

elc INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Present

Perfect

ALUMNI NEWS 2019



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HEAD OF SECONDARY

I am truly delighted to present this second issue of 'Present Perfect' to you. When we first started out, we were not certain of the response we would get, let alone the photos we wanted from back then. You will be surprised at how many do have old school photos; going to the extent of rummaging through boxes of old photos at the family house while taking a long, meandering trip down memory lane.

One former **elc** student told me, 'school days were the best'. Little did I know how apt this came to be - it turns out that my former school principal from my secondary school back home is related to one of our teachers here at **elc**. Such a small world indeed! Of course, when I found out, I too took a lovely Sunday trip down that road of hazy yet wonderful memories of my school days.

It is wonderful to see how many people treasure their time at school - not everything is about chasing that 'A'. Far more important are the lessons learnt and friendships forged. I am very happy to have in this issue the contributions of Mrs Barbara Kumar, our former Head of Primary, and Mrs Kathy Quek, a former **elc** parent whose three daughters were at **elc** (they were featured in the first issue).

I hope you enjoy reading these memories of **elc** as much as I have. Certainly, our former students have lived up to the school motto of excellence, loyalty and commitment.

Apiwan Rattapimol

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1996 - 2003

NATIONALITY
Thai

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Art was my favorite subject. I always thought that I was terrible in English. Therefore, I fell in love with the art class. This is because language was not a barrier in art. I was always in the art room after school or during lunch time.

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

When **elc** moved from the shop houses in TTDI to Sg Buloh, I remembered very clearly that there was only 1 building with hardly any grass around it. It felt great to be part the big change. I looked forward to finally having a canteen.

We used to have to climb over a fence to get to an empty field for PE.

During Year 10/11, I was a Prefect and had to do announcements during assemblies. I tried to avoid this duty as I was not confident at all with my pronunciations. When I could not avoid it anymore, I built up the courage to walk up on the stage and gave my announcements. But I was laughed at. It was not a nice feeling. Ms Chin came on the stage and defended me. I will never forget that moment. Thank you, Ms Chin!

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

English is my 2nd language. I was 10 years old when I moved to Malaysia and **elc** was my first school. I started learning English in **elc**. I was the very first student in **elc**'s ESL class. The teachers were very supportive and never gave up on me. After moving to so many countries in my life, people are surprised that a Thai girl can speak English so well. Thank you, Mrs. Kaloo for giving me a chance and a place in **elc**.

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

Courageous, important and tranquil



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia
Management Development Institute, Singapore (MDIS)

COURSE STUDIED

Edith Cowan University: Post Graduate Diploma in Business (Marketing & Business Law).
Edith Cowan University: Bachelor Degree of Communications & Arts with Double Majors in Mass Communication and Creative Studies.
Oklahoma City University in collaboration with (MDIS) Management Development Institute of Singapore

CURRENT LOCATION

Sydney, Australia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

In 2011, I moved (back) to Singapore and got married to my Singaporean man. In Singapore, I was working in Business Development in Advertising (Print, Digital and Online) for 4 years.

In 2014/15, my husband and I migrated to Sydney. This is when I started instructing Yoga & Pilates full time. It was not long after I moved to Sydney, we were blessed with a baby. Now, I am a stay at home mum to a boy who will be turning Terrible 2 in January 2019. I am still instructing Yoga & Pilates part-time and also running an online business.

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

Nothing. My experiences in **elc** have played a big part in who I am today.

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

Always plan for the future but make the best of today as you may not live to see tomorrow.



Bernard Law

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000 - 2004

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Additional Maths- because it was a weekly reminder that I wasn't as clever as I thought.

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

Self-discipline. Spelling and grammar. Photosynthesis.

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

Was our year (2003/04) the first year to have TWO Head Girls instead of a Head Boy?

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Fun, Happy, Awkward



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Melbourne

COURSE STUDIED

Property Economics

CURRENT LOCATION

Melbourne, Australia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Corporate Strategy

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

I'd put the hair gel down.

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

Work smart, play harder



Carisma Kapoor

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998 - 2005

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

English Literature. One of my most vivid memories of school was English Literature class. It was only a small batch of us that took the class and it was always exciting. You would think that 'Julius Caesar' would be a drag but our discussions made the class more interesting. It also helped that our class ended just before lunch time and we had Auntie Carol's rendang to look forward to as soon as the class was over.

