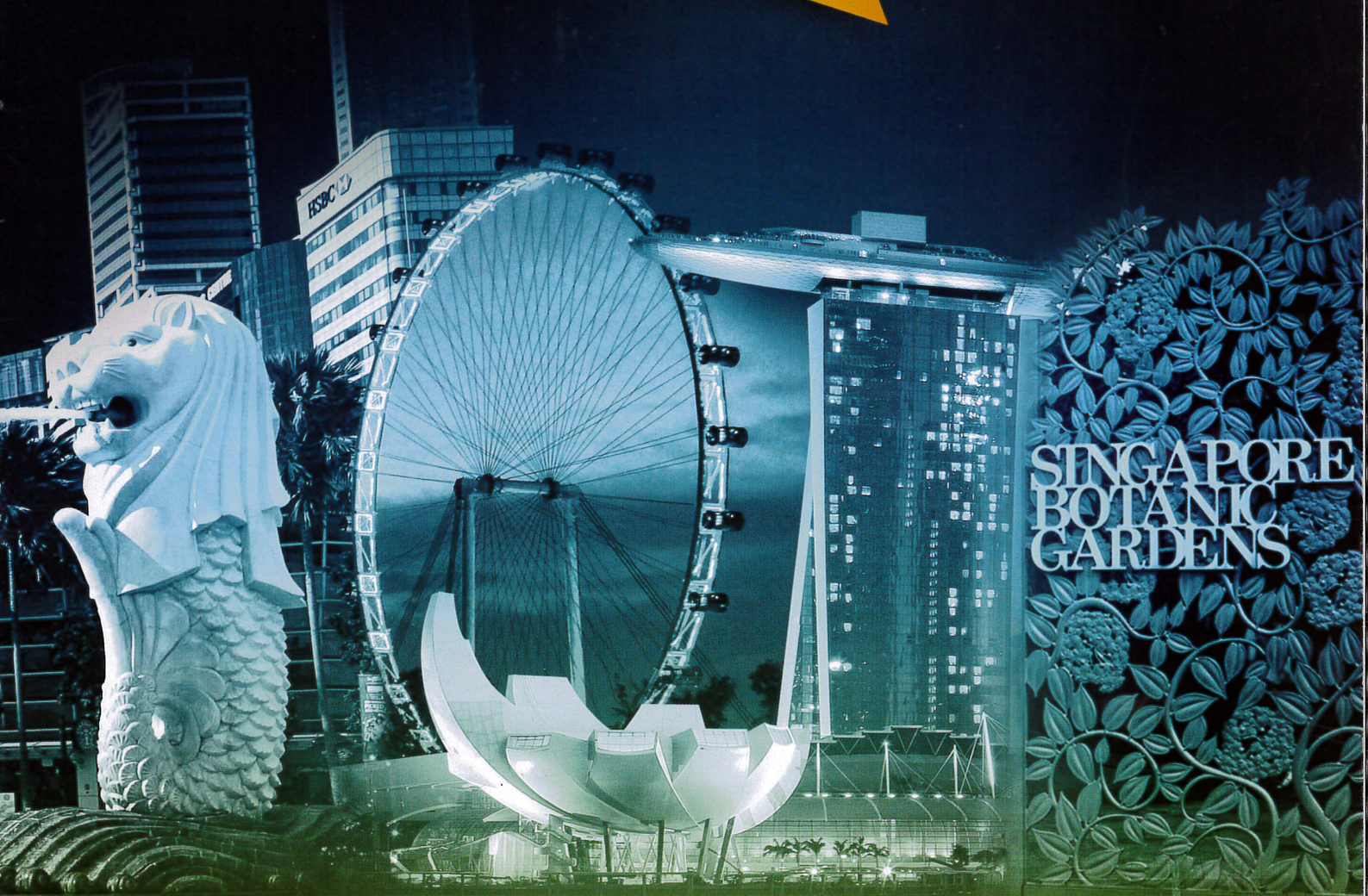


Navigating You Through Media and Technology in Education

The Cyber Nautica

ISSUE 15 : JAN - MAR 2014

MICA (P) 144/06/2010



our Singapore

Editor's Note

If you are to introduce Singapore to visitors, what are the things that would come to your mind?

