



Celebrating

30

Years

Present Perfect

@elc

Alumni News // 2018

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Message from

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Message from Mrs Chong

At the end of each year, we say goodbye to yet another graduating class of Year 11s. It is with a tinge of sadness to see them leave as young adults on the edge of realising their dreams to conquer the world in their own fashion. Nonetheless, we are also happy for them as we see them as boys and girls whom we have nurtured for so many year, for some of us, and for whom we wish great things.

As such we are always delighted to have our former students drop by the school when they are back in the country, and most certainly, we are always very proud of what they have achieved. As you look through these pages of this issue, you will see a diverse range of people from various countries and cultures who had come together for a 'brief' moment in time in our school. Despite living in some far-flung countries now, our former students share one thing in common - the values of **elc**. They are a testament to our school and gives us teachers the determination to continue upholding the ethos of which **elc** is well known.

It is always good to re-connect with former students through social media websites, and even more so when we see how much they have grown as a person. As told to them at their graduation that 'the world is their oyster', the graduates of **elc** have indeed made their mark on their part of the world with their ambition, courage and energy. We are proud of each and every one of them.

This collection of 'news' of our alumni is a project that has been a long time coming. It is timely as this first issue commemorates the school's 30th anniversary. So with 30 being the magic number, it was our target to get 30 contributions to this project. So here it is finally, and we are very happy to introduce our first issue of **Present Perfect @elc** (for those who need the clarification, the present perfect tense is used to indicate a link between the past and the present). This first issue showcases just some of our alumni who took time away from their busy lives to share with us their memories of **elc** and photographs of school, friends and family.

Enjoy!



Arijuna Arichandran

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1987 - 1989

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Warmth, Caring and Fun Environment

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

Mrs Kaloo had a sense of discipline and kept a close and watchful eye on the quality of the education with a wonderful teaching staff. There was a sense of openness and personal touch in everything we did at school, which moulded me to be more responsible in my actions and take ownership for whatever I did, which is valuable.

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

I was the pioneer batch at **elc** in 1987, and there were 4 students in Form 4. The school was a wooden shack but it was fun. We were a very close knit group with a maximum of 15 students for the entire school.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Maths - I had a wonderful Math teacher -Mr Low, who taught me how to think of Maths as an art, and to have a very pictorial and logical way of how to solve problems. He had a major impact on me and got me to who I am today as an engineering graduate.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Wales - College of Cardiff

COURSE STUDIED

BEng Electrical and Electronics Engineering

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Senior Associate in Engineering Consultancy Firm

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

As one of the Pioneer Batch, we were all a big part of the school taking responsibility and making things happen.

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

I used to call it Elite Learning Centre (ELC) so make the best of your time in the school and immerse yourself in all tasks given to you.





Katherine Ai Kudo

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1992 - 1995

NATIONALITY
Venezuelan/Japanese

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

We had a group of fantastic teachers, that prepared us well. Back then History was my favorite subject. I supposed I liked a good story and with English not being my first language Shakespeare was too hard to understand! I loved to read and was particularly fascinated with Russian and Chinese history.

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

There were many valuable lessons I learnt during my time at **elc**. Perhaps the most significant was through the privilege of attending a school with students and teachers from all over the world, with such diverse backgrounds and cultures. I believe to be a more open minded and respectful individual and, lead my life with integrity because of the lessons and friendships I built there.

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

I have so many happy memories from my time at **elc**. Back then the school was a much, much smaller establishment in a two storey building. Most classrooms were partitioned by thin walls and you could see and hear into other classrooms. I won't mention who, but I was recently reminded of being able to overhear when a certain someone got a black mark! We were therefore all mingled together, we all knew each other, and it was great fun.

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

Grateful, happy, warm

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

College - International School of The Hague
Academy - Royal Academy of Art, The Hague

COURSE STUDIED

College - Bilingual International Baccalaureate
Academy - Bachelor of Graphic & Typographic Design

CURRENT LOCATION

Tauranga, New Zealand

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Today I work part-time at an advertising agency as a senior graphic designer and part-time freelancing under my own business - Kudo Design.

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

I am positive I made a lot of mistakes as an **elc** 12 - 15 year old student, but given the opportunity, I don't know that I would do things differently. I think all the experiences, good and bad were learning curves and shaped me to be who I am today.

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

Enjoy your time at school, make lots of friends, treasure them and work hard.





Sarah Quek Wei Ting

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1993 - 2004

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

O Levels History – I love stories and it is very interesting how history tends to repeat itself. We humans never seem to learn! I also really enjoyed analysing the actions of our predecessors and in particular learning about the two World Wars and China's history with communism.

However, I think I enjoyed History mostly because of Ms Sheela. She was strict but reasonable. She made history classes fun and she taught us to question the status quo. I will always remember her telling us to remember that history is subjective and that ultimately it is the story written by the winners. Hence, we should always consider all perspectives before coming to our own conclusions.

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

It's important to have a good work ethic and to respect others.

If you have a dream, focus on that dream and work hard to achieve it.

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

Nurturing, challenging and fun!

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Melbourne, Australia

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Commerce (Honours)

CURRENT LOCATION

Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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

I would have encouraged our school to participate in more inter-school events in areas other than sports, such as drama, public speaking and/or science competitions as I think it is good to network with students from other schools and also to get a chance to practise these valuable life-skills.

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

Oh there are so many but some of the most memorable (in no particular order) would be:

1. The musical concerts we used to have and the fun we had practising and performing for our parents and friends.

2. Our Year 11 English class project – each of our two classes had to create an entire news programme complete with stories of the day, advertisements, sports and weather reports. I would say this was certainly one of the funniest and most enjoyable projects that we had at school and as a class we really bonded with one another and learned a lot about how difficult it is to put together a complete news programme!

3. Our graduation trip to Langkawi. This was the perfect way to complete our time at **elc**. It happened after our O-Levels ended and for 3 days we just bonded, played games and had fun.

4. The school fun fairs and selling raffle tickets during Chinese New Year so that my sisters and I could win the 'top selling' prize.

5. Planning our school prom and Valentine's Day dance. I guess you could say that this helped to kick-start my love for organising and hosting events and parties!

