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Message from



Mrs Chong

HEAD OF SECONDARY

I am very happy to be able to present to you the third issue of 'Present Perfect' our annual alumni news magazine. When I reached out to our alumni, so many of them had fond memories of their time at **elc**; treasuring the values they learnt here, the lessons taught and most of all, appreciating how much their alma mater means to them (in hindsight, of course!).

If it is anything I have learnt over the course of the past few years, time flies. It is important for us all to enjoy what we do - whether at work or at home - to live life to the fullest. For the teachers who have been here long enough to remember the alumni featured in this issue, we are so very proud of them and their achievements. We always knew that each one of them would blossom in their own time; and they have!

The challenges each of them faces as they journey on the road to success may not always be apparent to us as we read their recollections and marvel at what they are doing now. However, I am certain that they have overcome them with perseverance and positivity to get to where they are now. Some of them were quite cheeky and overly energetic when they were at school, so it is with pride that I see how they have developed into the fine young men and women of today.

A common question I was asked in the past was "will you remember us next time, miss?" I would like to reassure them that yes, I do still remember all my students, even those that I did not teach for long.

I hope you enjoy reading about our alumni in this issue as much as we have in putting this together.

Aaron Liew Zhi Ping

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2009-2012

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

One of my most memorable moments in **elc** was when my brother and I played a prank on our geography teacher. (Just a backstory, my younger brother [Bryan] and I have always looked alike, hence many teachers had difficulties telling us apart and no, we are not twins). So during one of our lunch breaks, we decided to switch places in class...just to see how the teacher would react. As I walked into my brother's class, many of Bryan's classmates who knew what was going on, played along and spoke to me as if I was my brother. Ten minutes in, I realized that the teacher will never find out unless I do something drastic. So, I stood up, faced the teacher and said "errn...Ms Anne, do you know who I am?". She looked at me, puzzled and said, "Sit down. Bryan and stop talking!" By this time, all the students in class began laughing out loud. To make everything more obvious, I called in my brother. As Bryan walked in, Ms Anne sank into her chair in a mixture of confusion and disbelief. I swear the whole class laughed so hard, we could not stand up for a few minutes. It was epic!!

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

My time in **elc** has taught me to never give up no matter the circumstances. It does not matter how many times you fail or do badly, as long as you keep getting up and keep at it, you will eventually reach your goal. So do not let a bad test score bring you down. Look at it as a challenge for yourselves to improve and do better!



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Arizona State University

COURSE STUDIED

Chemical Engineering

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Working in Singapore as a Facility Planning Consultant

CURRENT LOCATION

In the ever so sunny, never rainy and sometimes hazy, Singapore!!

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc**. WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Enjoy the classes more with my fellow friends and classmates.

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Don't be afraid to try out everything! **elc** is your learning and experimenting paradise! So, try out everything, you might discover a totally different side of yourself that you didn't know existed! With that said, don't be afraid of failure. If you learn something from it, it can never be a failure.



Anupreeta Arumugam

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2009-2011

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

When I joined **elc** in Year 9 I couldn't speak a word of Malay, and when I found out I had to take Malay as a subject instead of French, I panicked! I took extra classes in school and extra tuition after school. The Malay dictionary was constantly with me, morning and night. It was the hardest thing I had ever worked for. Obtaining the IGCSE results and seeing the 'A' for Malay was one of the best moments for me. It took blood, sweat and tears but in the end I made it.

Another one of my favourite moments was rafting in Pahang. Having to compete with our House teams was great fun, and of course my Blue House did the best!

I thoroughly enjoyed the balance between studies and sports in **elc**. My all-time favourite was participating in basketball and badminton as well as running the 100m race.

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

Hard work always pays off.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Friendly, Ideal and Thankful.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylor's University
Glasgow University

COURSE STUDIED

Foundation in Science
BSc (Hons) Anatomy

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Currently job hunting before I start a Masters in Radiography from January 2020.

CURRENT LOCATION

Glasgow

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc**. WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Work harder on Physics and Maths.

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Enjoy every moment of your time spent in **elc** as it will soon fly by. If you are struggling with a subject or do not particularly like a subject, try and push through it as you may find once you get better you may actually like it. Don't be afraid to ask the teachers for extra help or advice, no matter how strict they may seem. Finally, study hard but most importantly have fun!



