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**PIONEER BATCH AT NUS HIGH SCHOOL**

## NUS High's 1st graduates

By Jennani Durai



Graduation of the first batch of students from NUS High School of Mathematics and Science after experiencing the six-year programme. -- ST PHOTO: KEVIN LIM

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THEY were among the top pupils of their Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) and they chose to take a chance with a brand-new school.

The pioneer batch of 173 students who had been through the full six-year programme at NUS High School of Mathematics and Science graduated on Monday.

Students like valedictorian Donovan Loh say that while it had been hard deciding between NUS High School and other established top schools, they made the right choice.

'I had some fear that the school was so new, but I was certain enough about NUS High School that I applied through Direct School Admission and didn't apply anywhere else,' said Donovan, 18, a former Pasir Ris Primary School student who obtained a PSLE

aggregate score of 270. He graduated on Tuesday with High Distinction and is hoping for a Ministry of Education teaching scholarship to study biology in Imperial College.

More top universities have recognised the unique NUS High School diploma, including Oxford University, Cambridge University, Harvard University and Stanford University, said principal Dr Hang Kim Hoo.

He said: 'There were many challenges that had to be overcome before we arrived at where we are today. When the school just started, the first bold step had to be taken to move away from the tried-and-tested route of the 'O' and 'A' level examinations.'