

NORTHFIELDS



# THE ALUMNI

Issue 2 - May 2022

*Northfields Alumni Newsletter*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MRS PHYLLIS PHILOGÈNE



It is so exciting to be able to share news about Northfields with our former students and to celebrate some of the great achievements of our alumni. You will see from this second issue of our Alumni Newsletter that our students are carrying on with many of the traditions that you helped establish during your time here. We are also creating new traditions as we grow, particularly with our dedication to environmental awareness and global citizenship.

Having been at the school for over 20 years now, it makes me extremely proud to see how you have grown during your time at the school and to see the wonderful things you are achieving in your further studies and careers. It has also been a great honour to welcome several of our former students back into the Northfields family as teachers and non-academic staff in recent years, and I look forward to this continuing long into the future!

It is always a pleasure to welcome our former students back to Northfields for a visit whenever you might be in Mauritius. I think you would be very impressed with how we have continued to grow and develop since you graduated. We would also love to hear from you with news you'd like to share with your former teachers and perhaps your fellow alumni through future editions of our newsletter.

I wish you and your families all the best and look forward to hearing from you whenever you have the chance to drop us a line!



# THE ALUMNI

## *Our recent celebrations*

### CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

We scaled back our Chinese New Year celebrations this year to mark the Year of the Tiger however we could not do without the traditional lion dance.

The lion dance is very special for its tradition and history. In China, the lion is a symbol of bravery, power and strength. It is believed that the lion dance gets rid of evil spirits, protects people and brings luck. Ensuring that all sanitary protocols were observed, we ushered out the old year and welcomed in the new one with the lion dance.



### VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION

This year again, love was in the air on the occasion of Valentine's Day. Supervised by Mrs. Canakiah, a student team led by Honisha, Cedrick and Sheen organised the festivities.

The Year 12 students packed, wrapped and delivered roses and cookies across the campus. Thanks to our great team of Year 12s, all orders were ready on time.

During lunch break, students were entertained with pre-recorded videos of some of our students' musical talent such as singing and playing songs on various musical instruments. It was a lovely day for all.

### NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

In view of the COVID-19 situation, Northfields commemorated the 54th Independence Day of Mauritius in a special way this year, both in the lead up to and on the day itself. The focus of our National Day celebration this year was on the protection of our environment and the critical part this plays in being a responsible global citizen. In line with our theme, we had the pleasure of welcoming Mr Flavio Joseph from Reef Conservation Mauritius as our Guest of Honor to grace this occasion.

There were poetry competitions held and the winners were given the opportunity to recite their winning poem during the official ceremony. We had participants representing the different nationalities at Northfields reciting a timely poem on peace in their native language.

Our CAS students also wonderfully decorated a board outlining the history of Mauritius.





# THE ALUMNI

## *Northfields Eco School Events*

### WORKSHOP FROM MISSION VERTE

On Wednesday 24th February, we welcomed a member of Mission Verte who conducted a workshop with our school's eco-leaders. The theme of the talk was waste disposal and plastic recycling. Through this workshop, we aimed to encourage our eco-leaders to share the gained information and knowledge with their classmates and to create a recycling culture at Northfields. With World Recycling Day just around the corner, This workshop was also the first of many activities that were lined up to commemorate World Recycling Day.

We would like to thank Mission Verte for their unwavering support and Mrs. Rubina for her very capturing presentation.



### VISIT FROM THE REEF CONSERVATION

On the 3rd March, our young eco-leaders had the chance to participate in a workshop organised by Reef Conservation as part of the OneWithNature project. Urvashi and her team organised various activities to sensitize our eco-leaders on the importance of protecting our mangrove ecosystem and biodiversity in general.

They ended the workshop with a visit to BisLamer. This marked the start of our week-long initiative on Biodiversity with the celebration of World Wildlife Day. We would like to thank the Reef Conservation for their fantastic visit and for the nice gifts they offered to the school.

### PLASTIC DRIVE

Northfields organised its annual plastic drive from the 15th to the 25th of March and many students and parents participated by sending their plastic bottles to school. This project was organised with the help of Mission Verte and Precious Plastics.

All plastic collected was collected by Mission Verte. We would like to thank Mission Verte for their help. Some students prepared insightful posters to help boost the drive around the school.

The plastic drive will continue into Term 3 and a series of activities around the theme will be organised to help students understand the implications of plastic pollution and the need to recycle.





# THE ALUMNI

## Teacher Feature



During my high school years at Northfields, I was exposed to a plethora of distinct facets that shaped and developed my character into the person I am today; an experience that I will never trade for anything else! A holistic education that ticked all boxes, left no stones unturned and always kept pushing my limits,

since we all know, we grow outside our comfort zone. Mind you, I am not saying this in a negative way; on the contrary, the education system implemented at Northfields, has enabled me to keep pushing myself higher and further closer to my goals and ambitions.