Avinash Kribanandan Naidu

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2006-2010

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

I learnt to stand up for what I believe in. I also learnt respect is not an entitlement, it is something you earn.



ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

My best memories are playing football barefoot on the football field with my friends at any given chance... and then getting in trouble together for it.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

Physics was my favorite subject but mathematics was my favorite class. So physics always fascinated me. It is the science of life, bringing order to this chaotic world we live in. I loved mathematics class because I used to sneak out to join my friends' classes. Would still learn the same things but I really enjoyed the fact that I could rebel in my own little way.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Excellence, Loyalty and Commitment right.? I know a little cringe-worthy but I can't get that out of my head

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylors College/London School of Economics

COURSE STUDIED

Business, Mathematics & Statistics

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Founded an IT Solutioning Start Up

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc**. WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Nothing at all. **elc** was never perfect and there were always some issue or other but all of those struggles made me who I am today.



ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Don't let the difficult times bring you down. Embrace the hardships and honestly you will look back at your days with fondness. That being said, fight for what you believe in because change will always start with you!

Bernadine Lim

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2003-2007

NATIONALITY
Singaporean

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

Art. Before I entered Year 9, I couldn't wait to drop art once we could choose the subjects we wanted to focus on instead. However, due to the circumstances I was in, I had no choice but to continue the subject and eventually did the O' levels exam for it. It was the best thing that happened to me in **elc** because art classes were the most enjoyable in high school. It was a form of relaxation and chilling with friends as well as doing work at the same time. I never thought I could do anything remotely close to doing anything artsy but Mrs. Poh guided me a lot and encouraged me to excel in this area.

I remember some of my work included designing the sports programme cover and one of the school's concert backdrop. Although I don't work in any art related field today, this is definitely something I will always look back on to remind myself to explore things beyond me

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

I loved playing basketball in high school. I remember having a very close group of senior friends whom I played with. We'd spend almost every recess and afterschool hours playing basketball. We used to get in trouble with the disciplinary teacher and more so myself because I was a Prefect back then. Even during prom nights when others were dancing the night away, I'd remove my heels and play basketball while wearing a dress.

Another memory would be in art class, I secretly dipped my brown stained paint brush in the bottle of white paint. Mrs. Poh was so furious and yelled in front of everyone, "WHO USED THE WHITE PAINT?" I owned up to it, but she furiously exclaimed, "YOU NAUGHTY NAUGHTY GIRL!" I was already in Year 10 then.... My friends and I all laughed about it.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Curtin University of Western Australia

COURSE STUDIED

Physiotherapy

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

A physiotherapist managing a hospital rehab department

CURRENT LOCATION

Singapore



Bhadra Sreejith

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2009-2013

NATIONALITY
Indian

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

The **elc** campus was really beautiful, surrounded by greenery and flowers. It was always very pleasant walking to and from classes with the Sungei Buloh hills in the background.

We were given a lot of responsibility in Years 10 and 11 for our Houses in the inter-House competitions.. Some of my favourite memories are of organising the after-school practices, roping in people across different Years to take part, and, of course, the mad chaos of the actual competition day itself- made better if Yellow House won!

Apart from that, going to the library every afternoon to pick out a new book to read on the bus home is an abiding memory. Especially because of the variety of books the library held. I must have read at least 30 books a term.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Nostalgic, wistful, glad

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc encouraged us to work outwards from our moral centre in everything that we did. It also emphasised the value of hard work and set very high standards for success for its students. I was taught how to plan, organise and delegate in meticulous detail, and the solid foundation this gave me has proved very useful in my current role.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

London School of Economics

COURSE STUDIED

Government and Economics

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Management Consultant, Bain & Company

CURRENT LOCATION

London

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Worry less about Prefect-related chores (telling people to stand in line or be quiet in class!) Push to be involved in even more extra-curricular activities.

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Work hard, be involved in as much as you can, but don't worry too much about minor setbacks – it really doesn't matter if you fail a test or two in Year 9!



Eric Gabriel Gomez

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000-2010

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc has always been a school that encourages its students not only to fulfil their potential but also to exceed it. In this regard, I have learnt to always aim high for all my academic and professional goals. While I may not always have met those goals, by aiming high I have been able to constantly attain the reassuring certainty of knowing that I've done the best possible work.



FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

My favourite subject in **elc** was definitely English Literature. This subject allowed for the exploration of different stories, ideas and concepts whereby, unlike all other topics, a student's subjective opinions were always valid if properly justified. I was fortunate enough to have a teacher – Mrs Chong – who shared my passion for the subject and who helped me appreciate the beauty and nuances of the English language.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Grateful, Privileged and very, very Nostalgic!

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Reading (First Class Honours)
City University London

COURSE STUDIED

Law

Bar Professional Training Course

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am currently a lawyer in one of the largest full-service law firms in Malaysia. My personal practice focuses mainly on civil litigation and I have assisted in acting for state governments, multi-national corporations, and government-linked companies in a multitude of interesting and high-profile cases.

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

With the benefit of hindsight, I don't think I would do anything particularly different but I would certainly appreciate my time at school much more.

While it may seem difficult for students to see past their next looming test or exam, I assure you that in the not-so-distant future you will be looking back at your school days with a great deal of fondness.



Evelynne Gomez

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000-2006

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

English Literature because I've always had a strong love for reading from a very young age so I felt I really did well in that subject as it was something I naturally loved.

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc was the first school that I have actual memories of and it really instilled in me a drive to excel in my work and do well in my studies. Through the healthy competitive atmosphere, I feel that I really grew as a student during my six years at **elc** and it informed the way I approached the rest of my studies in life.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Thankful. Inspired. Fortunate.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

COURSE STUDIED

MSc. In Gender, Media, and Culture

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am a Programme Officer at the Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW). ARROW is a regional non-profit women's organisation that has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. We work with partners and stakeholders in over 120 countries on the issue of women's sexual and reproductive health and rights, and how it intersects with issues such as climate change, migration, food insecurity, and LGBTQI+ rights.

CURRENT LOCATION

Malaysia

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

These are the years where you're really going to come into your own as a young adult. Don't choose a path just because it seems easy. Go with what challenges you and what inspires you and you'll find you'll be even prouder of what you accomplish in the future.



Ho King Yi

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2008-2012

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

English! English was the most challenging subject. I was consistently scoring a C (possibly even a D) from Year 7 up till pre-IGCSE. I was clueless when it came to good grammar and writing human-readable essays. Coming from a typical Malaysian family I knew that I had to ace the subject though. So out of desperation I started writing an essay a week, in addition to the general homework given, for at least 2-3 months. I asked Mrs Chong to review each essay and she was very kind to help in her spare time. This was transformative.

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

This might have been in Year 9. We walked into an ICT class expecting a class as usual. We got to our computers, switched the devices on, and got the news that everyone would have to get started on a new project. We had to build a game but using a software we were learning to use. I can't remember what software it was. But a group of 4 of us formed a group and decided that we were going to be creative. We petitioned to build a game on Warcraft 3, yes you read that right. We got started on building out the map, then the characters, then the game effects, and finally sound effects and music tracks. Craziest part - we actually pulled it off and got the game graded as a project.

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

My time at **elc** provided various experiences that forced me to get outside my comfort zone multiple times and adapt. Getting used to being uncomfortable and taking ownership of a situation have been an important guiding principle since.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Melbourne

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Commerce, Finance & Economics

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Head of Growth, Homage (Previously at Canva)

CURRENT LOCATION

Singapore

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Think big and have fun! Get out there and be comfortable with being uncomfortable.



Jayshrie Sivananthan

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2010-2013

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT AND WHY?

My favourite subject has always been maths. I like that there's often a right answer and you can enjoy the satisfaction that comes with finding it. I like that there's no need to follow specific procedures or methods. As long as you get to the right answer (and justify it!) you're free to be as creative as you like. But most of all, I like that there's no need to spend time memorising anything- no dates, names, quotes, case studies etc. All you need to do is understand and practice!

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Grateful - That I found lifelong friends at **elc**.

Happy - That I can look back on my time in **elc** with fondness and good memories

Regretful - That I can't think of another adjective

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

Some of my favourite memories of my time at **elc** were the annual Performing Arts Days. I remember the mad rush and the drama of trying to get everyone to cooperate and work together to put on a performance in front of the whole school. We (the Green Gators) always got so overly competitive and were absolutely delighted (and insufferably too!) when we won every time!

