

Campus Life Update



LET'S GET HOMEY

by Ina Ong

#TogetherKaplan



Getting Yourself Prepared for an Online Interview

by Hakim Asfee



Featured This Month:

- Let's Get Homey
- Chinese Student International Club - Face Mask Distribution
- CDS Editorials
- Alumni Club

THE SECRETS TO SAVING MONEY

by Aster Heng





LET'S GET HOMEY

by Ina Ong

#TogetherKaplan



On 3 April, the Singapore Government announced stricter safe distancing measures to pre-empt the increasing local transmission of COVID-19. These measures include a move towards full home-based learning for schools and a nationwide closure of most work premises for one month.

Thus, PoMo and Wilkie Edge campuses will be closed from 6 April until 4 May. All students will have to stay home and need not come to school as all classes will be delivered online.

Many of you are probably starting to feel restless, helpless and bored. Some of you may think it is fine to head out with friends and may even brush the preventive measure off pondering “What are the odds of catching the virus?” Unfortunately, you will never know if the odds are in your favour or not. Hence, avoid going outside unnecessarily.

Instead of crowding at supermarkets and malls for your groceries, consider online platforms for grocery shopping. Of course, exercise your discretion in the use of these platforms. Kaplan Student Council (KSC) may have suspended all physical activities but in order to keep the student community vibrant, online activities will be rolled out via our Kaplan Campus Life social media platforms.

Together, we can overcome this unprecedented adversity! Stay safe, stay healthy.

Do FOLLOW and LIKE our Facebook and Instagram: Kaplan Campus Life. We will be updating our posts regularly. Stand a chance to win attractive prizes by participating in our online events!



Getting Yourself Prepared for an Online Interview

by Hakim Asfee

In these current times, many of us are confined in our homes due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has changed the way we work, how businesses run and our social-professional norms. Amid these difficult moments, we quickly need to adapt to the changes to survive. Thanks to technology, we can work remotely, minimizing the disruptions that we face to continue our daily work routine. Apart from virtual meetings and online webinars, online interview sessions are picking up for companies who wish to hire new employees. Online

interviews offer face-to-face meet up without being physically close. It is a technologically advanced way to meet regardless of the location and a much suitable option in our present situation.

Need help to get prepared for a professional virtual meet-up? Below are some tips on how you can get yourself prepared for an online interview.

1. CHOOSE THE RIGHT HARDWARE AND TEST YOUR INTERNET CONNECTION.

A laptop might not be the most ideal hardware for everyone. Some would prefer to use a tablet or smartphone





for an online interview. Whichever hardware that you choose, make sure to test out the camera function and that you are not seated in your internet network blind spot.

2. PREPARE A SUITABLE INTERVIEW OUTFIT AND THE RIGHT LOCATION TO BE SEATED DURING THE INTERVIEW.

Although the camera should be focused on the top part of your body, be well dressed as there might be instances where you need to shift your seat. It will look weird if you are formally dressed on top, but still in your pyjama bottoms should there be a need for you to change your seating arrangement. Also, be aware of your background. Keep your background free of clutter and as neat as possible during your interview. Do not sit with a mirror behind your back as this will cause distraction to the interviewer.

3. PLAN FOR HICCUPS.

No matter how much you have gotten yourself prepared, you might still end up with issues that pop up at the last minute. Matters like your home network or your laptop can break down at the eleventh hour. Therefore, prepare alternative plans in case these problems happen. For example, getting an alternative internet connection via phone tethering or using your smartphone instead of a laptop for the interview.

4. RESEARCH ABOUT THE COMPANY, THE JOB SCOPE AND YOURSELF!

Make sure that you are fully aware of the company functions, industry, competitors and other general information. Have a quick read on the job responsibilities and prepare questions that might help you to boost your professionalism to the hiring manager. It is also a good time for you to look into yourself to find out how suitable you are for the job position. Remember, if you fail to prepare, prepare to fail.

5. BOOK A MOCK INTERVIEW SESSION.

How well prepared are you for the interview? Set an appointment with your career coach/counsellor to test out your interview skills. Get more tips and insights on how you can improve your upcoming interview. Simply log on to your Kaplan CareersHub or email your request to gso.sg@kaplan.com to schedule an appointment.

THE SECRETS TO SAVING MONEY

by Aster Heng

Do you want to practise good saving habits but are not sure how to start? No worries, there are a few secrets, or rather good practices you can adopt to save money. For example, you can create a budget for yourself, stay out of debt and build your savings. Now, are you ready to take on this challenge?

1. CREATE YOUR OWN BUDGETING

First, before we go into budgeting, you have to know where your money is going. Budgeting does not simply mean reducing your spending. Also, you need to know where to get extra cash for your savings if you don't know how your money is being spent. It's important to have a budget; creating it is not difficult. Come up a list of your monthly expenses including your housing, utilities, groceries, credit card payments, insurance payments and entertainment.

Once you have a clear picture of roughly how much you are spending in a month, you may look into problem areas. For instance, through this exercise, you find out that you spend most on food because of dining out with your loved ones or ordering expensive food deliveries every other day. You can curb the high expenses by cutting down on the frequency, changing your habit to only dining out once every two weeks with your loved ones and sourcing for cheaper food delivery options.

2. PAYING YOURSELF FIRST

Now that you have a clearer picture of your spending habits, we can move on to Step 2 - paying yourself first. Most people pay their bills and buy their weekly groceries before deciding on how much they can afford to save. There may not even be any leftover to deposit into your savings, which can lead to serious problems in future when you need additional cash for rainy days.





We need to think of putting money aside for savings just like paying a bill. When your bill payments are due each month, you make sure it gets paid. We need to treat saving money no differently. If your goal is to save \$100 a month, then treat the \$100 as a bill that needs to be paid into your savings account. When you have this mentality every month, it is an easy feat to build your savings or emergency fund.