6. Inter-house competitions – especially arts and drama competitions and sports day. I especially enjoyed the debate, public speaking and drama competitions.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Business Development Manager (Regional),
Intranet Sdn Bhd

Founder and Principal Wedding Planner,
Quek Events

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

Study hard but also remember to enjoy yourself and not take yourself too seriously. Don't be afraid to ask for help and advice from those around you.

Follow your passions and participate in as many extra-curricular activities as possible. The world is changing at an increasingly fast pace and so it is important to be flexible and to be able to adapt quickly and easily.

Finally, cherish your time at school and the friendships you make because it's true when they say that the best friends you make are from school. Indeed, some of my best friends are my **elc** friends!



Chung Ru Jae

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2005

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Literature - This taught me how to analyse things, recognise themes and explore ideas. From these, you can learn so many more lessons from books and any form of media (movies, games, books, plays, etc).

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

None which would be appropriate for the juniors to hear. Don't want to set a bad example.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Tough, Rewarding, Simple

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

Two examples stand out. The first from was "The problem with common sense, is that it is not very common" - Mr Wilson, DT teacher when I was back in school. What may seem obvious and clear to you may not be to others and vice versa. It is always a good reminder to question everything and the assumptions we have. We should live our life by never assuming what we know is "common sense" because sometimes it is not.

The second example is from Mrs Chong (Literature teacher extraordinaire). "Life's not fair, get used to it". I learnt that life owes us nothing and we all start with different circumstances, some good, some bad. The trick is making the most of the hand we have been dealt. An unfair start does not mean a bad start nor a bad end. It is really what you make of it.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Melbourne - with a 1- year exchange at Imperial College, London

COURSE STUDIED

Chemical and Bio-molecular Engineering

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur Malaysia for now, but who knows what will happen in the years ahead.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am running a hotel! Graduating from University was just the beginning. I have worked in a call centre (debt collections), then in the logistics/supply chain industry before coming back to Malaysia to start a boutique hotel (City Edge Hotel Malaysia for those interested).

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

Keep better in touch with the people I went to school with. Back then all our little politics and dramas seemed like the end of the world. We were all so different and sometimes that led to prejudice and friction between people. Now I am old enough to know that it does not really matter. We may not be friends, but we can still all get along and be civil to one another.

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

"Everybody is a Genius. But If you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid" - Albert Einstein

Exams are only one form of measurement. In life, the skill set required for success is so much more varied and vast. We are all individuals and each with our own unique sets of skills. Don't measure yourself against others, but against yourself. Aim to be a better person than you were yesterday. Be prepared to sacrifice to reach your dreams. Work hard and be honest. Most importantly, don't ever give up. You will fail many times in this life. You will fail over and over again. But that does not matter. What matters is you pick yourself up each time after you fall and learn the lessons.

"Success if not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the will to carry on that counts" - Winston Churchill



Yow Keat Tham



WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2004

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History. Ms Sheela played a big role in my enthusiasm for the subject, but I loved learning about the past and learning the reasons why historical figures like Hitler or Churchill made the decisions they did, and their consequences.

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

The most valuable life lessons that I took away from **elc** that continues to shape how I conduct myself is twofold. Firstly, I learned to always take pride in whatever I do. I also always strive to do the best I can in everything I apply myself to.

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

elc gave me bucketloads of great memories- most if retold would probably mean nothing to someone reading this (Andrew's Treaty of not crossing, Sarah's love for the "peanut thing", the affectionately named "three stupid boys"). This is what **elc** gave me: The class of '04 that I experienced great times and grew up with, are people who till this day remain my closest friends.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Sunway University College
Monash University, Australia

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Science (Molecular Biology and Genetics)

CURRENT LOCATION

Melbourne, Australia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am currently midway through my PhD in medical research, investigating lipid profiles in various types of heart enlargement.

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

I would smile a bit more. Stress less about things I now know are inconsequential, and just enjoy my time as a kid in school.

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

Don't take things too seriously. While it is important to achieve good grades and work to the best of your ability, remember to have fun as well.





Audrey Quek Wei Wen

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1997 - 2006

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Although English Literature wasn't necessarily my favourite subject, I learnt a lot by taking this subject. English literature was a subject I struggled a lot with as it was very subjective and required very different skills compared to other subjects such as Maths and Physics for example which came more naturally to me. By taking English Lit, I was required to use a different part of my brain and I was challenged in a new way. In hindsight, it wasn't my best subject, but the experience taught me a lot about how you don't have to be good at everything.

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

elc taught me the importance of working in a team through various activities such as Sports Day, camping trips and group project work. Drama classes and debating built my confidence to speak in front of crowds. Being a prefect also taught me about leadership and responsibility.

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

I really enjoyed the performances we put up every year, ranging from choral speaking to musicals and more!

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Active, Educational, Social

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Melbourne

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Commerce (Economics & Finance)

CURRENT LOCATION

Malaysia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Regional Commercial Excellence Analyst @ Novo Nordisk South East Asia

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

Perhaps not worry so much about grades and exams as there will be many more exams to come in the future during college and university. You are only in high school once and it's easy to forget that while you are going through it.

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

Treasure the friendships that you make, try as many different activities as you can and don't be scared of failure.



Andrew Choi Eun Sung

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000 - 2006

NATIONALITY
Republic of Korea

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

Prom King 2005 v_-v

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

1. Dress neatly
2. Respect elders and teachers
3. Have fun! But always remember boundaries and limitations while doing it!

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History - I scored 100% in a test when I was barely good at English (I majored in history at college).

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

Integrity, respect, joy

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Calvin College, MI, USA

COURSE STUDIED
History/Religion

CURRENT LOCATION
Seoul, Korea

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
First Lieutenant in the
Republic of Korea Air Force -
Interpreting Officer

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

Study harder!

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

Study! Study! Study!





Roseanne Dawn Seok

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1995 - 2005

NATIONALITY
American

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Art class, teachers were great and it was a break from all my science courses.

