SPirit
With SP, it's So Possible
VOL.2 / 2017 CAMPUS ISSUE

How to
Millennial Guide to
Speaking Like One
(Maybe)

WHAT'S YOUR Spirit Animal?

SEA More With
SMA

Turning up the
HEAT
SUNSPEC SOLAR CAR

Purrapy
THE MAGIC
OF CATS

Axel Takes
THE STAGE
Taking the
BEAUTY World
by STORM

Happy Places
ON CAMPUS

Music & Apps
ON THE GO

Arts Fiesta
2017

Take a Peek
into the lives of SP students
OPEN CALL: SUBMIT TO WIN!

Want to have your own work published in SPIRIT magazine? With SP, it’s So Possible! Take the leap and submit any work that you’re proud of – it can be illustrations, poems, short-stories or letters that you have done in your personal time or for class!

We’ll pick a few entries that have wowed us over and you guys will win a little something from us! Yes, you read that right – we’re doing a GIVEAWAY!°

To participate, just email us at spirit_editor@sp.edu.sg

With the following information:
• Name
• Matric Number
• Diploma and Year
• Mobile Number
• Email

WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED VIA EMAIL OR SMS! GOOD LUCK!

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Designed and built in-house by our students over 20 months, the SunSPEC 5 has finally been unveiled! It is SP’s most advanced solar car yet and doesn’t it resemble a futuristic saloon car with its slick lines? Powered by solar cells and batteries, the SunSPEC 5 is a significant stride towards applications of solar and energy storage technology.

The SunSPEC 5 will take on the international stage at the biennial World Solar Challenge 2017 in Australia this October, where our students and the solar car will be put to the test under real-world conditions. In the age of electric cars, they have taken it further by building a solar car that is designed and fitted with innovative green technologies to perform just like a standard commercial car in terms of speed, seating capacity, and range. What a feat! That’s not all, the SunSPEC 5 will be the sole entry representing Singapore at the World Solar Challenge. How’s that for the only team from a polytechnic?

But don’t forget the students who built the solar car with their bare hands, they are the real stars! SP Group will offer scholarships, totalling $2 million, and jobs to engineering students on the SunSPEC team to support their academic journeys as they grow into future engineers and develop sustainable energy solutions. Join us in wishing them the very best of luck at the upcoming World Solar Challenge!

I may not have the strength that my male teammates have when it comes to lifting heavy parts, but I can visualise components and systems in the car better and provide my own perspectives. It is all about collaboration and working inclusively, and that is how this solar car project has succeeded.

Sheryl Choo,
Year 3, Diploma in Mechatronics and Robotics student
Millennial entrepreneurship is not just some trendy word to use in our conversations, after all in recent years it is a phenomenon that is on the rise. In today’s world with the internet being such a big part of our lives, it is no surprise that businesses are made up more of pixels than brick and mortar. Find out how these tech-savvy entrepreneurs from SP are innovating and improving the world pixel by pixel!

NYX

Gone will be the days of navigating through maze-like webpages for an answer to a simple question. NYX, a smart chat bot – designed by Azeem Arshad Vasanwala and his team members Ian Soo and Vivek Tadikamalla – will be able to replace the need for actual customer support officers to answer repetitive questions using the power of natural language processing. The future where we no longer have to struggle when navigating around FAQs pages is here!

For the former Diploma in Information Technology (DIT) student and Institutional Medallist from the Class of 2017, finding an efficient way to digitally disseminate information to the public posed an interesting challenge and that was how this project came into being. Unlike other chat bots currently on the market, NYX will be able to answer questions directly and will only alert an assistant in the event that a straightforward answer may not be found.

Indeed it was during his time as a Microsoft student partner that Azeem started working on NYX, and little did he know that they would clinch the National Champion title for the Innovation Category at Microsoft’s Imagine Cup competition. Their team also won the Gold award for the Singapore infocomm Technology Federation (SiTF) Awards, which recognises innovative and technological achievements of schools and start-ups.
When third-year Diploma in Business Information Technology (DBIT) student, Clinton Li heard about the cumbersome paperwork and procedures that ships have to go through when bunkering (refuelling), a switch flipped in his mind. This was the perfect opportunity for the tech-savvy entrepreneur who is constantly on the lookout to solve problems through innovative solutions. After much due diligence, Debunk by Orama was conceptualised. The result is a web portal that digitalises documents needed, thus speeding up the flow of information and compliance checking processes via technological advances. By automating these labour intensive processes, companies will be able to increase their productivity levels and transparency within the maritime industry as a whole. Talk about applying what he has learnt from his classes and turning it into an innovative startup!

Clinton took part in the Innovfest Unbound 2017 Startup Soapbox competition and won second place in Most Disruptive Technology category and third in Rockstar Pitch. He was also invited to be a mentor to international teams taking part in YES 2017, a business competition organised by nEbO.

Oh, don’t we all love travelling! But before we pack our bags and hop onto a plane, one major must-do is to plan our itinerary (unless you like to live spontaneously!) This often requires searching the internet for the city’s best makan places and hottest deals. Enter PackDat (www.packdat.com), an itinerary management platform that allows users to customise itineraries from a list of popular tourist attractions in three simple clicks. Think about the amount of time you can save on Excel sheet formatting and planning! PackDat is the brainchild of Lee Zheng De from the Diploma in Engineering with Business (DEB) course and his brother Zeth Lee, a graduate from the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (DME) course. Zheng De shared that one valuable advice he has received is to refrain from spending too much time on website development. It is more practical to launch a website with a basic interface and simple functions, and gather user input along the way to develop additional functions and content. Thanks for the biz tip, Zheng De!

All you need to do is register as a rider with them, and be willing to pick up deliveries to be dropped off at specific locations while en route to your next destination. It’s that simple. There are no restrictions to your mode of transportation – feel free to travel by bus, train, the oBike, or by foot if it is convenient for you. Founded by three Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) students Mabel Koh, Edwin Lim and Carise Lee, On The Way is a delivery service provider with a business model similar to that of GrabHitch. They help start-ups deliver anything from flower bouquets and cookies to wine bottles. Despite being only a few months old, the company has amassed over 500 deliveries. Plans to grow the business through marketing efforts and investor funding are in the pipeline. Keep a lookout for this innovative bunch!
Semester breaks is a precious period for many to recharge, to hang out with friends, or to pursue hobbies. But for some, this time is spent on meaningful activities while visiting new places and stepping out of one’s comfort zone. Find out how three student teams from SP travelled to neighbouring countries for LeX+ projects to develop prototypes that tackle certain problems using concepts learnt from their classes.

