

Let's Talk

Julia Gabriel
EDUCATION

TERM 2 2018



JULIA GABRIEL CENTRE
June 2018 Holiday Programmes

CHENGZHU
Chinese Cultural Evening

**A DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT
CONVERSATION**

EDITORIAL

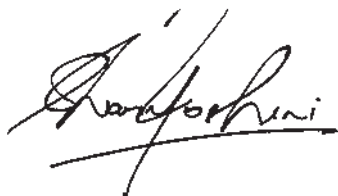
Diversity in the world is a basic characteristic of human society, and also a key condition for a lively and dynamic world as we see today. – Hu Jintao

Here at Julia Gabriel Centre & Chiltern House, we celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of each individual that come to us, including children, parents, educators, students, suppliers and care givers of diverse backgrounds. It is in these two, that we are able to inspire the confidence for positive learning to uphold our company mission, 'Empowering Learners with Skills for Life, Through Dramatically Different Education'.

Every year, we get to celebrate this in an annual event called 'Vision Day', which was recently held for all our staff in March 2018. We are truly thankful that you all out there have also been part of this amazing journey of learning, leading and believing, through our challenges and successes. It is in our diversity that we are able to harness the energy and creativity of our people to influence a positive future for our children.

Strength lies in differences, not in similarities.

It is my great pleasure to dedicate this issue to each and everyone of you, in celebration of your diversity and uniqueness, especially to the staff of Julia Gabriel Centre and Chiltern House.



Sharon Roshini Jacob
Principal of Schools



dramaticallydifferent

EVENTS | NEWS

CATCH OUR STORYTELLING TEAM!

Enjoy the retelling of classic children's tales with a Julia Gabriel Centre twist! Dance with us, rhyme with us, and get silly with us all over again this new year.

Catch our specialist teachers for a brand new line of Silly Stupendous Spectacular Stories with our partners: Hamleys, Mothercare, Marmalade Cafe, Sergeant Major, and even at our home base, Gateway Kiaramas in Mont' Kiara.

For the most updated schedule, follow us on our facebook page and instagram account @JuliaGabrielKL!



ON THE COVER

Chengzhu's Chinese Cultural Evening took place in Mont' Kiara centre on 3rd March to an enthusiastic reception from parents and children alike. The annual programme which has been a signature event of Chengzhu's celebrates the beautiful history of the Chinese culture - all under one roof. The centre was abuzz with activities as the crowd made their way from studio to studio as part of the cultural immersion programme.

A highlight of the evening was the exciting Mandarin performance by the students during the opening.

(to be continued on the next page)



JULIA GABRIEL INTERNATIONAL - MALAYSIA

Julia Gabriel Centre
www.juliagabriel.com.my

Chiltern House Preschool
www.chilternhouse.com.my

Chengzhu Mandarin Centre
www.chengzhu.com.my

Bangsar | CITTA Mall | Mont' Kiara



JuliaGabrielKL

Tag us in your photos and stand a chance to be featured!

JUNE 2018 HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

Travel to the Land of Nursery Rhymes!

Are you ready to meet Jack, Jill and Humpty Dumpty during the June school holiday?

Based on a most popular theme, Never-Ending Nursery Rhymes, Julia Gabriel Centre's four-day long adult accompanied holiday programmes is set to run from 11th to 14th June for children aged 6 months to 3 years.

Join us for a magical exploration of words, sounds and characters as nursery rhymes come alive during this fun-filled week! Children can enjoy exciting sensorial activities, songs, stories and interaction with puppets as they are immersed in the world of nursery rhymes, getting to know the characters of these well-known verses. To find out more, call Mont' Kiara centre at 03-6211 4411 or visit www.juliagabriel.com.my.



VISION DAY

Creating self-leaders in the organization

"True leaders understand that leadership is not about them but about those they serve. It is not about exalting themselves but about lifting others up." –Sherry Dew

Vision Day 2018 celebrates the empowerment of staff in Julia Gabriel International as we strive to be leaders in our own rights.

