

Event Calendar

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The Power of Website

ACP has recently conducted a seminar on the POWER of WEBSITE. Website is an inevitable marketing tool in today's businesses. It creates market presence for a company. The company can maintain relationship with existing customers or create new relationship with new customers with a powerful website.



The seminar focused on the use of Joomla, a tool to create a feature-rich site which is easy to expand, customize, and maintain. Management and creation of content can be done easily at any time, any place, with just the use of a web browser.

Hoopla Over the Workshop on Joomla

ACP recently invited teachers and webmasters from different schools to attend a workshop on 9th November. The workshop featured Joomla, an application that can help to create and customize content. The participants were excited by the aplenty means of Joomla that can help to promote their schools' presence. Some tips and tricks were also shared during the interactive session.



During the workshop, ACP did manage to showcase our NEW parents' engagement portal which will assist the schools to engage the stakeholders of the students, who are the parents. In addition, they were also briefed on the imminent growing mobile population in the world, whereby mobile websites would be the next big wave in technology.

Elderly Bootcamp

On 5th November, student leaders from Yu Neng Primary School's Info-Comm Club together with ACP's trainer participated in an ICT elderly bootcamp. 10 senior citizens from the Moral Neighborhood Link (Kakit Bukit) were given training on basic computer literacy. The session saw the grandparents handling the mouse and getting familiar with websites like channelnewsasia.com, zabao.com and xin.msn.com. After the session, the elderly experience that technology for everyone, not necessary only the young!



ACP Donation Drive: Share Because We Care

Christmas is approaching. It is a season for sharing. This year, ACP wants to share with the less fortunate in this festive season. Thus, we set up a donation drive in collaboration with Salvation Army in Singapore.

We encouraged all staff to donate toys, books, stationaries, bags, clothes and shoes. Together, we collected bags of STILL good items for a good cause. The donation drive commenced on 3 December and ended on 5 December. It was indeed motivating that our staffs are supportive for the event.

Let's share because WE care!



ACP Computer Training and Consultancy Pte. Ltd.

11 Keppel Road, ABI Plaza
#09-02 Singapore 089057
Tel: +65 6227 7996
Fax: +65 6227 9672

Unit 904, 9th Floor Richmond Plaza,
No. 21 San Miguel Ave. Corner
Lourdes St., Ortigas Center,
Pasig City Philippines 1600
Tel: +63 2 661 9804

Email:
info@acpcomputer.edu.sg
info_ph@acpcomputer.edu.sg
Website: www.acpcomputer.edu.sg



Navigating You Through Media and Technology in Education

The Cyber Nautica

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Connect. Share. Inform.

**social
media**

Social Media: A Double-Edged Sword
ACP Embraces Social Media
ACP Donation Drive: Share Because We Care
ACP Settled in New Office



Editor's Note

It might be challenging to find someone who has not used, and/or much less heard of social media. In fact, social media has changed the way one communicates and connects with another. We are no longer dependent solely on telephones to connect with people or face to face meetings. With social media, people are given the capability to share ideas, opinions and other content, and also to expand their influence in the world easily and conveniently.

Perhaps the most influential social media tool is social networking sites. It has changed the way business and education are being conducted. Groups can meet virtually and brainstorm together, should physical meetings are made impossible. Businesses also leverage on social networking sites to broadcast their latest products and offerings. Should the customers like the services, the long list of followers to the social networking site is proven to be a pervasive marketing technique.

News and journalism are definitely affected by the evolvement of social media. News and information can be accessed with a click away, and people do not need to wait besides the radio or television for the scheduled news broadcast. In addition, anyone can be deemed as a journalist as he/she can simply post and spread any "newsworthy" information across the globe via social networking site instantly.

Social media is definitely here to stay and will continue to affect our society. We are pleased to look into the power of social media which has an impact on our lifestyle. Is it good or is it not?

Last but not least, ACP would like to wish every reader A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Editorial Advisor
Teo Mei Ling

Editor
Ayra Velasco

Graphic Designer
Nasher Acordon

Article Contributors
Justin Lu
Paras Chadha
Siti Nur Hidayah
ShafuraawatyBteSamat

YOUR THOUGHT MATTERS
We'd love to hear your opinions and feedback about our publication and services.



Scan this QR to send your message.

Ayra

Our Luminaries

Siti's efforts were rewarded with glowing compliments from the students!

I have been an ICT Trainer for six years. Currently, I am a Training Executive seconded to Canberra Primary School. Initially, I was apprehensive in training young children in a primary school as it was a totally new experience for me. Nevertheless, I am glad that there is prompt guidance given to me all along. My colleagues back in head office are always available for me to turn to for advice. In addition, there are 2 other ACP's colleagues based in the school. Their presence is indeed helpful.

Recently, I was engaged to assist a group of Infocomm Club's students to produce a game to participate in the National Primary Game Creation competition (NPGCC). I am proud of the students. They were awarded the overall Champion. They have also won the "Best Game award". It was indeed fulfilling to receive warm thanks from the students.

My philosophy in life is to work hard for success. With the training and support from ACP, I see myself in a better position to take up the challenges ahead of me. I will definitely continue to strive hard to give in my best to the kids out there.