Now your question would be, how are you going to do it right? First, set up a separate bank account for the purpose of saving only. Then, you can create an automatic recurring transfer at a fixed date every month that deposits money into your savings account before you even have a chance to spend it.

3 SPEND LESS THAN YOU EARN

• This is important for your personal finances. If you can't follow this practice, you will never be able to save money. You have to spend less money than you earn. There's no way around it. This is called cash flow. In Singapore, we have a local saying, don't be a 月光族, 每个月花光光 (Don't be a person that spends all your earnings). Say you earn \$500 and spend \$550, you are now at a \$50 shortfall. In order to cover the extra \$50 spent, you have to either put the extra expenses on our credit card, get a loan from the bank or borrow from your friends or family! Unfortunately, the borrowed money from your credit card and the bank come with a hefty interest. If you continue to roll your debt, interest will also accumulate. You will end up being much more in debt than your original debt of \$50. There are many cases of debtors who accumulated huge debts just because of overspending on their credit cards and became bankrupt. Let's not have the habit of overspending and always keep up- to- date by tracking your expenditure frequently.



Face Mask Distribution

3 April 2020

Story by Ina Ong

Photography by CSI Committee



As the number of people infected with COVID19 continues to increase all over the world, The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Singapore has shared its concerns for Chinese nationals working and studying here in Singapore.

The embassy contacted various organisations and schools including Kaplan to reach out to the Chinese nationals here and extend help to them if needed. To further assure the Chinese citizens, the embassy laid out a face mask distribution plan. Every Chinese national will receive a pack of 10 face masks which can be collected at various points.

On 3 April 2020, the Chinese Student International (CSI) Club in Kaplan assisted in the distribution of masks to the Chinese students studying at Kaplan. The allotted 60 packs were swiftly distributed within 2 hours. The students who collected the face masks were extremely grateful and touched. They appreciate the thoughtfulness extended by the Embassy and wished to express their heartfelt thanks.

Thank you!



Campus: Hide & **Seek**
20 Apr - 24 Apr
on Facebook & Instagram
#TogetherKaplan

Campus: Hide & **SEEK**
20 Apr - 24 Apr
on Facebook & Instagram
#TogetherKaplan

Let us adhere to the measures during this circuit breaker period and fight COVID-19 together. Stay at home and flatten the curve! Kaplan Campus Life continues to stay vibrant during this challenging period as we introduce you to our weekly virtual events on our Facebook & Instagram.

KEEPING YOURSELF FOCUSED DURING THE CIRCUIT BREAKER

Date: 29 April 2020 (Wed)
Time: 4.00pm - 4.30pm
Online platform via Zoom
Register: <https://bit.ly/2VckMJT>

20 MAY 2020 (WED) |
3.15PM - 6.15PM | ZOOM

GOOD WRITING SKILLS

Free workshop for Kaplan Student
Register: <https://bit.ly/2XFkIdS>

CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERIES

RESUME WRITING & JOB INTERVIEW WORKSHOP

5 MAY 2020 (TUE) | 3.15PM - 6.15PM | ZOOM
22 MAY 2020 (FRI) | 12NOON - 3PM | ZOOM
REGISTER HERE: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3CGH1C6V](https://bit.ly/3CGH1C6V)

Thank You

All the frontline workers who are fighting COVID-19

Happy Labour Day

SOCIAL MEDIA



YAY

- **Builds Confidence**
Gives a voice and platform to anyone willing to engage
- **Brings People Together**
Find support amongst those with similar interests, problems or issues
- **Increase Communication**
Easy connectivity helps people to network all over the world
- **Breadth of Knowledge**
Exposure to broader base of opinions and world views through global connections

NAY

- **Low Self-esteem**
Comparison; gives you a 'score' in the form of likes which implies inferiority
- **Fear of Missing Out (FOMO)**
Sense of loneliness and dreaded feeling of being excluded from the group
- **Decrease Communication**
Social media replaces face to face meetups and gatherings
- **Hive Mind**
Irrational conformity to group thinking

Know the limitations of Social Media

Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat.
Social Media can either make or break you.
Are you feeling the negative effects of social media?
Speak with a counsellor today.



Student Guidance & Counselling Services

sgcs.sg@kaplan.com

6309 5227

Operating Hours: Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm
Closed on weekends & public holidays

CAMPUSLIFE

The Campus Life Update is brought to you by Kaplan Student Affairs & Graduate Services Office (SAGSO). SAGSO is located at PoMo Campus level 6 (next to classroom 603). SAGSO welcomes your article contributions, constructive feedback or suggestions. You may send them via email to sawc.sg@kaplan.com. For career related enquiries, please email to gso.sg@kaplan.com. Connect with us on [Facebook](#) and [Campus Life website](#).

Event Registration

1. Fill up Event Registration Form & Indemnity Form.

2. Submit to Student Affairs & Graduate Services Office.

3. Pay registration fee & collect receipt (If applicable).

Student Club Registration

1. Fill up Membership Application Form.

2. Submit to Student Affairs & Graduate Services Office.

Did you know?

You can now sign up for student clubs and events via Kaplan CampusLife website (<https://campuslife.kaplan.com.sg/>) or Kaplan CampusLife Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/KaplanCampusLife/>).

Enquiries

For programme enquiries, transcripts, certificates and graduations, please address to:

PBEP Program: pbep.sg@kaplan.sg
Murdoch Degree Programs: murdoch-degrees.sg@kaplan.com
Diploma Programs: diploma.sg@kaplan.com
Other Australian Universities Degree Programs: Aust-Degrees.SG@kaplan.com

*Terms & conditions apply

*Click on the icons for more details

Student Deals

