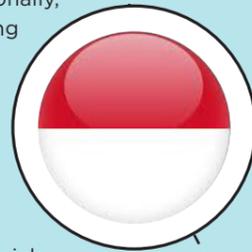
Sunway University has been instrumental in advancing my career aspirations by providing avenues to boost my employability. These include final semester internships and an annual on-campus job fair. My internship allowed me to apply my knowledge in a practical setting and acquire new skills in a dynamic environment.

Personally, I feel that Sunway's lively campus atmosphere and robust support network have significantly enhanced my academic journey.

Situated in the heart of the township, the campus is complete with essential amenities all within walking distance. This eases my day-to-day tasks such as getting food after class, or a quick shopping errand - truly student-friendly.

As the #MostHappeningCampus, Sunway University hosts a myriad of events, including job preparation workshops and industry talks by professionals, fostering networking opportunities for students like me. Additionally, my lecturers have been supportive, offering guidance on academic advancement and long-term career development.

Settling into Malaysia was smooth thanks to the friendly locals. English is widely spoken, especially in areas like Bandar Sunway and Kuala Lumpur. Since I speak Indonesian, it did not take long for me to pick up Malay as both languages are very much similar. On top of that, I befriended many Mandarin-speaking friends, and I was able to pick up a decent amount of Mandarin.

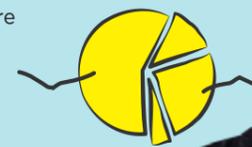


Yosafat Frans Christian

Malaysia's appeal to international students provides a unique opportunity to interact with people from diverse backgrounds and nationalities. This is a unique life experience for me, especially originating from Indonesia where cultural diversity is not as apparent as compared to Malaysia.

I have decided to return home and pursue roles in strategy consulting, while also considering unconventional actuarial positions such as actuarial consulting, climate-related financial disclosures, and entrepreneurial ventures. My goal within the next five years is to work in an actuarial consulting role and work towards becoming an actuarial fellow.

I would encourage other international students to step out of their comfort zone and meet new people, be it through clubs and organisations or participating in the many events held on campus. Additionally, forming bonds with fellow students from your home country can provide valuable support to navigate through challenging times.





Celebrating A Family Legacy

Often times we hear stories from our parents or guardians about the world they lived in, where they grew up, what they studied, and the people around them. Their journey would leave us with bright eyes and jaws open, curious about what it would be like to trace their footsteps from many years ago or how did a packet of nasi lemak cost only 30 cents.



Yong Meng Keet & Jenn Poon Wei Ling - Sunway-WMU Twinning Programme 1996 & 1995

As Western Michigan University graduates who went through the twinning programme via Sunway College, we had hopes from Justin's birth that he would one day follow our path to become a Bronco. Since our parents did not give us much choice regarding our own degrees, we decided that we would be supportive parents and allow our child to choose his area of study with guidance from us. We also knew that we wanted to ground him in strong values and the Christian faith. We place importance on being Christ-centred, having strong family relationships and traditions, having humility and integrity, and giving 100% in all that you do.

In his growing-up years, we were very conscious of building a community that helped us to foster those values in Justin, such as spiritual authority through church aunties and uncles, his Boys Brigade officers, Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) leaders, in addition to us as parents and his grandparents. As the saying goes, it takes a village to bring up a child.



We had to adjust our parenting through the different stages of his life, and upon reflection, we are glad that we allowed him the opportunity to explore many experiences - tennis, ice hockey, basketball, robotics, art classes, Boys Brigade, and Scouts, to mention a few. We always had open conversations with him where we could talk about anything and there was no topic that was taboo, which helped to foster a close parent-child relationship.

We believe that because we were always supportive and encouraging, this allowed him to grow into a confident and mature young man. When looking locally for a university, Sunway University was a natural choice since it was our alma mater. His journey at Sunway has been all we had hoped for, providing him with the right opportunities to flourish and grow into his potential through a loving, caring, as well as challenging environment.

We are so glad that we can share experiences of the same campus through a different time and lens. We are so proud of the person he is today, and pray that he will continue to grow and allow Jesus to guide his path, that he will hold true to the values we have instilled in him from a young age and that he will help make an impact on the world and fulfil God's purpose for him.

