

2019

PYP Summer Program Report



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Introduction

Whoop! Whoop! That's the sound we heard when PYP commenced its 2019 Summer School and Design Thinking Program. It was the sound that made the momentum high as the second phase of PYP's educational year kicked off on Friday, the 9th of August at Salthill Secondary School, 3rd Avenue, A1 close, Festac town, Lagos. The program ran for four weeks with classes on Fridays; 10am - 2pm and Saturdays; 12am - 4pm of each week, concluding on Sunday, the 1st of September. The objective of the program was clear: to educate and mentor both PYP's current students and alumni on topics that spread across all facets of life; in order to build character and a sense of innovation and leadership through PYP's 360degree education scheme.

Design Thinking Program

The Design Thinking Program was focused on PYP interns and alumni and facilitated by instructors Sola Adebisi and David Udibe from DezynPlaces. The Design Thinking class was truly an informative session. It held on Saturdays from 12am - 4pm. Mr David Idibe and Mr Adesola Adebisi assisted by Miss Deborah, handled the class for the four Saturdays. Students were taught about innovation, problem solving and creative thinking and they spent time, discovering and exploring new ways to look at situations using the words 'but' and 'and'. The presentation slides prepared by the facilitators not only helped the students to visualize and understand the various concepts of Design Thinking, but also expanded the minds of the teenagers to practical ways of solving problems in their communities and the rest of the world.

They discovered pioneers who invented and improved on the touch flame, candle stick, the lantern and then the electric bulb; and learnt not to shut down ideas. The students formed teams and brainstormed on various ideas which were further developed into prototypes for presentations based on the theme: **Making School Bearable**. They were grouped into teams ICON, SMART and GEMS and they went to designated schools to gather information that would be the basis of their project.

Summer School Program

The Summer School Program consisted of 30 current PYP students aged 9 -14 years who successfully completed the PYP Tutorial program that ran from February to July. Young professionals from different walks of life engaged these selected students in the various life studies below:

1. Confidence and Self Identity
2. Etiquette and Grooming
3. Innovation and Cognitive Development
4. Goal Setting and Time Management
5. Leadership and Teamwork
6. Nigeria and Patriotism
7. Food and Nutrition
8. Peer Pressure and Bullying
9. Sex Education
10. Reading Culture
11. Creative Arts and Crafts
12. Career Development
13. Money and Savings
14. Presentation Skills

These topics opened up a new world to these students and gave them a tool for life. The KWL system was employed, which means: K- what I KNOW (about this topic), W- what I WANT to learn (about this topic), L- what I have LEARNED (about this topic). The students were instructed to write down the K and W before each class on their notes and L, after the class. Students were encouraged to share what the BIG L (learn) for the day with the rest of the class through discussions at the end of the day's work. SPIN THE WHEEL activity was employed to keep students engaged in each class and get rewarded for participation. The activity brought a lot of fun to class as students earned points which attracted various gifts. The spin the wheel chant was intriguing and exciting to hear and watch as the three Students that had participated eagerly per class were selected by the facilitator and given the opportunity to spin the wheel. They were awarded points ranging from 100 to 1000 points depending on where the arrow stops and if they can carry out the quest. Points were rewarded at the end of the program with various gifts.

The Summer School classes began on Fridays at 10am with the first class of the day and paused for lunch at about 11:45am, resuming at 12pm with the second class to finish off at 1:30pm and then there was a retrospect/KWL class within the final 30 minutes. For Saturdays, the Summer School class began at 10am with HELLO CLASS, rounding off at 12pm which begins the first summer class for the day, with lunch by 1:30 pm, resuming at 2pm with the second Summer class to end at 3:30 and finally rounding off at 4 after the 30 minute retrospect class. The Design Thinking class also ran concurrently only on Saturdays beginning at 12pm with a lunch break at 1:30pm, resuming at 2pm and rounding off at 4pm also. Break time was sponsored by Beloxxi Limited as students enjoyed delicious crackers biscuits.

The facilitators brought their best. Seventeen (17) vibrant and smart facilitators; fifteen for Summer School Program and two for Design Thinking Program, held the fort over the four weeks, using simple, relatable and vital terms to pass across the basics of the topics they explored with the students. The students asked questions and were provided answers, even asking their own questions to bugle the students minds and also reward right answers and participation. They had role playing methods to paint visual pictures to abstract concepts. They used personal experiences to aid understanding and some even brought goodies for the kids. The facilitators were well interested in the children and communicated freely with them for ease of flow of knowledge.

