



The Powerful Young Project One-Week of Summer

This program which was designed for the Phase 2 of PYP educational year 2017 kicked off on Monday, the 21st of August and ended on Sunday the 28th of August 2017. The intention of the program is to educate and mentor PYP students both current and alumni, teaching them subjects that pertain not only to school but life in general. Traditionally, the subjects are divided into school work and life studies classes, school work subjects which are JSS1 standard classes comprise of Mathematics, English Language, Basic Science, Introductory Technology, Social studies and Business studies. Life studies classes include; Creative Writing, Creativity and Innovation classes, Goal-setting and Time management, Leadership and Team-spirit, Career development, Etiquette and Grooming, Sex Education, Peer Pressure and Bullying, Patriotism, Money and Saving, Food and Nutrition, Reading Culture and Confidence and Self-esteem.

We regularly spend about 6 weeks on Summer School activities but this year, since we were wont of time as the annual common entrance examination happened much later than planned, we decided to squeeze all summer activities to 1 week and only accommodate life studies classes.

Therefore, we had two to three life studies classes a day with the regular creativity and innovation classes each day to exercise the kids' minds and build their innovation and problem solving skills, thereby improving their confidence and team-spirit.

The classes ran from 9am to 2pm daily. The venue was at Success Module College, G close, 321 road.

The various courses were held by young and intelligent volunteer facilitators who used simple and clear methods to pass on their knowledge about the topics they taught. Many of them taught using interactive sessions or Gamification method while some gave out small gifts to motivate kids to participate.

We had a total of 16 facilitators who took time out of their busy schedules to teach ONE topic to our kids. They in their little way made an impact in the kids' lives by passing on their knowledge and advice to them. Many of them were also interested in mentoring some kids and made sure to open doors of communication if the children had questions pertaining to their future goals and aspirations.

Here is a summary of what was taught in each class:

1. **Intro to Innovation class:** the kids were welcomed to the Summer class and were guided on what to expect through the course of the week. The kids also played a few Icebreaker games and had a class discussion. They also had a preparatory class for their final project.
2. **Self-Identity and Confidence:** Facilitated by Mr. Segun Serrano, the students learned what made them unique individuals. They also learned how to turn negative comments said about them

into positive strengths. They talked about the good they saw in each other and played a game where they were separated into groups and the group members shared the good qualities of their fellow group members. The Kids learnt that confidence is borne from how you see yourself and the kids practiced Self-affirmation exercises which they were encouraged to keep practicing.

3. **Career Development:** This class started with a career test administered by Ms. Benita Bulley, who collated and reviewed the results with the kids. The class was taught by Mr. Tobe Asem and Mr. Joshua Oben. These facilitators did a great job at teaching the kids about how to pick a career based on your strengths, interests and goals. They also advised the children to never pass up an opportunity to work and learn in their choice careers and ensure they seek out holiday jobs and internships whenever they were on school breaks.
4. **Etiquette and Grooming:** the Day ended with a class by Ms. Zainab Bilesanmi who guided the kids on daily grooming practices, how to speak and be polite, cleanliness, proper feeding practices etc. she reinforced that “how you dress is the way you would be addressed.” She made sure to teach the kids about Confidence and the right attitude.
5. **Innovation Class:** the kids had a fun-filled creative second day. They created, designed and built their own innovation. The first class was on innovation. The Students were told the previous day to bring over a list items the next morning. These items were things that they could easily find around them. The next morning we put everything out and the kids were asked to decide what they could use these materials to create. Each child excitedly picked one material or another and started to create. They made such beautiful and unique things and learned that anything is useful and nothing is a waste.
6. **Peer Pressure and Bullying:** The class was taught by the lovely Ms. Deborah. She taught the kids that being different makes one special and that everyone has a good and bad side. The one which is stronger is the one you feed or allow. She encouraged the kids to read widely as this helps one overcome the pressure placed on them by their friends to do bad things. She taught that reading gives one the enlightenment he/she needs to make the best decision even when pressured. On the subject of Bullying, she advised the kids to report any case of bullying to a trusted adult even when they are not the ones being bullied. She advised them to be their “brother’s keeper”.
7. **Creativity class:** this fun class was taught by Ms. Benita and Ms. Tosin. The ladies taught the students how to make cute Pom-Pom bookmarks and Ankara Notepads. The kids were ready learners who quickly took in what was taught and made beautiful Danshiki Ankara notepads. Each child had his/her own unique notepad with his/her name boldly and beautifully sketched on it. They were so excited to take pictures afterwards and the teachers had so much fun teaching them!
8. **Innovation/Creativity Class:** this class was filled with a lot of laughs as the children created and casted The News. Yes! The News! The class was grouped into two and each individual member read the news to us the judges. The kids casted news categories like World News, Local News, Sports News, Entertainment News and did a two-minute commercial. After which the judges scored and assessed their performances. They were given all kinds of professional advice and tips, the kids soaked them all in and learned a great deal.