Heartfelt congratulations to Senior Teacher, Ashwini; Head of Mandarin, Jessica; Head of Centres, Wendy and Amy, for joining the ranks of the 5 and 10 Year Club. We thank you for your relentless support and valuable contributions to the school as we work hand-in-hand in creating the most nurturing environment for our children to pursue their early years of education.

(from previous page; Photo credits: Sherman Lai)

CHINESE CULTURAL EVENING

The Chengzhu event was a delightful affair that featured a unique concoction of traditional Chinese music, art, food and performances.



[Above] One of the evening's most enjoyable segments - the Mandarin dance performance by our educators. [Left] Drama depicting the Legend of Nian.



'Big boys don't cry!' Oh yes they do - and it's good for them!

Your child takes a tumble in the park. There is a moment of silence. Your heart stops beating for a second but you heave a sigh of relief, before it happens! It's bedtime and your little one can't find their favourite teddy or tattered furry bunny anywhere. You search hopefully around the house, but no, it's lost. And then it happens. It's dinner time and you're all sitting happily around the table when your child wants to tuck in to ice-cream before they have finished their plate of pasta (boring!). So you tell them they have to eat up what's on their plate first. A disgruntled frown appears on their tomato-smeared face. And then it happens!

Your child starts to cry. And they cry. And they cry! You love your child. Of course you do! They are your precious child and they are hurt, upset or confused, and it tugs at your heart strings. But you want them to stop crying because you feel embarrassed. You feel this is not an appropriate place for this to be happening or you think it's really not that big a deal!

Well, for your child, it *is* a big deal!

When children cry it's because they need to express their feelings in a way they cannot express in any other way (unless they are 21 years old perhaps, by which time they ought to be able to discuss their feelings in a somewhat more descriptive manner with you!). But when little, when they do not have the words or your adult understanding of the world and how things work, crying is a valid response to any number of given situations.

Parenting is quite possibly the most difficult job in the world. We are thrust into it with no training or practice. We learn as we go along, adopting the norms of our closest role-models, invariably our own parents, as well as what is expected of us socially. It's hard not to make parenting about us! When your child bursts into tears on the plane because their ears hurt or they are frightened by the deafening sound of the engines, naturally your instinctive reaction is, "I must shut him up as soon as possible otherwise the other passengers will get cross!...They are all looking at me! They are all thinking 'who is that dreadful parent!'"

We have all been there in this or a similar scenario. But what about the child? Do they not deserve the same respect we expect ourselves when we are upset and hope that someone will listen to us and empathise with what we are feeling? And what about that first sound? The cry from your newborn baby when they first entered this world. That little screech you can't wait to hear. The sound that filled your heart with love and joy. That first expression as a being in this world, with everything to come, having left the comfort, warmth and safety of the womb - was a cry!

When we say to a young child (or a child of any age for that matter) "Ssh! Stop crying!", we send the message that we don't care about their feelings. The knock-on effect of this can range from increasing the negative emotional response further to utter humiliation, isolation and repression of feelings at a later age.

Author, poet and essayist Catherine M Wallace PhD, writes:

"Listen earnestly to anything your children want to tell you, no matter what. If you don't listen eagerly to the little stuff when they are little, they won't tell you the big stuff when they are big, because to them all of it has always been big stuff."

In the moment, respectfully parenting a tearful child can be challenging. It is all too tempting to play things down, invalidate your child's experience or even punish, threaten, blame or shame them. All to be avoided! No one would describe it as easy, but if we are mindful, it is possible!

Instead of saying "Stop Crying!", next time, try to connect to your child's feelings with empathy and understanding. Instead, try:

"I hear you!"
"I understand."
"I'm listening."
"It's ok to be frightened / sad."
"I'm here and I will help you."
"Oh my goodness, that was scary wasn't it."

Or any other empathetic phrase that comes naturally to you. You might find it makes all the difference!

Source: Julia Gabriel Education, Singapore.

A DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT CONVERSATION