



29 April 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Organizational culture is defined as the underlying beliefs, assumptions, values and ways of interacting that contribute to the unique social and psychological environment of an organization. Culture is shaped by five interwoven elements: (1) **Fundamental beliefs and assumptions**, or the things that people at your school consider to be true; (2) **Shared values**, or the judgments people at your school make about those belief and assumptions — whether they are right or wrong, good or bad, just or unjust; (3) **Norms**, or how members believe they should act and behave, or what they think is expected of them; (4) **Patterns and behaviors**, or the way people actually act and behave in your school; (5) **Tangible evidence**, or the physical, visual, auditory, or other sensory signs that demonstrate the behaviors of the people in your school.

When the above understanding of culture is applied to the culture of respect, I realize that there is still much work to be done in the school especially in the area of norms, patterns and behaviors. Having respect as one of the school values repeated each week when students recite the ‘Students Creed’ should complement efforts to teach and role model respect for self and others. The school needs the support and combined efforts of staff and parents to help our gentlemen understand the importance of treating themselves and others as ‘fearfully and wonderfully made’. This is manifested in the way they speak about and treat one another, the way they respect the learning spaces of others by not being disruptive and the way they treat their teachers.

I believe ACS Barker Road provides a diverse and challenging environment for our gentlemen to learn that differences in learning needs and social backgrounds should be embraced with respect and not seen as less. This is not as easy as it sounds because the world that our gentlemen live in today provide numerous examples of how differences can lead to strife and violence rather than respect. I look forward to your partnership in this much-needed endeavour.

CCA Achievements

We are proud of the achievements of our students at the Singapore Youth Festival, National Schools Games, Inter-Unit competitions for Uniformed Groups and club competitions.

CCA	Achievement	Acknowledgement
Badminton	B Division – 3 rd at South Zone; Quarterfinals at	The team worked hard and matched their 2018 achievement by being placed joint 5 th

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	the National Championships	
Bowling	B Division – 4 th at National Championships	The team matched their performance in 2018 by achieving a top 4 position at the championships
Basketball	B Division – Champions for South Zone; Quarterfinals at National Championships	The team put in their best effort in the face of tougher opposition at the National Championships
Fencing	B Division – 3 rd Epee category in National Championships	Elliot Teo from 3H3 did well in the Nationals by emerging 3 rd in the epee category
Golf	B Division – 2 nd in National Team Championship	Austin Anderson Tan and Darryl Tan, both from 4G2, did the school proud by emerging runner-up in the team championship
Rugby	B Division – 3 rd at National Championships	Our 'B' Division Rugby boys played their penultimate match of the season against Raffles Institution. Despite being 6-0 down, they never lost heart and gave their all to win the game with a score of 15-6. The win saw them finish 2nd runner-up in the 2019 National School Games
Shooting	B Division – 2 nd in 10m Air Rifle in National Championships	Marat Veloso from 4H1 emerged as the runner-up in the 10m Air Rifle event
Swimming	B Division – 4 th at National Championships C Division – 4 th at National Championships	ACSBR gentlemen did the school proud by coming in 4 th for B and C divisions in the recently concluded National Inter-School Swimming Championships. We are proud of the students who achieved individual medals and set personal records during the course of the competition.
Table-Tennis	C Division – 3 rd at South Zone; Joint 5 th at National Championships	The team went further than they did in 2018 by emerging joint 5 th in the Nationals.
Taekwondo	B Division – Poomsae (3 rd) and Kyorugi (4 th) in National Championships	Tyler Cheng from 3A1 emerged 3 rd in the individual black belt Poomsae competition while Xavier Lim from 4S2 emerged 4 th in the Kyorugi competition
Digital Media	Singapore Youth Photography Convention	The following students brought honour to the school by clinching 1 st positions in various categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual category – Dylan Cheng, 3H2 • Street Photography – Nicholas Koh, 4G1 • Perspective Photography – Joshua Tan, 3S3

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macro Photography – Luke Lee, 3H3 • Creative Aperture Photography – Ethan Cheah, 4L1
Robotics Club	Robotics Challenge 2019	ACSBR teams achieved 1 st and 4 th place in the Tracing Challenge and 4 th place in the Obstacle Avoidance Challenge
	IDE (Innovation, Design and Engineering) Series	ACSBR team achieved 3 rd place in the Sprint Category

We are immensely proud of Avvir Tham from 3H4 for bringing honour to ACS Barker Road and Singapore at the Malaysian National Age-Group Championships for Diving. He emerged 1st in the 1-metre Springboard Competition and 4th in the 3-metre Springboard Competition.

At the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation 2019, our performing arts groups participated in the presentations for Chinese Orchestra (Mixed Ensemble), Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, Choir, Drama and Dance (International) categories. The results are still coming in and we are proud that our students' efforts since last year have borne fruits. The following groups all achieved **Certificates of Distinction**:

- Chinese Orchestra – Mixed Ensemble
- Concert Band
- Choir
- Dance – International

Not to be outdone, our Uniformed Groups have also done well at the Inter-Unit competitions:

- Boys Brigade – J M Fraser Gold Award
- National Police Cadet Corp (NPCC) – Gold Award
- National Cadet Corp (Sea) – Distinction Award
- Scouts & Ventures – Frank Cooper Sands Gold Award

Communication with parents and stakeholders

The school continues to look at ways to communicate more effectively with parents and stakeholders. In addition to letters and email notifications, regular meeting sessions are scheduled three times a year – one at the start, another at the end of Semester 1 and finally the third meeting at the end of Semester 2.

The coming **Meet the Parents** session on will be held on **31 May 2019** from **8am – 3pm**. Parents are encouraged to schedule meetings with form teachers. More details will be given in a separate letter.

Another way that the school has established for parents and stakeholders to keep in touch with the school is via the ubiquitous social media (**Instagram – acsbr_official; Facebook – ACSBR**). We encourage parents to like and follow the pages so that you can receive news and achievements of staff and students through these pages.



With the launch of **Parent Gateway** app by MOE, the school will begin to send email notifications and consent forms via the application. We will be piloting this effort at the beginning of Term 3. Parents are encouraged to download the app from Google Play or Apple Store. More details will be sent via another communication. The school will be using Parent Gateway for dissemination of notifications and consent forms and the Ntrix app for academic matters. We look forward to your support as the school fine-tunes its communication efforts and platforms.

Yours sincerely,

Loo Ming Yaw
Principal