Helping mushroom farmers monitor humidity and temperature levels to optimise the growth of their crops, this team designed Shroom Sense: a monitoring system using Arduino programming. Partnering with BOSCH gave the team the chance of a lifetime to incorporate the XDK, an Internet of Things (IoT) device, into Shroom Sense. The XDK has multiple sensors integrated into a single device that allows them to sense various parameters. In doing so, data collection of climatic conditions can be mined to develop sustainable agricultural practices.

To pull off this electronic-based project, each of them turned to the skills and knowledge they have acquired from their classes. Working in tandem with students from Muhammadiyah University of Yogyakarta (UMY), this cross-cultural experience taught them how to work with different groups of people, like the farmers, and also researchers from BOSCH. Now these farmers can water their mushrooms at the most optimal times to obtain the best yield!

“Creating something and being able to implement it in another part of the world, and seeing how it can help other people made this trip an unique experience.” — Natalie

A group photo with the community, university professors and students in front of the hothouse where they implemented their prototype.

SHROOM SENSE

Their engineering background came to good use when four third-year students, Lim Fang Yi from Diploma in Engineering with Business (DCEB), Loh Kuan Ming and Natalie de Guzman from Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (DEEE) and Navindran Chandran from Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (DME) visited Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

“Semester breaks is a precious period for many to recharge, to hang out with friends, or to pursue hobbies. But for some, this time is spent on meaningful activities while visiting new places and stepping out of one’s comfort zone. Find out how three student teams from SP travelled to neighbouring countries for LeX+ projects to develop prototypes that tackle certain problems using concepts learnt from their classes.”

“Creating something and being able to implement it in another part of the world, and seeing how it can help other people made this trip an unique experience.” — Natalie

A group photo with the community, university professors and students in front of the hothouse where they implemented their prototype.
Cow’s milk soap

Third-year Diploma in Chemical Engineering (DCHE) students turned “soap-makers”, Goh Yu Tian, Lee Shi Er, Lo Jia Joe, Roselle Ong Hui Loo and Tan Wee Keat had an ingenious idea to repurpose surplus cow’s milk that would have otherwise been thrown out. Despite their hectic schedules, these students made their way to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam during their semester break for this LeX+ project.

There, they researched on methods of processing soap and experimented with different oils to arrive at the perfect formulation. The result is an all-natural, additives-free soap that does not harm the environment and is suitable for sensitive skin types. Throughout this journey, Dr Noel Kristian supported their efforts and provided valuable guidance no matter how busy he was. Collaborating with Business students from the University of Economics, Ho Chi Minh City (UEH), they were also able to understand the local buyers’ behaviour in Vietnam and tailored their product to optimise its selling points.

As part of their entrepreneurship module, SP’s Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) students have launched this product under the brand, FAIRE. This cow milk soap will be hitting shelves soon as an artisanal beauty product in both Vietnam and Singapore, so look out for it!

Salt Wheel

The idea of a salt wheel came about after meeting salt farmers from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam who had to transport 80kg of wet salt on their backs during harvest. Wheelbarrows were inconvenient because of the mushy ground and carrying such heavy loads strained these farmers’ backs. Diploma in Chemical Engineering (DCHE) students, Lee Hui Ting, Nataasha Elvita Tan and Muhammad Ridfa’at bin Razwan, along with Diploma in Perfumery and Cosmetic Science (DPCS) student, Esther Chan Hui, each played their part in developing a prototype of a salt wheel: the solution to a predicament that salt farmers have faced for years.

To devise a low cost solution, there were several rounds of prototyping to construct a salt wheel that could withstand corrosion caused by salt and be easily moved around. Under the guidance of their lecturer, Mr Neelesh Bhatia, the team applied the concepts they learnt from their chemical engineering classes, and also picked up business negotiation skills. This would not have been possible without the help of Ho Chi Minh College of Economics (HCE) students, who partnered the SP team and helped them bridge the language barrier.

This salt wheel prototype was featured at the Young Social Entrepreneurs programme by the Singapore International Foundation, and emerged the top 20 amongst 180 teams from 33 countries at the Hong Poly-U Global Student Challenge. Who wouldn’t be in awe of them?

One thing that is unforgettable about the trip was the commitment and drive of the business students from UEH to make this project succeed. We had to work at an extremely fast pace, but they showed no sign of exhaustion even after long days of discussion and research. The effort that they had shown throughout this trip was the driving force that pushed me during the Lex+ project.

WHAT IS LEX+?

LeX+ is a social innovation programme at SP where students together with partnering ASEAN universities join hands in the co-development of functional solutions that seek to improve lives.
graduates Kimberley Lim, Alicia Yip, Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS) medicine degree courses! polytechnic to be accepted into local SP — the highest number from a single University (NTU) this year, six are from Nanyang Technological Schools at National University scored places in the medical polytechnic graduates who Out of the 11 ID YOU KNOW:

WADDUP DOC?

ALICIA YIP SWEE YAN
Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS), Class of 2017 Admitted into NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

How did your interest in medicine and the healthcare sector come about?
I took up a voluntary week-long attachment at Alexandra Hospital, where I shadowed doctors on their daily ward rounds and got to see what went on behind the scenes. My experiences there left me inspired.

Name one interesting highlight of your time in SP:
Choosing the research option in my course. The case-based learning style taught me how to work in groups and conduct presentations. I was also an avid member of Dancesport, I won multiple awards despite never having danced before poly!

PEH TING YONG
Diploma in Biotechnology (DBT), Class of 2015 Admitted into NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

How did your interest in medicine and the healthcare sector come about?
I remember deciding between becoming a doctor or a researcher. But I decided on becoming a doctor after joining SF First Aiders. At that time, I encountered individuals with deep cuts or injuries but I was not able to help them due to my lack of medical knowledge. Determined to help people around me, I decided to study medicine ever since then.

