

Monthly Newsletter

**KAPLAN DIGITAL
PATHWAYS**

March 2024



Welcome to the inaugural edition!

Welcome to Kaplan Digital Pathway inaugural newsletter! We are thrilled to have you embark on this exciting journey with us. You are a vital part of Kaplan Digital Pathways and we appreciate you.

A huge shout out to everyone who contributed to making this first edition possible; your hard work and dedication have laid the foundation of something truly special. And guess what? The fun doesn't stop here! Stay tuned for future editions packed with exciting events, insightful articles, and all the latest happenings in the college!

There's more! This newsletter isn't just a platform for information -- it's a canvas for creativity, a stage for your talents to shine! We invite you to share your ideas, showcase your skills, and let your voices be heard. Let's come together as a community to celebrate the incredible diversity of thought and talent within our midst.

As you progress in your academic journey with us, remember that the entire staff are here to support you every step of the way. Whether you are navigating the challenges of online learning or seeking support and guidance with your progression, we are committed to helping you thrive and succeed. So, do not hesitate to reach out - we're here to make your college experience the best it can be!

Now, let's talk about the importance of giving it your all, even as you study online. Your dedication and hard work are the keys to unlocking your potential, so don't hold back! Set ambitious goals and push the boundaries of what you think is possible. Together, we can make every moment count and transform this learning phase into a truly enriching experience.

College Services Team

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Kaplan Events
Updates

Adventures with
Mr. Fluffy

Career and Life
Skills Winners

Insights into the
spring festival

Proverb of the
month



The Spring Festival by Zhang Pengyu.

The Chinese Spring Festival, also known as the Lunar New Year, is one of the most important traditional festivals in China. It not only symbolizes new beginnings and family reunions, but also contains deep cultural significance and customs. To have a wonderful Spring Festival, we can start from three aspects: preparation, celebration and inheritance.

First of all, before the Spring Festival comes, it is necessary to make full preparations. Before the Spring Festival, Chinese people will clean their homes and hang up red lanterns and couplets to symbolize sweeping away the bad luck of the old year and welcoming the good luck of the New Year. In addition, preparing a sumptuous New Year's Eve dinner is also essential. Families will work together to prepare a variety of traditional dishes, such as fish (symbolizing abundance), dumplings (symbolizing wealth), and nian gao (symbolizing promotion), which helps to strengthen the emotional bond between family members.

As the New Year's bell rings, the whole family will get together, eat the New Year's dinner, the year is the most warm and beautiful moment. New Year's Eve may also be accompanied by fireworks to bring the festive atmosphere to a climax. On the second day, the first day of the New Year, families will wear new clothes, pay New Year's greetings to each other and send New Year's wishes. Children also receive red envelopes from their elders, a traditional auspicious gift meant to convey good fortune and good luck.

Activities during the Spring Festival also include going to the New Year market, watching dragon and lion dance performances, and participating in temple fairs. These colorful folk activities not only make the festival atmosphere more intense, but also provide people with opportunities to socialize with friends and relatives. In addition, watching the Spring Festival Gala is also one of the important activities of Chinese families on the Spring Festival Eve, to enjoy the programs and performances together and enjoy the happy time of family reunion.

In terms of inheritance, the Spring Festival is an excellent opportunity to pass on traditional Chinese culture to the younger generation. Parents and elders can take this opportunity to educate children about the history, traditions and customs of the Spring Festival, as well as its significance in Chinese culture.

All in all, a wonderful Chinese Spring Festival is built around family and traditional culture. It is not only a celebration and entertainment, but also a cultural experience and inheritance. Through this festival, people can not only enjoy the warmth of family affection and the satisfaction of food, but also experience the charm of folk customs and the depth of culture, thus creating more good memories worth recalling.

THE BEAUTIFUL EMBROIDERY ARTWORK

BY NOSAYBA KAMEL





The Adventures of Mr. Fluffy

Hi adventurers! Welcome, grab your glasses, tighten your shoelaces, and prepare for a journey through the wild and wacky world of Ahad Bin Bashar. But before we set sail on our epic adventure, let's address the burning question on everyone's minds: what do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear. But fear not, brave readers, I am not a bear, I Ahad Bin Bashar A.K.A Mr Fluffy will take you on a short adventure across the world .So buckle up, because I am about to take you on a ride you won't soon forget.

My name is Ahad bin Bashar, I am a Bangladeshi and no I am not from Brick Lane, London. I am from Bangladesh the port city of Chittagong. I am an adventure freak and often look to discover new countries their culture and traditions. I love to meet people and I love children. There is great beauty in our world. I am always fascinated by how strong the bond between us human beings really is! I know you might have dozed off as I am writing this but please bear with me.

In the past year, I went to 5 countries which are Singapore, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, Scotland, and England. It was a great opportunity to see such diversity. From jungle safaris, big amusement parks, rendezvous in the desert like Bedouins, underwater scuba diving, jet ski racing and so much more. Of all the cities I visited, I loved Edinburgh which is in Scotland. Just magnificent beauty and splendid architecture. Moreover, right beside the train station in Edinburgh, there is a park, and you can just sit there and have a look at a majestic view which will propel you into a whole different world.

You will find the true definition of beauty. The castle was also a great memorable experience. Dubai which is in United Arab Emirates is a whole new chapter. From jet skis, skydiving, and desert safaris to big malls everything is there for you. If you have ever heard about Lawrence of Arabia, come to Dubai and experience wonder. London is a big metropolis and I had great fun visiting sites such as tower bridge, parliament in Westminster, big ben, the river ride on the Thames, museums, Madame Tussauds and my favourite spot, 221b baker street.