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

Fond and **happy** memories while I was there and **sad** to leave when it was time to go.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

HELP University,
Monash University

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Arts (Communication & Journalism)
Master of International Business



CURRENT LOCATION

Malaysia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

My first job was working as a journalist at the NST. I was there for three years and worked on the news desk (politics). After this, I took a break to study for my Masters degree full time which was when I decided I wanted to venture out and get into marketing. Currently, I'm working as a senior exec at an FMCG beverage company in the marketing department. The brands that I look after are WONDA Coffee and Gatorade.

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

I remember that most of us in my year couldn't wait for the last day of exams to finally leave school. We were so caught up in the future that we forgot to really enjoy the present. There's nothing like school and the friends you make along the way - some of them will last a lifetime. Make as many friends as possible, don't stick to your "crowd", keep in touch, and enjoy every moment at school!

Lindy Tseng

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000 - 2003

NATIONALITY
Taiwanese

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Science, love the practical classes

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

I come from a Chinese family and this means doing well academically is very important. In **elc**, I learned that getting good grades is not everything. There are more important things in our lives.

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

Loved the excursion to the Science centre

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

Friendly, energetic, creative



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylor's College
University of Newcastle

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Hons)
PhD in Surgical Sciences

CURRENT LOCATION

Sydney, Australia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Post-doctoral researcher in melanoma

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

Take more photos with my mates and spend more time socialising.

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

Enjoy your time at **elc** because that's probably the most carefree period of your life



Han Son

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2007 - 2009

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

ICT - my teacher was a miracle worker; he helped me get a "Top In Malaysia", CIE award :D

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

- 1) Writing an essay a day for 30 days because my predicted grade for English wasn't an A* :/
- 2) My teacher actually marking all of the above-mentioned essays.

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

Always be humble

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

Sincere, Homely, Humble



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

The University of Hong Kong
(HKSAR Government Full Scholarship)

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Economics & Finance

CURRENT LOCATION

Hong Kong

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Managing a start-up.
Still figuring out how to speak fluent Mandarin.

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

Take on a substitute teacher's challenge to build a game with Java

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

- 1) Always try to solve problems;
The bigger the problem - the bigger the reward.
- 2) Compete but never compare



Johnathan Beechey

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2006 - 2008

NATIONALITY
British

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Mathematics - Always been a passion for me.
Design Technology - Enjoyed the numerous challenges it would throw up from time management to how would I build this to the final design coming together

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

My friends during my time there definitely helped shape who I am today and were definitely not afraid of letting me know

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

There are a number! The ones that stand out are:

- Helping organise Interact Night with the Interact Club in less than 4 weeks back in 2006!
- The "Teacher vs Students" football matches
- Scottish dancing as part of PE lessons
- Geography trip where I was challenged to eat a hot dog as quickly as possible and then having to recreate my effort on stage for assembly

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

Warm, Fun, Enriching



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of East Anglia

COURSE STUDIED

Business Statistics

CURRENT LOCATION

London, United Kingdom

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

M&A Insurance Project Management and Operations Development Manager

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

Take more advantage of all the extra-curricular opportunities that were on offer.

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

Make an effort to stay in touch with both peers and teachers as your network of connections is just as important as your knowledge



Kazuhide Shaun Okuda

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000 - 2003

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

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

When I joined **elc**, I was fresh out of the Japanese School and my English was really really bad. Therefore, I had to relearn everything from scratch. With hard work and support from teachers, friends, and family, I was able to get good grades for my O levels. This has taught me that with perseverance and determination, anything is possible!

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Lively, Happy, Friendly

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

The speech I gave during the Head Prefect election was quite a hit. I said "A school is like a circle. Student forms one half while the teachers form the other. I would like to be the glue between them". To this day, many of my **elc** friends remind me about that speech.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Math - unlike other subjects, the language of math is universal. It was the only subject that I did not find hard throughout my **elc** days. PE was great too as I always enjoyed playing sports.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

The University of Auckland, New Zealand

COURSE STUDIED

PhD in Biomedical Science

CURRENT LOCATION

Brisbane, Australia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Research Officer in the University of Queensland, Australia

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

Instead of just memorising stuff to score well in tests, and forgetting them the next day, I should have spent a bit more time understanding the things I learnt and question how they came to be.

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

Play hard, work harder, play hardest. You are in primary/secondary school only once. Don't just be a bookworm but enjoy the moment and experience as many things as possible. Also, socialise as much as possible as friends you make at **elc** can last forever.