Share your plans for the future!
My interests lie in paediatrics and geriatrics, but I am open to all fields. In fact, I want to understand the various fields and job scopes before making a final decision.

FOO YU WAH
Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS), Class of 2015 Admitted into NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

Name one interesting highlight of your time in SP:
I was the VP of the Biomedical Science Student Council in Year 2. We organised customised enrichment programmes including trips to the National Heart Centre and hospitals. We also organised health-screening events for the National Health Group Diagnostics for three years!

Share your plans for the future!
I want to become a paediatrician, which is an interest that developed during my internship at the Murdoch Children's Hospital in Australia in Year 2.

KIMBERLEY LIM YING YING
Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS), Class of 2017 Admitted into NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

How did your interest in medicine and the healthcare sector come about?
The healthcare sector appealed to me because I wanted opportunities to interact with people from all walks of life. Being from a single-parent family with a younger brother also helped me to develop empathy towards others at a young age. I see my heightened sensitivity towards others as a quality much needed in the healthcare sector!

SILVIA PHUA YI HUI
Diploma in Biomedical Sciences (DBS), Class of 2017 Admitted into NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

How did your interest in medicine and the healthcare sector come about?
As a Youth Community Leader, I participated in an overseas community trip to Cambodia, and subsequently led a trip to Lijiang, China. We taught English, refurbished village school fences, painted murals and visited squashed areas to conduct the Rice Soup Programme. These experiences helped me discover the desire to become a doctor to serve the community.

Share your plans for the future!
To serve as a doctor! I am currently working as a phlebotomist in polyclinics before entering university.

KENNY SUNG YUN LAI
Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS), Class of 2017 Admitted into NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine

How did your interest in medicine and the healthcare sector come about?
I participated in an overseas community trip to Cambodia, and subsequently led a trip to Lijiang, China. We taught English, refurbished village school fences, painted murals and visited squashed areas to conduct the Rice Soup Programme. These experiences helped me discover the desire to become a doctor to serve the community.

Share your plans for the future!
To serve as a doctor! I am currently working as a phlebotomist in polyclinics before entering university.

How did your interest in medicine and the healthcare sector come about?
The healthcare sector appealed to me because I wanted opportunities to interact with people from all walks of life. Being from a single-parent family with a younger brother also helped me to develop empathy towards others at a young age. I see my heightened sensitivity towards others as a quality much needed in the healthcare sector!

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They journeyed far, from Singapore to Paris! Team Lumos, which comprises of SP alumni Leong Hei Mern, Leong Hei Kern and Chernis Low, took part in the prestigious L’Oréal Brandstorm competition!

They designed a credit card-sized personal care product for men and created the prototype using 3D printing - something that Hei Kern is very familiar with. Hei Mern and Chernis were both from the Diploma in Perfumery and Cosmetic Science (DPCS), and their skills and knowledge acquired in SP served them well when they worked on the product. The team competed and won the Tech category in the national rounds, besting more than 100 teams from National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU) with their innovative idea and presentation!

After clearing the regionals the team competed against 41 other international teams and won the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Award at the Finals held in Paris. They were also one of the top three in the Tech Category!

Hei Mern, who won the Young Cosmetic Scientist Award 2016 during her time in SP, is now studying at NUS. Hei Kern was a SP Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (DME) Gold Medallist from the Class of 2013 and is currently a Singapore University of Technology & Design (SUTD) student, while Chernis was the DPCS Gold Medallist last year, and is now studying chemistry and biological chemistry in NTU!

Congratulations to Hei Mern, Hei Kern and Chernis! Go #TeamSP!
After pursuing Events Management at ITE College Central, Axel Teoh made up his mind to further his studies in the area of music and pursue it as a career. Axel’s passion for music began early. When he was 15, he discovered rap and hip-hop and this spurred him on to write his own lyrics. A year later, Axel overcame anxiety and stage fright and was confident enough to perform in public and post his own music videos online.

After ITE, Axel could have gone to LASALLE College of the Arts or another music school, where the focus is more on vocal training and arts performance, to pursue his passion. But after doing his research, Axel felt that SP’s Diploma in Music and Audio Technology (DMAT) is most suitable for him as it would provide him with a good combination of training in music composition and audio production, and so he enrolled into this course through the Early Admissions Exercise (EAE) for ITE students, known as EAE(I).

DMAT has exposed Axel to many new things, to say the least. He did not have music theory knowledge or played any instrument before he entered this course. Within his first seven weeks at school, Axel had learnt to play the keyboard a little and made progress with music theory. With DMAT’s comprehensive curriculum, Axel believes that he will be able to produce his own beat, record it, mix and master it and then launch it himself down the road. While rap and hip-hop may be his favourite genres, he is unafraid to explore other genres and aspects of music.

In fact his YouTube channel, which follows his stage name Axel Brizzy, already houses song covers and original compositions rapped by him — just like his rap cover of Ed Sheeran’s popular hit song, ‘Shape of You’! Don’t say that we don’t share!

Takes the Stage

Axel Brizzy

At SHINE Fest 2017.
Taken by: @hishamthamc

At Sundown Fest 2017.
Taken by: @hishamthamc

At Wheeler’s Festival 2017.
Taken by: @hishamthamc

- Campus Happenings -

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Our Diploma in Civil Engineering with Business (DCEB) students Koh Wee Chen, Ayu Surya Binte Zainuddin and Chin Ze Zhao discovered that the fibrous residue that remains after a stalk of sugarcane is juiced can be implemented in a used-water filtration system to remove organic contaminants. This gave them the brilliant idea for their project on “Green Microfiltration for Organic Wastewater”.

Using a hand pump installed column, the trio conducted experiments to assess the ability of sugarcane residue to absorb organic contaminants such as dye. Their water solution won them the Sembcorp Water Innovation Medal at the Singapore Junior Water Prize 2017!

These SP students and alumni have outdone themselves. Here’s a look at their most recent achievements – we are sure there will be many more milestones for them in the future!

1 Our Diploma in Civil Engineering with Business (DCEB) students Koh Wee Chen, Ayu Surya Binte Zainuddin and Chin Ze Zhao discovered that the fibrous residue that remains after a stalk of sugarcane is juiced can be implemented in a used-water filtration system to remove organic contaminants. This gave them the brilliant idea for their project on “Green Microfiltration for Organic Wastewater”.

