

# ST. MARGARET'S CONNECT



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



## SMESA

Craft workshop & AGM  
1 April '23



After 3 years, SMESA resumed its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in person, back on home ground in St. Margaret's Secondary.

To kick-start the event, the Board organised a craft workshop for members to come together for a time of fun and fellowship. Led by the creative and energetic Ms Lina Wee (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President), members learnt, designed and made beaded bracelets for themselves and their loved ones. Witnessing these, together with members catching up on lost time, indeed warmed the heart. What made the event even more special was that proceeds from the workshop would be donated to the SMS(P) PERI-Upgrading Project. A total of \$400 was raised. Crafts made during the workshop were also donated to SMS(P) for sales as well.



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 181<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner – 16 November, to be held in SMS(S). Details to be released later.

**SMESA Newsletters will be distributed in soft copies. Hard copies are available upon request only.**

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## SMESA AGM (cum Craft Workshop)

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Our President, Ms Chew Siew Kheng, then commenced the AGM by extending a warm welcome and her deepest appreciation to member attendees. Greetings were then followed with a prayer and thanksgiving to God. Ms Chew presented the Board Members who will retain their titles and responsibilities till next year, 2024. This is in accordance to the amendment to the SMESA constitution made, which was announced during the SMESA AGM and approved by ROS in 2021.

Ms Chew then presented the President's Report for 2022, sharing the many events and activities organised by SMESA in support of its alma mater; in service of the members and the larger community (including the seniors at the St. Andrew's Cathedral Home for the Aged, SAC Home as well as senior members of SMESA). Ms Chew took the opportunity to invite members to play a stronger role in SMESA, be it providing work attachment opportunities for the girls in SMS(S), joining SMESA in giving back to St. Margaret's or sharing ideas on how to strengthen member engagement. In addition, Ms Chew shared the achievements of SMS(P) and SMS(S) in both the academic and non-academic arena, and thanked the School Management and Staff for their dedication and commitment to the girls' education.

Towards the end of her presentation, Ms Chew updated members the changes to the School name as well as the SMS(P) PERI-Upgrading Project. To learn how you may contribute to the fundraising efforts, please refer to Pg. 8 of the newsletter.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome aboard the following new members :-

No.	Member	SMPS	SMSS
1.	Chen Xiuyi	1995	1999
2.	Angeline Leow Xin Ling	1998	--
3.	Charlotte Cheang	2001	2005
4.	Kasthuri Vikiraman	--	2006
5.	Ruth Chloe Ho Lene	1993	--
6.	Aarthi Sankar	1999	2003
7.	Jesmin Kaur	2002	2006
8.	Robyn Tan	2004	2008
9.	Rachel Rose Leow-Yeong	2001	2007
10.	Charmain Kwok Sau Yi	1994	--

### **SMESA MEMBERSHIPS**

**We offer both Life membership and Youth membership.**

**For further details, please visit our website:**  
<http://www.smesa.org.sg/membership>.

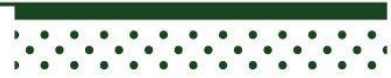
## Easter Visit to St. Andrew's Cathedral Home

On 5 April, 7 SMESA members together with 2 volunteers visited the residents of St. Andrew Cathedral Home (SACH).

As always, they were very excited to see us and welcomed us with their bright smiles. This visit was to bring Easter cheers to them. We played the Easter Story video on the Risen Savior and also sang songs with them, accompanied by handheld bells and clarinets. This was followed by craftwork where they were taught how to assemble floral and bunny wreaths by our volunteer, Tham Ee Mei, who is also a parent of ex-students. The residents were delighted when they completed the colorful assemblies. After all the hardwork, they were rewarded with cupcakes and each a small pot of felt roses made by Ee Mei. After spending over an hour with them, we left with our hearts filled with joy for a morning well spent with the residents.