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

I think I appreciated the diversity of the class/school. It helped shaped me into the person I am today, more culturally sensitive; something I've always carried forward with me through school and my career.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of California San Diego
University of California San Francisco

COURSE STUDIED

Molecular Biology
Pharmacy

CURRENT LOCATION

San Francisco, California

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Ambulatory Care Pharmacist; basically I work in a clinic where I prescribe medications, manage and monitor patients on "blood thinners" to prevent strokes and clots. It's very different from pharmacies in Malaysia and definitely more advanced and autonomous here.

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

I wish I did not drop my French class "just so I can focus on my Chinese". I think I had more time than I thought I did.

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

Work hard and play hard.





Aris Mokhtar Bin Johan Mokhtar

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000-2002, 2004-2007

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

There are many subjects which I enjoyed; however, I did particularly enjoy history. I found the course material to be extremely interesting; from the French Revolution and the Great Crash of 1929, to the Bolshevik Revolution and the beginnings of modern China. History was always rich with interesting stories and valuable lessons to learn from.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Nostalgic, fun, friendly

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

My time as a Prefect was very memorable. It was a great honour to be entrusted with the position and it certainly taught me great life lessons such as responsibility, integrity and accountability. The school motto has definitely remained with me; to achieve excellence in all my endeavours and to show loyalty and commitment even when the odds may not be in your favour.

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

A highlight of the many great experiences I had in **elc** was representing the school at the 2006 FOBISSEA Games in Brunei. I am very proud of the numerous athletic records attained by our team which, in my opinion, put our school on the map at its debut appearance in the Games.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Moorabbin Flying Services (Australia)
HM Aerospace (Malaysia)
CAE Oxford Aviation Academy (Singapore)
Asian Aviation Centre of Excellence (Malaysia)

COURSE STUDIED

Aviation; Commercial Pilot Licence(CPL) M/E IR with Frozen ATPL.

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am currently working with AirAsia Bhd as a First Officer flying the Airbus A320 and operating flights from their main hub, KLIA2.

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

I don't really have any regrets throughout my experiences in **elc**. I believe that experience is the best teacher and each one has shaped and influenced me to be the person I am today.

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

As I mentioned before, the school's motto is a great source of advice you can apply to all aspects of life; aim to achieve excellence in all of your endeavours and to show loyalty and commitment even when the odds may not be in your favour. Find something you are passionate about and pursue it. Be sure to try and research as much as you can so that you can go forward and make informed decisions. Always work hard for your goals and eventually with a little luck, you will achieve them.



Raymond Gerson Halim

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1996 - 2005

NATIONALITY
Indonesian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Of course PE was the best for me as it's when you can get together with your friends in the washrooms when it was time to change. It was also the best time to have some fun with friends. Apart from PE, art and DT were also my favourites.

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

It was at **elc** where I met Mr Wilson, our Design Technology teacher who inspired me to be an architect.

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

We were about to write our 'O' levels when Mrs Kaloo took our whole year group to a room because we all got into trouble. We had been fooling around and had recorded it on video which had then been confiscated by Mr James. At that time we were still using the tape recording video cameras.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Energetic, emerging, memorable

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

LimKokWing University
RMIT University
Deakin University
Academy of Arts University

COURSE STUDIED

Diploma in Building Design and Technology, Bachelor of Design in Architecture, Masters in Architecture (M.Arch)

CURRENT LOCATION

Jakarta, Indonesia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Architect

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

Chase more girls instead of footballs.

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

Put down ur iPhone once in a while and pick up a book. Know your history, not memorise it. Understand maths and physics.

Appreciate art.

Stay fit.

Don't depend on Google too much but find the time to think.





Cassandra Nicole Thomazioz

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998 - 2005

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

My Favourite subjects were Design and Technology and English Literature. Design and Technology was one of my favourites as Mr. Wilson who taught DT back then, was extremely patient and truly made DT classes an enjoyable one. English Literature was also one of my favourites as Mrs. Chong was a joyful and vibrant teacher who never failed to inspire us in class. English Literature was a class where everyone's input was important and although Mrs Chong was strict, it was one of those subjects where one could always express themselves freely and creatively.

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

Coming to think of it, every day at **elc** was a memorable one. **elc**'s Annual Sports Day and the Charity Carnivals **elc** used to have during my time are fond memories that every **elc** alumni would always cherish and appreciate. I do remember "mufti" days which were always a thrill amongst us students and several fond memories I have during my time were the classes and the extra-curricular activities offered.

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

As I now look back on my time at **elc**, I do realise that the main life lesson taken away is that of Discipline. Till today I can safely say that the high level of discipline obtained from ensuring my hair tie was always a particular colour, the respect afforded to every teacher we had in and out of class, the fear of standing in line during assembly and hoping everything I was wearing and/or saying was correct, were the essential learning lessons which have allowed me to become the diligent and disciplined person that I am today. As a lawyer, being meticulous and disciplined are required skills of a legal practitioner which I am glad to have learnt from **elc**.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Grateful, meaningful and educational

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

HELP University College,
Northumbria University (Newcastle, UK)
King's College London

COURSE STUDIED

Law- LLB (Hons), BPTC – Barrister at Law (UK Bar),
Masters in Law (LLM)

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am currently a practising lawyer in Malaysia and practising under my own firm with 3 other partners - Thomazioz, Tanes, Khoo & Paulraj.

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

I would have, as everyone says it, paid more attention in classes and probably savoured the moment more back at school. Apart from that, there isn't anything significant I would have done differently back then.

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

Enjoy school while you can! Life at **elc** is a time one can never get back so enjoy it while you can!



Tham Tse Leng

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2003 - 2007

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History. I have always found that we are better able to understand the world and society of today by learning about the events and people that created it.

Plus, Ms. Sheela always made classes a good mix of engaged learning with a healthy dose of encouragement to push students to be the best versions of ourselves. If you have been in her classes, marker pens were involved.

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

Most definitely! When I first joined **elc**, I was shy, reserved (timid, almost) and I had very little confidence in my own capabilities. It was under the dedicated guidance, nurturing and encouragement of my teachers at **elc** that I was able to overcome my irrational fears and insecurities that confined my growth as a young adult. I became a more active member of the **elc** community and surprisingly went on to become President of the Interact Club and Head Prefect!