Dear Justin, know that whatever challenges you face in the future, we love you and will be here for you always.
- Meng Keet and Jenn



On the other hand, we may not even see eye-to-eye. We wonder why we are urged to eat our vegetables, greet our elders, or to go to bed early. Sooner or later, we will find that everything comes from our parents' experiences, providing us with different opportunities and lessons to ensure a better life.

To celebrate Global Parents' Day on 1 June 2024, we hear directly from a Sunway family: Meng Keet and Jenn, parents who studied, met, and fell in love at Sunway College, and their son, Justin, who is a current student at Sunway University, creating a legacy.

Justin Yong Wenn Weii - Bachelor of Software Engineering (Hons)

Walking the hallways of Sunway College seems strangely familiar. Perhaps it is because this place holds a special place in my family history - my parents met right here during their time as students. Both of them are alumni of the American Degree Transfer Program.



Being the child of two Sunway Alumni, I was not surprised to find the values of integrity, humility, and excellence woven into my upbringing, instilling in me the importance of striving for excellence while maintaining a sense of honour and staying grounded. The unwavering support and guidance from my parents have been instrumental in shaping me into the person I am today. I can remember them being beside me through every significant event in my life, cheering me on, and even being there for me when I failed. Their impact on my life has been profound and empowering, as they have supported me while also ensuring that I stay on the right path.

While there is no single defining moment that could capture how my parents raised me, the countless conversations we had about responsible leadership and its impact on the world undoubtedly shaped my growth, both as a person and as a leader. One piece of advice that resonates deeply is to "always be open to opportunities, as life rarely turns out exactly how we planned". This

has proven true throughout my personal journey, where seemingly daunting challenges often revealed unexpected opportunities for growth.

Coming to Sunway is accompanied by a unique blend of pride and some pressure to carry on the family legacy. My mother contributed to the Student Council during her student days as the secretary. Today, I too serve in the Student Council as an executive of the Student Relations Department. In retrospect, hearing their stories highlights not only their achievements but also Sunway's remarkable transformation. Back then, a nearby petrol station was the peak of student entertainment and leisure. Today, our campus is livelier and has such a vibrant environment, providing a much different experience from their earlier days.



Mom and Dad, thank you for your unwavering support in loving me for who I am. It is an honour and privilege to continue the family legacy here in Sunway. Your commitment to serving others is something I hope to emulate in my life too. Love y'all very much.
- Justin



YOUR HOME Away from Home

Embarking on your university journey is an adventure, and finding the perfect place to call home is essential. Located in the heart of Sunway city, Sunway House Residences' easy access to campus facilities, dining options, and recreational areas are among the key qualities that provide students with unparalleled comfort, convenience, and a dynamic environment.

Sunway House Residences offers a wide range of distinctive accommodation, including Sunway House Waterfront Residence Block A, C, D, Sun-U Residence, and Sun-U Apartment. Regardless of where residents are staying, our vibrant community fosters a spirit of collaboration and camaraderie, offering various social events and activities to help you build friendships that will last a lifetime.

Sunway House Waterfront Residence Block A, C, D provide modern amenities and prioritise resident safety, offering diverse room options to suit different preferences. Sun-U Residence emphasises on security and community, offering twin-sharing rooms for close-knit interactions while maintaining privacy. Known for its convenience, safety and affordability, Sun-U Apartment provides comfortable living quarters with communal spaces and easy access to Sunway City's amenities.

Embrace the opportunity to live, learn, and grow alongside a diverse community of peers who share your passions and ambitions. Discover the perfect blend of comfort, convenience, and camaraderie in our university accommodation. For more information, please visit www.residence.sunwayhouse.com.my/



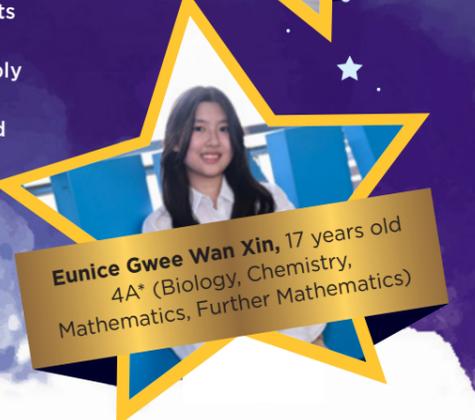
Sunway Stars



Lee Wei Lun, 19 years old
4A* (Physics, Mathematics,
Further Mathematics, Economics)



Wong Heng Wai, 20 years old
2A*, 1A (Physics,
Chemistry, Mathematics)



Eunice Gwee Wan Xin, 17 years old
4A* (Biology, Chemistry,
Mathematics, Further Mathematics)

Welcome fellow Sunwayians to the Sunway Stars column! ★

In this segment, we delve into the fascinating journeys of our remarkable Sunway students who are making waves in various fields. From groundbreaking research to academic triumphs, our students represent the passion, determination and innovative spirits of future pioneers.