ACP News

ACP Settled in New Office

We are now located at ABI Plaza 11 Keppel Road #09-02 Singapore 089057.



NEW office but the same and **GREATER** drive in creating solutions for you!

ACP Revealed NEW and ENHANCED Website

The new website of the ACP went live on 8 November, 2012.

As part of ACP's ongoing efforts in offering you quick and convenient access to information about us as well as our latest products and services, we launched a NEW look for our corporate website.



The site is equipped with social media tools to engage you constantly.

Visit us @ <http://acpcomputer.edu.sg>

ACP Launches NEW Websites

ACP has recently launched the new websites for Crest Secondary and Canberra Primary School using Joomla!, which is arguably the world's most versatile and powerful content management system. ACP is one of the biggest Joomla! providers in Singapore. We look forward to more new additions with us.



ACP Launches TMC Academy's New LMS



ACP has successfully helped TMC Academy to go onboard to Moodle LMS, to cut down 90% of the Academy's cost spent on their former LMS.



Shafuraa's passion in IT motivates her every day!

I have always been passionate about technology and believe that technology is inevitable in our daily education. There is already a culture of teaching with technology in Singapore. Currently, I am seconded to be at Orchid Park Secondary School. I am happy to be able to be involved in IT training.

ACP believes in training and supporting the seconded trainers placed at various schools. I have especially enjoyed the regular sharing meetings among ACP's trainers. The meetings are insightful as we could share many tips and tricks. I have also improved my critical thinking skills along the way.

"Happy people are not those whose lives are well-blessed. Happy people are those who keep their hearts in good cheer." - Fuyumi Ono.

I am a positive and cheerful trainer. I trust that my passion in IT has indeed motivated me in going to the school every day. I believe it is important to build trust and rapport with the school. I would like to show to the school that I have come from a Company that is able to offer the school a one stop ICT solution, in addition to the training services provided by myself.

Social Media

a double-edged sword

In today's world, social media has been used extensively for one to connect, share and inform conveniently and easily.

What is Social Media?

Social media employs web and mobile based tools and supports interactive dialogue between users via different forms of technologies like blogs, picture-sharing, vlogs, wall-postings, email, instant messaging, music-sharing, crowd sourcing, and voice over IP.

With all the above, relating to one another has not only been faster and extensive; it has also added another dimension to communication as visuals and sounds occur alongside; making social media wholly immersive.

Social Media has transformed the world into one "global-country", and removed the barriers of communication among people. It has allowed users all-over the world to connect in a fast, convenient manner. Social media sites can be accessed virtually anytime and anywhere. In October 2012, it was reported that there were more than 1 billion users on the well-known social network site, Facebook. The number of users is easily more than 190 times of Singapore's population.


Social Media is Widely Used

The power of connecting people and sending out information has been harnessed by different fields. Businesses have their own social media sites as a way to reach out to their clients to inform them about the latest products and services.

With the vast influence of social media, most educators will want to embrace technology, to utilize social media tools in their teachings, to promote engaging and interactive learning experience for the students. Schools are moving towards e-learning. In Singapore, all schools are equipped with an electronic learning management system (LMS). In ACP, our CyberSphere (LMS) incorporate features like instant messaging. Students are encouraged to share their learning outcomes or to reach out to their teachers on any issues which they might find it awkward to ask in a physical classroom setting. Our CyberSphere definitely promotes collaborative learning.

Social Media a Double Edged Sword

Social media's capabilities are immense. However, there is constant debate on whether social media is good or bad for one.

Positive: 


1. Easy Access to Information – One does not need to leave his/her house to retrieve information anymore. Gone are the days where one would need to go to the nearest library or to conduct surveys by himself/herself to access the required information. With social media, information are collated and stored in one virtual place. All you need is an Internet connection and a few strokes on your keyboard or keypad to get the information you are looking for.



2. Communication Barriers are reduced – One can communicate his/her thoughts over different topics with a large group of audience at any time he/she wants. Most social media sites are incorporated with instant messaging feature which allows one to share information at real time.

3. Worldwide Connectivity – One will not only be aware of what's going on in his/her immediate circle of friends and relatives. He/she may simply go online to find out what is happening around his/her country or even out of his country with a click away. He/she is able to connect conveniently with his/her surroundings. In fact, there is no other faster way other than social media sites which will allow one to connect with his/her former teacher, colleague or even friend whom he/she may not have met for years.



Negative: 

1. Misinformation – Virtually anyone with a blog or a social media account can post anything he/she will like to. However, who will be able to attest to the accuracy of the information? Are the information well researched or rigorously verified?

2. Face to Face Interaction is "Threatened" – There is definitely a reduction in face to face socialization. With the convenience of autonomy, one is free to create an online identity that may not be of the same personality as the physical person. It is easier to say NO, to express displeasure as compared to doing so in person. Social skills are deemed to be crippled as resolution of conflicts outside the internet world, is definitely not as easy as a mouse click.