Using a hand pump installed column, the trio conducted experiments to assess the ability of sugarcane residue to absorb organic contaminants such as dye. Their water solution won them the Sembcorp Water Innovation Medal at the Singapore Junior Water Prize 2017!

2 We’re proud of our alumna Serene Kho, who has achieved so much since her time with us as a Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS) student. After an internship with the National Healthcare Group Diagnostics (NHGD), Serene joined the company in 2005 as a junior medical technician. Today, Serene is the head of laboratory at the NHGD, and she has held that position for the last two years.

Under her charge, the NHGD has rolled out better services for both patients and caregivers. One such instance is the Home Phlebotomy team, which visits wheelchair and bed-bound patients to draw blood for tests, thereby reducing the inconvenience caused to them.

3 Our Business School students have created a record-breaking piece of thumbprint art, measuring 3m by 6m! The team will now have their efforts recognised in the Singapore Book of Records. Organised by Lee Zhi Yu and Ruqoyah Mazlan, from Diploma in Business Administration (DBA), and Abdul Matin, from Diploma in Business Innovation and Design (DBID), the art piece was part of a fundraising effort by the students to give back to society. Proceeds were donated to Beyond Social Services (BSS), a charity that provides help to less-privileged children and youths.
**Campus Happenings**

4 A team of Diploma in Integrated Events and Project Management (DEPM) Year Two students was involved in this year’s collaboration project with the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) and the National Council Against Drug Abuse (NCADA) to spread the anti-drug message. They worked on a number of different activities including secondary school talks, Preventive Drug Education Roadshow in SP, the Break In: Music Concert and the Break Out: Danceworks!

5 Her petite frame belies a great ability for storytelling through design and for that, Diploma in Visual Communication and Media Design (DVMD) student, Tang Yun Ying was recently crowned one of the top 5 winners of MUJI Singapore’s Design myBag 2017 Competition. Yun Ying’s tote bag design is currently on sale at MUJI’s new flagship store at Plaza Singapura, and proceeds from the sale of these bags will go to the Children’s Cancer Foundation.

6 Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (DEEE) graduate Emil Yong believes that engineering skills are much more important than pure academic grades. To him, using engineering as well as advanced technology for the betterment of the community is essential. With guidance from his lecturers, he created a robotic therapeutic dog, RICO (Rehabilitative Interactive Companion) to assist the elderly in a nursing home. This year, Emil became a proud recipient of the DSTA-DSO Undergraduate Scholarship. He will be heading to National University of Singapore after his National Service to pursue an engineering degree!

7 At this year’s SEA Games, our Diploma in Bioengineering (DBEN) student Yu Junjie represented Singapore as part of the Men’s Water Polo team. The team clinched Gold at this year’s Games. Way to go, Junjie!

8 Our Diploma in Digital Animation (DDA) students were shortlisted to represent Singapore at the 26th National High School Manga Championships (Manga Kodomo) in Kochi Prefecture, Japan. Lindsay Lee, Koh Qie Ning, Abdullah Waafi and Bryan Siew flew over 3,000 miles to pit their wits against artists from all over the world, visit the Manga facilities, bask in the spotlight on Japanese TV and learn about the Japanese art industry!

9 Our Diploma in Creative Writing (DTVM) student Joyce Seah, who won the solo singing category at the National Schools Xinyao Singing and Songwriting Competition! Our Diploma in Music and Audio Technology (DMAT) students, Brandon Ling also performed a song composed by Wayne Oh Geng Hui and Jeremy Hwang Jie Wei. Their song ‘Unforgettable Past’ bagged the prize for best composition!

10 Congratulations to our Diploma in Food Science & Technology (DFST) student Joyce Seah, who won the solo singing category at the National Schools Xinyao Singing and Songwriting Competition! Our Diploma in Music and Audio Technology (DMAT) students, Brandon Ling also performed a song composed by Wayne Oh Geng Hui and Jeremy Hwang Jie Wei. Their song ‘Unforgettable Past’ bagged the prize for best composition!

11 Beating 80 teams from various polytechnics and ITE’s, our Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) students Tan Hui Ting, Tan Xin Wei, Izz Arsyad Bin Mold Taba, Teo Hui Jia, comprising of Team EZLife, emerged champions at the Supply Chain Challenge 2017! They were one of the 3 SP Business School teams that advanced to the finals which includes a 4-week attachment with their respective industry partner mentors. These students had to come up with solutions to the current problems faced by eCommerce Asia which is an e-commerce supply chain & logistics company in Asia which uses technology to enable better courier service. Their solution to speed up parcel scanning won them the trophy and a cash prize of $4,000!
hanice Lim has always been interested in food business, and while she was pursuing her Diploma in Food Science and Technology (DFST) she discovered that food science is not limited to creating new food products. So when Shanice first heard about the Advanced Diploma in Applied Food Science through an Earn and Learn Programme (ELP), she did not think twice about signing up as this would be a chance to hone her skills before entering university.

As part of the ELP, Shanice was an intern as a management trainee at Mr Bean where she assisted Research & Development executives in food product development. To create new food products, Shanice conducts experiments and sensory evaluations by providing samples to potential consumers.

In the past few months, Shanice has learnt how to skilfully make the pancakes that are sold in-store! And that’s not all, she also carried out tests on beans and found out that different types of beans produce different taste profiles in soy bean milk. Shanice had to grind and soak the beans, squeeze the milk out and steam it herself – which were all new to her!

Through this programme, Shanice has not only learnt more about the science behind food manufacturing, she has also gained a wider perspective about the entire process of food product development. Her foray into the food business industry has taught her the importance of business aspects, such as marketing and packaging, as well. As a result of her excellent performance, Shanice was offered a permanent position for the same role earlier this year, which she accepted!

Masyitah Hasunah graduated from SP’s Diploma in Chemical Engineering (DCHE) with a GPA of 3.4. With her grades, she could have gone on to do a relevant degree programme at most universities. However, Masyitah decided to take up the first-ever Earn and Learn Programme (ELP) for the Energy and Chemicals sector.

She firmly believes that there are many pathways to success and one can always embark on a degree programme at any time. Inspired by her parents working in the oil and gas industry, Masyitah would often hear stories about their work.