Join us as we celebrate and uncover the stories of three outstanding A-Level students - Lee Wei Lun, Wong Heng Wai and Eunice Gwee Wan Xin, who have excelled remarkably in their A-level examinations. Notably, Wei Lun and Heng Wai have both been accepted into the renowned Ivy League research institution - Yale University, while the young 17-year-old Eunice Gwee scored Top in the World for AS Mathematics.

Could you tell us where your hometown is and which secondary school you graduated from?

WL: I was born and raised in Klang Valley, and I graduated from Sri Kuala Lumpur School.

HW: I'm from Alor Setar and my secondary school was SMK Keat Hwa.

WX: I grew up in KL and was previously from Beaconhouse Sri Inai International School.

Can you share with us how you manage your time amidst a busy schedule?

WL: Making a to-do list helps me to stay organised on my daily tasks and responsibilities. I also find that setting long-term goals helps me to keep track of my progress and accomplishments.

HW: I've found that creating a timetable is incredibly helpful. Breaking down larger goals into actionable weekly and monthly goals also allows me to make steady progress and prevents me from feeling overwhelmed.

WX: One of the key strategies I use is prioritising tasks based on their importance and urgency. By breaking my workload into manageable chunks and sticking to a schedule, I'm able to ensure that all tasks are completed by the end of the day.

What made you choose the Sunway A-Level programme?

WL: I was mostly recommended by my family. However, what truly sealed the deal for me was the incredible campus life which has a vibrant atmosphere and diverse student community. Additionally, I was awarded a full scholarship to study here.

HW: I was recommended by my seniors and obtained a full scholarship to study at Sunway. The prestigious reputation of the A-Level programme here attracted me, and the vibrant campus community is something that I particularly enjoy.

WX: I agree with them. The diverse engagement opportunities that Sunway offers stood out to me. In addition to the full scholarship I received, Sunway's A-Level programme offered me the subject combination that I wanted, so it was a pretty easy decision for me to choose this programme.

What are your plans after this?

WL: I want to pursue a joint major in computer science and economics at Yale University. I also hope to take up business management classes there.

HW: I'm going to major in biomedical engineering at Yale University.

WX: I'm currently interning in web development and aiming to pursue a degree in computer science.

Any word of advice to fellow Sunwayians?

WL: Hard work won't pay off without the right direction. It's crucial to have a clear vision and strategic plan in place.

HW: Believe in yourself and remember that if one approach fails, it's not the end. There are always multiple paths to reach your goals.

WX: Surround yourself with the right people and always hold strong to what you want. Don't let anyone discourage you from reaching your goals.

Once more, congratulations to our three exceptional talents on their outstanding achievements! 🎉 Sunway is extremely proud of you and we wish you all the best in your future endeavours. Keep shining bright and continue to pursue your dreams with the same enthusiasm and determination.



HerMighty Girl Power Camp

Amidst the echoes of laughter and moments of self-discovery, the HerMighty Girl Power Camp brought together 230 girls aged 13 to 17 from Klang Valley, fostering empowerment and camaraderie. Guided by the spirited "Rockstars" – Amin, Chloe, Faiz, Sharenee, and Asyraf – and fuelled by the dedicated amBESTIEdors, a committed group of Sunway Foundation Programme (SFP) students and teachers, this thrilling journey unfolded, creating not just memories but also instilling the core values of the camp.



Encapsulated in the acronym SFP, these values urged the girls to **Shine** with confidence, **Forge** strong resilient mindsets, and embrace their **Priceless** self-worth, all symbolised by the brilliance of diamonds. From concert-like vibes during 'Wave your Glowsticks,' where girls waved their glowsticks in response to relatable statements, to heartening compliments in the circle of 'Miss Smiley,' each ice breaker painted the camp with hues of enthusiasm and positive energy.

