

ST. MARGARET'S CONNECT



A Publication of St. Margaret's Ex-Students' Association

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2014

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COMING EVENTS

St. Margaret's 172nd Anniversary Dinner
Sunday, 16 November 2014 at 6:30 pm
Venue: St. Margaret's Primary School Hall
Tickets: \$50 per person. Ticket Order Form attached.

St. Margaret's Anniversary Church Service
Friday, 14 November 2014 at 11:00 am
Venue: St. Andrew's Cathedral

SMESA Tea Party
Saturday, 27 September 2014
Time: 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Venue: Learning Lab, St. Margaret's Sec Sch
Special Feature: Talk on "Face-Lift" DIY by Ms Carmen Ng
Price: \$10 for non members. Complimentary for SMESA members and invited guests
Refreshments will be served
Please register by 15 September 2014 at smesa.sg@gmail.com

St. Margaret's 172nd Anniversary Dinner

Sun, 16 Nov 2014
6.30pm (please be seated by 6.15pm)

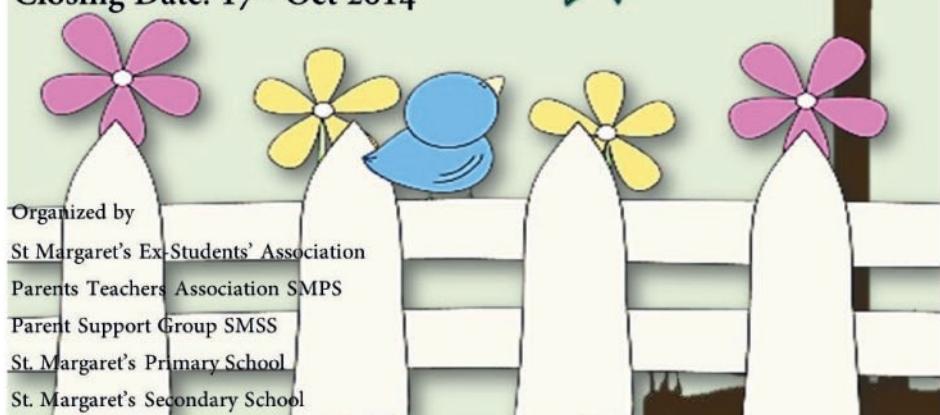
St. Margaret's Primary School Hall
99 Wilkie Road,
Singapore 228091

\$50 per person

ENQUIRIES AND TICKET SALES:
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Closing Date: 17th Oct 2014



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

▼ Demise of Ms Janet Lim



In the last issue (No. 33) of our Newsletter, we shared with you the visit of Ms Janet Lim, an ex-student and author of the book, *Sold for Silver*, to St Margaret's Primary School. We are sad to announce that Ms Janet Lim passed away peacefully on 5 August 2014 in her hometown at Brisbane, Australia. She was 91 years old.

We will always cherish that beautiful day when she visited the Primary School on 12 March 2014 and extend our deepest condolences to her family.

▼ Congratulations to Dr Uma Rajan



At the National Day Rally held on 17 August 2014, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong honoured Dr Uma Rajan for creating a health booklet for every child in the early 1980s and for promoting health education in schools when she was the Director of School Health.

Dr Uma Rajan is an ex-student of our School and a member of SMESA. Congratulations, Dr Uma.

▼ Wall of Distinguished Ex-Students and Wall of Past Presidents of SMESA

The Secondary School has put up a Wall of Distinguished Ex-Students just outside the School Hall to honour ex-students who have made key contributions to society. The Wall was inaugurated on 25 July 2014 during the Speech and Prize Giving Day. Anamah Tan, Chua Yen Ching, Eunice Olsen, Jane Ittogi, Luisa Lee, Wahyuni Hadi and Uma Rajan already inspire the Students by gracing the Wall. If you know of any ex-students who have made key contributions to society, do let the School know.

The School also set up another Wall also just outside the School Hall, to honour all the past Presidents of SMESA.



▼ SMESA Tea Party


IN A S INDULGE
POT OF TEA
27TH SATURDAY
OF SEPTEMBER
2:30 – 5:30PM



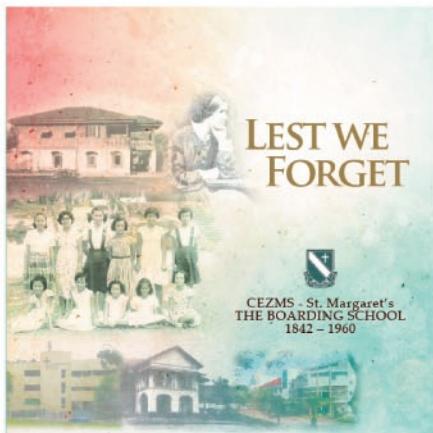
Talk On
 Face-Lift DIY
 by
 Carmen Ng

@SMSS
 Learning Lab

SMESA TEA PARTY
 Complimentary for members & invited guests
 \$10 only for non-members
 Please register by 15th September at
smesa.sg@gmail.com

St. Margaret's Ex-Students' Association
111 Farrer Rd
 Singapore 259240

▼ “Lest We Forget”



The boarders of CEZMS and St Margaret's School in the early days are publishing a book entitled “Lest We Forget” which they will be launching for sale at our 172nd Anniversary Dinner.