Lisa Alexandra Moses

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2007 - 2010

NATIONALITY
South African

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Business Studies and English were my favourite subjects at **elc**.

Business Studies: I thoroughly enjoyed the subject and the lessons. I continued to study business and economics after my years at **elc** for my A-Levels.

English: I have always enjoyed English and it was also one of my top subjects throughout school. I love to write as well as read and understand other writers. We also had a great English teacher who always kept our lessons eventful and interesting no matter what we were learning.

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

Yes, I most definitely owe a lot of who I am today to **elc** International School. **elc** taught me discipline, commitment, responsibility and motivation. It made me a worldly person; eager to experience life, go places no matter where that may be and to never give up.

elc taught me to push myself and to believe in myself. I wasn't the best of students when I arrived at the school as I struggled in the academics. But at **elc**, both the teachers and students, were all so supportive and I completed my IGCSEs with top marks - something I never dreamed was possible.

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

I have so many memories I would love to share from my years at **elc**; however, my most memorable moments were;

1. Going to India on an exchange programme as well as hosting an exchange student from India.
2. Taking part in FOBISIA 2009 (Taipei), competing in sports against many international schools around Asia.
3. Learning Malay and the Malaysian culture - going to visit a Malay kampung and experiencing Malay culture first hand.

Studying at **elc** was an exceptional experience all on its own. Each year was more memorable than the last and I took on every experience possible at the time. I met wonderful people from all over the world and we all became an international family called **elc**.

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

Appreciative, Rewarding, Invaluable, Consequential (just an extra one for luck)



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Greenside Design Center - Bachelor of Arts degree

COURSE STUDIED

Interior Design/Architecture

CURRENT LOCATION

Johannesburg, South Africa

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am currently a freelance designer and draughtsman for all residential properties and projects (both interior and exterior).

I also work for Liberty Life as an executive P.A. where we sell life, investment and retirement policies, medical aid etc.

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

I would go back in time to **elc** to make time for more memories and live in the moment instead of always thinking and worrying about the future.

I would also take an extra subject from Year 9 onwards as I know now I could have taken on more work at the time.

Lastly, I would go back to appreciate my friends better and enforce those close bonds I had with the people I was in classes with at the time.

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

Enjoy the present and take on every experience possible!

Life is short - live with no regrets or "I should have's"
EVERYTHING IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF FEAR!!!

Lucky Lukas Halim

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998 - 2001

NATIONALITY
Indonesian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

PE - I got to go outside and play different sports, and time always went by very fast during PE.

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

I was never very good with the right words to describe things. But **elc** was a place where I grew from being a boy to an adult. A place where you get a taste of different cultures in the world in one place. And it is also a place where you can share your culture with the rest of the world.



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

We had a sport camp to a jungle at one time. We went with many students from different grades and different classes, learnt many basic survival skills and got to sleep inside a tent with a group of friends. It was really a taste of living with nature and how we needed each other, friends and enemies. Definitely, it was an experience that won't be forgotten..

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

In **elc** I was given the opportunity to be a Prefect in the last few years of school. That title taught me a lot on how to be responsible and how to be a leader. At the same time, I learnt how to deal with conflict. In my line of work today, I face different kinds of conflict. I guess being a Prefect at **elc** shaped my basic instincts on how to approach people.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Monash University

COURSE STUDIED
Mechanical engineering

CURRENT LOCATION
Macao

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
Captain at Air Macau

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

I would take more pictures definitely especially with my teachers..

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

Value and enjoy you time at school. They were on of the best times I had growing up. Make sure you keep in touch with as many friends as you can.



Luxmee Sabapathy

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2004 - 2011

NATIONALITY
Singaporean

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Art class. Although I didn't pursue it further, I really loved it and then maybe IGCSE Literature because we had a lot of fun then as well! Oh, and Biology! Does anyone remember when we had to dissect that rat/cow heart? #goodtimesce, love the practical classes

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

Probably whenever we had the opportunity to use our break time to just go jam out in the music room with friends. Actually any time we just jammed in the music room - those were good memories!

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

Definitely. It was a very subtle life lesson but it makes such a huge impact on my life today. I think growing up and being exposed to many different cultures, backgrounds, ethnicities - really people from all around the world, teaches you to be curious and to have an open mind. Since leaving **elc**, I know for sure that have taken this with me. Now I'm always curious and eager to learn more about people. It's also pretty surprising when you find out that a majority of the people in the world don't share this view.