Famous food that every Singaporean would crave for after a long stay overseas: chicken rice, satay, roti prata, fried prawn mee, and many others? Or you would name our key representations like our Merlion, our national flower? Or you would simply highlight Singapore is a small country that embraces different cultures, races and lifestyles?

Singapore being a small nation with a vast and rich culture is an economic powerhouse not to be neglected in the global scene. Though a young nation, we have many notable brands and people. Creative Technology's well known sound cards; Axe brand medicated oil; our founding father - Mr. Lee Kuan Yew; and many others.

In this issue, we would like to showcase our Singapore, our finest!

Also, we sent our sincere wish for the victims of the Typhoon Haiyan to quickly restart after the unfortunate disaster.

And last but not the least, HAPPY NEW YEAR! Let's welcome the brand new year 2014 with an open mind!

We hope you enjoy reading our articles and we look forward to seeing you in our next issue!

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YOUR THOUGHT MATTERS



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ACP News

We Have Acquired New Clients

We are excited to announce our newly acquired clients.

New Clients

- Learning Management System (LMS) for Hunting Energy Services
- Cybersphere Total Competency Management (TCM) System for Wildlife Reserves Singapore



We Have Launched New Websites

We are proud to have launched 5 new school websites.

Launched Websites

- Rulang Pri. School
- Kent Ridge Sec. School
- Whitley Sec. School
- Yu Ren Language School
- Ping Yi Sec. School



We Have a New Company T-Shirt Design

Our new T-Shirt carries our slogan "Engaging the Future". At ACP, we are constantly and continuously improving to upkeep with the latest technologies to Engage the Future!

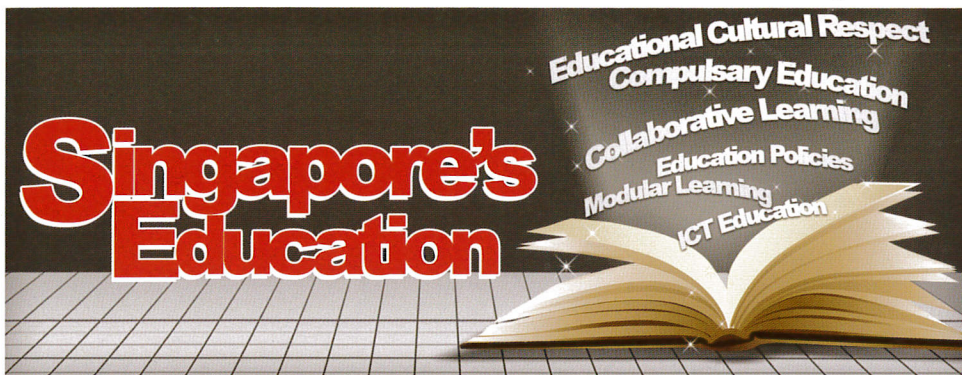


Welcome to this World, Little One!

Our heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Kevin Lee, our Assistant Director of Operations and Services and his lovely wife on their new born, Octavious Lee.

Enjoy parenthood with many fun filled moments ahead!





Singapore is well known to be a knowledge driven country. Being small with no natural resources, we are highly dependent on human capital. Thus, education is deemed significant to our country.

We Stand Tall in Knowledge

Singapore has consistently been ranked among the tops in various global surveys; as one having the most preferred education system around the world. Our education system was ranked fifth in the world, behind Finland, South Korea, Hong Kong and Japan, in year 2012. It was noted that our quality of teaching and cultural respect for education were some key factors propelling the Republic into the top five according to a global report by an education firm, Pearson. Our literacy rate is 96.4% for residents aged 15 years and over in year 2012, according to Department of Statistics Singapore.