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

I came from a public school where we had approximately 50 students in a class. I used to dodge teachers' questions by pretending to drop a stationery item and bend from my seat to pick it up while seated. I tried that in the first week of school in **elc** (in a class of only 15 students) and instead of being able to dodge the question, I heard my name being called and when I looked up, I saw my teacher had seen through my crafty trick and had bent down to see that I was taking way too long to pick up that pencil I 'accidentally' dropped! - busted! In hindsight, it was such dedication and attention teachers paid unequivocally to each and every student that has helped shape the better person that I am today.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Monash University

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Business and Commerce
Bachelor of Commerce (Honours)
Doctor of Philosophy (Management)

CURRENT LOCATION

Beautiful Melbourne! Though a part of me will always be with people back home in Malaysia.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I'm a third year PhD student at Monash University, Australia. My research is in the area of Organisational Psychology. More specifically (and in simply terms), my research looks to understand why people behave badly at work. I'm also a research assistant and some of the other projects I work on include understanding what makes people happy/unhappy at the workplace. I also teach the first year core Management unit at Monash University.

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

Make the most out of your time in school! Work hard but don't forget to let your hair down (within safe means, of course) once in a while. There will probably never be another time in your life where you will have such a dedicated group of teachers to help you through your most crucial learning and developmental stages in life. Whilst focusing on academic achievement is important, don't forget to invest in aspects beyond the classroom- clubs and societies, sports, etc. Trust me, years from now, you'll be looking back at your **elc** years and wish they had lasted longer!



James Liam Russell

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1994 - 2003

NATIONALITY
Canadian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Geography - I always enjoyed the subject, and would've been very tempted to take it further after school as well if it wasn't for my career choice.

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

I think the biggest thing that I took away from **elc** was both the creative thinking aspect, as well as the public speaking which helped to shape the way I am today.

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

As with all kids in school, there are many tough and good memories to look back on. However, it is mostly the good memories of friends and teachers who made it a good experience that resonate with me.

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

Nostalgic, grateful, proud

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Victoria University - Sunway University, Malaysia

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Business - Accounting

CURRENT LOCATION

Subang Jaya, Malaysia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Running a racing team - Stratos Motorsports

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

I don't think there is a lot I would have done differently. Of course, mistakes were made, and things could have been done differently, but they are what has made me who I am today.

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

Don't be in a rush to leave, enjoy the time you have in school; not that it gets worse after school, but it's something that you will miss in the future.





Prem Anand Vasudevan

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2005

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Design technology. The limit was only as far as your creativity could take you.

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

Very much so. It was through **elc** that I met some life-long friends that to this day remain my best friends. It also taught me that strength doesn't just come from physical traits (i.e. getting a mean distance on the discus throw) but through the relationships you cultivate as well as through the belief in yourself.

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

That time when my House Green House (for some reason we always associated our peers with the house colour), performed the 'Hakka' in front of the school and parents alike on Sports Day. It was magical!

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

Amazing, nostalgic, life-changing

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylors College / Monash University

COURSE STUDIED

Sciences and subsequently Economics and Finance

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

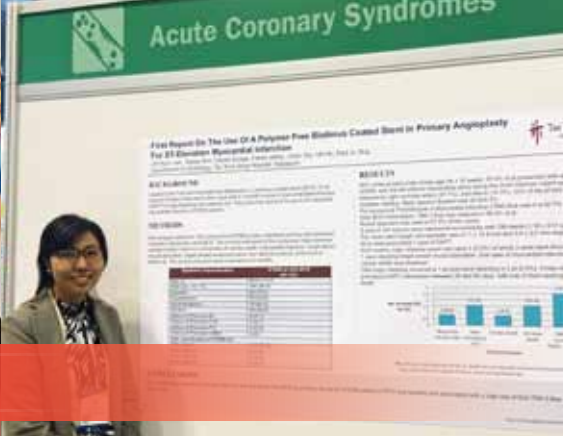
Investment Banking at Maybank Investment Bank, specifically in Corporate Finance

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

Pretty much nothing, just savour every day ever more.

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

Don't be afraid to make mistakes, and always have a can-do attitude. Strength comes from within and almost always you turn out stronger than you think.



Deborah Lee Jinhyun

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2004

NATIONALITY
South Korean

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History - it helped me to overcome my weakest area, having difficulty in expressing myself, with English language being foreign to me. I was planning on dropping the subject at the start, but I stuck with it and it turned out to be the best choice I've ever made.

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

The open and questioning atmosphere developed in me a great interest in learning, and being able to think critically about complex ideas. The second most important thing I gained was simply more self-confidence. The teachers actively engaged us in discussions, and not a single question was regarded as weird or stupid but encouraged as deeper learning.

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

Being an international student and having no exposure to studying in English, **elc** was a new stepping stone. I have fond memories of Mrs Sheela and history classes - always so patient in clarifying my doubts and questions, and helping me to realize my potential.

Mrs Matthew in geography classes - how she inspired me to write better and to constantly improve.

Ms Ingersoll in English classes - lending me books to read and teaching me how to write and focus on expressing my own perspectives.

These are memories that will last. Without the support of the teachers and my classmates, I would not be where I am today.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Vibrant, passionate, family

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylor's College
National University of Singapore

COURSE STUDIED

Pre-Medicine / Medicine

CURRENT LOCATION

Singapore

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Cardiology Resident

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

I would spend more time in extra-curricular activities, be more actively involved in sports.

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

Embark on a journey of discovering your true potential - strive to do things that are beyond your comfort zone as this is where you'll gain valuable knowledge and experiences that will carry you far exceed your education.





Daniel Shan

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1997 - 2005

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Literature beyond any doubt. Reading and discussing literature was like exploring little worlds beyond our solar system.

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

I learned a lot from **elc** but what I carry with me is the memory and joy of growing up surrounded by people from different cultures, ethnicity, and nationalities.

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

I won first place in a recital of one of Macbeth's monologues despite mispronouncing "cherubim." I had a cape and it was great fun that day. It was memorable because it was the only time I'd ever managed to impress Mrs. Kaloo, who was the judge at the time if memory serves me right.

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

Engaging, exciting and bitter-sweet.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Auckland University of Technology

COURSE STUDIED

Advertising and Marketing

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I work for a charitable organization called Pertubahan Wadah.