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc helped me develop a strong work ethic which has held me in good stead throughout my sixth form and university studies.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Imperial College London

COURSE STUDIED

MSc in Mathematics - I did a 4-year integrated Master's in Mathematics, with a focus in Applied and Computational Mathematics.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I finished my Master's in June 2019. Following a fun summer of travelling, I've just started working at the UBS London headquarters as a Market Risk Analyst.

CURRENT LOCATION

London, UK

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc**, WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

I had a great time at **elc**, and I'm very happy with where I am now, so I can't really think of anything I'd do differently to be honest!



Jennifer Minjee Seo

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2008-2012

NATIONALITY
Korean

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

I would pick the day I was chosen as the House Captain of Green Gators in 2011/12. I've always been interested in sports, but just never saw myself as a House Captain. I remember the first trying out for the position of Head Prefect and later in the week, somehow trying out for the position of House Captain! I wasn't, at first, willing to lead a team for a year, understanding the huge responsibility it was, but my friends and teachers strongly encouraged me to try out for the role. At the end of the day, I was grateful I had won the majority of the votes from my House mates and was chosen as the Green House Captain! This was such a memorable moment for me because it showed that having a good teacher mentor and the strong support from friends can really help you on your way to leadership. A shout out to all the Green Gators in 2011/12! Thank you for believing in me. I still remember our after school sessions to practise our dance for Performing Arts Day and asking to clean up the remaining rubbish on the floor on Language Day to earn extra House points.

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

At **elc**, I just 'absorbed' valuable lessons. That meant daily, positive things at **elc** were simply the most valuable life lessons to me. One example is that I got to appreciate cultural diversity. All my friends were from different countries and backgrounds, and this has always been normal to me, a value which I am still comfortable with today.

Also, I am always grateful to the best mentor I ever had - Ms. Sheela! Thank you for giving me wise words and encouragement, and most importantly, trusting me. You inspired so many of us and I learned how to be professional and be responsible, to be the best version of myself. All of these definitely shaped me into the person I am today.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Monash University

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Chemical Engineering

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I recently joined Cisco as a part of the Cisco Sales Associates Program after my university graduation. I work as an Associate Sales Representative at Cisco and get technical and sales trainings to start out my professional career.

CURRENT LOCATION

Seoul, Korea

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc**, WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

I would probably dedicate more time to studying. I think I was too eager sometimes to get involved in clubs activities and spend less time studying. My grades weren't the highest and I think I could have done better if I actually put in some more effort. Also, I would stop caring about the negative side of things and surround myself more with people who care about me.



Kunal Khemlani

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2005-2010

NATIONALITY
Singaporean

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

Excluding P.E which was obviously at the top of my list, my favourite subject in school was ICT. There are a couple of reasons why I enjoyed it the most during my time at **elc**. Firstly, I'd like to give mention to my ICT teacher during the time, Mr Loo. He made every class enjoyable and was always supportive of the students' development and learning. Secondly, it was a subject that I was naturally interested in and fascinated by. It made me realise the power and importance of IT in the digital era.

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

The first thing that comes to mind when I think about my time at **elc** is the foundation of discipline it instilled in me. It made me realise the importance of being accountable for your actions where failure to abide by a set of rules or expectations has its consequences. I may not have been the biggest fan of the strict rules of conduct at the time but looking back now, I appreciate the influence it's played in shaping the way I conduct myself today.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Excellent, Loyal, Committed (see what I did there)



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Kings College London

COURSE STUDIED
BSc (Hons) Business & Management

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am currently a Portfolio Development Manager within the Investment Management Function at Lloyds Banking Group. I am responsible for providing oversight of the investment portfolio, managing and optimising the bank's investment spend to achieve our strategic goals. In simple terms I develop frameworks and strategies to generate the greatest benefit relative to the cost. (Yes, it does involve a lot of math and formulas which I thought I'd never use when I was studying at **elc**)

CURRENT LOCATION
London, United Kingdom

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

If I had the option to go back in time and return to **elc**, I would grab that opportunity in a heartbeat and run straight to the field to play some football with the guys! (after making sure all my homework was complete of course!)