Pearson Group: Top 10 Education systems

1	Finland
2	South Korea
3	Hong Kong
4	Japan
5	Singapore
6	United Kingdom
7	Netherlands
8	New Zealand
9	Switzerland
10	Canada

Our Education System

Our education system is designed to groom our young population to be armed with skills and talents that are relevant to growing our country's economy and ensuring our survival in the global industry. The focus is on building a knowledge-based economy. The government of Singapore devotes 20% of its Gross National Product (GNP) to education conscientiously.

In 2003, compulsory education was implemented in the country. This aims to give our population a common core of knowledge that will provide a strong foundation for further education and training. This also instills a common educational experience that will help to build national identity and cohesion.

Education is compulsory for children aged between 6 and 15 years, or up to Grade 6 level. Most children in Singapore attend national schools that abide by a broad-based public education system. Private education system exists to offer alternative routes and courses, especially at tertiary level.

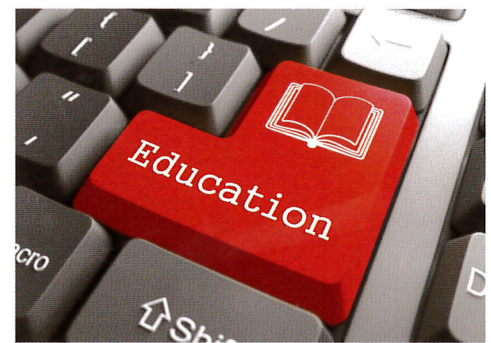
Our Education Initiatives

Our education system's success can mainly be attributed to the efforts of our Ministry of Education (MOE). The ministry directs the formulation and implementation of education policies. They think ahead of the future and execute innovative plans to accelerate Singapore's education. Such thinking has led to the use of e-learning and the development of future schools. Those key initiatives have put our country on the top for its education.

FutureSchools@Singapore

One key initiative by MOE is the introduction of FutureSchools@Singapore. It is a scheme that promotes the active use of information and communications technology (ICT) in classroom teaching; to transform learning into various meaningful ways. The initiative will equip students holistically with the essential skills to be effective workers and citizens in the globalized and digital workplace of the future; to Connect, Innovate and Inspire.

The selected schools on board this initiative are supported by different Information Technology (IT) companies and education technology research community partners. ACP is proud to be involved in this endeavor, supporting Canberra Primary School in using 'Play as a Pedagogy' to enhance the students' learning experience; or the Canberra Experience.



E-Learning@Singapore

E-learning is not unusual in Singapore. Back in year 2010, MOE requires all schools to incorporate learning management system (LMS) that supports 99.5%. In this initiative, instead of the traditional curriculum and fixed classroom learning, learning can be modular and be conducted at anyplace and anytime. This kind of learning makes knowledge acquisition more interactive and supportive for both mentors and learners.

ACP is pleased to be one of the 3 authorised LMS providers to the schools. At ACP, we have CyberSphere Academy, truly made in Singapore, which supports collaboration and e-Learning standards such as SCORM 2004 compliance.

Size Does Not Matter

Being a tiny red dot in the globe has not affected how we excel at education. Amidst the other huge countries, we stand tall with our pedagogy. Size indeed does not matter!

Question Bank

Mobile Access

Wikimedia Repository

Badges

CYBERSPHERE Academy

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OUR SINGAPORE

Singapore is one of the world's leading commercial hubs, with the fourth biggest financial centre and one of the five busiest ports. Besides her thriving economy, what would one associate Singapore with?

What are the representations of Singapore?

Merlion

Merlion, an imaginary creature with the head of a lion and the body of a fish, is definitely an important symbol of Singapore. The lion head represents the lion which was spotted by Prince Sang Nila Utama when he re-discovered Singapura in 11 AD. The fish tail acknowledges the ancient city of Temasek, which means "sea" in Javanese. Singapore was initially known as Temasek before being renamed as Singapura by the Prince. Singapura means "lion city" in Sanskrit. As the national icon, the Merlion is often featured in many souvenirs.