The school back then was equipped with caring and enthusiastic teachers, complimented with an abundance of resources, and the same situation can

be observed now. Truthfully, coming back to this well-established education facility, albeit as a teacher, feels like I have never left; a sense of coming back to my roots, as if I never left "home"...the nostalgia is settling in!

I once was the young girl who had the view of a student, but now as a matured member of society, I am honoured to be part of the teaching crew; whereby, I have the ability to connect and mesh seamlessly with the students. Each experience, in conjunction, has allowed me to properly think in the shoes of the students and cater for their educational progression whilst keeping them truly engaged with their passion. I have and will always love sharing, helping, and teaching, especially children; hence, I am honoured to say that I am living my passion as an educator designated as a Learning Support Assistant for the education system I believe in.

Thank you, Northfields for this prestigious education and honour, as a former student and a current LSA to express my zeal in the education domain.

Rookshaal Nobeebux

## Alumna Achievements

Every year at King's College London, King's Entrepreneurial Institute hosts the Idea Factory Pitch-Off where ten new start-ups pitch to judges for a portion of the £ 6,000 pot of prize money, which will be used to help turn their ideas into reality. We are glad to announce that our alumna Shikha Doorvashi Ramjutan, CEO and founder of Re-sept was one of the Idea Factory winners!

Re-sept is a modern haircare brand creating hair products by combining scientific insights with Ayurveda principles. Its founder, Shikha Ramjutan, wanted to help people who lack the knowledge, as well as the right products, to take care of their scalp. Re-sept is aiming to develop three hero products (hair oil, mask and scalp serum) made from Ayurveda-inspired ingredients, whose benefits have been corroborated scientifically.

Shikha already has a 12,000 person following on her Instagram @themedixpharmacist who benefit from her scalp and haircare advice. She aims to build brand awareness with this social media presence and digital marketing expertise, before launching Re-sept's products in online beauty retailers and pharmacies in 2023. We at Northfields are proud of your achievement Shikha!

"I am honoured to be one of the winners of King's Idea factory! The EI institute has provided endless support to get my idea through the different stages of validation and help develop my entrepreneurial skills.'

-Shikha Doorvashi Ramjutan

Source: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/a-closer-look-at-the-facultys-idea-factory-winners>





# THE ALUMNI

## *Visit from Alumni on Campus*

On the 30th March, we were visited by 2 ex-students: Julie Hardy. and Chris Lim. Both studied with us and graduated in 2011. Julie is currently working in Perth as an accountant, and Chris has studied in Toronto and is now working as an accountant too.

We are very proud of their great achievements! It was such a pleasure to see them after so many years.



## *Spotlight on Alumna, Yovissen Parasuraman*



"I have always been passionate about baking. Since a very young age, I've always been captivated by the secret of flawless meringues or what produces a great buttercream icing. But fun fact, pastry and kitchen hasn't always been the only thing on my mind.

Despite the fact that I had been doing it as a hobby since I was a child, I had other plans. I have always found myself torn between Business Studies and Psychology! I eventually opted to pursue my studies in Hospitality and Management. After three years in the tertiary sector and pursuing hospitality, as well as my work experiences in hotel kitchens (Royal Palm, The Oberoi and Brasserie de L'Ouest, Paul Bocuse)I rapidly grew enamored with the kitchen and was able to master proper cooking procedures.

Since the first lockdown, The idea of making my own food blog/vlog struck me. I wanted to share my cooking experience and recipes, but most importantly it was for fun and sharing with others what I knew! I think the confinement really did bring out something out of each of us. I also try my best to be as interactive as I can on my social media to help out people during their baking conundrums as I believe baking and cooking shouldn't be taken too seriously and that we can all have fun during the process."

Yovissen Parasuraman



Alumni is your news. We'd love to know what you're doing so please send us an email at [alumni@northfields.school](mailto:alumni@northfields.school) if you would like to be featured and we will be in touch with you.



# THE ALUMNI

## *Memories*



Camp 2016-2017



Extra-Murals Guitar Lessons 2009



Musical Interlude - Graduation Ceremony 2015-2016



Whole School Photo of 2009-2010



Interhouse Netball 2014-2015



Christmas Carols 2005

## *Interested in Joining the Northfields Team?*

Northfields is always looking for caring and motivated educators and staff to join our team. Should you be interested in a career with us, or know someone who does, please send in your application to [careers@northfields.school](mailto:careers@northfields.school).

Please also visit our website <http://northfieldsinternational.school/working-at-northfields/> for more information on our current vacancies.