

# A Not-So-Typical Orientation

Secondary 1 Orientation Camp

Loh See Ping

Subject Head, National Education

Head of Year, Secondary 1





The first week of January traditionally sees Singapore Sports School holding their annual orientation camp where the incoming Secondary 1 student-athletes learn about the Sports School Culture and meet their new teammates.

While this year's Secondary 1 Orientation Camp from 2 to 6 January 2017 was largely the same as previous years, there was one key difference.

Driven by the leadership of James Stuart Lowe Heng Leong, Vice-Chairman of the Council of School Captains, the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Year 6 student-athletes planned a "Know Your Seniors" day to know their new schoolmates better.

"We wanted to create a culture where our juniors can know us personally and eventually feel comfortable approaching us as friends," James said.

Some of the activities the IB student-athletes planned included archery tag and an Amazing Race to provide a platform for the student-athletes to break the ice in a relaxed atmosphere, away from their training grounds.

Despite the demands placed on him due to the planning, James was in no doubt that the sacrifices were worth his time.

"This is a great opportunity to give back to Sports School, and I am very proud of the teamwork my peers showed to organise activities for the Secondary 1s."

Apart from the "Know Your Seniors" day, some of the other things the freshmen took part in included a photo hunt around Vista Point and Causeway Point on the fourth day of orientation to help them familiarise with their environment.

The 5-day camp concluded with the Secondary 1 student-athletes going on a five kilometre run before the seniors handed them Red Yonex T-shirts and their parents presented them with a School Pin to officially induct them into the Sports School Family.