Vanda Miss Joaquim

Vanda Miss Joaquim, also known as Singapore Orchid was chosen as our national flower in 1981. Singapore has always been associated with orchids. However, Vanda Miss Joaquim is chosen for its vibrant colours, hardiness and resilience: qualities which reflect the Singapore spirit. In fact, Singapore is the only nation to have chosen a hybrid as her national flower.

What is queer of Singapore?

The "Fine" City

Singapore is a fine city. Visitors to Singapore will find the country clean and green. It is always safe to move around alone. There is orderly transportation that can bring you to your desired location at your convenience. Nevertheless, the word "fine" has double meaning. Visitors may find it peculiar on some of our "unusual" regulations. In Singapore, we do not allow chewing gums. One can get hefty fine in bringing in large quantities of forbidden gums and be fine for improper disposal of the gums, dirtying the public areas. It is never correct to litter in wherever you are. However, in Singapore, it is illegal for littering. One can get hefty fine and/or receive "community work orders". Anyone whom has gotten the order will be made to pick up trash in the public. This punishment is basically to shame the offenders.

There are many other penalties imposed on acts like jaywalking, eating or drinking in public transport, and no feeding to monkeys in the parks and many others.



"Kiasu" Mentality

Kiasu is a Hokkien and Singlish word that literally means 'fear of losing'. It is in fact meant to be positive attitude as one is encouraged to work hard and excel. Nevertheless, at times, the behavior might be manifested unpleasantly. For instance, one may have come across a diner accumulating too much food on his/her plate during a buffet lunch in case there is no more food later; a passenger barging his/her way through into the public transport. There are criticisms about our parents getting increasingly kiasu today; imposing lots of study stress on our young children to compete among themselves to target to be the top.

This mentality has even spurred our local cartoonist, Mr. Johnny Lau to create Mr. Kiasu, a popular Singaporean cartoon character. Mr. Lau created the Mr. Kiasu book and self-published the title in 1990 in Singapore. The first title is "Everything Also I Want". The series are well-liked and have been portrayed in sitcoms in our local media.

Kiasu is included in the Oxford English Dictionary.

Singapore may be a small country island but definitely a mighty economic powerhouse recognized globally.

What are some of the Global Brands in Singapore?

Singapore Airlines

Singapore Airlines (SIA) is our country's premiere airline which has been recognized globally. The airline has garnered many top awards from magazines and various travel and tourism industries. SIA has been ranked 3rd in 2013 World Airline Awards. Together with the growth of the brand, one would definitely link SIA with "The Singapore Girl" which was conceptualized back in 1972. It is a major visual trademark and brand for the airline, with the iconic Sarong Kebaya that has become synonymous with the airline itself. The Singapore Girl symbolises grace and hospitality which translates into SIA's service standards. SIA is a well-known international brand which flies to more than 60 destinations in over 30 countries.



Tiger Balm

Tiger Balm is famous for the ointment in relieving aches and pains. The cream was actually introduced by a Chinese herbalist Mr. Aw Chu Kin in the late 1870s. When he died, his sons Aw Boon Haw and Aw Boon Par brought their father's herbal balm to Singapore in the 1920s.

The Balm, with its unique hexagonal packaging, is also closely associated with the Haw Par Villa (formerly known as Tiger Balm Gardens), which was a villa and gardens built by Mr. Aw Boon Haw in 1937, as a venue for teaching traditional Chinese values. The park is known for its depiction of the ten courts of hell, and is still in operation along Pasir Panjang Road.

Of course, there are many other made in Singapore brands that have flown our national flag up tall in other parts of the world, like Creative Technology, Breadtalk, Charles and Keith and many others.

What are some of the basic food products?

Khong Guan Biscuits

One would have munched on Khong Guan biscuits sometime in his/her life as a kid looking for a quick bite or a working adult seeking a quick snack. Khong Guan biscuits were founded back in 1947 and grown from strength to strength with a long list of myriad flavors. The basic and most original biscuit would have been the classic star – cream crackers, which taste good when one tops them up with jam or cheese. Of course, it tastes equally well while eating on its own.