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

Push for a proper graduation photo with everyone.

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

Cherish the relationships you have with everyone you meet. Greet life with courage and love.





Jonathan Benjamin Thomazios

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998 - 2002

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Physics and Mathematics. I love numbers and want to understand how simple things in life work based on principles of Physics

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

Yes, of course.

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

I remember the great care and dedication of our teachers and staff towards guiding students in their education.

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

Happy, Proud and Content

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylors College / Help University

COURSE STUDIED

GCE A-level, BSc in Accounting and Finance

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Senior First Officer - Pilot

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

Nothing I guess.

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

Enjoy your education and understand as much as you can as it will all benefit you later in every aspect of your life





Cassandra Foo Pi-Theng

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2008

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Maths & Add Maths, simply because I was good at them!

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

Fridays when Auntie Carol (the canteen lady) ordered in
pizza to the cafeteria were the best!

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

Nostalgic, carefree, irreplaceable

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

By being a prefect in secondary, I have developed
valuable leadership skills that have stayed with me up
till today. Being a prefect was not merely about bossing
other students around or telling them to pull up their
socks or tuck in their shirts, it was about learning how
to take charge when no one else is willing to, standing
up for what is right and knowing when to speak up
when the situation calls for it. Because of what I have
learnt, I believe that I have become a person who is a
peacemaker but not a pushover.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylors University College
The University of Manchester, UK

COURSE STUDIED

A Levels Pre-Engineering & BSc. Environmental Science

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Hydraulic Modelling Engineer at CH2M Malaysia

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

I would probably join more societies such as Interact
Club and take part in more extra-curricular activities
because I now realise how important it is to be a
well-rounded person in not only your studies but also in
social activities.

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

Your grades are important because your grades are the
first things that universities or your first employers will
look at to determine if they want you. However, how
smart you are or how good your results are is only half
the battle in life, the other half is how well you get along
with the people around you and how you handle
different social situations thrown at you out of the blue.
You will meet thousands of different personalities in
the real world and whether you are able to adapt and
handle these people will definitely affect how well you
do in life.



Ayesha Halima Ismael Fariz

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2008 - 2011

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Lit class with Mrs. Chong was never boring! I think the class was my first real exposure to the humanities discipline. It was fun because unlike other subjects, sometimes there would be no one “right” answer, and that really shifted paradigms for me.

Honorable mention goes to music class with Mr. Martin.

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

My **elc** years were the only time in my life where I took such a diverse array of subjects (a total of 8 or 9 usually) from ICT to Art class... and everything in between. It was hectic but I really enjoyed it. It was then that I understood the importance of being an all-rounder because learning so many different subjects truly expanded my worldview.

It was something I strived to achieve even in college - I would take courses unrelated to my major (e.g. physics, literature, computer science) whenever I could afford to.

I guess pursuing a conventional career path has forced me to specialize, and unfortunately I am only good at one or two things, but I constantly challenge myself to learn and do new things all the time.

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

I played the piano and sang solo in front of a large audience for the first time, during one of the House events the school had for musical performances (I was representing the then newly renamed “Blue Sharks”).

I think I was in Year 10 at that point. I played a four-minute medley of Lady Gaga songs and even threw on some shades and a little face paint at an attempt to be “quirky”.

The performances were held in front of the stage in the basketball court. When my turn was up, I remember trying not to panic considering the whole of **elc** Secondary had filled the court from end to end, but I convinced myself that I was doing it for my House.

The audience was so silent throughout, but at the end of it... I was so thrilled because I had never received an applause like that before in my life. Playing music was a passion of mine but I don’t think I fully realized until that moment that it was something others could appreciate too.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Enthusiasm, innocence, growth

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Knox College, IL, USA

COURSE STUDIED

Economics

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Working as a management trainee at Axiata and pursuing my financial analyst charter (CFA). Occasionally I perform at open mic shows when time permits.

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

I don’t think there’s anything major I would change... Maybe I would’ve joined Interact Club - I would’ve had a lot of fun organizing Interact Night. I think I never ended up joining because it seemed like a huge time commitment and I found that daunting.

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

If anyone tells you that high school is supposed to be the most fun or easy years of your life, it’s okay to feel differently! It can be stressful and takes a lot of getting used to - but if you mess up, don’t be too hard on yourself. If it takes a mistake to help you see how to improve yourself, then it is a mistake worth making.



Divya George

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2008

NATIONALITY
Indian

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

I spent the critical years of my 'growing up' at **elc** so I would attribute a lot of who I am to my experiences in **elc**.

- 1) First and foremost, **elc** accepted and supported the easy-going person I was. I love having a laugh, taking things not too seriously and being a very people person. And I didn't have to change my persona throughout my 7 years there whilst juggling my work and extra-curricular responsibilities.
- 2) Secondly, **elc** gave me the opportunity to have a taste of the real world. Being surrounded by extremely talented people made us have to work hard for everything and persevere even if we didn't always succeed.
- 3) Also, very important to me, **elc** created a family environment where we were taught to respect one another and celebrate each other's differences. Living and working in London which is such a multi-cultural city, I am therefore able to appreciate the people I meet and find harmony in working with people with such different cultures, skills and styles.

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

Anyone who knows me will know I'm not good at short answers but I'll try my best:

- 1) Inclusive
 - 2) Provides us a world of opportunities (I know not really an adjective, sorry)
 - 3) Attentive
 - 4) Dedicated
 - 5) Encouraging
- ...to name a few

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

Where to start...

1) Travelling with **elc** Interact Club to Cambodia - It was a truly heart-warming experience to organise a trip for the Interact team to personally deliver all the funds raised to the landmine victims. The team worked tirelessly to raise more than RM10,000 from IU Day, Interact Night, Bake sales etc. So to let them personally see the gratitude of the victims was an opportunity I am forever thankful to **elc** for.

2) Running elections for Head Prefect - **elc** makes you work hard to get elected! (of course because they have a tough choice to make as the talent is plenty) I remember staying up late to make creative election posters which included cartoon strips, drawings, and acronyms! And then in true election style, campaign speeches to bring in the votes! And to end it all of - an interview with a tough (but friendly) panel. In hind sight, it was a great opportunity to really work hard for what you wanted and get a taste of the real world outside of school.