Lee Do Yeon (David)

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1999/2000-2005

NATIONALITY
South Korean

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

I feel that during my time in **elc** helped build the foundation of my discipline. There are a lot of distractions in both work and personal life at times, and having that discipline is the key to keep yourself focused to achieving your aspirations.

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

When I was in **elc**, I met my best friends with whom I still keep in touch. The times that I spent with Dan, Jae and Prem in school are the most memorable.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

History; I enjoyed the stories that had actually happened in the past and the lessons that each story gives us.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
National University of Singapore

COURSE STUDIED
Business Administration

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I work in a company that provides information to the petro-chemical industry. I used to be based in Singapore but now I am on a secondment in Mumbai, India. I relocated to India in July 2018 to set up and expand our offices in Delhi and Mumbai, and am currently managing a team of 9 sales people.

CURRENT LOCATION
Mumbai, India

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

I would study French a lot harder!

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

For some subjects, I used to think 'what is the point in learning all this?' But there will come a time when you will find a use for everything you have learnt in one way or another.



Lee Kyung Min (May)

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1999-2009

NATIONALITY
South Korean

FAVOURITE SUBJECT AND WHY?

It was hard to have a favourite subject in the last 2 years of school because studying for the O Level exams made you dislike all subjects! But I think I liked history even then – not so much the subject itself, but more the classes. It wasn't about memorizing dates and facts but thinking critically about why something happened and why people reacted in the way they did. I still remember having a mind-blowing experience during a class discussion and thinking "I never would have thought of it that way!"

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

This is too hard to answer!



ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

There are so many because I do have 10 years' worth of memories from **elc**! But I remember one year in secondary school, I think we had a class on the history of Malaysia and one of the important dates was the year of Malaysia's independence. Our teacher for that class prophesized that if he called us in the middle of the night years later and asked us when Malaysia gained independence, we would be able to answer him without a second's hesitation. He made sure that he asked us the question every single class – and I really mean every single class. Well, it's over 10 years later and I still remember the answer without Googling it – 1957!

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

We were encouraged to participate, share our opinions, and to speak up for ourselves, both in and out of classes. I think that made me unafraid of having the wrong opinions or ideas and made me comfortable to just share. Now, of course, I am also more cautious about how I'm expressing my thoughts and to whom, but I don't shy away from saying what I have to say in front of other people.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

The University of Hong Kong

COURSE STUDIED

Economics & Finance, Minor in Politics

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Working in a digital marketing agency and (on the side) building a website that provides content on topics lacking quality online coverage

CURRENT LOCATION

Hong Kong

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

If you feel like you're different, weird, and maybe lost... it's okay. You're not the only one who feels that about themselves. We all have our flaws and challenges – and you'll get better at understanding, and hopefully appreciating, them as you get older.



Madeline Len

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998-2001

NATIONALITY
New Zealand

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc was very focused on academic excellence being the pivot to success. **elc** didn't look into my personal life or know much about my parents' divorce in my first year of joining the school or how it affected my wellbeing and behaviour. Perhaps it would've been easier having a counsellor on campus as it was a long and arduous process getting through that and finding myself on my own. But this experience taught me to leave personal issues at the door, to maintain professionalism in a competitive environment and stay focused on delivering results.

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

I joined **elc** not long after the move from ITIDI to Sungai Buloh. I remember seeing white washed walls, a nice pool, brand new desks and fancy computers (fancy for the 90's), and the smell of newly laid out carpet and fresh paint. I was really nervous on my first day, wondering how I was going to break into one of the social cliques and what my teachers would make of my academic potential.

But my more pressing concern was what the lunch situation was. To my delight at the time, the canteen sold amazing fried chicken; which in retrospect was what attributed to my weight gain during my most vulnerable years.

Fast forward to a couple of extracurricular dance classes later, a bunch of my classmates and I performed a Saturday Night Fever dance for a school event. I remember messing up one of the steps and feeling really upset about it but when Mrs Kaloo personally thanked me for putting on a spectacular performance, that meant a great deal.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Massey University, New Zealand

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Business Studies, Financial Economics and Marketing Major

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Internal Audit Manager for a global bank.