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

Nostalgic, grateful, and maybe little bit of sadness... but in a good way!



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Taylor's University
Monash University

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor's of Arts & Social Science
Double Major in Communications and Psychology with a minor in TV & Film

CURRENT LOCATION

Singapore

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I'm the Content & PR Manager at a luxury cosmetics brand in Singapore.

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

Probably be a little nicer and not get involved in other people's dramas.....

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

Be nice to your peers and have fun! These people will remain in your life for years to come and even though you will meet so many more people as you grow up and go in different directions, somehow, you will always find, whenever you reconnect with your **elc** peers, how easy it is to just start talking about anything and everything. To me, my **elc** mates have been such a family that I look forward to meeting up and catching up with them when I get the chance.

Mihir Khubchandani

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2006 - 2010

NATIONALITY
Indian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Business Studies and Accounting

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

I think it's **elc**'s culture and the emphasis on the '**elc** family' that continues to resonate with me today. Having had a chance to go to a school where everyone knew each other and worked together continues to shape the way I think about any team or group, from work colleagues to a close group of friends.

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

So many! There was always a lot going on at **elc**, between IU Day, Sports Day, Prefect Camps, FOBISSEA, and so much more.

My favorite memories from **elc** are all from the people who made my time there special. I'll always remember gathering with a few of my classmates every day and sharing lunch at the benches near the bleachers, then rushing back when we heard the bell ring. I also remember my teachers for the way they taught us and kept each class interesting - they made some of the classroom moments some of the more memorable times at **elc**.

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

Exciting, Fun, Close-knit



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

George Washington University (Washington, DC, USA)

COURSE STUDIED

Economics and International Affairs

CURRENT LOCATION

Washington, DC

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

Enjoy your time at **elc** because that's probably the most carefree period. Work hard, but some of the best **elc** has to offer is outside the classroom. **elc** offers great opportunities to be involved in the school community, and helped me forge some of the closest friendships in my life.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I am an analyst at Strategic Investment Group, an investment management firm.



Mridula Krishnan

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2002 - 2007

NATIONALITY
Indian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

Additional Mathematics - probably because math was always easy for me so I never had to study it

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

Too many to share! Definitely I have fond memories of lunch breaks in the canteen, PE and French classes (where we were such troublemakers!) and Red House winning literally everything on Sports Days!

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

The very motto of **elc** - excellence, loyalty and commitment - was seared into my brain at a very young age and has influenced my behaviour significantly. Additionally, **elc** was the start of a very international life for me - I now value a person's diversity, culture, thoughts and perspectives much more than I used to, and I think my current social circle comprises of at least 60 different nationalities, which is amazing. Looking back, I think **elc** gave me the comfort and the confidence to embrace diversity.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Diverse, wholesome and friendly



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Nottingham
IESE Business School

COURSE STUDIED

BEng Electronic and Computer Engineering
MBA

CURRENT LOCATION

Amsterdam, Holland

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I'm currently working in Strategy Consulting for Monitor Deloitte - we basically advise businesses across a variety of industries on how to solve their business problems in a practical, creative and profitable way. It's challenging but also very interesting

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

Academically, I did pretty well in **elc**, so if I could do something differently it would probably be in the relationship / social aspect. Unfortunately, I'm in touch with very few people from my time at **elc** - both students and teachers - partly because we are all scattered all over the world right now, but perhaps if we had stronger relationships back then we'd still be in touch! Who knows?

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

My advice to all my fellow **elc**-ians would be to really enjoy your time and be passionate about all the things that you do. **elc** gives you a lot of choices - choose well and that will tee you up for success.



Oh Joo Ken

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1999 - 2004

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History – the writing style of the subject gave me a chance to view historical events from multiple points of view, apply context, and set me on the path to obtain a legal education in one of the world’s best universities.



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

History class where Ms Sheela practised her marker throwing skills on unsuspecting students who were not paying attention.

Design & Technology class with Mr Wilson testing the strength of the bridges we built.

Stage fright during choir performance with my friends in front of the school.

Being only one of two boys in Red House for that age group and having to do almost all the Sports Day events.

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

No better words than Excellence, Loyalty, and Commitment.

