

aMuse

A CreativeHorizons™ Newsletter

iT'S the last portion of the year and as usual it will be a busy time.

Our current students will begin the Reservations Exercise for next year's classes from Saturday 30 September 2006. Then we will look forward to welcoming the siblings of our current students as they register for classes. Finally we will open the remaining vacancies to new students.

Remember, all students will receive a \$30 voucher for recommendations.

Many of our students will be doing the final preparations for their examinations – the PSLE, the 'O' Levels and the 'A' Levels. All the best!

As usual, we will also be announcing the time slots for the holiday classes – sign up early for the best slots.

On 20 August and 3 September 2006, we launched our English Language and Thinking Skills – Reading and Vocabulary Books at the Popular Bookstore in KL. The Creative



Promotion at Popular Ikano, Damansara.

Horizons TTDI team conducted mini classes for the children who happened to be shopping at the store. There was no shyness or shortage of volunteers as they participated in activities from the books. It was great fun!



Come Meet Us – Parent-Teacher Meeting Term 4

Singapore	Malaysia
(P2, P5, S2, S3, JC1)	All levels
Tuesday – Friday 31 October to 3 November 2006 & Monday 6 November 2006	Tuesday 17 October 2006 & Saturday 28 October 2006

Creative Horizons Language Centre

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ANAGRAMS

English language is fun! There are palindromes, anagrams, homonyms, homophones and many more. Let's focus on interesting anagrams this time round.

MEANING

An anagram is a word or phrase that contains all the letters of another word or phrase in a different order. Often, anagrams are expressed in the form of an equation, with the equals symbol (=) separating the original subject and the resulting anagram. For instance, "astronomers = no more stars" is the result of rearranging the letters of "astronomers" to produce other words, namely "no more stars", using all the original letters exactly once.

SOME USES

TO BE MYSTERIOUS!

When you want to keep your identity a secret or be mysterious, use anagrams! If your name is "Angelina Teh", you could have it written as "Angie Laneth" or even "Gleen Tahina". Now, don't these names sound different, exotic and interesting?



SECRET MESSAGES!

Write a message or letter using anagrams. It will sound strange or even innocent to everyone else other than the intended reader. The intended reader will know that he/she has to unscramble the words and/or phrases to discover the intended meaning of the message.

SPELLING PRACTICE!

Try to form other words from a given word, using each letter only once, to help you to be a better speller. What other word can you form using the word "sisters"? The word is "resists"!

COMPETITION!

Now that you know about anagrams, let's see if you can solve these anagrams! Unscramble the words to find words associated with food and cooking. Send in your answers by Week 7 of Term 4. We will pick the correct entries and from the lot, one winner will be chosen! The prize is a \$20 book voucher! Have fun!

1. Fired = ?	7. Soil = ?
2. Agrees = ?	8. Lumps = ?
3. States = ?	9. Stakes = ?
4. Beak = ?	10. Votes = ?
5. Cause = ?	11. Thicken = ?
6. May = ?	12. A Sugar Sap = ?

Bust Negative Examination Stress

The Straits Times on 29 August had an article headlined “Family adds to exam stress, survey finds”. The stress came from what was perceived as nagging from parents, inconsiderate siblings, comparisons among relatives and parents’ expectations.

The students’ own personal anxiety, on top of all that, made some of them a bundle of nerves.

The survey also found that because the home was itself a source of stress, when students felt stressed out, they turned to teachers or friends or coped on their own.

So how do we prevent the family and home from being a source of negative stress?

1. Avoid Transferring Negative Stress

Be clear about what needs to be done but loving at the same time. Positive encouragement works better than nagging during stressful periods. If students sense that their parents are worried or unhappy about their progress, this might affect their performance as well as the relationship.

2. Individualise Performance

Analyse individual strengths and weaknesses. Commend/acknowledge individual strengths. Be constructive about how to overcome weaknesses. Don’t compare performances – instead help each student do their best.

3. Gain Control

Help students feel they have control over their progress. Make sure they have information about what to expect. Give constructive bite-size feedback about their performance. Students who feel in control will have less stress.

4. Provide Early Success

Make sure students can succeed at some of the tasks they practise at home so that they will have the confidence to continue. Early success will help students deal with stressful situations or events.

5. Create a Positive Learning Environment

Analyse what the students need according to their learning styles. (Refer to Issue 1 of aMuse.) Some students need peace and quiet, some need music, some need space to move around, some can study with a mess, others need clean tidy spaces. Accommodating their learning needs will make things more productive and less stressful.

6. Make Learning Efficient, Not Taxing

Advise students to give necessary time to areas that need improvement and less time to areas that have been mastered. Ensure that they spend the remaining time rejuvenating the body and mind so that they will be alert during the examination.



THOUGHTS FROM CREATIVE HORIZONS IN KL...

Ten-year-old Austin Chin who lives in Las Vegas, USA, was here in KL for his summer vacation. His cousins Eugene and Sarah attend our term courses so he decided to join the classes too. After the first lesson, he asked to do the lessons twice a week so that he would be able to complete the whole term's work before he went back home!

aMuse: You attend Derfell Elementary in Las Vegas. Which grade are you in school?

Austin: Grade 5 next term.

aMuse: What have you planned for when you get back to school?

Austin: I am going to campaign for the School President's post when I return.

aMuse: What will you do for your school as president?

Austin: I'll help kids with studies. We should also have fun at the same time through activities. I will campaign to extend recess time from 20 minutes to 30 minutes. We should have more fun-filled activities on certain days like a Crazy-Hair Day, or a Pyjama Day.

aMuse: What do you like best about Creative Horizons?

Austin: There is a lot of reading material for students. We have enough time for writing our essays. Good work is displayed on the notice board. The teachers are also nicer here. Creative Horizons has a lot in common with schools in America. We are allowed time to discover things for ourselves, correct one another and express our feelings.

Mrs Sue Chin, Austin's mum, said that Austin had a happy, fruitful time at CH and hoped to be back next June. We look forward to welcoming him back!



Austin with his teacher, Mrs Angela Pereira.



EMAIL US TODAY!

Comments, suggestions, questions about grammar, questions about creativity ...

Or just to share creative works or ideas.

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