▼ Our New Members

Welcome aboard the following members! We look forward to seeing you at our activities.

Life Members

Ms Leong Sher Mae
 Ms Esther Ong Ching Shyan
 Ms Pearline Tan Nai Ying
 Ms Rachel Chung Ee-Lynn
 Ms Cheryl Elizabeth Teo
 Ms Paulin Phang Peck Lin
 Ms Chia Zhi Ying

- SMPS 1991 • SMSS 1995
- SMPS 1993 • SMSS 1997
- SMPS 1996 • SMSS 2000
- SMPS 1993 • SMSS 1997
- SMPS 1995 • SMSS 1999
- SMPS 1992 • SMSS 1997
- SMPS 1993 • SMSS 1997



SMSS SPEECH & PRIZE GIVING DAY 2014

The Secondary School 172nd Speech & Prize Giving Day was held on 25 July 2014 at the School Hall.

BY PIXIE HO



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The ceremony began with the singing of the School Hymn, a nostalgic moment for ex-students who were present at the ceremony. Mr Lawrence Boo, Chairman of the School Management Committee (SMC), then welcomed the parents, ex-students, the School's partners and invited guests. He stressed that a child's success depends on the parents' support. He encouraged the graduating students to enrol their daughters in St Margaret's Primary School when they become parents themselves in later years, and to join SMESA.

The ceremony continued with the presentation of the School Report by Mrs Marion Tan, the School Principal. In her report, Mrs Tan proudly announced the achievements of the students both academically and in CCA. For the 2013 'NT' Level exam results, 100% qualified for progression to ITE courses and for the 2013 'N' Level exam results, 100% were eligible for Sec 5N out of which, 50% were eligible for the Poly Foundation Program. As for the 2013 'O' Level exam results, 99.1% of the Express Stream and 89.8% of Sec 5(N) Academic qualified for JC/Poly/CI. 97 students scored 5 distinctions and above (out of which 4 students scored 9As).

Mrs Tan also announced that the top prize (Liza Mathew George Trophy) for the GCE "O" Levels 2013 was awarded to Grace Lee Kai Hoon and the All-Round Student 2013 (Dean Dumper/SMC Trophy) was awarded to Gabrielle Martens Jeyaseelan. She also proudly informed us that the School received Distinction Awards in all the 8 categories in the Performing Arts at the Singapore Youth Festival 2013.



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The Guest of Honour was Dr Amy Stebbings. She is a Consultant, Respiratory & Internal Medicine at Gleneagles Hospital. She is an ex-student of both SMPS and SMSS.

“Lessons in Life – My Life at St. Margaret’s” was what she chose to speak on. She shared the following lessons about life learnt when she was at St Margaret’s:

■ Discipline

She said that checks made on nails, uniforms, etc. and the failure to meet the standards, would have one sent for detention classes by cleaning the toilets. She was petrified by the detention classes and thus learnt to be discipline.

■ Humility

which she had learnt from her literature lessons and her teachers who had made a huge impression on her.

■ Resilience

She admitted it was not easy to follow but she strived.

■ Be Prepared

which has helped her to deal with difficult situations in life, such as when Singapore was faced with SARS.

■ Provide Service to Others

When at St Margaret’s, she was told of the story of girl who had brown eyes but prayed for blue eyes. Because she had provided love and shelter for others, that when danger came, she escaped from the enemies because of her brown eyes.

■ God Loves Me

Which she said was the most important lesson she had learnt... She concluded her talk by quoting the following: ‘Blessed are those pure in heart, for they shall see God’.

After the talk, the presentation of prizes followed. SMESA Awards for the Arts were presented to Kam Hui Wen (Chinese Dance), G.Nanthinee Shree (Indian Dance), Hannah Faruk Alkaff (Malay Dance), Aletheia Lai Xuanyu (Modern Dance), Jessica Esther Hutajulu (Choir), Nina Menon (Drama), Chin Jia Yun Serene (String Ensemble), Emily Teo Lu En (Symphonic Band) and Lee Hyun Ji (Creative Art Club).

The Valediction was delivered by Gabrielle Martens Jeyaseelan. The audience was later entertained with performances by the Choir, the String Ensemble and the Chinese Dance. The ceremony ended with the School Song and a sumptuous dinner.

SMESA members present at the ceremony were SMESA’s President, Lee Hoon Hwee, 2nd VP Pixie Ho, Annamah Tan, Monica Lim, Bridget Choy and Cecilia Peralta.