As one of the first participants in the ELP, Masyitah has been able to build upon the knowledge and skills that she has gained from her diploma course. Taking up the ELP over going for a degree has never been a regret for her. The National University of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore Institute of Technology-Newcastle University (SIT) allow exemptions for certain modules in related degree programmes (subject to certain requirements), making it easier for graduates of this ELP to master their skill sets.

Masyitah now works as a Process Technician at Shell, and feels that the ELP has already helped her gain a better understanding of the industry. Upon completion of the programme, Masyitah will be awarded an Advanced Diploma in Chemical Engineering, which will provide her with better opportunities to further her studies.

The National University of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore Institute of Technology-Newcastle University (SIT) allow exemptions for certain modules in related degree programmes (subject to certain requirements), making it easier for graduates of this ELP to master their skill sets.

Masyitah with Minister for Education and Second Minister for Ministry of Defence, Mr Ong Ye Kung.
At 60 years old, SP’s Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA) continues to shine brightly like a diamond!

Marine Engineering might not seem like a typical field that girls would go into, but this never stopped Clarie Teo. Here’s her story:

I was the top O Levels scorer in my cohort, and at that age I had already known that I wanted to take a path that’s out of the ordinary. I asked myself how I would like to make my mark on this tiny island and that’s when I decided to pursue maritime engineering at Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA), here at SP. Thankfully, my parents have always given me the freedom to make my own choices, and that’s how I got to where I am today.

During my course of study in SMA, I learned everything about ships from scratch and the knowledge and skills I acquired were essential to my job as a marine engineer on board one of the Navy’s Frigate. The thing that I like about SP is the opportunities made available to students to branch out to non-academic areas and learn other skill sets. The highlight of my poly days was definitely the many overseas trips, seven in total, that I went on.

So I bet that you must be curious about what it’s like for a girl to be in a male-dominated industry, such as the Maritime sector? Personally, I have always believed in doing what you love, in order to love what you do. This motto of mine has enabled me to excel at the many things that I love doing, which include being on board ships. In fact, being in a male-dominated environment has never scared me because as long as I maintain professionalism at my job, I’ll be able to earn the respect of my colleagues, which I have.

My time in the Navy taught me more than what it takes to defend our seas. While working aboard ships, I grew in confidence and learnt to be independent. I loved all aspects of my job as a Military Expert Scholar, but after four years I decided that it was time for me to further my studies and gain more expertise in the area of engineering. And so, I applied for the MaritimeOne scholarship.

I’ll soon be studying mechanical engineering at NUS under the MaritimeOne scholarship—an opportunity that was hard-earned and for which I shall always be grateful. In five years’ time, I see myself stepping back into the maritime industry, which is where I always wanted to be.

Here are six interesting facts about SMA that may amaze you!

Go on a whirlwind adventure with SMA. Our students and graduates get to experience different cultures across the seven seas!

Talk about girl power! SMA graduates Rita Yan and Pauline Tan went on to become Singapore’s first female Captain and Chief Engineer.

Get your dose of vitamin-sea. SP has our very own Poly Marina that brings lessons to life! Without getting their feet wet, students learn to sail with cool sea navigation simulators.

Go on trips to South Korea, Japan and China as part of the Maritime Experiential Learning for students!

For “shore”, with SMA, you will be part of our close-knit Nautical Family!

Clarie, who is in an aluminium suit, checks her gears and air bottle pressure before proceeding to fight a fire as part of her training.

Campus Happenings

Only in SP can you embark on seafaring with Diploma in Nautical Studies (DNS) and Diploma in Marine Engineering (DMR)!

Clarie Teo receiving her MaritimeOne Scholarship.
The annual biggest sporting event in SP was finally upon us on 26th July. This date sure meant a lot to those who have been diligently training with their teammates for Poly 50. Congratulations to all who completed the race!!!

At this year’s Poly 50, there was a total of 89 student teams, 13 staff teams and 12 alumni teams. That’s about 1200 participants in all! Many also turned up to support friends and colleagues and join in on the electric surge of team spirit that was in the air. Organised by the Department of Student Development and Alumni Relations, there was even a photobooth for participants, and of course, free beverages to quench everyone’s thirst!

Despite the foreboding rain, which threatened to call the race to a halt, this didn’t stop the runners in the least bit. With pulses racing, hearts thumping, and in spite of sore muscles, everyone gave it their all to finish the 50 rounds along a 600-metre route on part of the campus. There’s surely no better way for students, staff and alumni to bond as a SP community while staying healthy at the same time!

DID YOU KNOW?
Poly 50 is a proud tradition that started in the 1960s. The only time the event was run in 30 laps was in 1984 when SP celebrated her 30th Anniversary.
Think you know everything about SP? Let Prithpal Kaur, who is an SP student ambassador and first-year Diploma in Accountancy (DAC) student, explore the campus and share some of the fun facts she’s discovered – from SP’s huge selection of food, to wide, open spaces and smaller, hidden corners!

Did you know that Food Court 5’s fruit juice stall has been in SP since 1974? Yes, it’s been here for 43 years! If you’re unsure what kind of fruit juice to get, you can ask Auntie and she can recommend the best juice to you. If you’re looking to detox, get something carrot-based. Looking for a quick fruit sugar fix that benefits your digestion? Try a Yakult fruit mix, like I did!

Food Court 1’s Japanese Curry rice is a plate full of goodness. It consists of a thick, flavourful curry with chunks of meat in it, which goes well with the short-grain rice that is nicely cooked and chewy. I recommend getting the omelette with cheese! You get to watch the chef personally torch the cheese and taste the oozy goodness later. What’s there not to like?

Sometimes, I’m really craving for something delicious but don’t want to worry about piling on those calories. When that happens, I’ll usually go for a healthy bowl of salad at The Crowded Bowl, located at Food Court 3! A regular bowl comes with standard lettuce as your greens. Then, you get to choose a salad dressing of your choice (Japanese Sesame is a hot fav!), and pick two other veggies and one carb. A healthy meal for the affordable price of $3.80! Why not?