The various life studies classes and summer activities are summarized below:

Confidence and Self Identity

This was the first Summer School class. It held on the 9th of August. Mr Ndifreke Archibong facilitated the class. The students were shown that confidence comes from within oneself and it is a reflection of how a person sees, carries and values themselves. They must always rely on positivity and disregard negative and harmful words spoken against them. The ability to love themselves is possible when they identify, understand and appreciate who they are. They also practiced Self-affirmation exercises and were told to keep reciting and believing them.

Etiquette and Grooming

This class was divided into two groups, one for boys and one for girls for 45 minutes each and then a joint class for another 45 minutes. It was the final class for the first day. Mr Kayode and Ms Blessing Uche took the class for the boys and girls respectively. Each class was so divided so that the kids could be free to express concerns on grooming themselves as

boys and girls. They were taught on daily grooming practices such as brushing, bathing, cleaning the nails, fresh and clean clothing, proper washing up, table manners, proper body postures, politeness etc,. The joint class focused on etiquette, the teachers showed and encouraged them to always be in the right attitude at all times.

Innovation and Cognitive Development

Ms Benita Bulley was the facilitator. She taught the third class of Summer on the 10th of August. It was a new concept to the kids but as the class progressed, they were able to relate practically with the idea of innovation, citing the touch flames to candle sticks to lanterns and then to electricity bulbs as an example of innovation. They were grouped into two: wooden group and plastic group, and they debated on which was stronger, a wooden chair or a plastic chair. This brought a lot of reasoning and excitement.

Goal Setting and Time Management

The word 'time management' became a favorite word for the students. They would use it whenever they wanted to pass across information briefly. Mr Oluleke Okewale facilitated the class and it was wonderful. They learned how to set practical goals along a specific achievable time frame. They also learned how to manage their time well as kids for a balanced life style. It was the fourth and final class of Summer day 2.

Leadership and Teamwork

Mr Andah Onotu was the facilitator with the acronym. **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore. He explained that every profession eventually works together and that Leadership is an important quality to possess in every individual. The students saw the need to always work together. This was the fifth class held on the 16th of August.

Nigeria and Patriotism

The sixth and final class for Summer day 3 was taught by Mr Toluwalope Adebayo. He asked for opinions on patriotism from the students, then he gave them answers. He said to be patriotic, one must: be educated, pursue a career, become a professional, use their greatness to make others great, celebrate the Nigerian culture, and keep law and order.

Innovation and Cognitive Development

For their second innovation class on the 17th of August, the students learned that nothing is a waste. Old clothes, papers etc could be used to design and create something new and useful. The students guided by Ms Benita, designed and built a skateboard, a bicycle and a scooter with just newspapers, broom sticks and cello tapes. They were encouraged to add something unique and innovative to their project to make it different. The kids defended their projects during a presentation and the group with the most outstanding presentation ; team Bicycle won.

Food and Nutrition

This was perhaps the most interesting class of them all! Ms Aisha Akinboro came to class armed with a bag full of ingredients, big enough to set stomachs rumbling. The students learned about the six classes of foods and ways to eat a balanced diet always for strength and vitality. It was a participatory class and students shouted contributions, they were eager to get down to practicals which was to make a delicious vegetable sandwich. And when practicals came, volunteers joined in the hard work of showing the kids how to properly hold and eat sandwiches as per etiquette! Day 4 rounded off on a full belly!

Peer Pressure and Bullying

Day 5 of Summer School saw Mr James Ohiomoba teach the students on handling pressure from their mates, how to overcome adverse attitudes from school or community peers, how to rise above challenges or people that bully or threaten them and how to get help and be a help. Cases of bullying should be reported to appropriate authorities. This ninth class was truly fascinating.

Sex Education

As with Etiquette and Grooming, this class was grouped into two, and anchored by Mr Soji and Ms Ib, for boys and girls respectively. Again 45 minutes for each class and a joint class for questions and answers for another 45 mins. They expanded on the importance of knowing the body parts, caring for it and safeguarding it. During the combined class, students got to ask questions anonymously and the teachers did very well to give informed answers and advice where necessary. This was the tenth and last class for the day.

Reading Culture

Miss Echa Oko-Okache took this eleventh class on the 24th of August. She stressed that it was important to develop an early reading habit, as the popular saying is true: Readers are Leaders. After a lovely class, she donated books to the kids.