01 Dr Amy Stebbings presented the All-round Student 2013 Award (Dean Dumper/SMC Trophy) to Gabrielle M Jeyaseelan

02 Dr Amy Stebbings presenting the Top Prize GCE “O”Level 2013 (Liza Matthew George Trophy) to Grace Lee Kai Hoon

03 Guest-of-Honour, Dr Amy Stebbings with SMC members (L-R front row) Prof Lawrence Boo and Mrs Marion Tan. (L-R back row) Ms Annie Lim and Revd Bertram Cheong

04 Prof Lawrence Boo presenting the SMESA Awards for the Arts

05 SMSS Choir

06 SMSS String Ensemble

07 SMSS Chinese Dance Troupe



SMPS GREEN DOT CONCERT

Every year, around this time, the Primary School would hold a carnival to raise funds. However, this year, the Primary School decided to celebrate the artistic talents of the students instead. A concert was held at the St Andrew's Junior College Auditorium and an art exhibition was held in the reception area of the auditorium. This allowed family and friends of the St. Margaret's family to see the award-winning performances of our girls.

BY HUI CHOON WAI

More than twenty paintings with a variety of themes such as flowers, self portraits, and sea creatures were on display. The choice of vibrant colours and different art medium showcased our girls' vitality and imagination. Guests were happily taking photographs with these beautiful works of art before the concert started.

Before the curtain was raised, the primary school paid tribute to its late Principal Mrs Mary Cassim with a video montage of photographs through the years and oral monologues of our school's teachers-cum-former students sharing their fond and tender memories of this wonderful lady.

The concert was presented as if the participants were taking part in a talent contest. The audience was dazzled with a wide variety of performances of dance, music and even a poetry recital. About one-third of the school population took part. It was a rewarding effort for all involved in the concert as the audience were thrilled and delighted throughout.

A big thank you to all the participants for entertaining us!



01 SMESA Board members (L-R) Monical Lim, Bridget Choy, Pixie Ho, Hui Choon Wai & Jennie Bek at the atrium viewing the art exhibition by SMPS students

02 SMESA Board members (L-R) Monica Lim, Bridget Choy & Hui Choon Wai at the concert

03 Some of the "actors" in the Concert

04 The entire cast of the Concert



VISIT TO ST. ANDREW'S HOME FOR THE AGED

SMESA Board members visited the St Andrew's Cathedral Home for the Aged on 23 August 2014.

By JOY QUEK

SMESA Board would like to thank Mrs Margaret Lim, supervisor of the Home, for Board members to interact with the residents and allowing them to share a meaningful afternoon with the residents of the Home.

I was entrusted with the happy job of organising a gift for each of the residents. Ms Lee Siew Kwan gave me the wonderful idea of using tote bags to hold the gift items. I packed a face towel, toothbrush, toothpaste and bath towel in each tote bag. The residents will be able to make use of the tote bags when they go for outings as well!

In addition to the tote bag gift packs, we also bought *char siew pau* from a renown shop in Clementi and home-made agar agar. We were mindful not to spoil the residents' appetite for dinner as their dinnertime is 4pm!

We spent a wonderful afternoon getting to know the residents. The residents enjoyed the sharing sessions so much that we did not even have time to play games or sing together.

The visit was very meaningful for me, and I thank the Lord for making the visit a success.



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- 01 SMESA President Dr Lee Hoon Hwee, distributing the gifts to the residents
- 02 SMESA members with the residents. Mdm Tan Kum Lang (sitting in the centre) is the oldest resident. She is 99 years old.
- 03 SMESA members with the residents
- 04 The residents with our gifts
- 05 Our gift of tote bags filled with face towel, toothbrush, toothpaste & bath towel



TEACHERS' DAY DINNER

The Teachers' Day dinner was held on 29 August 2014 at the Raffles Town Club ballroom. The theme was "Heart of Gold". It represents the hearts of the teachers to nurture the next generation of citizens for Singapore. Most of the teachers were sporting and had an item of gold on them in line with the theme.

BY BRIDGET CHOY



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01 Winners of the Best-dressed contest
02 SMESA members at the Dinner
03 Team participating in the spider's web game

The event was sponsored by SMC, organised by PSG and assisted by PTA and SMESA. A photo booth, set up by PSG, was used by the teachers as a background for their photo sessions.

The MC selected a few teachers who were beautifully dressed in national costumes and invited them on stage. They were very sporting, and danced the traditional dance of the national costume that they were dressed in. The audience was delighted!

The audience was then divided into 3 teams. Each team was required to make a spider's web with a ball of string. The spider's web must be strong enough to enable a ball to bounce (as many times as possible) and to withstand the weight of the heaviest teacher in the team. Everyone had an enjoyable time working together.

The MC also requested that teachers who had taught in the school for less than a year to go on the stage. They were also very sporting and perform some disco moves. The audience laughed together with the new teachers.

The MC asked the audience to guess 4 animals in the Chinese Zodiac whose characteristics were stated on a poster. It took many guesses from numerous teachers before the right answer was obtained.

Six best dressed teachers were selected by 3 judges (1 judge each from PSG, PTA and SMESA). Our appreciation to SMC, PSG, PTA, SMESA, SMPS and SMSS for organizing this fun-filled event.

God Bless and Happy Teachers' Day.