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

High school was one of the most formative years of my life so arguably everything that I learnt at **elc** shaped me into who I am today! The bonds and friendships for which I am thankful were developed in high school and have lasted till today.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Melbourne, Australia

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Commerce, University of Melbourne
Juris Doctor, Melbourne Law School

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Currently - Managing Director, Asiapools (M) Sdn Bhd
Previously - Mergers, Acquisitions & Partnerships, CIMB Group

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

Absolutely nothing

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

Life back in high school felt like the “be all and end all” of everything – just remember that there is a whole life after/outside **elc** and that with the right attitude, you can get through anything



Saad Samad

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1995 - 1997, 2002 - 2007

NATIONALITY
Canadian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

English and history, mostly because I was good at them and the classes were interactive. Teachers were easy to get along with.

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

Sometimes things don't go your way; what matters is how you recover from setbacks.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

HELP University
St Lawrence College of Applied Arts and Technology,
Kingston ON, Canadaity,
Monash University

COURSE STUDIED

Computer Networking and Technical Support

CURRENT LOCATION

Kitchener, ON. Canada

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

IT Client Services for the government of Canada

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

I would study more, and attempt to work harder; would take part in more athletic activities and sports

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

Building a healthy work ethic now is more important than getting good grades. Good grades in high school can be achieved with some effort and matter less in the workplace in comparison to a strong work ethic. Grades won't be asked about in a job interview; what is more important is the ability to adapt and your attitude.



Sahil R. Kamani

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2000 - 2007

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History, for sure. My fascination with the past was an early interest that was spurred by the study of it. It made me almost want to become an archaeologist digging for mummy graves!

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

Way too many memorable stories. But the stand out story would be winning the Bronze medal for the 1500m race in Brunei at the FOBISSEA Games. I had attempted this race with zero training and a mere 5 minute warm-up prior to running it.

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

elc was a platform where I've made lifelong friends who taught me the meaning of true friendship. **elc** instilled in me the discipline of hard work and vigour that has helped me tremendously through the years. Most importantly, **elc** gave me lots of leadership opportunities (Prefect, House Captain, Librarian) that helped nurture my leadership skills early which have proven to be essential to me so far in my career.

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Eternal, Glorious, Splendid



COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
Monash University

COURSE STUDIED
Banking & Finance, Economics

CURRENT LOCATION
Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?
Manager in Corporate Finance & Investments
@ Securities Commission Malaysia

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

At times school can get tough, but do attempt to enjoy and cherish every moment, as your school years are undoubtedly the most unforgettable years.

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

Take more I would have definitely taken advantage of the third language offered and focused harder on either Mandarin or French, plus taking up a musical instrument seriously, photos with my mates and spend more time socialising.



Sarah Gulamoydeen

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2009 - 2011

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

English Literature, simply because I had the pleasure and honour of being taught by the incredible Mrs Chong herself. She brought the language to life, and I will forever remember being inspired during her lessons. Mrs Chong you still inspire me now, years later when I think back of my time in your class.



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

Coming from a multiracial family, I was always ostracised in every school I attended except for **elc**. I really appreciate the open-minded, accepting and inclusive qualities that I experienced during my time there. I made lifelong friends in **elc**, many of whom I am still in constant contact with despite living in different continents.

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

Being respectful of the diverse backgrounds and cultures that we all come from, and to appreciate and embrace uniqueness within ourselves and others.

LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Trinity College Melbourne
Melbourne University

COURSE STUDIED

Media & Communications

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Social Media Executive in the digital advertising industry.



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

Eat more of the curry laksa served at the school canteen which was only available on Wednesdays, if I recall correctly.

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

Being an adult and paying taxes isn't the most fun thing to do. Best to enjoy yourselves now and just make the most of your time in school!



Thariq Rudy Willoughby

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
2003 - 2011

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

It's a close toss-up between Literature and History - I always appreciated how both these subjects studied the human condition in some way. If you put a gun to my head. I supposed I'd say Literature but only because I did better at it. Don't tell Ms Sheela!

GIVE 3 ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT **elc**
Nostalgic, Formative, Nurturing



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

Performing Kanye West's "Gold Digger" in Year 6 with my friends, Ozier, Mun Shen, Qhalid, Alex Shiew and Shathes. Listening to the song today, I still wonder why our teachers allowed us to rap those lyrics at the primary school assembly.

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

Mutual respect and inclusiveness were probably the two major values I picked up at **elc**. There never was a question of race or background when it came to making friends or taking responsibility for your actions - it was always about the individual. It only hit me how different the outside world was when I left school.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

International School of Penang (Uplands)
University of Melbourne

COURSE STUDIED

BA (double major) - Political Science; Islamic Studies

CURRENT LOCATION

Kuala Lumpur

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

In my second year of the Management Associate Programme at Astro, KL.