Parents, ever the champions, joined in the celebration during the recap session, leaving their own heartfelt notes that added a touch of warmth to the unforgettable moments. The festivities continued with lively activity booths, where the girls not only pampered themselves at hair wax, snack, nail, and bead bars but also tapped into their empowered selves with 'Discover Your Inner Queen.'

In the end, the photobooth sealed the memories, capturing endless joy with besties and creating highlights that, unlike any filter, showcased the radiant spirits of these empowered girls. As the curtain fell upon the HerMighty Girl Power Camp, it left behind not just a campsite but a space where confidence was cultivated, resilience was fortified, and self-love became the brightest jewel in each participant's crown. Until next time, let the echoes of laughter and newfound strength resonate, a reminder that every girl is a mighty force to be reckoned with.



Shine with Confidence

Girls delved into the root causes of their insecurities, primarily influenced by negative media. In a symbolic and liberating act, they wrote down their insecurities and tore them up, releasing them into the air like confetti.

Forging Strong Resilient Mindset

Emphasising the need to filter media information, this session introduced Louise Evans' 5 Chairs concept. The girls learned to forge a strong and resilient mindset, understanding that while they could not change the views of others, they could control their own responses.

Priceless Love and Relationship

Concluding with a powerful message about self-love, the girls discovered their love languages, recognising that the most important relationship anyone can have is with themselves.

Full video:



Thank You, Teachers

Happy Teacher's Day to all the amazing educators out there! We celebrate the dedication, passion, and tireless efforts of teachers who inspire dreams by nurturing minds and building characters. Here are some lovely messages by our adorable Sunway International Schools' students.

Student's name: Kaajal Shivania Karthigayan

Grade: 1 Raffi

Teacher's name: Ralphie Carnahan

Message: Dear teacher Ralphie, words cannot express how thankful I am for your continuous support and guidance. Thank you for being an amazing teacher. I love your method of teaching and thank you for playing with me in the playground. You are one of the best teachers in this world.



Student's name: Eric Sohn

Teacher's name: Mr. Coakley

Grade: 8

Message: Dear Mr. Coakley, I know it has only been three months since you became my core teacher, but I wanted to express my gratitude for the positive influence you've already had on my learning experience. Your enthusiasm for the subjects and dedication to teaching are shown in every lesson, making each day in your class both enjoyable and educational. Your ability to explain complex concepts in ways that are understandable and engaging has helped improve my confidence and interest in the material. Additionally, your willingness to provide extra help and encouragement has truly made a difference. Thank you for being such a committed and inspiring teacher. I look forward to the rest of the school year with you.



Student's name: Yee Jia Jun

Grade: 6

Teacher's name: Morin Jesse

Message: Dear Mr. Morin, with patience and understanding, you've ignited a love for learning within us. Thank you for nurturing our minds, inspiring us to soar, and making middle school not that scary! Your dedication blooms in every smile.



Student's name: Shernee

Teacher's name: Mr Lahey

Grade: 11

Message: I enjoyed learning new skills in photography and editing, not to mention making matcha in class! Thank you for making TGJ interesting and fun! :^)



Student's name: Sharity Tsui Sum Yu

Teacher's name: Mr. Ramon

Grade: 3D

Message: Mr. Ramon is a nice and gentle teacher. He is always patient not only when teaching us, but also when speaking to us. My friends and I like to play with Mr. Ramon.





Malaysia's Harvest Festivals

Pesta Kaamatan

The term "Kaamatan" comes from the Kadazandusun language, meaning "harvest festival." It is a significant event for the Kadazandusun community, marking a time to give thanks for the rice harvest and seek blessings for future yields.

Usually held throughout May, Pesta Kaamatan peaks on 30 and 31 May, though celebrations can extend into early June in some places.

Kaamatan is celebrated by the Kadazandusun people of Sabah and is closely tied to their native belief system, Momolianism, where the earth is seen as a divine gift. Gratitude is shown to the creator after each harvest.

In their culture, Kaamatan commemorates Huminodun's sacrifice. The daughter of Kinoringan sacrificed herself to save humanity during a famine. Her body transformed into food and crops, ensuring survival for humankind.