FOOD

#NOWYOUKNOW
The SP Stadium is an oldie but a goodie. Did you know that the stadium used to have a 100m flying fox that was linked from the former high ropes course at T19 to the 200m mark at the track, of which many alumni may have experienced during their leadership training programme? During the National Day Celebration in the early years, we used to have students coming down from T19 carrying our National and SP flags to welcome the Guests of Honour. Talk about arriving in style!

Ah, the ever-popular Red Bridge is a hotspot for many memorable #OOTD pictures. It may take quite a hike to get there (since it’s located at Hilltop) but I guarantee a cooling breeze and stunning view.

You may be more familiar with our concrete SP dino… but now, we also have a new resident dino at the Biostream! Yes that’s right, this little ecopond with its lush greenery, koi fish and terrapins (if you are lucky to spot one) has been a quiet corner of tranquility that we mostly walk by without taking notice. Stop by and say hi to our new dino today!

The SP Chinese Orchestra (SPCO) is no stranger to delivering stunning performances onstage, from Sabah to Hong Kong and even on Superstar Virgo cruises! Under the guidance of Singapore Chinese Orchestra Suona Musician, Mr Lee Heng Quee, I’m looking forward to seeing more awe-inspiring performances from them — just look at this one at the Esplanade!

CCA

While you may be more familiar with other forms of martial arts (such as Wing Chun or Muay Thai), Sanda might be a name that is less familiar. Developed from traditional martial arts and free boxing matches in the early 19th century, Sanda was created by Chinese soldiers. With powerful kicks, punches and grappling, the SP Sanda team is one you don’t want to cross!

While we relax and party the night away on Fridays, the SP Astronomers get to work with their telescopes and camera lenses, ready to capture mesmerising pictures of outer space. Here they are on various stargazing missions, in SP and in Mersing, Malaysia. I’d also like to find my place among the stars!
Food Court 2 is not just another food court to my friends and I. Since we started poly together it has been a familiar place for us to share our stories. Sometimes we may grumble about little things over our teh pungs, but looking at the greenery of the Eco-Oasis, which is right next to us, brings me some peace and calm.

Nur Farah Binte Noor Mohamed, second-year Diploma in Interior Design (DID) student

This quiet corner near InnoV is not actually very well known. But I really like that it’s away from crowds and I can really focus on my work.

Jerusha Tan, firstyear Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) student (left in picture)

Happy Places on Campus

With a campus as large as SP, most students will each have their own go-to spots, whether to chill alone or hang out with friends. We speak to a few students to get in on their favourite corners of SP!
I started hanging out at the Sanctuary with my friends ever since I was a Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) student. It’s a great place to study too (when the library or classrooms are too cold, my friends and I would find ourselves a quiet corner here instead)!

Also, I’ve known Zaheer (right in picture) since I was in primary school and we still find time to catch up at the Sanctuary despite our schedules.

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Ellaine Garcia, first-year Diploma in Architecture (DARCH) student

The Sanctuary is a peaceful place that allows me to calm myself down and forget about the pressure brought about by school work and projects.

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Zaheer bin Abdul Malik, first-year Diploma in Civil Engineering with Business (DCEB) student

Whenever I need somewhere to do work and chill a little after my classes end, the Main Library is definitely my go-to, mainly because of the bean bags. I usually plonk myself down and get my earphones out to drown out any distracting thoughts. Sometimes, inspiration hits and I’ll start to jot down random lines that come to mind, and the same lines may very well turn into lyrics for my future track. So in my book, the Main Library is definitely the top contender as the cosiest area to chill at.

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Axel Teoh AKA Axel Brizzy, first-year Diploma in Music and Audio Technology (DMAT) student

For me, the vibrant Stadium steps is just the place to finish up some work or while away time chatting with my friends under the cool shade away from the scorching sun.

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Prithpal Kaur, first-year Diploma in Accountancy (DAC) student

Whether it be hanging out and chatting with friends, or just to have a peaceful moment, the Main Library is the place to go!

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Wilfred Lee, first-year Diploma in Applied Drama and Psychology (DADP) student (top in picture)
In conjunction with the annual Distraction Arts Festival, the Department of Student Development and Alumni Relations organised their first Cat Therapy event, Purrapy, to welcome students back on campus after term break. Studies have shown that human-animal interaction promotes relaxation and improves emotional well-being. So not only did Purrapy appeal to the cat lover in us, it was greatly beneficial to our overall health.

These furry friends were rescued off the streets, and SP students were able to gain a deeper appreciation for these community cats from their interactions with them. We were indeed all reminded of the fact that the stray cats we might come across in our neighbourhood are endearingly playful and deserving of love too! There are around 60,000 community cats in Singapore currently, and it is through public education – from avenues such as Purrapy – that the welfare of these animals is not forgotten or ignored.

The cats you saw at Purrapy are under foster care and up for adoption, so the event doubled up as an adoption drive for suitable adopters. So if you’re an animal lover like us and missed the chance to adopt this year, do look out for more of such events in future!

Apart from Purrapy, other highlights of the Distraction Arts Festival this year included an interactive art installation created by School of Digital Media and Infocomm Technology (DMIT) students, a marbling and terrarium workshop, and a flea market. Good times, good times.

You might have seen some furry friends on campus sometime in June this year. What a delight it was for those of us who found time to play with them!
Meet Raihanah Binte Ruslan, the ever-busy second-year DVEMG student. You may have even seen her yourself on campus, since she’s always on the go. Here’s a peek into what a typical day for her is like!

**A DAY IN THE LIFE OF Raihanah!**

**8.30am**
I hardly have time for a full breakfast before my morning classes because I’m usually in a rush. Thankfully, there are vending machines on my way to class and I’d usually get chocolate cornflakes, and two packets too, which would give me just enough energy for the next three hours!

**9.00am**
Right now I’m taking a motion capture module and the classes are three hours long, though it feels so much shorter than that. During this time, I am always on my feet as I have to calibrate my movements to animate my character on the computer. On top of that, I have to carefully follow the storyboard planned out earlier, and ensure that the live footage and animated elements are in order.

**12.00pm**
My favourite time of the day, lunch!! Here I am at the Malay food stall at FC 6, where I always get white rice, the famous spicy chicken, sunny side up and curry gravy with sambal! The food here is so popular that I usually have to queue for about 20 minutes, but it’s so worth it!