3) I'm going to confess to being no expert when it comes to the arts so the opportunity to take part in the Grease musical & Abdi in the Diamond Desert (please tell me I've got this name correct) was a fantastic opportunity! I still remember having to sing for the first time ever, Do Re Mi (from The Sound of Music) in the try outs. I also walked my first fashion show (for Axzezz) - in bright blue hair!

4) There's a reason I always dodge the 'opportunity' to accompany my mother on her trips to buy fresh meat & fish. So I will never forget one of our school trips where we went fishing for catfish - by hand!! I just remember stepping into a swamp-like muddy pond knee deep and getting jitters every time I felt something brush my leg. To top it off, having to dig deep and grab a moving fish by hand was something I never thought I would do in a lifetime! But at least I can tick that off my bucket list.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Sunway University College / University of Warwick

COURSE STUDIED

Cambridge A-Levels / BSc Accounting & Finance

CURRENT LOCATION

London, UK

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Financial Analyst, Procter & Gamble, UK

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

I would tell them to really appreciate each moment they have at **elc** - the individual attention, the opportunities, the array of fantastic teachers who are always there to help & the diverse background of students & teachers. Having a smaller year group vs other schools provides you with the attention and focused development that is a luxury one cannot expect once they leave school. Additionally, really cherish the privilege to grow up and study with students and teachers from over 60 countries. Working in a multi-cultural city, I can guarantee you that it makes such a difference and provides such an advantage. More than anything, enjoy **elc** for the second family that it will provide you. Today, even though we are all over the world, whenever we meet, it's as if nothing has changed.



Karuna John Sugumaran Krishnasamy

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1999, 2003 - 2009

NATIONALITY
Malaysian/US

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Nostalgia, discipline, grey

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

I always really liked ICT and literature. ICT because I always enjoyed working with computers and creating things with them, and literature because it was such an open-ended and expressive creative subject. It really helped me with my ability to analyse situations and intent and is the most helpful non-tech subject that influences my career today.

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

Hah, a lot of memorable stories, but I have to plead the 5th on most of them.

I do think that my final sports day at **elc**, when Blue House made a giant shark for the march past on Sports Day was a pretty memorable moment. It was almost 7 feet long and weighed almost as much as I did at the time. Aaron Thompson and I had to steal a door from his house to mount it on; it also took 6 of us to carry it across. Pretty awesome!

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

As students, my friends and I always hated the high standards of discipline **elc** had for us. We would always find ways to subvert authority and skirt around the rules. Now I feel that the discipline did me a lot of good. I can stay on target with my career goals and keep focused. I have done fairly well for myself and I think that the discipline instilled in me by **elc** helped a lot with that.

Also, teachers at **elc** almost always impressed upon me the value of critical thinking and communication. You might be the brightest bulb in the box, but if you can't express your ideas and if your persuasive skills are wanting, it makes it that much more difficult for you to be taken seriously. **elc** helped me a lot with understanding that, and I think that those fundamentals really helped to accelerate my career.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Anglia Ruskin University

COURSE STUDIED
B.Sc in Computer Gaming and Animation Technology

CURRENT LOCATION
Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
Software architecture and engineering

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

I'd really emphasize ICT as a subject and make the internet more a part of the learning experience. I would also make general computing (being able to research effectively, configure a computer, do some basic programming) a mandatory subject.

... and different uniforms.

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

Be curious about everything. Google is your friend, and try everything once (within reason). If you think you'd be good at something, try it out. Play to your strengths, but recognize your weaknesses. Always try to work with people smarter than yourself - it's the best way to grow.

Fake it till you make it - my motto since graduation.



Ashley Chan

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000 - 2011

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Music. It is the love of my life. I also very much enjoyed my art classes, I love painting; it's very therapeutic.

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

Definitely. **elc** has helped instill a strong sense of discipline in myself which can be applied now in all areas of my life, as well as respect, for both superiors and peers.

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

When I was chosen to be part of the exchange programme with a school in India. It was such an amazing, enriching experience that I wouldn't have had the chance to do if not for **elc**. It is a memory I hold very dear to my heart, and I still keep in touch with all the friends I've made there.

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

Proud, Grateful, Memorable

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
IACT College

COURSE STUDIED
Diploma in Mass Communication

CURRENT LOCATION
Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
Producer at a production company

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

I would have chosen Literature as a subject! Do I get brownie points for saying that, Mrs Chong?

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

As cliché as it sounds, enjoy it while you can.





Johannes Jacobus Kotze

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2008 - 2011

NATIONALITY
South African

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

ICT – from laughter to intense life lessons within the lesson, lessons with Mr. Loo always ensured for very educational sessions. He was not just a teacher, but a mentor.

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

My very first year at **elc** shaped me as an individual, with various challenges that I had to face – from teachers to cultural adaptability.

Never be too afraid of the challenge ahead of you; after crushing it, you walk out a better individual.

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

elc gave me some memorable moments throughout the time I studied there. You were always sure to have fun, with many events taking place throughout the academic year.

The most memorable moment would be that of winning the Annual Sports Day as the Captain of Yellow House and then the amazing group of friends that later on formed part of a family.

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

Giving, helpful and proud

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Centurion Academy; University of South Africa

COURSE STUDIED

Sport Management and Science
Education

CURRENT LOCATION

Pretoria, South Africa

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

A full-time teacher at a primary school in South Africa and furthering my coaching career in rugby, cricket and athletics.

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

A question frequently asked – I always enjoyed my time there and would never have wished to do anything differently. It shaped me to who I am today – no regrets.

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

Use your time wisely. Enjoy every moment, because soon it would only be a memory. Work hard in class, work harder on the field and enjoy what you are doing.