Although Kaamatan lasts all of May, the end date is determined by the Bobohizan, the Kadazan priestess, and it is a public holiday.

Activities such as traditional performances, competitions, beauty pageants, as well as arts and crafts, are celebrated during this festive period, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the Kadazandusun community in Sabah.

Hari Gawai

Hari Gawai or Gawai Dayak, observed on 1 June by the Dayak people in Sarawak, is primarily a Thanksgiving festival that expresses gratitude for abundant harvests and celebrates unity while looking forward to future opportunities.

The food and drinks during Gawai festivities are integral to the celebration, embodying the essence of "merrymaking," as indicated by the literal meaning of "Gawai" in the Iban language.

On Gawai eve, the Iban community engages in miring, a ceremony of thanksgiving and blessings, characterised by offerings made to departed ancestors, spirits, and deities.

The longhouses undergo repair using timber sourced from nearby reserve forests and are decorated with ukir murals portraying wildlife motifs.

Cultural activities during Gawai include cockfighting, blowpipe demonstrations, beauty pageants, martial arts demonstrations, and dancing competitions, all contributing to the festive atmosphere.



Seeding Sustainability by Empowering Communities



Aspiring to reduce the amount of food waste that ends up at the landfill, Facilities Services has been collaborating closely with Sunway Material Smart Science & Engineering Cluster (SMS2E) since July 2022.

Some of the initiatives taken by Facilities include educating relevant stakeholders such as our tenants and vendors on reducing food waste, as well as proactively collecting dry food waste from the cafeteria tenants to be composted.

Demonstrating a strong commitment towards Goal 12 of United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) - Responsible Consumption and Production - these efforts have played a pivotal role in diverting as much as 4% waste from the landfill to date.

To foster community engagement, the team also identified an impactful opportunity to involve our local communities by sharing our organic compost with the Community Herb Garden from USJ 17/2 and the USJ 11 Kebun Community. Assisted by Ms Celine Tan, a lecturer from the General Studies Department, a total of 250kg of compost were distributed - 150 kg to USJ 17/2 and 100kg to USJ 11 communities respectively.

This simple yet impactful collaboration is also in line with SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities - and marks a significant stride forward towards promoting sustainability by fostering a sense of shared responsibility for the planet. Sunway University hopes to continue leading by example, inspiring positive change both locally and beyond to create a greener, more sustainable future for all.



WIN with WIT!

Share your best Sunway memes or craft your own campus-themed memes for a chance to win a Chek Hup Limited Edition Bamboo Fiber tumbler!