**1.00pm**
Welcome to my cosy corner in the M.A.D. Studios, which is shared among DVEMG students, and this is where I usually try to finish up as much of my assignments so that I don’t have to bring them home. When we take breaks, you can easily find my classmates and I playing a ball game or sparring with each other using our sword props!

**4.30pm**
The day is not quite over! Before it gets dark, I’m learning how to fly a drone. While practising, I’m also collecting footage for a scene in my Video and Audio Fundamentals project, where we need to shoot our own film. So I’m making a supernatural film and am working hard on a particular scene where the protagonist is running and eventually starts flying.

My go-to spot for group meeting is just a short walk from the M.A.D. Studios, at the tables right outside Social Hub (this is also a great spot where I can grab a light snack if I’m feeling peckish). Our meetings usually take place after class, and they are always very productive as we are all busy with our own projects and assignments.
How to Millennial

Millenials is a term that describes people born between the 1980s to early 2000s. However, even millennials are subdivided and there is a vast difference in the words used by these groups of people born in these golden years. To help the confused, we attempt to bridge that gap by providing a dictionary of sorts.

**STAY WOKE**
Being aware, alert and ready.
E.g.: Stay woke, bro! The lecturer has noticed that you have been falling asleep in his classes.

**0-100**
(read as zero to a hundred)
When the intensity of a situation escalates too quickly. The phrase “that escalated quickly” is ancient history.
E.g.: It went from 0-100 real quick when deciding who gets the last slice of pizza.

**G.O.A.T.**
Greatest Of All Time.
The acronym, yes. This should be self-explanatory.

**Y THO**
Literally means: Why though?
E.g.: Friend: I think I may be broke.
Me: Y tho.

**LIT**
When something is/was amazing; great.
E.g.: That roller coaster ride was lit.

**S.L.A.Y.**
When you execute something amazingly well.
E.g.: You are slayin’ in those new pair of shoes.

**Y tho**
Literally means: Why though?
E.g.: Friend: Did you see how the lecturer was telling him off for submitting his work late?
Me: Yeah, that was savage.

**OR NAH**
(Yes) or No.
E.g.: Do you agree with this article? Or nah?

**Savage**
A crude insult or a ‘burn’ towards someone else.
E.g.: Friend: Did you see how the lecturer was telling him off for submitting his work late?
Me: Yeah, that was savage.

**Lit**
When something is/was amazing; great.
E.g.: That roller coaster ride was lit.

**Shook**
(variations include Shooked, Shooketh) – When a person is very shocked.
E.g.: How can Justin Bieber cancel his concert?! I’m shooketh!

**Bless Up**
When something good has happened.
E.g.: I got an A for that test! Bless up!

**Stay Woke**
Being aware, alert and ready.
E.g.: Stay woke, bro! The lecturer has noticed that you have been falling asleep in his classes.

Disclaimer:
This is not a real dictionary and parts of it may or may not be accurate.

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**Lifestyle**

**Slay**
When you execute something amazingly well.
E.g.: You are slayin’ in those new pair of shoes.

**Lit**
When something is/was amazing; great.
E.g.: That roller coaster ride was lit.

**OR NAH**
(Yes) or No.
E.g.: Do you agree with this article? Or nah?

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Disclaimer:
This is not a real dictionary and parts of it may or may not be accurate.

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Want to find out what’s on some of our students’ phones? We approached 10 students just to share some of their recent obsessions with you. Psst… quickly download these apps and songs if they are new to you!

**Making custom posters on your phone has never been easier.**

**Music**

- **Tan Heng Kiat**
  Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) student
  - Funky Cha Cha

- **Arturo Sandoval**
  - The Last Letter From Murdoch
  - Five

- **Tan Kylyn**
  Year 3, Diploma in Visual Communication and Media Design (DVMD) student
  - Baby Steps feat. Joie Tan

- **Joachim Tan**
  Year 1, Diploma in Computer Engineering (DCPE) student
  - Track your fitness and health statistics with this app!

- **Gerard Nicholas**
  Year 2, Diploma in Nautical Studies (DNS) student
  - At the Disco Death of A Bachelor

- **Megan Apostol**
  Year 3, Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) student
  - Welcome to the Halcyon Fold.

- **Lauv**
  - I Like Me Better

- **Alice Merton**
  - No Roots

- **Sarah Wee**
  Year 3, Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (OTVM) student
  - MangoZone!

- **Niahan**
  - APRIL photo-editing app

- **Lew**
  - MyFitnessPal

- **Lauv**
  - SGX Stocks

- **Tan Kylyn**
  - Endomondo Sports Tracker

- **Masanori Taruya**
  - Plague Inc.

- **Sungtong**
  - Vainglory

- **Facebook**
  - Instagram

**Apps**

- **Lifestyle**
  - Track your fitness and health statistics with this app!

- **Shaun Tan**
  - Voicemod

- **Megan Apostol**
  - Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP) student
  - Welcome to the Halcyon Fold.

- **Lew**
  - Plague Inc.

- **Sarah Wee**
  - Instagram

- **Lauv**
  - Instagram

- **Arturo Sandoval**
  - Instagram

- **Taran**
  - Instagram

- **Tan Kylyn**
  - Instagram

- **Joachim Tan**
  - Instagram

- **Masanori Taruya**
  - Instagram

- **Sungtong**
  - Instagram

- **Tan Kylyn**
  - Instagram

- **Lauren**
  - Instagram

- **Sungtong**
  - Instagram
Download this free MMORPG zombie game, where all survivors are driven by one target: stay alive and survive as long as you can in post-apocalyptic world by shooting the walking dead.

Don’t highlight chunks of text as this defeats its purpose! Use your highlighter to underline key words or lines that will help you understand or remember what you have to know. For some, colour-coding helps with organising notes and memory recall.

ORGANISE YOUR NOTES well and make a schedule to allocate sufficient time to revise for your different modules. Time is tight, so work efficiently!

STAY HYDRATED and TAKE YOUR VITAMINS! The last thing that you’d want is falling sick right before or during your exams. Stress and lack of rest will weaken your immunity, and I’m sure you’ve heard this from your mom before...so listen to her!

EXPECTATIONS, whether of yourself or from your parents, can lead to additional pressure. If you find yourself overwhelmed, try to take a step back to look at the bigger picture.