9. **Patriotism (the Debate):** The Kids debated on the topic: "Should Nigeria be Restructured?" The kids showed how knowledgeable they were about Nigerian politics and current affairs and argued their hearts out. They dropped some really interesting points that it was hard to stop them because we wanted to hear more. At the end, they were appraised by the judges who advised them on how to better make presentations and deliver points convincingly. It was a very insightful class as the kids were taught not to discriminate each other because of tribe but see and love everyone anyway.
10. **Leadership and Team-Spirit:** The awesome Mrs. DeeDee taught our kids this class. She started with an icebreaker game that taught team-work and then she sat them down to discuss who a leader is and what qualities he should have. She was quite impressed by how much the kids knew about leadership. She did a great job of breaking leadership and team-work into a language they could understand and the kids learned a lot from her.
11. **Innovation Class:** day 4 and this was the longest but most gratifying class we had all week! The kids got to practice all they had learnt the past three days. This class was taught by Ms. Benita and Ms. Grace. The kids were divided into three groups, each with a leader. We gave them a bunch of old newspapers, a roll of yarn and some tape. They were instructed to perform any of the following tasks using only these items: create a table that can carry 5 books, build a bridge that can carry a pair of slippers and make a basket that can carry 10 small toys. They did a fantastic job and really impressed their facilitators. They learned teamwork, leadership, innovation and creativity.
12. **Reading Culture:** Next up, Mrs. Farida Ladipo-Ajayi of Bookworm Café stepped in to teach the kids about Reading. She was sad to learn that some students didn't like reading and made sure to give them something to be excited about. The kids discussed their favorite story books and she encouraged them to start and keep a Reading Journal. She also shared her favorite stories and inspired the kids to keep reading and sharing what they discover in books.
13. **Innovation Class:** the students began their ilmpact Festac Project. They were grouped into 4 groups and a leader was elected in each group. They were given details for their presentation and an assignment to look and note within their communities, major and minor problems and how to solve them.
14. **Money and Saving:** The Final day for lectures and we were still excited for more. This class was taught by Mr. James. The cool Mr. James taught the kids about Money and how to save, invest and earn. They learnt that saving #100 a day can earn one an easy #36,500 by the end of the year, this they found really amazing. Mr. James did a great job of explaining some complex terms kids may not understand like capital, profit, investment etc. it was a very honest class and the kids were grateful for the insights shared.
15. **Sex Education:** Surprisingly this class was a breeze. Mr. Segun Serrano and Ms. Bertha Bella taught this class so well. We divided the class into 2: boys and girls. Mr. Serrano taught the boys and Ms. BB taught the girls. The kids learned about puberty, sex, menstruation, grooming, wet-dreams, growth, gender, pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. the class was brought back together to ask anonymous questions which the facilitators did a great job of answering. It was surprising kids these days know a lot about rape, homosexuality, sexual assaults and molestation, but the teachers answered the questions carefully and wisely without judgment. At

the end of the class, it was clear there was a bond between us all as everyone felt better informed and safer.

Following the last day of lectures was Saturday and the students resumed by 2pm for a 3 hour rehearsal for their presentation. On Sunday it was show-time and the kids brought their A-game to their presentations and performed excellently well. The Blue team came 1st place with an outstanding presentation. Certificates were presented and all participating students and they were each given gifts and snacks.

The Powerful Young project 2017 session couldn't have been successful without our sponsors, partners, volunteer facilitators and friends from all over Nigeria and abroad. We are thankful for your support in making this job of teaching, nurturing and inspiring the Nigerian child and we hope we have many more years to keep this passion of ours burning. We thank our partnering schools; Christian Council Schools and Success Module College. God bless you all.