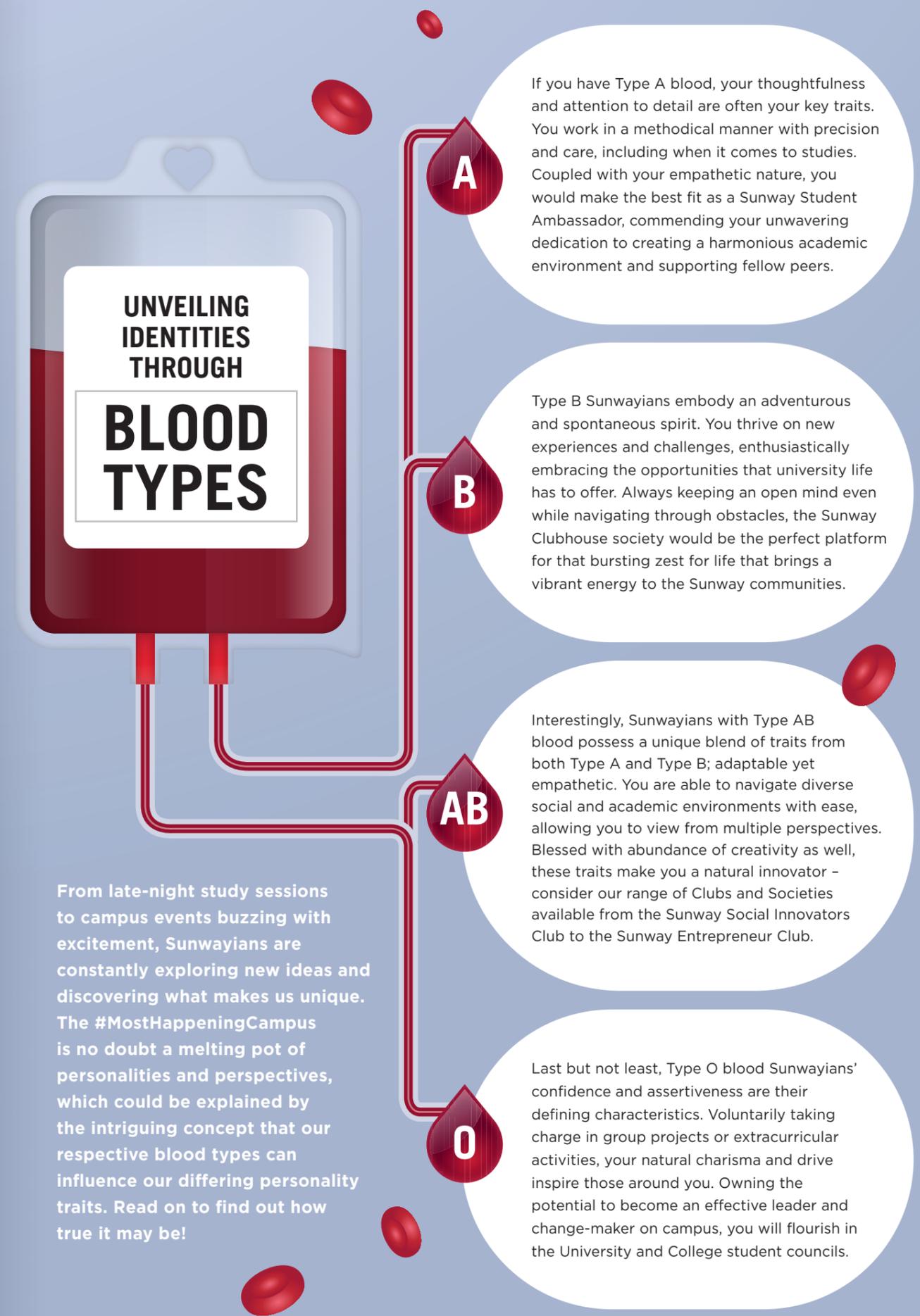
Submission deadline:
Monday, 3 June 2024

Scan the QR code below
to submit your entry



Our editorial team will select the top 5 memes.

Check out these examples:



UNVEILING IDENTITIES THROUGH BLOOD TYPES

A

If you have Type A blood, your thoughtfulness and attention to detail are often your key traits. You work in a methodical manner with precision and care, including when it comes to studies. Coupled with your empathetic nature, you would make the best fit as a Sunway Student Ambassador, commending your unwavering dedication to creating a harmonious academic environment and supporting fellow peers.

B

Type B Sunwayians embody an adventurous and spontaneous spirit. You thrive on new experiences and challenges, enthusiastically embracing the opportunities that university life has to offer. Always keeping an open mind even while navigating through obstacles, the Sunway Clubhouse society would be the perfect platform for that bursting zest for life that brings a vibrant energy to the Sunway communities.

AB

Interestingly, Sunwayians with Type AB blood possess a unique blend of traits from both Type A and Type B; adaptable yet empathetic. You are able to navigate diverse social and academic environments with ease, allowing you to view from multiple perspectives. Blessed with abundance of creativity as well, these traits make you a natural innovator – consider our range of Clubs and Societies available from the Sunway Social Innovators Club to the Sunway Entrepreneur Club.

O

Last but not least, Type O blood Sunwayians' confidence and assertiveness are their defining characteristics. Voluntarily taking charge in group projects or extracurricular activities, your natural charisma and drive inspire those around you. Owning the potential to become an effective leader and change-maker on campus, you will flourish in the University and College student councils.

From late-night study sessions to campus events buzzing with excitement, Sunwayians are constantly exploring new ideas and discovering what makes us unique. The #MostHappeningCampus is no doubt a melting pot of personalities and perspectives, which could be explained by the intriguing concept that our respective blood types can influence our differing personality traits. Read on to find out how true it may be!

When you see the couch Join the chat

Comfy Chats offers a platform for students to dive into fun discussions on all things relevant and current.



Have something exciting to share?
Reach out to us via khairiahk@sunway.edu.my