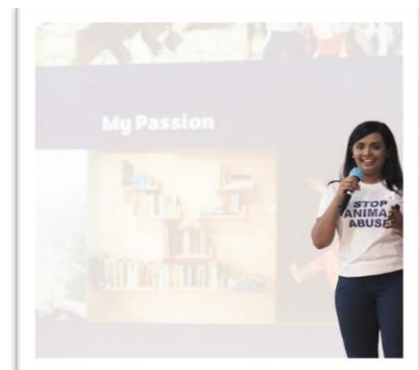
## SMESA Speaker Series 2023

### Ms Aarthi Sankar (Class of 2005)

This year’s SMESA Speaker Series was held on 12 May. The girls had the privilege to hear from **Ms Aarthi Sankar**, Executive Director for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

Ms Aarthi shared with the students how the School Motto continued to guide her in her life’s journey. She learnt many valuable lessons during her time in St. Margaret’s – the most memorable being those that centred on the value of empathy. Indeed, described as a people person, Ms Aarthi strives to foster meaningful engagements and partnerships to not only take SPCA to greater heights, but more importantly, build a compassionate and safe environment for animals.

Below is a beautiful reflection written by Ms Aarthi on her LinkedIn page:





**Aarthi Sankar** • 3rd+  
Executive Director at SPCA Singapore  
1mo • 🌐

[+ Follow](#) ...

Back to School!

I had the immense privilege of returning to my alma mater St Margaret’s Secondary School to share about my leadership journey with the students during their assembly. It was such a wonderful experience to be back home and to meet so many of my teachers who have shaped my life in more ways than one. My teachers as you would realise have aged far more gracefully than I have!

20 years ago as I bid farewell to this very school hall, I would never have imagined returning in this manner. A big thank you to the [St. Margaret’s Ex-Students’ Association \(SMESA\)](#) for this opportunity.

I’m incredibly proud to call myself a [#stmargs](#) girl and to belong to a 180-year heritage of women who have led with purpose and given much of themselves to enrich society.

If you’re a polka dot girl like me, let’s connect to see how we can give back to a school that has shaped us and connected us in so many ways!

[#spca](#) [#leadingwithpurpose](#)

## SMS(S) 181<sup>st</sup> Speech and Prize-Giving Day

SMS(S) celebrated its 181<sup>st</sup> Speech and Prize-Giving Day on 31 May 2023. This year's theme was "The Journey and Beyond". From the joyful pomp of the Choir and Concert Band, to the energetic and moving dance items by Modern Dance and Indian Dance, to a heartfelt speech by Valedictorian Ms Ariel Chay – each piece of the event served to provide a poignant reminder of the challenges the 2022 graduands and staff underwent during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as a celebration of the individual and collective strength and resilience displayed during those difficult years. All thanks to God for His faithfulness and provisions. To God be the glory!



School leaders and guests



Performance by the School Choir



Proud parents taking pictures with their daughters



Friends and family capturing the moment as the graduands gathered



## SMS(S) 181<sup>st</sup> Speech and Prize-Giving Day

### Reflection by Ms Ariel Chay, Valedictorian of Class 2022

Ms Ariel received the Top All-Round Student Award, winning the Dean Dumper Trophy, the School Management Committee Medal, the Liza Matthew George Trophy and the Goh Foundation Ltd. Award.

Below is Ms Ariel's reflection of her journey in St. Margaret's and her hopes for the future:

I still remember the amalgamation of emotions that filled me on the first day I stepped into St. Margaret's when I was in secondary one. I felt excited to finally begin my journey in secondary school, yet fearful for whatever was to come. In the blink of an eye, I completed the first three years of my journey in secondary school and I was finally moving on to the last year of secondary school. My year as a secondary four student was filled with a lot of stress and uncertainty. I always felt scared of not being able to stay consistent with my grades, and eventually disappointing myself.

However, I am very thankful for my teachers who assured me to keep up the hard work and do my best, as well as my friends who would encourage me whenever I was disappointed with my results. Looking beyond my academics, my secondary four year was also filled with many events that helped me to enjoy my last year in St. Margaret's. Many mass school activities such as singing National Day songs in the hall during national day celebration, having assembly in the parade square, and being able to have our graduation day in the hall with the rest of my batch mates brought about a sense of nostalgia within me.

Now, as I look back on my journey in St. Margaret's, I realised how much I have grown and I am thankful for the countless opportunities the school has given me to develop myself. Throughout my four years in St. Margaret's, I have been blessed to have had friendly classmates who were always willing to lend a helping hand and passionate teachers who always cared about our wellbeing and made sure that we could keep up with the lessons.



