

# ST. MARGARET'S CONNECT



JAN-APR

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## Come, join us!

## COMING EVENTS

### SMESA High Tea – Fun with Handicraft

(Folding old assessment book  
into a bird cage or folding  
handkerchief into a bunny)

Date: Saturday, 13 May 2017

Time: 2 to 5 pm.

Venue: SMSS (Learning Lab)

Charges: \$15 (Member) \$20  
(Non-member)

### Visit to St. Andrew's Cathedral Home for the Aged

Date: Saturday, 20 May 2017

Time: 2 pm.

Venue: Block 341, Clementi Ave  
5 #01-148

### Homecoming & Green Dot Funfair

Saturday, 3 June 2017

Time: 9.00 am to 4.30 pm

Venue: SMSS

Funfair tickets are still available.

### 175th Anniversary Dinner

Date: Thursday, 16 November  
2017

Venue: Shangri-La Hotel

Price: \$135 per person

Guest of Honour: Mdm Halimah  
Yacob

The poster features a cartoon illustration of a girl in a school uniform (white shirt with dots, green skirt) holding a large yellow megaphone. She is standing in front of a school building with green trees. The text on the poster includes:  
- Top right: Two logos, one of St. Margaret's Secondary School and another of the SMESA.  
- Main title: "175th Anniversary Green Dot & Homecoming FunFair"  
- Text bubbles: "Food galore. Games to explore. What are you waiting for? Come, join us!"  
- Date and time: "3 June 2017, 9.00am - 4.30pm"  
- Location: "St. Margaret's Secondary School"  
- Contact: "For tickets, please contact 64664525"

For enquires with regard to the  
above events, please e-mail us at  
smesa.sg@gmail.com

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# PRESIDENT WRITES...

## SHARING A BURGER

The title and the following story were from the daily devotional, *Our Daily Bread*.

The story told of a woman who had the opportunity to visit the child she sponsored under an international compassionate programme. When there, she decided to take the child, who was living in 'abject poverty' for some food. The boy ordered a hamburger and the sponsor a salad. The food was brought to the table. It was a meal he had probably never witnessed in his life. He looked at his huge hamburger and then at the sponsor's small salad. The he took his knife, cut the burger into half and gave half to the sponsor. He rubbed his tummy and asked 'Hungry?'



This child who had virtually nothing in his entire life was willing to share half of his burger with someone he thought might need more. This hungry little boy's act truly tugged at your heartstrings!

Strangely, or perhaps not quite so, this story came to me whilst I was walking through the new Heritage Gallery at its recent opening at SMSS on 10 February. The tugging of the heartstrings on our founder, Mrs Maria Dyer that afternoon when she saw the poor young girls being sold on the streets as she landed in Singapore, must have been so great that she decided to stay on to help these girls. The care and love she had for the girls must have been as compelling as those felt by the little boy for his sponsor whom he thought was hungry like him and therefore the salad she had was not sufficient to assuage her hunger. His little act also shows the big thankful heart he has.

What a privilege all St Margaret's girls have, being a part of this noble heritage – that our School was founded on love and compassion. The leaders of our Schools through the years have lived out this heritage. At the opening of the Heritage Gallery, Boarder Elizabeth Ezekiel from class of 1958 shared with TODAY how Principal Norah Inge took her into the School after her father died and her mother was not in a position to take care of her. When she completed her secondary school, she thanked Ms Inge for giving her a roof over her head and an education. Ms Inge's words to her were 'Pass it on'.

Our Schools continue to help the girls to cultivate a thankful heart and to be compassionate and caring, upholding the School's motto *Charity, Patience, Devotion*. There are people in need everywhere, every day. Some are perhaps just around the corner in need of food or a kind word. Let us be a blessing to them.

**Lee Soo Kwan**  
**President**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Cessation of our old e-mail address: enquiries@smesa.org.sg

We have changed our e-mail address with immediate effect to: **smesa.sg@gmail.com**

### Memories of St. Margaret's

In celebrating its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the School is asking ex-students to send in your fond memories of your time with St. Margaret's. The School would love to have your photos (with captions) and stories which the School would like to feature on a dedicated website for all to enjoy. Please spread the word round to your classmates and schoolmates of this. Please send in as many photos and stories to [memories@stmargs.edu.sg](mailto:memories@stmargs.edu.sg).

