

# IN THE HOUSE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PGP HOUSE

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## PGP HOUSE - LIVE LEARN LOVE

Welcome Housemates to PGP House - your home, away from home. You might have read this line several times, but we can tell you from personal experience that it couldn't have been said better. We came to PGP House as complete strangers, treading carefully, afraid of what we might find (okay, this might be too dramatic, but yes it was a nerve wrecking experience). We moved into the rooms of PGP House, and as time passed, we started referring to the "house" as "home" and "housemates" as "family".



There is so much we want to tell you from our experience, and so much we want to know from yours. Look around you, everyone you see has lived a life filled with unique experiences and learnings, so much that we can learn from each other and so many ways in which we can contribute to each other's journey, and that is what PGP House strives towards.

We are here to give you the inside details, the behind the scenes, fun facts about your fellow housemates and most importantly a voice. "In the House" isn't a one way medium, it's a platform where we can all collaborate, share stories and build a community of intellectually strong and aware house mates. Hope you join along for the wonderful ride!



# MEET YOUR MASTER

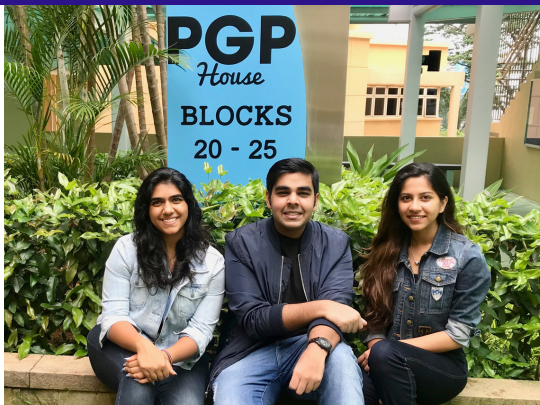
Did you know that our House master is a movie producer, entrepreneur, humanitarian and an editor all in one? Well, before our meeting with him, even we did not!

Professor Prahlad extended a very warm welcome to everyone calling PGP House their home this year. He wonderfully mentioned how PGP House is a place where everyone can co-exist. The key features including the Peer Mentorship Programme and Resident Assistants provide the optimal combination of academic guidance, student activities and pastoral care.

Meeting everyone through the Freshmen Orientation, House Reception, Welcome Fest and the ongoing Dining with Master, our Master realised that the greatest asset of PGP House is the 'smile on everyone's face'. The warm environment and the inclusiveness that PGP House offers makes everyone feel at home. Truly said, it is a home away from home.

"It is important to create a culture, a culture of love and belongingness."

## KNOW US



LEFT TO RIGHT -KASHISH RUSTAGI, MANAN MITTAL, SANYA MANOCHA

Meet the team behind "In the House" – We are 2nd year NUS students who have found each other in the same year that PGP House was founded. We are enthusiastic individuals who realized that our friendship, diverse skill sets and love for spending time with each other can lead to something mutually beneficial for both, PGP House and us. The days and nights that we spent here and the countless memories that we made under this roof are indescribable. We want you to experience an equally if not more eventful year with opportunities to travel the world, not physically but while sitting in PGP House, through stories told by your very own housemates, share your own stories with them and form bonds within these walls that go beyond this university.



# PEER MENTORSHIP



Are you a nervous freshman, like most of us were? Fret not! Our Peer Mentors are selected seniors who help the first-year mentees with academic guidance, foster friendships, create lifelong memories, and also build a strong community with the residents staying on your floor.

Peer mentors will regularly meet their mentees throughout the semester, and help them adjust to the life in NUS. They will regularly organise bonding activities to create opportunities for neighbours to interact and know one another. Because we at PGP House strongly believe that if you look out for your neighbours, they will be there for you too!



# INTEREST GROUPS



The PGP House Interest groups are open to all the residents, regardless of their expertise in any of the fields. The residents can feel free to choose from any of the following: Badminton, Soccer, Baking, Movies, Fun-run, Dance, Basketball, Board-Games and Music Band! Unlike other halls, PGP house is extremely flexible when it comes to co-curricular activities.

Residents can join/continue in the interest groups solely out of interest and if they aren't interested in the existing IGs, they are welcomed to create an IG out of their choice to share their interests with the residents!