3. Addiction – One can become addicted to social media. It has become part of him/her to regularly post something over at the social media sites or to check for new posts of his/her online friends. Subconsciously, it may lead him/her to neglect activities that can contribute to his/her well-being. Heart problems and obesity are some of the health problems that come with sitting for hours staring at the social media sites. Productivity is reduced when a working adult is constantly distracted with the urge to check out his/her friends' posts other than work tasks.

Tips to Make Social Media Safer for Yourself

Social Media has its own set of rules or etiquette so that users can profit from its capabilities as well as protect themselves from negative outcomes.

Keep in mind that social media sites have perfect memories and that every input contributed by you can be saved, retrieved or recovered easily. Thus, one should be careful about posting pictures, and/or updates that controversy may result, and he/she may simply lose his/her career, his/her future. So remember to think twice before posting any information.



It is also not wise to check in on applications that give away your physical location. Do turn off all broadcast features that will inform other social networks of your exact location. There was a case where a user posted that his/her family would be going away for a vacation. They got home and found their place being broken into.

Do manage your privacy settings. Social networking sites allow the user to control what other people can see on your account. A good rule is to just let your close family members and friends to see what you have posted or shared. Restrict them from sharing your photos to parties unknown to you.

Social media is a great and powerful tool that can help people to live better. Nevertheless, misuse can result in more harm than anything else.

Internet Safety Rules

Internet is easily accessible to young children nowadays. We are apprehensive of the risks posed by the World Wide Web surrounding us. On the other hand, it is not feasible to deny the children from accessing the internet. How about setting some rules for the children going online?

I Will List

- ✓ I WILL not give out my personal information, like my address, telephone number, school's name and location to anyone without my parents' permission.
- ✓ I WILL not send out pictures of myself or my family without my parents' approval.
- ✓ I WILL not agree to meet anyone whom I met ONLINE without my parents' permission.
- ✓ I WILL not divulge my passwords to anyone except for my parents.
- ✓ I WILL check with my parents before downloading any files ONLINE to my computer, which may jeopardize our privacy.
- ✓ I WILL tell my parents if I do come across any information that makes me uncomfortable.
- ✓ I WILL be a good ONLINE citizen and not post any inappropriate information.
- ✓ I WILL share with my parents what I do ONLINE.

Brain Teaser

HOW MUCH OF A SOCIAL MEDIA GEEK ARE YOU?

1. The site where birds gather _____
3. The site where users carry a shovel _____
9. The shame of a guilty party can be read on their _____ like a _____



There is a wide marketplace for source for information. But are you equipped with the skills to evaluate the information?

ACP's Information Literacy Programme is now available to educate your students on the impact of the information collated by them, to move them towards self-directed learning.

To find out more, call us at **6227 7996** or email us at **info@acpcomputer.edu.sg**

ACP EMBRACES SOCIAL MEDIA

Over in ACP while we admire the dominance of social media, we do recognize that it can act as a double-edged sword as well.

Our staff is made aware of the golden rules in using social media. We promote simple etiquette like maintaining separate private and work accounts on social media, exercising discretion in what is being posted, and also encourage people not to take advantage of our workplace's access to social media. While there is no harm in taking a Facebook break once in a while, it is definitely not supported for them to be obsessed with the social media, thereby reducing their productivity.

At ACP, we would want to maximize the power of social media. We need to be easily reached and be available to a huge number of people out there. Through Facebook and Twitter, it allows people to be aware of our latest products and services that would be useful to them, with ACP's assistance. ACP enhanced website is equipped with links to encourage interactive discussions with people.

We acknowledge that educators could not deny the effect of social media. Being in the education industry for more than 15 years, we would like to embrace social media into our various programs and services. Our learning management system, CyberSphere, leverages on the students' engagement in social media by providing them with a platform where they can connect, learn and exchange information. It supports participation from both students and teachers in forums and discussion groups, making learning more interactive and fun.

There are situations where the students are so immersed in social media that it can lead to a lot of outcomes like media saturation. 10 hours' worth of media content can be crammed within 7.5 hours. With the impending plausible "addiction" for social media, ACP notes that the students are spending less time with their families; devoting less time for sleeping; and exposing themselves to risky situations, like cyber bullying. The amount of information



seen on social media sites can be most interesting, but it can be challenging for the users to sort through what is useful to them. Thus, we have tailored training programmes like Information Literacy Program (ILP) and Cyberwellness for the students as well as the teachers and parents. Our programs, look into training the trainees to have the skill of evaluating the effectiveness of the mass information given to them and also to exhibit care in how to use the Internet positively to avoid unnecessary risks that lurk around the World Wide Web.

ACP may not be the leader for social media, but we value its forthcoming impact. We do explore ways to engage our customers with all means of social media. We do also help our clients to engage their customers with social media. As a one stop ICT solution provider, we do not only look at provision of social media tools, but also the significance of educating the users on the application of the tools.

Quick Facts on Social Media in Singapore

- 1 Singaporeans have more digital friends on average (183) than US (178), being one of the countries with more friends on social network around the world. - Digital TNS 2011
- 2 If a popular brand does not have a social-media presence, the local consumer will think there is something wrong. - Anglo-American market-research