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## SMS(S) 181<sup>st</sup> Speech and Prize-Giving Day

### Reflection by Ms Ariel Chay, Valedictorian of Class 2022

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When I received the news that I was the valedictorian, I remember feeling very shocked, because I felt that there were so many other outstanding students who deserved the honour more than me. I also felt thankful towards God, for giving me such a big opportunity and keeping his promise that He would always be with me no matter what. While I am extremely honoured to be the valedictorian of the class of 2022, I feel that beyond the title of the valedictorian, everyone else should also be recognised for their hard work and celebrate their achievements no matter how big or small. We should all be proud of ourselves for what we have done, and with that mindset, work even harder to strive and do our best, not for others but for ourselves. Everyone is unique and can achieve great things if we put our heart and mind into doing it, and I think it is always important to remember where you have started out from. Even as we move on through the different stages of our lives, I hope that you will not forget the people and experiences that have made you who you are today and show your appreciation towards them.



Graduands celebrating one another's achievements. We wish them God's continued blessings in their journey beyond St. Margaret's.

**SMESA BOARD MEMBERS 2022-2024****President**

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**2nd Vice-President**

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**SMS(P) – PERI-Upgrading Project Updates***St Margaret's Fundraising*

&lt; Support our PUP &gt;

\*Designs printed on the cards are selected from the students' works.

Set A	 <b>Let's Inspire Others</b> Design by Adrina Tan, Alicia Koh, Anna Fong, Joyce Chow, Neveda & Sehshasane From 6C (2018)	 <b>Where's your Favourite Hangout?</b> Design by Claire Tan and Naomi Chu from 2D (2019)	 <b>Picasso-inspired Portraits</b> Design by Zhang Ailing (3D), Sarah Chen (3D), Emma Thio (3G), Leesha Lee (3D), Leisha Rai (3G) and Sharlene Kumar (3D) from 3D & 3G (2018)	 <b>Romero Britto-inspired Animals</b> Design by Park Minseo (1P), Lesanne Goh (1P), Edna Tham (1J) and Natalie Ho (1J) from 1P & 1J (2019)
Set B	 <b>Batik Painting</b> Design by Sofia Huang From 5G (2018)	 <b>Colours of our Shophouses</b> Design by Misha Claire Christian, Zoe Lee, Anya Chew and Chloe Ng from 3C (2017)	 <b>Every Litter Bit Counts</b> Design by Sakura Fukushima Tan Xue Li (5C), Nur Amira Begam (5C), Joyce Tiah Xiaoshuang (5D), Chloe Tang Xin Yu (5G), Abigail Ng Mei En (5J) and Anisa Soraya (6G) from 5C, 5D, 5G, 5J & 6G (2019)	 <b>Romero Britto-inspired Animals</b> Design by Kay Yi Xin (1D), Engracia Lim (1P), Alyssa Lam (1J) and Naomi Lim (1P) from 1D, 1P, 1J (2019)
Set C	 <b>Graduation Artwork</b> Design by Rafiyatul Rianah From 6C (2017)	 <b>Romero Britto-inspired Animals</b> Design by Dhanya Chandrasekaran (1G), Hannah Wang (1J), Miya Niskanen (1G) and Chloe Chan (1G) from 1G & 1J (2019)	 <b>Collagraph Prints</b> Design by Shanice Chua (2G), Sarah-Grace Chin (2P), Avni Samudrala (2P) and Anya Chan (2P) from 2G & 2P (2018)	 <b>Oil Pastels Landscapes</b> Design by Kaydience Ho (2G), Raenice Poh (2G), Tang Ke Xuan (2G), Kaaviya (2G), Evangelina Vivienne (2P), Athena Chen (2K), Charlotte Ong (2G) and Ellie Hoong (2C) from 2G, 2P, 2K, 2C (2018)

Note :

Each set comes in 4 different cards &amp; envelopes.

Each set is packed as shown.

While stocks last.

For purchases, please call general office at

**63394247** (during office hours).

Thank you for your support.

**School Website :**<https://stmargaretpri.moe.edu.sg/>