CURRENT LOCATION

Sydney, Australia

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

The best advice I can give current **elc** students is to be present and be observant. Know that people generally aren't static. Who you are today may not be who you are 5, 10, 20 years from now. Don't let labels define you, but seek to grow and adapt to new surroundings. Be kind to each other, work hard and always put your hand up for a new challenge.



Maria Lauralyn M. Silva

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1995-2003

NATIONALITY
Filipino

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

No. I learned those after I started working. There's nothing like getting real world experience and responsibilities that will change your perspective on life.

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

My first time swimming in a pool—Everyone else knew how to swim and I had just joined **elc**. I got into the pool and once I got in, I thought I was drowning but then a classmate pulled me up and I realised I could stand with my head above the water. I was in the shallow end. Oops!

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY
English and Art.



3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Fun Bus Memories.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

The One Academy of Communication Design

COURSE STUDIED

Multimedia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Sales Manager for UMAI—a Tech Start Up in the F&B Industry.

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Nothing. I find it unproductive to look to the past and wish to change things that are beyond my control. I prefer learning from any mistakes and doing better moving forward.



ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

There is so much more to learn and experience after school. If you want to succeed in life, the learning should never end, even if it's through informal education.

Michael Leith Bowling

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000-2008

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc taught me that it's never a wasted initiative helping people, no matter how big or small the difference you can make. You can still have time to focus on your studies and with your friends but you will always have time to help out a charitable cause as long as you make that time yourself.

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

My most memorable time was during my membership with the Interact Club and assisting with a fund-raiser event for which I organised a dunk tank. The funds were raised for Cambodian landmine victims whom we eventually visited in Cambodia. Being able to help make something of a difference (small or large) is what makes it the most memorable story of my time at **elc**.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Engaging, Familiar, Homey

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

History - mainly because learning European history from Ancient times to Modern times has been a fascination for me since primary school.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Australian National University

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Economics (Honours)

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Doing a PhD in Economics with the University of Melbourne (Full scholarship)

CURRENT LOCATION

Melbourne, Australia

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

I would probably spend more time doing extra-curricular activities. Make the effort to get involved with after-school activities.

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Don't be afraid to get to know your teachers. Study hard but keep some time for yourself and friends, and it's always worthwhile to get involved in after-school activities.

Nikita Jaikishin Shewandas

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2002-2013

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

I spent 11 years here, and each year was special in itself. If I had to pick out any standout moments, I would say being a part of the FOBISSEA Music Festival bring back so many fond memories. And of course the Yesterdaze Musical in 2012- I will never forget all the rehearsals, laughs and songs that we sang. Oh, and of course the Icy Grape I would buy from Aunty Carol at the canteen after PE will always hold a special place in my heart.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Nostalgic, grateful, memorable



FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

IGCSE Literature with Mrs Chong. I wasn't going to take it, but I remember that at Parents Evening, she had convinced my parents and me that it would be a mistake not to. And I have never looked back. Her class was always full of laughter and knowledge, and she had always believed in and motivated us to improve!

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc taught me the meaning of working hard, and perseverance. It also taught me that it was okay to make mistakes, and with it, we grow as individuals. Without the faith and support that my teachers gave me, it would not have motivated and encouraged me to be where I am now.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of York

COURSE STUDIED

BSc in Mathematics and Finance at York

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

After working for a while, I decided to take a switch in my education field, and am currently pursuing my Master in Development Studies at the University of Melbourne.

CURRENT LOCATION

Melbourne, Australia

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Make the most of it; it really is true when people say that your best days are in high school. Cherish it. Don't regret anything and take any opportunity you get. Hold on to the friends you make at school; they will be your friends for life. I know they are for me.



Nyoomi Rasiklal Kamani

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000-2012

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

Attending Prefect camps, organising Interact Club activities and attending FOBISSEA sports are just some moments that I will never forget!

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Memorable, interesting and enjoyable

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

elc taught us the value of not only working hard in the classroom but to also, involve ourselves in extracurricular activities. Additionally, **elc** provided us with every opportunity to make us well-rounded students.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

History with Ms Sheela! I thoroughly enjoyed learning about World War II and the Cold war. Studying History was a stepping stone towards my decision to study International Studies during University.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Monash University

COURSE STUDIED

BA Arts (Social Sciences)

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am currently working as a consultant in a private consultancy firm. Most of my work involves working with various governments around the world.