Khong Guan biscuits can be found in Middle East, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia, Europe, Canada and the United States.



Tai Hua Soy Sauce

Your mum would have drizzled Tai Hua soy sauce in your favorite dish of steamed fish to make it even more palatable for you. Soy sauce is commonly used in Asian cooking and thus it is very likely that you would have tasted Tai Hua soy sauce.

Tai Hua was originated back in 1947 as well. It was started as a small cottage industry to become one of the main soy sauce producers in Singapore. The brand has been active in many international trade fairs, reaching out globally. You can easily find the soya sauce even in the European markets.

Our Singapore

Singapore is known as a melting pot of Chinese, Malay, Indian and British culture. Singapore is a multiracial country that promotes harmony. With the exposure to many cultures, practices and languages, we seek to learning from one another to continuously improve. Singapore has transformed from her humble beginning as a fishing village to today's economic powerhouse, recognized globally. Singaporeans are proud to be "Made in Singapore"!

Yummy Crossword

Have fun while sharpening your mind in this crossword puzzle based on our local foods!



ACROSS

- 3 shelled seafood eaten with spicy chili tomato gravy
- 5 fruit and vegetable salad topped with prawn paste sauce
- 6 egg noodles served with dumplings
- 8 flat rice noodles stir fried with lard and dark soy sauce
- 9 pulled tea

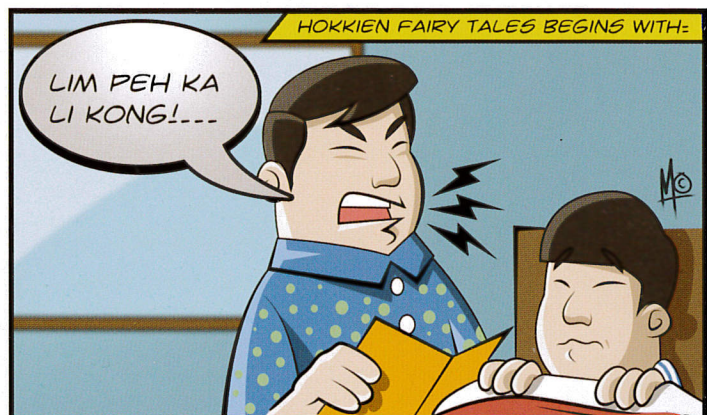
DOWN

- 1 steamed or boiled meat on top of fragrant oily rice
- 2 flat bread served with curry or sugar
- 4 bread with coconut jam that goes well with butter
- 7 asian kebab served with peanut sauce

ANSWERS

- 1 Chicken rice
- 2 Roti prata
- 3 Chili Crab
- 4 Kaya toast
- 5 Rojak
- 6 Wonton Mee
- 7 Satay
- 8 Char kway teow
- 9 Teh tarik

Laugh It Out!





Bianca aims to “Keep Moving Forward”.

Being in ACP, I have definitely improved my programming skills and acquired new applications' knowledge like Moodle and Joomla!. In addition, I have also progressed in my multi-tasking ability. My job motivates me to “Keep Moving Forward”!

Everyone is constantly challenged by new issues. Nevertheless, I do not believe in not exploring out of your comfort zone. Yes, one may fail at times; however, one should always be ready to pick oneself up from failure. Be strong and believe in yourself. You will achieve what you conceive.

At ACP, I am constantly challenged with new programming issues. At times, it is indeed frustrating that the problems never seem to be resolved. It can be tiring and discouraging. However, I do remind myself to keep moving forward, to engage the future!

Max's philosophy in life is “Plan Your Work, Work Your Plan”.

It is wonderful to be able to work together with the many ICT educators who share the same passion in ICT. It is heartwarming to gather together like a big family.

I am happy to be representing ACP in Jurong Secondary School. During my secondment, I was involved in a number of challenging but rewarding ICT projects in the School. I am able to constantly hone my multi-tasking and time management skills during my work.

ACP believes in retraining the staff. Thus, I was given the opportunity to attend a number of training courses in year 2013; which are beneficial to my personal as well as work commitments.