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

I would probably have gone more out of my comfort zone. I regret not putting myself out there and testing myself in competitions - Maths, Writing or otherwise.

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

Right now, you might hate school and think life after you finish will be more fun. But as an adult, there are very few places that allow you the space and time to explore who you are, who you want to be and who you will be. Take advantage of your time in school - make the most of your favourite subjects, your ECAs, your teachers. Throw yourself into it and you will be surprised at what you can do.



Wan Imran Johari

WHILE AT **elc**

STUDIED AT **elc** FROM
1998 - 2003

NATIONALITY
Malaysian

FAVOURITE SUBJECT, AND WHY

History – learning how past events shaped today's world.

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

elc at the time was a relatively small school community where most students knew each other, which made it important to connect with all types of people and to respect individual differences.

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

I have nice memories of playing in school football tournaments and the camaraderie within the football team, the pack'n'paddle, Outward Bound camp in Lumut where we had to kayak from Lumut to Pangkor, the school camp to Taman Negara that involved "team building" activities like a solo drop into the rubber plantation in the middle of the night and being part of the winning Blue House relay team on Sports Day 2002 despite being the big underdogs.

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

elc offers a privileged education in an intimate environment, grounded in humble values.



LIFE AFTER **elc**

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

University of Western Australia

COURSE STUDIED

Bachelor of Commerce

CURRENT LOCATION

Perth, Australia

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Corporate finance in the energy industry.

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

I wouldn't change anything about my time at **elc**.

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

Cherish your time at high school, the learnings and friendships you form. I fondly look back on my time at **elc** as some of the best days of my childhood, and my best friends to this day are the ones I met at **elc**.

There is a lot of pressure to do well in exams and choose a career pathway early on. However, rest assured, you don't have to be certain about your career before leaving high school, and it's never too late to change your mind.

Lastly, your life successes will be defined by much more than academic results and career. Form close friendships, spend time with family, look after your health and always seek opportunities to broaden your horizons and enrich your life.



Message from



Mrs Barbara Kumar

FORMER HEAD OF UPPER PRIMARY

We all have milestone moments in our lives. One for me, was in 1992 when I joined **elc**. Led by the Principal then, Mrs. Margaret Kaloo, together with an experienced team of teachers, she started the **elc** Primary division in a shophouse in Taman Tun Dr. Ismail where we stayed for a few years before moving to Sierramas.

Shortly after joining, I was thrilled when Mrs. Kaloo entrusted me to head the primary division. This resulted in me having had the honour of being **elc**'s first Head of Primary, a post I held for 8 years before moving abroad. Juggling the role of leading a team, including administrative work and finding the right balance whilst teaching English from Years 3 to 6, was a steep learning curve but incredibly rewarding.

There were challenging moments dealing with students, parents and administrative issues but I viewed these as learning opportunities and each one made me a more informed teacher, a stronger leader and a more resilient person.

The best part of those nine years, was working with the students, the Principal and my team of talented and dedicated teachers. We shared valuable learning experiences, lots of laughter and comical moments that come from working with young children as well as supporting each other.

I hold fond memories of my time at **elc** and am delighted that my connection to **elc** remains through both my grandchildren, Sean and Chloe attending primary school there.

Message from



Mrs Kathy Quek

FORMER **elc** PARENT

I am the proud mother of 3 girls, Sarah, Audrey and Rachel. When Sarah 'graduated' from Children's House, Dennis and I searched high and low for a good school. We decided on **elc** as we wanted an international school which promoted strong values with a local flavour (at that time, around 70% of the students had a Malaysian parent). A solid education sets the foundation for their future.

We are very happy with the way our kids grew up in **elc** surrounded by friends who they are still close to and the immeasurable support provided by the teachers who cared about the kids and taught with passion. I followed Mrs Kaloo's advice not to give the girls any crutches and so they did not have any tuition classes and had to learn on their own. This helped them tremendously when they reached the higher levels of education. Instead, they went for extracurricular sports, dance and music classes. Our goal was to develop well-rounded, happy, socially adaptable children with strong values and morals.

I am glad to say that our girls have grown up beautifully. Indeed, investing in education gives the best interest. We are deeply grateful to Mrs Kaloo and the teachers of **elc** for inspiring our girls and giving them the confidence to dream big.

As we have given them their fishing rods to be financially independent, Dennis and I are now happily spending their inheritance.





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