Victoria Louise Brown

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2008

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

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

Before enrolling in **elc**, I was shy and didn't have much self-confidence. But all the teachers encouraged me to speak up in class, share my thoughts and join various clubs and activities. Through my years at **elc**, I slowly built the confidence to speak in front of crowds and develop leadership and organisational skills, all of which are invaluable in working life.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

English was my favourite subject. Mrs Chong was one of my favourite teachers. She was the one who inculcated my love for reading and writing, which in turn steered me in the direction of journalism.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Fun, friendly, happy

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

Leading Blue House to victory on Sports Day 2008. I was the House Captain and we were number one for the march past, cheer and various sporting events. It was the first time Blue House claimed victory in several years, so it was a proud moment for me to hold up that trophy. The whole House displayed incredible sportsmanship and teamwork, I was so proud of them!

I was also very active in Interact Club. As the Secretary, I was part of the organising committee for several IU (International Understanding) Days, dances and fund-raising activities. We managed to raise a fair bit of money for our various charities, and in 2006 we made a trip to Cambodia to hand over the funds raised. We were able to visit the communities and meet the people to whom we were giving back (Cambodian land mine victims, orphans and an organisation that helps provide clean water to impoverished villages in Cambodia). It was a very humbling experience.

My time as a Prefect was also a memorable one. Some of my fondest memories were going for the various Prefect Leadership Camps where we would spend the weekend bonding with fellow Prefects and building our leadership skills.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY COURSE STUDIED

Sunway University College for my pre-university course - Canadian International Matriculation Programme.
Monash University - Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Journalism and Communications

CURRENT LOCATION

Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

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

I would probably like to have trained harder for sporting events. I didn't stay back after school much to train with the football team, so I would have liked to have put in more effort in sports.

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

Studies are important, but so are the extra-curricular activities. Have fun! Join clubs and take part in sports!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am now a journalist with The Star Online (under Star Media Group). I not only write articles (for print and online), I am also a news presenter for StarTV's Asean Now: Weekly Wrap, and a social media manager for The Star Online's Facebook and Twitter pages. I also have a column on animal and environmental issues titled Behind The Cage - do check it out!

As a journalist, I've covered many interesting topics, such as, uncovering the "missing" owner of three Boeing 747s, finding out the story behind the runaway ostrich (named Chickaboo) on Federal Highway, covering Malaysian parliamentary sessions, court cases, several press conferences, and rallies. I also wrote about the British paedophile Richard Huckle, terrorists, Malaysian politics and I've interviewed a number of local celebrities as well.



Hari Vijayshanker Ravidran

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2003 - 2009

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Geography – We got to play football sometimes!

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

Instilled a strong work ethic.

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

We used to play football every morning and lunch time.

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

Excellent, unique, fun

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Imperial College London

COURSE STUDIED

MEng Chemical Engineering

CURRENT LOCATION

London

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Market Analyst

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

Nothing!

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

Work hard but also enjoy the extra-curricular activities.





Hema Surendranathan

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1996 - 2008

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

English. The teachers were the best.

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

A real understanding of what it means to excel and a persistent hunger to keep doing so.

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

Grateful, surprised, connected

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Bryn Mawr College, US

COURSE STUDIED

English

CURRENT LOCATION

Ithaca, NY

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Doctoral studies in English and Creative Writing
at Cornell University, US

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

Nothing!

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

Enjoy it!





Christopher Chalmers

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2006 - 2010

NATIONALITY
American

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History with Mrs Sheela. She was great at teaching that subject and I had an interest in it. She was inspiring, so much so that I read up history books, articles and watched online courses in my spare time. And it has really shaped my understanding of the world.

In addition, I very much enjoyed English Literature. I am a budding bibliophile, and I enjoy both non-fiction and fiction. If you're looking for a fantastic fiction book, I recommend Shantaram by Gregory David Roberts. It's incredible. Lit class was the most enjoyable and fun class. Thank you, Mrs Chong!

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

Nurturing. Giving. Firm.
(The discipline is good in the future!)

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

The friends I've made (whom I am still friends with to this day), Having an absolute blast on the Year 10 Biology trip to a nearby mangrove swamp, FOBISSEA, Interact Nights and the fairs, Having class banter in Business and English Lit classes. Having an eraser fight after my O level English Lit exam.

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

I was bullied in my previous school and I also in turn bullied others. **elc** humbled me and I made great friends there. I never bullied or tolerated bullying again. Being in **elc** got rid of most of my social anxiety and I transformed into a more laid-back individual.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Arts Educational Schools, part of City University London

COURSE STUDIED

Musical Theatre, BA (Hons)

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Freelance singer, songwriter and actor

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

Enjoy it all over again and in my spare time, develop more skills and talents.

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

Enjoy the present. Through in school or your own time develop the discipline to pursue and improve skills and talents; they can be anything from music to cooking to sports. There is something for everyone and doing this will only enrich your life and bring you happiness. As the Great British philosopher Alan Watts noticed at the town of his residence - The harbour was full of yachts and pleasure craft. But they never left the harbour. For the rich who owned them never developed the discipline or skill to sail them. Thus they became a status symbol and the art of sailing was lost. All the best and good luck. Remember youth only comes once. Make the most of it!



Rachel Quek Wei Lin

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998 - 2008

NATIONALITY
Malaysian/ Singaporean

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History – it was so fascinating learning about the past, both ancient and recent. I remember learning about Ancient Greece and Rome when I was in Primary school and we got to construct houses and role play life in those times which was so much fun! In Years 10 and 11, we touched on WWI and II and how they shaped the world today – so interesting! Special mention for English Lit – love the discussions and debates we used to have and exploring how words can mean so many different things and elicit so many emotions.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Nurturing, eventful and awesome

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

Too many to count! I'll just list some of my favourite moments – Prefect camp, Sports days, Mufti days, Musical night, FOBISSEA festivals... the list goes on and on! I especially enjoyed prefect camps – they were so much fun, a great way to bond with other students and learn leadership skills that allowed my confidence and independence to develop.

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

I was at **elc** for most of my formative years, so I would say **elc** taught me a multitude of integral life lessons! One of the most valuable life lessons was the desire to try new things and reach for new heights, while also taking responsibility for my actions. I knew this was possible because of the support from my parents and teachers, along with constant opportunities to ask questions, speak up and challenge myself.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
University of Melbourne
University of Oxford

COURSE STUDIED
Bachelor of Commerce
Masters of Financial Economics

CURRENT LOCATION
Melbourne, Australia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
Management Consultant at Bain & Company

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

Really treasure all the fun moments with friends and don't sweat the small stuff – the friends you make at **elc** truly last forever, I regularly keep in touch with and see **elc**-ians all over the world, not just from my year, but from my older sisters' years too! It's a great chance to reminisce about our school days.

