

Balancing fun and character education

STUDENTS need an outlet for their energy, creative expression and a well-deserved break from books, classes and examinations.

The impact and benefits of activities outside the classrooms are undeniable, contributing to a balanced individual who recognises the importance of both academic excellence and social aptitude.

Sunway International School (SIS) keeps its students active and enthusiastic with an exciting line-up of activities for them to participate in.

It ranges from activities that serve students' social development to clubs and societies that build on their interest.

Activities geared to student development, such as Career Week and Anti-Bullying Week, emphasise the intangible lessons that are beyond the classroom's regular lesson plan.

These events serve to raise awareness of current and social issues as well as challenge students to set goals and plan steps to achieve their dreams.

During Career Week, for example, students get to quiz guest speakers in Question-and-Answer sessions and absorb useful tips from presentations, giving them valuable real-life insight into professions spanning a multitude of scope and industries.

They leverage on this opportunity to



Sunway International School emphasises giving students the right balance of fun and character-building education.

explore occupation options or emulate these professionals in attaining their careers.

Such activities can also spark students' interest in pathways they have not

previously considered.

Activities outside the classroom can often be unconventional wellsprings of character development and moral support.

Anti-Bullying Week helps students understand the devastating impact of bullying and establishes a feeling of security and community via messages of positivity.

Students also pledge to refrain from bullying and aggressive behaviour as part of the initiatives to promote anti-bullying.

SIS offers more than 40 clubs and societies as avenues for students to channel their interests out of the classroom.

Whether athletic, artistic or volunteer programmes, these extracurricular activities

encourage students to get involved and get engaged. SIS students have ventured far and beyond their comfort zones.

Participation in these activities cultivates and teaches essential habits in students. For example, they learn time management through prioritising between school work and club activities.

They also become more responsible individuals as they contribute their time to volunteering at a tree-planting project for the community.

In addition, teamwork is instilled as students learn to give and take in matches to win trophies for the school team.

These positive traits are building blocks to lifelong habits that will prepare them for success in life.

Significantly, when competing for the coveted spot in a top-tier institution of higher learning, a well-rounded student who displays active participation in and outside the classroom would have a substantial advantage over his or her strictly straight-As counterparts.

The world's best universities look for applicants beyond good academic performance who can demonstrate desirable soft skills such as leadership and commitment, problem-solving skills, communication skills, confidence and civic awareness.

Ultimately, an ideal school environment is one where students are encouraged to strive for a successful balance between work and play.

It provides access and exposure for students to hone their interests while developing the required skills to advance in life.

■ For more information on the July 2017 admission, call 03-7491 8070/07-297 8070 or visit www.sis.sunway.edu.my.