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

I would have probably encouraged myself to learn a third language.

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Enjoy your time at **elc** because you will never get these moments back. Take advantage of every opportunity the school presents to you because it will truly shape who you will become in the future.



Park Sung Ah

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2003-2012

NATIONALITY
South Korean

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

Chemistry. If you were once a chemistry student, you would have noticed that chemical reactions do not just happen within science labs. In fact, it happens hundreds and thousands of times within our everyday lives. From breathing, to cooking a meal, chemistry touches almost every aspect of our existence. Through the various teachings and lab experiments, we were guided through, chemistry has cleared the doubts which nobody could ever fully explain to me as a kid. The satisfaction of being able to observe and understand why certain reactions take place was absolutely gratifying, and thanks to all the teachings, I finally got to know why ice cubes would float up in my drink!

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

Motivation and self-discipline are some out of the many essential tools I have gained from **elc**. These are not tools used for short term occasions or impulsively, but are two strong elements which will always be implemented to lead myself further in life. **elc** was certainly more than just a place where I was nourished with knowledge, as I have learnt to never lose sight of the big picture through all the valuable moments I experienced as a student.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

The State University of New York at Buffalo

COURSE STUDIED

Communication

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

After three years of being in the digital marketing industry as a sales manager in Malaysia, I am back in my home country to start a new chapter in life! I have just stepped into the IT industry as a User Communications Manager, and am excited to take on the new challenges ahead.

CURRENT LOCATION

South Korea

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Get involved, have fun, and never be afraid of making mistakes!



IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

I would tell my introvert self to stop over-thinking and just go for it. Looking back, there were opportunities I missed in school because I was too shy or just afraid of making mistakes. As cliché as it sounds, being in school is probably the best place to make mistakes and fall down. Everyone is there to learn, and there is no handbook that tells you how to do things perfectly.

Shaakalya Pathak

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998-2009

NATIONALITY
Indian

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

Apart from the laughs and learning breakthroughs and that I enjoyed it all with my school friends, one of my fondest memories is when I represented **elc** at the FOBISSEA Games. I had hurt my ankle the day before an important football game, and I was nervous that I wouldn't be able to perform well. However, our coach encouraged me and made me believe that I could overcome my fears. I went on to play well that day and for the rest of the tournament. Mind over matter indeed!

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

Being in **elc** gave me the confidence to ask for help when needed. Being able to ask for help from teachers and actually getting it was fundamental to my academic success.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Singapore Management University (SMU)

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Accountancy with a second major in Finance

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am a Senior Analyst at a leading consultancy in Singapore specialising in intellectual property/intangible assets, technology and branding strategy. I previously worked in auditing at Ernst & Young and interned at Singapore Airlines before realising that I wanted to work in the consulting field. I have also co-developed corporate training workshops on Critical Thinking Skills for public companies with my university Professor and my boss. Since 2011, I have co-authored 9 journal papers on corporate performance with Professor Foo See Liang of SMU. These papers have been published in several peer-reviewed journals such as the Asian Journal of Business & Management, Journal of Asian Development & Archives of Business Research.

CURRENT LOCATION

Melbourne, Australia

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Since health is paramount, I would try to be better and more consistent in my diet and exercise. Additionally, I wish I had learnt and applied the powerful science of critical thinking as well as honed my creative thinking skills. For those who are curious: critical thinking is a purposeful and evaluative way of thinking to arrive at well-reasoned actions and decisions that are aligned with one's objectives, based on deep reflections and free of biases.



Shir Wen Sun

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2007-2009

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

Being in **elc** gave me the confidence to ask for help when needed. Being able to ask for help from teachers and actually getting it was fundamental to my academic success.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY?

Art. I have always had a strong interest in the arts, and being able to experiment and explore with different mediums and painting techniques helped me greatly to build my portfolio for my college applications.

3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**?

Organised, clean, structured.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Savannah College of Art and Design, US

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Illustration

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I'm currently working as a full-time Graphic Designer for Target and a freelance Illustrator for films and books.

CURRENT LOCATION

Melbourne, Australia

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Nothing.

ANY ADVICE TO THE CURRENT **elc** STUDENTS?

