

LET'S Talk

Julia Gabriel
EDUCATION

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JULIA GABRIEL CENTRE &
CHILTERN HOUSE
PRESCHOOL

Term 3's Mindful Moments
(Kindness Week)

Book Week 2023

Mandarin Moderation for the
Kindergarten Two

Chinese Cultural Evening
celebration

In the Cover



Chiltern House's Book Week - one of our most beloved celebrations in school! A stroll along the walkways saw classrooms being transformed into extraordinary spaces; the teachers had been hard at work channelling their creativity into amazing classroom displays based on their chosen book title. The week-long celebration then culminated into a full swing celebration with the school community all dressed up as our chosen favourite book character.

It was such a joy to witness the book parade on stage and the vibrant burst of colours as far as the eyes could see! We would like to express our deepest appreciation to all families for being such great sports and supportive parents, some of whom had painstakingly worked with their children to produce exceptional costumes so creative we were all bursting with admiration!



Head of Julia Gabriel Centre Programmes, Shoby, led the Nursery and Kindergarten storytelling sessions during their special assembly and the children were enthralled by Julia Gabriel's signature music and movement and performances of Ellen Walsh's Mouse Paint and Marcus Pfister's The Rainbow Fish.



Even a host of parent volunteers came onboard the Book Week coming into classes to read some of their children's favourite books! It was a treasured experience on both ends, as the parents were thrilled to get to know and interact with the rest of the children in class while the children themselves were ecstatic to find a familiar face from home and a new adult presence in class. Well done to the parents for the wonderful reading!



Highlight: Kindness Week as part of Term 3's Mindfulness focus

Heartfelt Parenting Workshop With Fiona McDonald

The Heartfelt Parenting workshop led by Fiona McDonald, Julia Gabriel Singapore's Head of Learning Support and Overseas Programme Quality, showcased a creativity-charged Kindness Rocks Project which saw parents and their children bonding and working closely together over rock decoration as a social-emotional learning activity to spread kindness.

Tapping onto her vast experience as an early childhood educator and teacher trainer, the workshop was skillfully navigated to help the participants understand kindness as a character strength, its value in today's fast-moving modern society, and how we can all do our parts as parents to instill kindness in our children through basic mindfulness habits.

The Kindness Rocks will ultimately be placed at the children's garden, Sprouting Seeds, to keep the spirits high, and the mood cheery whenever someone chances upon them!



Showing Kindness Towards The Community

With parents as our partners in this special collaborative activity with their children to show appreciation towards our community helpers and workers such as our neighborhood delivery person, security guard, house helper, and street cleaners, we were overjoyed to hear about all the wonderful heartwarming stories that stemmed from this mindfulness practise.

The memorable journey was carefully documented and was shared with the rest of their classmates and teachers through pictures and videos, some in the presence of their parents in class during their sharing session. It all began with a paper bag customised with drawing and decoration from the child and a small contribution from the school to get them going, and it is so delightful to see that families chose to bake goodies and took the time to specially curate useful essentials for their intended recipients who have impacted their lives positively. We are grateful to all families for supporting this school-wide effort and all of our past Mindful Week activities with such admirable zest!



Julia Gabriel x Bookxcess

Performing to Julia Donaldson's Monkey Puzzle, our third installment of the Silly Stupendous Spectacular Stories collaboration with our amazing friends at Bookxcess, this time around, our team of specialist educators ventured to their outlet at the Starling Mall!

The children were glued to the story of how Little Monkey, accompanied by Butterfly, was looking for his mother in this journey of discovery. Just when hope was almost all lost, it finally dawned upon Butterfly that not all babies look different from their mothers - unlike hers! Featuring a highly interactive music and movement that had the children giggling and bouncing away to their favourite songs and nursery rhymes, it has been a pleasure being welcomed with such warm reception at every one of our Silly Stupendous Spectacular Stories at our partner venues!

Silly Stupendous Spectacular Stories



Kindergarten Two's Mandarin Moderation

This is the first year, post-pandemic, that we have reintroduced one of our preschool's traditions that is designed for our Kindergarten 2 - the Mandarin Moderation - and we are mighty proud of our six-year-olds for performing to the finest of their abilities in showcasing their Mandarin language skills. They'd put their Mandarin abilities to test through tongue twisters, poetry recital, and a fun Show and Tell session with Zhao 老师 - a task they'd all undertaken confidently and passionately!

We are most grateful to Zhao 老师 who is the Head of Mandarin for Julia Gabriel Preschool Singapore, for making a highly anticipated trip to our Kuala Lumpur centre for the Mandarin Moderation, and to conduct special storytelling and fun, interactive language games sessions with the children, aside from leading a teacher training session with the Mandarin teaching team.



Making Friends Together

Congratulations to Sharminey, our former Julia Gabriel educator, on her first book!

We had the pleasure of welcoming Sharminey Selvanathan, the co-author of the children's story, Making Friends Together, for two exciting mornings of fun-filled Special Reading by the Author sessions as part of our Chiltern House Book Week!

Making Friends Together is a recipient of the Golden Wizard Book Prize 2023, the world's most prestigious children's book awards program, and this award for Sharminey's debut children's book

hits particularly close to our hearts because she was formerly a teacher right here at Julia Gabriel! Watching her blossom from an early childhood educator, to a mother of two that she has become, and now the award-winning author of a children's book, we congratulate her for her outstanding achievement.

Sharminey was gracious to donate a copy of her new book to the school, and is now available for reading at our new BookRoom corner.





What a magnificent evening it turned out to be! From Chinese guzheng performances and quick tutorial, lantern and mooncake making, to the tasting of mooncakes and tea to rejoice in the Mid-Autumn Festival, families from both preschool and enrichment programmes had an enjoyable and insightful evening moving from one activity booth to another for a comprehensive experience of the Chinese culture.



The children had a hand at playing the ethereal sounding traditional guzheng, while some were occupied with the art of making the delectable and delicate snowskin mooncakes under the guidance of the Mandarin teachers. The truly adventurous families went for the lion head and encouraged their children to perform creative dances with the props at hand. An eye-opening experience it was for the children and a heart-warming gathering for the adults as the crowd mingled into the evening.

Our heartfelt appreciation to all families for joining us in our perfect little reunion, celebrating the beautiful Chinese culture!





2024 Milestone:

Julia Gabriel Preschool

With our collective hearts brimming with excitement and twirling with joy, we would like to announce that **beginning January 2024**, it will be the dawn of a new era for us all here when Chiltern House is renamed Julia Gabriel Preschool, in a decision to stay aligned with Julia Gabriel Singapore’s direction moving forward.

As we inch closer into our 18th year of establishment here at Kuala Lumpur, we are truly excited for all that is to come to fruition next year, when all the work behind the scenes by the team spanning long, long hours culminates into this significant milestone in our journey. Thank you for your unwavering support in all of these years, we are deeply humbled by the trust you've placed in all of us.

So get ready to embark on a remarkable journey with us as we continue the Chiltern House legacy under our new name: **Julia Gabriel Preschool!**

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