It is common to hear of complaints of “no time” from many people. While I believe in “Plan Your Work, Work Your Plan”. One should be able to achieve one's goal with proper planning!



Quick Facts

Do you use “Lah”?



“Lah” is probably the best known Singaporean expression that is extensively used in the red dot. It is usually added to the end of sentences for emphasis, like:

“Please go lah”; “Come over lah”; “Let’s go to that restaurant lah!” and many others.

Visitors from all over the world would be familiar about Singlish or basically Singapore English. Singlish is a product of Singapore’s multi-racial society and diversity of languages. It is pretty natural for one to mix the various local languages and dialects when communicating in the common language of English. Singlish has become the unofficial badge of identity for many Singaporeans, it is in fact a very effective tool of verbal communication.

Do you love Chicken Rice?

Bite-sized pieces of steamed white chicken with fragrant rice and top it up with light or dark soy sauce, and a delicious ground chilli and ginger paste. It is indeed one of our delicious foods for Singaporeans. When one is back home from overseas, one would hunt the eateries for chicken rice.

Chicken rice is considered one of our national dishes in Singapore. It is listed as one of Asia's 10 greatest street food according to CNN Travel blog, CNNgo, in last February 2013.



In Singapore, chicken rice is served everywhere from school canteens, hawker stalls to major restaurants. It is indeed the comfort food for many locals. In fact, it is dish that does reflect Singaporeans' lifestyle.

source: <http://travel.cnn.com/explorations/eat/asia-street-food-cities-612721>



Engaging the Computer Science (CS) Reloaded Programme

Join us in our upcoming session on the Computer Science (CS) Reloaded Programme to allow you to:

- **Know** what is Computer Science (CS) Reloaded Programme and understand why the programme is for you;
- **Explore** the four sub-programmes of Computer Science (CS) Reloaded Programme and see how you can develop your critical thinking skill to move towards 21st Century Learning; and



- **Maximise** available grants for up to 50% subsidies.

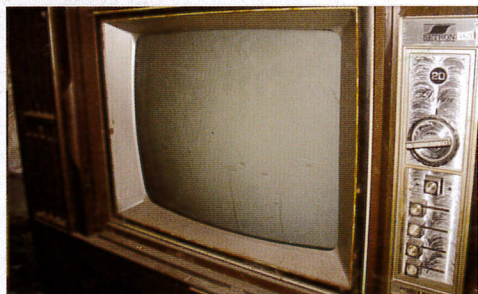
Hurry and Register on or before 10 March 2014!

Workshop Date: 17 March 2014

Workshop Time: 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

To register or inquire, please call us at 6227-7996, or email us at info@acpcomputer.edu.sg

Do You Remember This?



This is the classic Setron TV. It was the first precision TV receiver that served Singaporeans well back in the 1960s. It was produced and locally assembled in Singapore in 1965. The production grew from 400 sets a month in the early days to 2,500 sets a month in 1973. Eventually, Sony Corporation Japan took over the company in 1986.

WeCare@ACP – Our little contribution towards victims of Typhoon Haiyan



WeCare@ACP mooted a donation drive to provide basic necessities such as food, water, clothes, blankets and medicine to those affected by Typhoon Haiyan. From the 18th to 25th of November 2013, we accepted donations in kind which were shipped to the Philippines on 29th of November.

The typhoon that hit the Philippines on 8th November 2013 was the strongest that has ever hit the country. The damage was reported to have affected 2.3million families with over 1million homes destroyed. Though we may not be able to help every single typhoon victim, our little help is definitely appreciated by the victims.



Workshop @ ACP to make our staff MOVE



ACP organized a workshop on High Blood Cholesterol & Office Ergonomics on the 29th of November. It was an enlightening workshop whereby our staff learnt about healthy eating habits and also simple exercises using stretch bands. We became conscious with our sitting and working posture in office when informed by our consultant on the various incorrect but desired working postures.



Of course, none of us would want to be laden with work illness in the long run. So let's all eat well and live well!



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