Your high school social life is not as important as you believe it to be. Be true to yourself, and be kind to others, always.



Tang Mun Yen

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000-2005

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

DID **elc** GIVE YOU ANY VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS THAT SHAPED THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF TODAY?

Take advantage of opportunities and success will come from hard work. It's also important to have empathy and be receptive to diversity because in the world outside **elc**, we don't always have the privilege of being around like-minded people and folks with as unorthodox an upbringing as my own. Be proud of your uniqueness and your personal story.

ANY MEMORABLE STORIES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF YOUR TIME AT **elc**?

I remember:

· Mrs Chong saying that to end an essay with "...and then I woke up and realised it was all just a dream" was a lazy way to wrap up a story.

· The satisfaction one receives when opening a brand-new box of Buncho paint in Mrs Poh's art class.

· Packing Halloween candy and writing dedications to be distributed with the Interact Club to raise money for charity.

· The 2 times I ever fell (once playing football on the school field; the other running the road relay) and have since developed a lovely scar on each knee as a reminder.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Monash University, Australia

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Science, major in Biotechnology and minor in Microbiology

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Now: Change and Implementation Assistant Vice President (AVP) at HSBC Malaysia's Global Transformation Centre

Then: Manager at Accenture Management Consulting for 8 years

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME AND RETURN TO **elc** WHAT WOULD YOU DO DIFFERENTLY?

Not much. Maybe not fall down so many times; that might have saved me a few weeks of pain.



Message from



Mrs Angel Vas

FORMER PARENT

It was 1998 when my husband was asked to move to Malaysia. Having been brought up my whole life in Singapore with a supporting network of family and friends, I was a bit apprehensive as I would be there with my two young sons. Finding the right school was something very important to both of us as we wanted a good foundation for the boys. At that time, there were already quite a few international

schools in KL, but we wanted one that had a balance in both academics and sports. More importantly we wanted the boys to enjoy the whole school experience. We had looked at 1 or 2 schools but once we arrived to visit **elc**, we knew this was where we wanted our boys to school.

The boys were very happy here and made a lot of friends. But more satisfying was the fact that they and we built friendships with several teachers and families which we still maintain. The school was not large but very close-knit. The teachers took an interest in the children's progress and provided additional classes where it was needed. As such, we did not send our boys for additional classes outside of school.

When you talk to the teachers what comes through is their passion for their job and also how they help the children cope with their studies. This includes times spent outside school during FOBISIA trips, sports tournaments and music/drama performances. They made you feel like we were all a part of the same family.

Our boys are in their early 20s now and have moved on to the next stage of their lives. They have left Malaysia but most of their good memories and ours are from our time in **elc** with their friends, the family visits and even with their teachers. They still keep in touch with several of their friends and teachers through occasional visits and social media. We miss those days when they were growing up in Malaysia, but are very thankful and glad that they did so in **elc**.



Message from



Mrs Latha Sanjai

FORMER HEAD OF MATHEMATICS

It was July 1995. I had just arrived in Malaysia together with my 9-year-old daughter, Deepti, following my husband who was on a new assignment. When we were looking for an international school for her, **elc** Primary School in Taman Tun Dr. Ismail was a perfect match since it was not too far from where we were staying.

During the interview with Mrs. Kumar who was the Head of Primary at that time, I mentioned that I was a High school Mathematics teacher before leaving India. As luck would have it, it so happened that Mrs. Kaloo was looking for a teacher for the secondary section which was in a completely different building some distance away. One thing led to another, and before I knew it, I was hired by Mrs. Kaloo to teach Mathematics and Advanced Mathematics for Forms 4 and 5 as they were known back then.

What followed were 6 wonderful years of association with **elc** as a parent and a teacher. I was fortunate to have worked with a group of dedicated colleagues but some extra-curricular activities such as the opening of the new school campus in Sungai Buloh, a fund-raising fete and a Parent Association treasure hunt. I was blessed to have had students who worked hard day after day to raise their level to our expectations and went on to produce some excellent results for themselves and the school, thus setting an example for future students.

In 2001, when I decided to embark on a journey to pursue teaching in the USA, it was with a heart filled with pride for my students who had to put up with my demands and rose to the challenge. At the same time, I was filled with sadness to be leaving such a beautiful learning environment.





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