Discover Nigeria Project Rehearsals

To round off the day, the students began rehearsals for their presentation and graduation day ceremony. They were grouped into four regions: North, South, East and West and sectors of Nigeria: Agriculture, Oil and Gas, Manufacturing and Processing and Tourism and Culture and the project theme was **Discover Nigeria**. This theme would be reflected in the region and sector they represented, the culture, food, attire, facts and figures, advert etc.,. They were instructed to work on a presentation pitching that sector to investors. They were also instructed to work on a TV commercial/ad to buttress their points. They readily set to work.

Career Development

Miss Temitope Saliu was a facilitator to remember. She brought a calm and curious air to the class, peaking the interests of the students in the understanding of career paths. She shared her story and how she became a digital marketer. Eliciting responses from the students, they echoed what they wanted to become, to which she said 'start now'. She also stated that your career should be something you love that brings you motivation, joy and fulfillment. She also said having discovered your career, begin to improve consistently on it. It was an exciting and informative class. This 30th day of August really is a day to remember as pictures were taken with pizzas and chickens stuffed in their bellies courtesy of Ms Saliu.

Money and Savings

Next and last for the day was Mr Noah Ibrahim. This fourteenth class was generally responsive, owing to the fact that money was involved. He mentioned money is a means of exchange and must carry value and savings was keeping back part of ones earning for future purposes. There was a lot to learn as the students kept on with their questions. They wanted to understand how to lend, if they should lend with interest, and how to make money. Mr Noah was practical as he told the kids to begin with solving problems in their surroundings that could fetch them money and also to begin saving. His chocolates went round to all the kids.

Creative Arts and Crafts

Slowly rounding off the Summer School on the 31st of August was Doris Komla with the fifteenth class. She ignited the creative sides of the children by showing them how to design and make throw pillows. They set off busy with their work, each producing a unique and beautiful throw pillow afterwards.

Presentation Skills

To round off the day and Summer School, the students finetuned their presentations. They discussed amongst themselves, hoping to come out best. They also practiced their presentations in front of the class, harnessing their presentation skills and were given feedback and guidance from volunteer teachers to help improve their presentation.

And so rounded off the Summer School Program on a jolly note.

Graduation day of Summer School and Design Thinking Program

The 1st of September marked the finale and Presentation/Graduation day of Summer School and Design Thinking Program. The ceremony began at about 2pm with parents, students, some facilitators, volunteers, friends of PYP and three judges; Mr Osioke Itseuwa, Mr Tolu Adebayo and Mr Noah Ibrahim, in attendance. After a brief recount of experiences in the Summer School and Design Thinking Program, the presentations began.

The Summer School came first with their Discover Nigeria project presentations. It was all colorful with lovely attires, well put together speeches, and vivid dramas. The North region/Agricultural sector won the prize of a #50000 book voucher sponsored by Novarick Homes.

The Design Thinking came next with their presentations. The prototypes were well built and solutions were exceptionally presented. The GEMS team took the prize of a #50000 book voucher sponsored by Novarick homes.

Mr Tolu Adebayo anchored and sponsored the essay writing tagged IF I WERE PRESIDENT. The winner Abdul-Ganiyu Nassirudeen was given a cheque of #5000 and a book. The second place, Abdul Lateef was given a book.

Next came the certificates of completion with a PYP branded water bottle. This was handed out to the students by the three Judges, Mr Osioke Itseuwa, a Product Manager, Mr Noah Ibrahim, the CEO of Novarick homes and Mr Toluwalope Adebayo, the CEO of TMbookstores.

And finally came picture time! It was all fun and wonderful. The day was well spent! To cap it all, gifts were given to those with points from participating in class.

The Powerful Young Project 2019 came to a successful close at about 5pm. The excitement was still in the air as more sweets, chocolates, and snacks still went out to the students.

Conclusion

The PYP summer program and as well as the whole 2019 PYP educational year was successfully concluded because of partners, sponsors, volunteers and volunteer facilitators from all over the world.

Thank you for giving back to the mentoring and nurturing of these brilliant minds in Nigeria. We pray for many more years of IMPACT! We thank our partnering schools; Christian Council Schools and Salthill Secondary School. Special acknowledgement to Adeoluwa Akomolafe, Beloxxi Limited, Noah Ibrahim, Novarick Homes, AgroGene Farms, TM Bookstores, Mosunmola Fadumo and Michael Ibonye for their sponsorship. We are most thankful to God for another successful completion of the summer program and PYP year. Cheers to all of you for joining us to enhance the potential of our youths. We look forward to many more years of impactful service together for mankind.

God bless you all. We love you!

For pictures of this summer program check our social media on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) or read our blog entry for the graduation day on our [website](#)

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