### New Members

We welcome aboard the following new members:

- Adrienne Chew (SMPS 1995, SMSS 1998)
- Belynda Ho (SMSS 2005)
- Shirley Ho Soo Yee (SMPS 1991)
- Andrea Lau (SMSS 1999)
- Jasmine Lim (SMPS 1997, SMSS 2002)
- Amy Lin (SMPS 1995, SMSS 1999)
- Grace Seow Su Fong (SMPS 1989, SMSS 2003)
- Jasmine Sim Shin Ying (SMPS 1994)
- Winnie Leong Wan Li (SMPS 2000, SMSS 2004)
- Amanda Ho (SMPS 1993, SMSS 1997)
- Petrina Ng Siok Whye (SMPS 1997)
- Adelyn Sng Yoke Peng (SMPS 1975, SMSS 1979)
- Chua Li Tze (SMPS 1989, SMSS 1993)
- Claire Chai Pey Chee (SMPS 2000, SMSS 2004)
- Charlene Chai (SMPS 1997, SMSS 2002)
- Lim Giok San (SMPS 1958, SMSS 1962)
- Sheryl Lim Li Yan (SMSS 2012)

## TIT BITS

### Singapore Book of Records

The School achieved its attempt to form the theme of 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations with 4,208 tins of canned food. A certificate was awarded to the School for breaking the record. The canned food was later donated to the needy.



175 years of Charity, Patience, Devotion

### Guess who turned up at SMESA's AGM 2017!

Four Past Presidents of SMESA were spotted at our AGM held on 8 April 2017. Thank you Yeung Shun Yun, Anamah Tan, Alice Tan and Pixie Ho for your support. We were also very pleased to see a good turn up of members, some of whom would attend the AGM without fail every year. We hope more members would come next year for fellowship and camaraderie at our AGM.



L to R: Our Past Presidents Pixie Ho, Yeung Shun Yun, (Lee Soo Kwan – Current President), Anamah Tan and Alice Tan



## OPENING OF HERITAGE GALLERY : 10 FEB 2017

By : Ms May Lim

We kicked off our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the Opening of our Heritage Gallery at SMSS. We had the honour of inviting Mrs Chua Yen Ching, Deputy Director-General of Education (Professional Development) and Executive Director, Academy of Singapore Teachers as our Guest of Honour.

Mrs Chua shared with us memories of her school days in St. Margaret's and two points which I personally hope that the students have heard :

- **Academic excellence should never be at the expense of character.**
- **No matter what problems or struggles you have, tough times do not last, tough people do!**

### ***Privadharshini Neoumaran of 6 Patience***

*I feel very privileged to attend this event and I think this is very meaningful as the can food will be donated to charities. This shows our value of charity.*

### ***Seah Kai Ee of 4E3***

*I feel extremely honoured to be part of the opening of our new heritage gallery. I think we are blessed to have such a long heritage to commemorate and I am very thankful for that.*

### ***Mrs Lucy Seet, current teacher at SMSS who joined the school in 1978.***

*I helped to set up the first gallery with a team and we were very happy with that. But now, as I look at this new gallery, I feel that it really reached out to the younger generation with its fresh perspective and presentation of history. I hope that future generations will look at the gallery and take pride in the fact that it is because we have a rich heritage that we can have this gallery. May future students carry on the legacy to grow and glow in God.*



SMESA President Ms Lee Soo Kwan briefing  
Guest of Honour Mrs Chua Yen Ching



Nuggets of history

## SMESA SPEAKER SERIES (24 FEB 2017): MS SARA LIEW

By : Ms May Lim

**We had the honour of inviting Ms Sara Liew to the 1<sup>st</sup> Speaker Series of 2017. Sara graduated from both SMPS & SMSS and her daughter also graduated from SMSS in 2016.**

Sara is an Equity Director heading the Corporate Department and the Corporate Secretarial division of Central Chambers Law Corporation. She graduated from King's College London in 1988 and was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1989. She was admitted to the Singapore Bar in 1991.

In our fast changing world from industrial age to information age environment, it is timely that Sara shared her experience of mentorship with some of the most enterprising entrepreneurs that she had the privileged to mentor, including Carousell, PatSnap, Daylight Studios, Shopback and Vanitee.