Yes, the science of deduction truly intrigues me. I was astonished that in every corner of London, I saw a different community and how people embraced diversity and inclusivity. The people were extremely nice and caring. Singapore and Malaysia have the best food and cuisine you can have. The night safaris and jungle safaris helped me learn about different species of wildlife and about the conservation of our environment. In Malaysia, I went to Sunway lagoon, the largest water park in the world.

In all, I lived life to the fullest in the couple of months and want more adventures and experiences. Now, let's come to the best experience food! I love food and I mean who doesn't? As you are reading this you are thinking about what's made for dinner. Every country had something to offer from the fish and chips in England, the kebabs, shawarmas and biryanis of Dubai and the world of noodles, fried rice and seafood from Singapore and Malaysia. It was a great experience. As our adventure comes to an end i believe i have to say goodbye. I believe you all have enjoyed the small adventure of Mr. Fluffy. Finally, a big, big hug and love to each and every one of your family members.

Remember, we only get 1 life. Live life to the fullest. You will fall but you will rise. There will be difficulties but there are solutions. Never give up because you only loose when you stop trying. Live, love and prosper. You only live once.

Career Focus: What are Life and Career Skills at Kaplan Pathways?

By Talia Stanton

What are Life and Career Skills?

Life and Career Skills give you the chance to enjoy an interactive learning experience. You'll have lots of opportunities to apply your knowledge and skills to something practical, fun and rewarding. Life and Career Skills are embedded throughout your pathway course, and allow you to carry out themed projects and challenges. You will typically work collaboratively on tasks, and present the outcome in a range of formats.

The experience is designed to build your confidence and enhance the skills that appeal to employers, in turn broadening your career opportunities.

How does it work?

You'll work on a projects with a unique theme, often centred around social issues, different career paths or ways to give back to the community.

Previous themes have included 'Environment and Sustainability' and 'Entrepreneurship', both thought-provoking and topical subjects. A recent theme that students found particularly engaging was 'Equality, Diversity and Inclusion'.

How do Life and Career Skills boost employability?

There are many ways that Life and Career Skills help prepare you for the working world after university. Firstly, the collaborative aspect of the projects teach you how to work in a team.

Being able to work with others is a valuable strength for many reasons, as it incorporates listening, leadership and communication skills.

Group tasks also teach you how to share ideas and think creatively, and help you gain confidence in putting your ideas forward. Additionally, because group work can lead to many different ideas being proposed at once, it's good practice for decision-making and discussing which idea is best.

Working within a deadline also allows you to improve your time-management skills, and shows you the importance of keeping organised and staying focused in order to complete the work on time.

Kaplan Digital Pathways Career and Life Skills Session

During the week commencing 12th February 2024, in EAP classes, we had career and life skills session with the theme, **social responsibility**. It was a great experience and we have talented winners!



Kaplan Digital Pathways Career and Life Skills Winners

Theme: Social Responsibility

Congratulations to all our winners! Your hard work, dedication and talent truly paid off. Your achievement is an inspiration to all of us. Keep reaching the stars and pursuing your passion. Well done!

Save the Children:

- Jeffrey Jiayu
- Jihang Chan
- Bing Li
- Jiayang Li
- Hong Puxi

Women's Rights:

- Chen Xiao Xiao
- Liyun Fan
- Yanbing Wang
- Wu

Environmental Conservation:

- Ashley
- Peng Li
- Yaojia Lyn
- Yang Yuhan

The New Year is the sonata of spring



Snow falling in your hair
 Silvery beauty
 Drunk heart
 Drifting through the old year
 The ringing of the New Year
 The dust falls in the heart
 With this piece of snow of sadness
 With the bells
 The dust has settled
 A sound of joy
 Dancing to the snowflakes
 A whole new future
 At your place
 Those blooming spring flowers
 This season
 The cold has been defeated by the
 angels

-Original Poem by Lydia

Proverb of the Month

By Nomsa Naidoo

"A bird that flies off the earth and lands on an anthill is still on the ground". (Igbo, Nigeria)

Interpretation: Maintaining humility and being aware of one's origins is important. No matter where we end up, we must always remain grounded and never forget where we came from and how we started. With this, we can appreciate success even more.



Upcoming Events

INTERESTING SESSIONS DESIGNED TO LEARN OUTSIDE OF CLASSROOM



- **Notetaking skills**



Whether in lectures, classes, meetings or study sessions, taking good notes is a roadmap for understanding and retaining information. By mastering the skill, you will boost your academic and professional success, empowering yourself to excel in any learning environment. Join us on **Thursday 14th March at 2pm.**

- **15 minutes with...**



15 minutes with... is a motivational session that offers powerful inspiration and encouragement to overcome challenges, set meaningful goals, and unleash your full potential. You will watch an interesting video of uplifting stories with practical tips from world leaders. Through this session, you'll cultivate the resilience and determination needed to turn your aspirations into reality. Join us on **Friday 15th March at 2pm.**



- **Mindfulness/Meditation**



The world seems to be spinning faster and events out of our control are all around us. Join us for a relaxing journey into the wellness space of your own mind. We will be taking some much needed time to focus inwards, guide our breathing, be in the moment and meditate together. Join us on **Tuesday 19th March at 2pm.**

- **Financial literacy Session**

This session is set to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the complex world of personal finance in the UK. From budgeting and saving to debt management, it is designed to provide valuable guidance to secure your financial future. Guess what? There'll also be a trivia time during the session so join us on **Thursday 28th March at 2pm.**



Join Chat Café

to sharpen your English vocabulary in a fun way.

Every Tuesday 2.00-2.45pm (UK Time)



DO YOU WANT TO BE A
PART OF THE APRIL
EDITION?

Do you want to share your
ideas, stories and great work
with the Kaplan Community?

Then, send your submissions to >>>

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