

campus life

Energy levels were high at the Mind Over Matter 2016 quiz, writes Lauren James

While the rest of their peers were having a lie-in, 99 students from 18 international, local and mainland schools met at German Swiss International School for a battle of the brainiacs.

The second annual Indian Chamber Education Trust and TSOI Mind Over Matter Hong Kong Inter-School quiz kicked off on September 24 with rounds on

It was a unique experience for the teams to represent their schools and make new friends

geography and astronomy, sports, comics and cartoons, science and technology, history and ancient civilization, and literature and music.

After the preliminary rounds, the 33 teams were quickly whittled down to the top six - with French International School, LPE United World College, last year's winners Island School, King George V, American International School and German Swiss International School making it to the finals.

All teams showed themselves to be knowledgeable on all manner of subjects, but Debasmita Bhattacharya, Muriel

Sirga and Clement Francony from French International School began to pull ahead in the points.

In the end, the FIS team proved too strong: they came out on top with a winning score of 111 points ahead of Island School and GSIS. As well as the bragging rights to be called the Best School Quizzers, the trio won a trophy and medals, and Samsung J5 smartphones.

Island School came second, while the host school's team was third. Both teams won a trophy, medals and Skullcandy headphones.

All the teams seemed to have a

great time, representing their schools in an unusual way, making new friends and competing in an exciting environment.

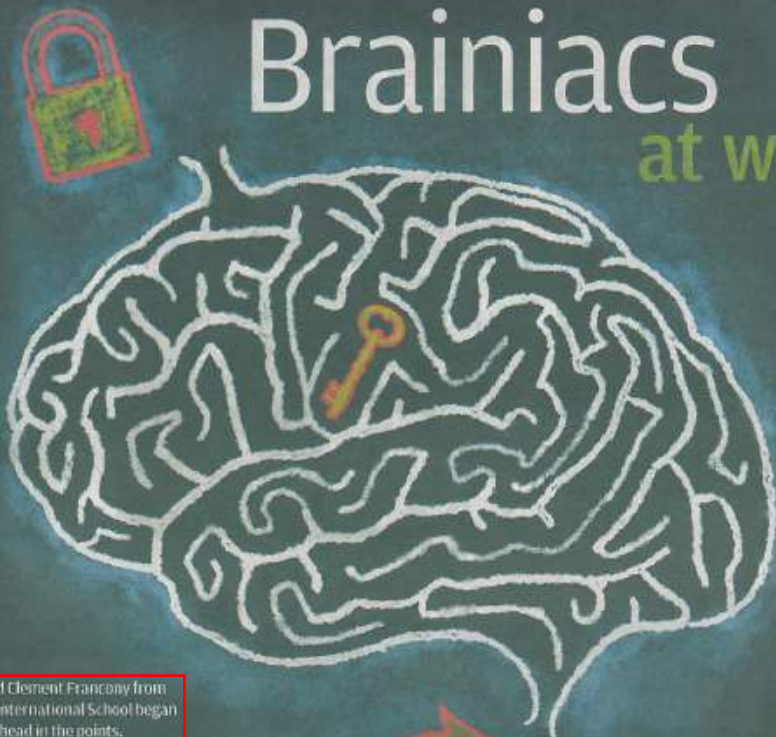
Rather than feeling like they were being forced to study on a Saturday, the atmosphere in the theatre was lively throughout the day, and the buzz of rivalry even-present as students battled for smartness supremacy.

"The event was a success

because of the enthusiastic involvement of the teams, engaging quiz masters and a thrilling, competitive environment ... It was a memorable experience," said quiz organiser Soundari Mukherjee.

The date for the next quiz has already been set for September 2017. Will you be there to defend your school?

Brainiacs at work!



Are YOU as smart as French International School?

Here are eight questions asked at the Mind Over Matter 2016 quiz. How many can you answer? Go to yp.scmp.com to check if you're right!

- 1 Where would you find the thinnest skin on the human body?
- 2 Black, green, white are three of the four main varieties of this. The fourth gets its name from a Chinese word for "black dragon". What are these varieties of?
- 3 Christchurch in New Zealand and A Coruña in Spain form one pair. Lianyungang in China and Berlin in Argentina form a similar pair. Some other pairs are Palembang (Indonesia) - Neiva (Colombia) and Ulaan Ula (Mongolia) - Puerto Natales (Chile). What term is used to describe these pairs of cities?
- 4 What sport involves a rikishi

attempting to force another rikishi out of a dōyō or trying to touch the ground with anything other than the soles of the opponent's feet?

5 From the Icelandic verb for "to gush", what is the name of a spring characterised by intermittent discharge of water ejected turbulently and accompanied by steam?

6 What term of Italian origin (Venetian dialect) is typically used to describe events featuring races by rowed, sailed or powered boats?

7 Georges Lemaitre was responsible for proposing what theory related to the expansion of the universe that is also part of the name of an extremely popular US TV series?

8 Yr, Odín, Thor and Frigg were Norse gods. How do we remember them today, along with the Sun, the Moon, and the Roman counterpart of the Titan Cronos?



First runners-up from Island School (above) lost out to the FIS team (right). Photos: Apoorva Rajagopal