CONSISTENCY IS KEY! There is only so much that last minute revision can do. If you have put in the work throughout the semester, time can be spent on reviewing your notes instead of playing catch up.

BE AWARE OF YOUR STUDYING STYLE. Some study better in groups, and some better alone. Once you find your style, you will be more motivated and less distracted.

GET ENOUGH SLEEP! When it’s time to hit the books, it’s hard to not burn the midnight oil. But remember that without sufficient sleep, your mind will not be at its most alert.

A mobile app that provides a revolutionary gift card service that lets you enjoy INSTANT cashback on over 100 awesome brands.
We have also gone the extra mile to gather tips from some students and lecturers so that you can ace your exams (you can thank us later):

“Don’t just memorise formulas without understanding how to apply it, ensure that you also understand each step of solving the problem instead of blindly following examples.”

Christine Ng, Diploma in Perfumery and Cosmetic Science (DPCS). Christine is a Course Medallist of Class of 2017, and she will be pursuing a Degree in Chemistry at NUS under the NUS Merit Scholarship.

“Taking short breaks in between studying is not a sin! It helps your mind to relax and remember better. Take a break after 45 minutes of studying, as you would usually lose focus if you carry on. So take that break!”

Mr Fan Ay Deng, Lecturer at School of Architecture and the Built Environment (ABE).

“In preparation for exams, I would type or write out all my notes that I’ve taken down in class as it helps with retention. Also, during last-minute study sessions, my friends and I would test each other on what we have revised.”

Azeem Arshad Vasanwala, Diploma in Information Technology (DIT). Azeem is an Institutional Medallist of Class of 2017, and he will be going to NUS to study Computer Science.

“What really helped me when I was struggling to grasp certain concepts was watching short lectures on YouTube, which were relevant to the exams I was mugging for. This method of revising was a great last-minute measure a few days before the exams.”

Alicia Yip, Diploma in Biomedical Science (DBS). Alicia is a Silver Medallist of Class of 2017, and she will be entering NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine this year.

“When studying, stay focused and avoid distractions like responding to text messages or phone calls. For example, if you’re planning to study for 1 hour, consider turning off your mobile phone during that 1 hour.”

Mr Michael Tan, Lecturer at School of Digital Media & Infocomm Technology (DMIT).

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Azeem Arshad Vasanwala, Diploma in Information Technology (DIT). Azeem is an Institutional Medallist of Class of 2017, and he will be going to NUS to study Computer Science.

“One’s personality speaks volumes about one’s spirit animal. Ever wonder what yours is? Take this simple quiz below to find out!

1. What would you be found doing in your spare time?
   a. Planning my schedule to make sure I complete every task properly.
   b. Answering calls/texts from my friends who need advice.
   c. What spare time? I don’t have time for that.
   d. Basking in my solitude, reading a book or listening to music.
   e. Making decisions about important things like what to eat for dinner.

2. Where can you be found after school?
   a. Doing homework on campus and trying to find the answer to that tough question.
   b. At the library researching on ancient texts and literature.
   c. All ready and geared up for CCA training with the team.
   d. At home, enjoying a good warm bath before jumping into bed.
   e. In a discussion with my groupmates and making sure that we are on track.

3. I would describe myself as...
   a. Strong-willed and steady. I don’t change my mind very often.
   b. Knowledgeable and I usually score high grades for exams.
   c. A ball of energy. I always need to be on the move for something new.
   d. Introverted. I prefer to keep solitude close by.
   e. A leader in many areas. People usually listen to me.
4. If you were to wake up one day with a million dollars to spend, what would you spend it on?
   a. Buy the latest laptop so I can note down everything I need to do.
   b. Donate a sum of money to an educational or arts institution.
   c. Travel the world, climb mountains, deep-sea dive, cliff jump – do anything that gives me an adrenaline rush.
   d. Buy my dream house and hire the best interior designer in town so I can live in it alone.
   e. Spend it on ad space for my new business venture.

5. Where do you see yourself in ten years?
   a. A high-flying employee in one of the top 10 companies to work for, as listed on Forbes.
   b. On my way to getting my PhD in a local/overseas university.
   c. A freelancer taking on multiple part-time jobs. Variety is what I live for.
   d. Working as a ghost writer or at some other job that requires as little human interaction as possible.
   e. Owner of my own startup and looking to expand my business regionally.

6. You’ve just migrated to a new country, you immediately...
   a. Check your to-do list on the things you have to complete before the end of the day.
   b. Grab as many travel books as you can on the country’s culture and sights.
   c. Head to town to find some of the best shopping and travel deals.
   d. Head over to your apartment to settle down. Rent has already been paid for upfront.
   e. You’ve already made friends with some of the locals and have plans to meet them for lunch at a new hip eatery.

Mostly As – The Tiger
As the Tiger, you’re always well-prepared for any situation. Nothing fazes you because you always have a Plan B. You are level-headed with a strong-willed character that anchors your decisions. Your friends admire you for your loyalty and presence as a constant part of your pack and you’re never letting them go. In the process of doing so, they discover their rightful place in the grand scheme of things.

Mostly Bs – The Owl
Ever the knowledgeable one, the Owl’s thirst for silence that comes with solitude so your hobbies might include reading and drawing. Your friends are few and far between but those whom you forge bonds with become part of your pack and you’re never letting them go.

Mostly Cs – The Rabbit
If your spirit animal is a Rabbit, then you’re a creative and insightful individual. You encourage others to follow your example and tend to find yourself surrounded by people who believe in your actions. Incomplete work irritates you to no end, as do lazy people.

Mostly Ds – The Wolf
The lone Wolf is a solitary creature. If this is your spirit animal, you typically prefer to be left alone and perform better when it comes to individual projects. You enjoy the silence that comes with solitude so your hobbies might include reading and drawing. Your friends are few and far between but those whom you forge bonds with become part of your pack and you’re never letting them go.

Mostly Es – The Eagle
Eagles are leaders by nature. Those from your social circles tend to look to you to make decisions and you don’t mind because you like having that responsibility. You encourage others to follow your example and tend to find yourself surrounded by people who believe in your actions. Incomplete work irritates you to no end, as do lazy people.