Sara and her team recently published a book entitled '*Legal Guide for Startups and Fundraising in Singapore*' for the funding and startup space in Singapore. She also donated copies of the book to the SMSS library. Sara implored the students – If Your Dreams Do Not Scare You, they are Not Big Enough. Keep Learning!



Sara giving her talk "Dare to Dream"



Listening attentively



# JOB SHADOWING AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

By : Ho Lian Geok

In this issue, we highlight two organisations who enriched the learning experience of our students during the November school holidays.

## Public Library Service Development (National Library Board)

Period of Attachment	: 11 – 2 November 2016
Students	: Vanessa Au (3/5), Feng Qi Ling (3/5), Amber Kong (3/6), Bernice Tan (3/4) and Ye Jianing (3/1)
Supervisor	: Ms Agnes Ang, Associate Librarian
Nature of Work	: Library operations and Mother Tongue Language Festival

*"While helping out during the events and activities I have learnt to be more patient...."* - **Vanessa**

*"I have also been able to work with schoolmates whom I was not close to and in the end we have built new friendships"* - **Qi Ling**

*"This work attachment experience at NLB has been an eye-opening one"* - **Amber**

*"It taught me to work with people and to compromise despite our differences and shortcomings"* - **Bernice**

*"This is truly a rare and valuable learning experience...."* - **Jianing**



At Central Library

## Food, Drinks and Allied Workers Union (NTUC Administration and Research Unit)

Period of attachment	: 7 – 18 November 2016
Students	: Clearice Law (3/3) and Elizabeth Roy (3/5)
Supervisor	: Ms Melissa Ng, Industrial Relations Officer and ex-student
Nature of Work	: Administrative work, membership matters and shadowing an Industrial Relations Officer

Note: Special thanks to our ex-student of SMSS, Ms Toh Hwee Tin, Alignment Director of NTUC Administration and Research Unit, for providing the opportunity.

*"This work attachment definitely widened my knowledge about the union. I learnt to become more considerate towards other people" - **Clearice***

*"I'm grateful for this opportunity because I've learnt so much more about the working world and the skills required as an Industrial Relations Officer" - **Elizabeth***



With e21 Staff (Clearice, second from right; Elizabeth, far right)

We are grateful to ex-students who have either given their time and effort to guide our girls or offered learning opportunities in the workplace. Job-shadowing stints help our students develop skills and work ethics that will be useful for them when they enter the workforce. If you would like to contribute in this area, do contact us for more information!



## SMESA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ST. MARGARET'S SECONDARY SCHOOL ON 8 APR 2017

By : Bridget Choy

The SMESA AGM is not only about discussing serious business in the Agenda but also a time for members to have fellowship and get to know each other better. It is also heartening to see the support always from past presidents. As there was no quorum, the Meeting was adjourned for 30 minutes. When it was resumed half an hour later, serious matters in the Agenda were concluded and followed by the election of the office-bearers for 2017/2018.

The following persons were elected in the respective positions:-

President:	Ms Lee Soo Kwan
First Vice President:	Ms Pamela Rachel Kwan Ka Foong
Second Vice President:	Ms Chew Siew Kheng
Honorary Secretary:	Ms Ho Lian Geok
Assistant Honorary Secretary:	Ms Bridget Choy Wai Fong
Honorary Treasurer:	Ms Hui Choon Wai
Assistant Honorary Treasurer:	Ms Adeline Sng Yoke Peng
Committee Members:	Ms Pixie Ho Pik Yew
	Ms Jennie Bek Poh Kiang
	Ms May Lim Yen Ling
	Mrs Tay-Lang Ren Jee Renata
	Ms Sara Liew May Lei

Ms Joy Gillian Quek and Ms Yong Mee Lan were elected as Auditors.

The following members who attended the AGM for the first time shared their thoughts:-

*"It was an amazing experience meeting everyone and knowing how I can contribute and help the team. I also met some ex-students whom I have not seen for several years." - Ms Jasmin Kaur*

*"It was an updating and interesting event on all our school news and teachers. Glad to also know how the alumni had been contributing to our school." - Ms Adeline Sng*

Do join us for the wonderful fellowship and sumptuous food next year!



AGM attendees