## FRESHMAN ORIENTATION PROGRAMME | RAG | FLAG TÊTE-À-TÊTE WITH OUR PROJECT DIRECTORS



### Q1. What was the greatest learning experience that you had from being the P.D.?

**FOP:** To understand and utilize the “synergy” that a team is able to create when working together and to ultimately achieve the result of  $1 + 1 > 2$ . As individuals, our capability is limited by our own knowledge and experience; as a team, however, each member is able to contribute in his or her own way,

**RAG:** To always keep the objective of your project in mind. It is important to be tactful, and to have balance. Balance decisions made with regard to the stakeholders, pressures from deadlines, and the best interest of the project. Clearly defining the objective of the project helps in prioritisation and focusing on what is important

**FLAG:** The importance of forming a well-knit and structured team of passionate individuals who understand your direction and are willing to ensure the success of any venture we undertake as a committee.



### Q2. What was the highlight? Any specific memory that you would like to share?

**FOP :** My personal highlight would be when the camp closed, almost everyone who walked past us extended their hands to us and said "Thank you" and "Congratulations". It was really encouraging, especially after working really hard to deliver such a project.

**FLAG :** The biggest highlight for me would be the actual NUS-wide Flag Day on the 6th of August 2018. To view the many dedicated faces of PGP House Flaggers who voluntarily took the time to gather donations for the Flag initiative and the needy in Singapore was a truly touching sight that I would cherish.





### Q3. Where would you like to see the next year event? What do you expect from it?

**FOP :** For our future FOP, I hope we can attract and engage even more freshmen to join, while at the same time, instill an even stronger sense of belonging and recognition to the House.

**RAG:** Coming from a performance arts background, I place quite a lot of emphasis on the final product and presentation of performances in addition to the journey and experience as well. So, forgive my stringent expectations when I say that I expect the next RAG to improve in all aspects, be it floats, dance, costumes, or management!

**FLAG:** I hope that the future batches can learn, develop and grow the Flag initiative from the initial seeds we, the pioneer Flag committee, have planted in PGP House.



### Q4. Why should the future residents participate? What would be the biggest gain?

**FOP:** FOP prepares freshmen for university, introduces new friends into each other's life, and helps create a stronger sense of belonging to the House.

**RAG:** Camps and one-time events are a good place to get to know people in your faculty and hall, but if you want to experience university life in all its glory, join RAG!

**FLAG:** The expression of altruism and the embetterment of friendships are major benefits to participating in the future PGP House Flags.





## WELCOME FEST

Our very own housewarming party - The Welcome Fest was held on 23rd August, 2018. Through our observations, we saw people enjoying the various activities that were planned; be it the games or the fun quiz conducted by the MCs. You doubt us?

Look at the photos!

The environment friendly initiative of “bring your own lunchbox to be part of the VIP queue for the buffet” was a very refreshing and fun-filled way to make housemates environmentally aware and conscious.

Such events keep taking place in PGP House. We are already looking forward to the Mid-Semester Event in October!

On a side note, we hope that by now you know that there are 1751 power plugs in ERC! :D



## DINING WITH MASTER



Dining with Master is an initiative by our Master, Dr. Prahlad, where he plans to meet every housemate in a smaller, more comfortable setting where housemates can directly communicate with Dr. Prahlad. This initiative is all about “Communication”, where housemates can give direct feedback and start a conversation in an informal setting about their life in House and a chance for them to share their vision for PGP House. So, look out for the next update and join your cluster when it's your turn to Dine with Master.

Because Housemates that eat together, stay together!

## JOIN OUR TEAM!

What makes this newsletter special? It is readers like YOU!

Instead of a one-way communication platform, we want our newsletter to be inclusive. We are looking for talented, creative and fun contributors who can help us make this journey a meaningful one. If you think you are one of them and can contribute to the newsletter, please join us! We highly appreciate new ideas.



From the next issue we will be having a slightly different format (Rather, a more fun one!). This issue was more of an introduction.

Kindly fill up the form below to indicate your interest.

We will be contacting you soon! (Scan the Code!)

<https://tinyurl.com/pgphousenewsletter>