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

Life isn't completely dependent on how you do in Year 11. Do what you love, but give it your all. The ones who succeed are the ones who are willing to put in the work and are always open to learning. This is super important even after you leave **elc**! The teachers have your best interests in mind, so ask them for advice and they'll be happy to support you.



Alyssa Wong Li-En

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2001 - 2008

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Safe, Friendly, Caring

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Ancient History:) Ms Sheela taught me and I remember laughing a lot at her jokes. I also learned a lot because of how easy it was to follow her lessons. Thank you for the As, Ms Sheela!

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

I learnt a lot about 'getting over yourself' and not being afraid to give things a go. In **elc**, I was quite shy and timid, always thinking about myself and what other people would think of me. But growing up with my bubbly year group and getting input from the lovely teachers taught me about getting out of my shell, not take yourself too seriously and just have fun!

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

I remember doing a lot of short skits with my classmates in the morning during assembly time:) I really did enjoy acting/watching the plays. Also, creative writing classes were fun as well.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Sunway College/University of Queensland

COURSE STUDIED

AUSMAT/Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

CURRENT LOCATION

Gold Coast, Australia

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

I would be braver, talk more and reform a few friendships. Sometimes when you're young, you don't have it all together and that can reflect badly on your relationships. I would like to start again with a few individuals :)

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Occupational therapist

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

Don't hang out too much in the past, but also don't hang out too much in the future either. Just enjoy where you're at, both the good and the bad. Sure enough time is gonna fly.





Amanda Shiew Ai Min

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2003 - 2008

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

My favourite subject at **elc** was Design & Technology with Mr. Wilson. The structure of the class was very refreshing, and I really enjoyed being allowed to build and create things from scratch. As much as I loved my English and History classes for the literary and sociological context I could get out of them, DT was the one that gave me the tools and the avenue to let me create with a free hand.

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

I think **elc** gave me a good foundation on which to set my feet. This is true for both my academic career as well as my overall sense of self discipline. I think it made me more confident in my intellect and taught me the importance of accepting the consequences of my actions - whether they were positive or not.

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

All the school van shenanigans! I was lucky enough to share a bus with a few good friends, so the time I spent before and after school was nourished by good conversations and lots of jokes. That time together brought us closer and gave us stronger relationships to take out of high school.

I also have fond memories of playing basketball and football for the school team. We weren't that good, but we had a lot of heart - and at the end of the day that's all that matters right? Special shout-out to the FOBISSEA (now FOBISIA) sports team from Brunei 2006 - that was truly a trip.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Nostalgic, Sheepish, Thankful

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
HELP UC (A-Levels)
Knox College, US (under-grad)

COURSE STUDIED
At Knox College
English Literature (major), Anthropology & Sociology (minor), Gender & Women's Studies (minor)

CURRENT LOCATION
Back in Malaysia!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I'm currently the Assistant Operations Manager at Hashtagcity, a PR and Branding agency in Damansara Perdana.

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

If I could go back in time, I honestly think I'd try to work harder and seize more opportunities as they cropped up. Teenage years are weird like that - where you feel more capable and desire more independence while at the same time always doubting your ability. I think I would have liked to push through that during my time at **elc** and seized more bulls by the horns in that sense.

One of the things I really regret is not jumping on opportunities to play music. Mr. Martin, **elc**'s music teacher, would give me a nudge every now and then but I didn't dedicate myself to it. Wish I had.

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

Be kind to yourself. You're capable of greatness, but never at the expense of others. Hard work is worth it. Respect everyone around you. Be open. Say yes when you can. Say no when you must. Don't wait to see what happens - make it so.



Message from Dr Ingersoll

After seeing an ad in the local newspaper for an English Literature teacher at a small international school in Taman Tun, I sent in my resumé. After a very kind letter of rejection from Mrs. Kaloo, who believed that I was destined for greater things than their humble, nascent institution, I settled into disappointment. Until three months later, when I saw the same post advertised, and I applied again. It was a decision that would influence my entire teaching career. When I joined that humble

assembly of partitioned classrooms and eclectic group of students and teachers, I joined not just a school, but a family. Some of my best memories are from the Taman Tun campus, when Mrs. Kaloo sat with us in the staff room and fostered deep conversations about learning and life. Being a part of **elc** for almost 10 years taught me so much about students, about parents, about teaching and learning. And about the profound sense of community that a cohesive group of individuals can create. I will always be grateful for the lasting memories and enduring friendships from my time at **elc**, and for the outstanding education my children and I received by being a part of this very special school.

Marcea Ingersoll, BA, BEd, MEd, PhD
Assistant Professor
School of Education
St. Thomas University
Fredericton, NB, Canada





Message from Mrs Poh

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of **elc** is a great occasion and one that should be celebrated in true style. Traditionally the 30th anniversary is known as the Pearl Anniversary meaning that some lucky ladies may receive pearls as their anniversary gift. It is indeed a privilege and an honour to be invited to write something for the Pearl Anniversary of **elc**.

I recall with nostalgia my initial attempt to be acquainted with the **elc** family after Mrs Kerry Iskandar , the Acting Principal , in August 1989 accepted me as the Art teacher who was to prepare the students for Art in the GCE then and IGCSE later. But what I enjoyed most at **elc** was preparing the props for the **elc** Annual Awards and Christmas concerts. It was a challenging task but a rewarding one for the smiles and pride on the faces of the students and parents were enough to make my day.

Working together with the students and teachers of other departments made me very close to everyone in **elc** including the non-teaching staff who rallied to help me. Looking back, I considered it the greatest achievements and fulfilment of my life which no money can buy.

Up to today my **elc** students look up to me as their guiding light. Just last month , I met up with some of them in Birmingham and London although they are already working adults. The respect we earned as teachers will never fade away. It lives forever.

So with this note, I sincerely congratulate and extend my best wishes to the CEO, Principal, teachers and students of **elc**.

Kind regards,
Mrs Janet Poh