



REACH



CANOSSIAN SCHOOL | NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2022



Center of excellence for the education of children with hearing loss

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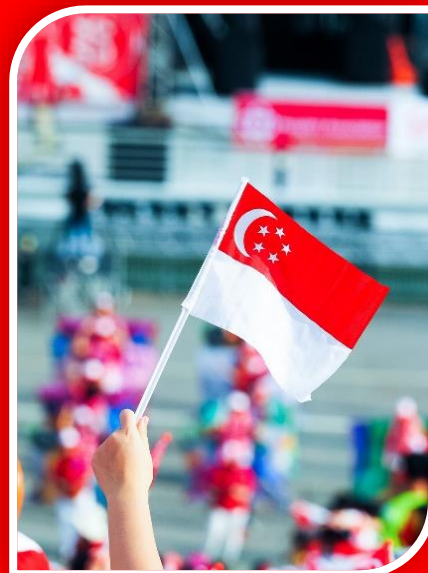


Nurturing each in their own way by forming hearts,
enlightening minds and empowering spirits to live in
The Way, The Truth and The Life

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents / Guardians

We have come to the middle of Term 3 and we are happy to embark on a judicious resumption of normal activities with the easing of most of our Safe Management Measures. This means that we can allow for more social learning as teachers reintroduce group work and collaborative learning practices. The inclusion of outdoor, authentic learning experiences will further broaden their learning. Although measures have been eased, we urge families to continue ensuring personal hygiene and social responsibility in their everyday lives.



The rest of the term has us looking ahead to celebrations with the return of parades at Singapore's 57th National Day. Our Primary 5 students were treated to a preview of the parade at the NE Show, after a 2-year hiatus. We will also experience the return of the showcasing of diverse artistic talents and creativity at the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation. Our band will participate in this presentation on 25 August. As we close the month, we toast the fervour and efforts of our staff at the annual Staff Appreciation Day. School will be dismissed earlier on the eve of National Day and Teachers' Day.

Catholics in Singapore also look forward to a milestone event in our Catholic history. On 27 August in Rome, Archbishop William Goh, the head of our local Catholic Church will be officially appointed as a Cardinal by Pope Francis. He has the distinction of being the first Singaporean to receive this honour. Pope Francis describes the role of a Cardinal as "one who will be able to carry the voices of the people from the region to the universal Church and, in turn, brings the concerns and affections of the Pope and the universal Church to all the people of God here." With the appointment, Cardinal-elect Goh aims to promote religious harmony and support the progress of Singapore and the Church in Asia.

Through all these significant events, our Primary 6 students remain steadfast in their intensive preparations for their PSLE which begins from 15 August. The dates and times of both the Preliminary Examinations and the PSLE are found in the following pages of this edition. Do take note of the dates as there will be dates of early dismissal as well as Home-based Learning.

On the subject of the PSLE, every year, there is usually a public outcry about how difficult the PSLE Maths papers were. To address this, MOE has released an article on the Teaching of Maths to dispel some of the misconceptions surrounding the PSLE Maths paper. The article can be accessed at this link: <https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/does-maths-have-to-be-so-difficult>. To further ease anxieties of both parents and students caused by school examinations, Deputy Director-General of Education, Sng Chern Wei explains the rationale for the removal of all Mid-Year Examinations from 2023 in this letter to the press: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/forum-letter-replies/20220317-removal-of-mid-year-exams-will-help-nurture-joy-for-learning>. We hope these articles help allay concerns that parents or students may have over examinations. With this I wish you all a healthy, happy August and a Happy National Day.

God bless!

Christina Michael (Ms)
Principal

Adventure Week

27 June to 1 July

Our Pri One to Pri Five students participated in the activities organised by CCPS for Adventure Week. The objectives were to engage the students in varied learning experiences that promote positive interdependence and foster individual accountability towards their own learning. Students extend what is learned from the learning formal curriculum through these learning experiences. These experiences help them construct new knowledge, make meaning and connections to the knowledge and experiences learned earlier.



P1 students learning to play chess



P3 student exploring new skills in art making



P2 students enjoying their trip at the zoo



P5 students went for a learning journey at Kampong Glam

National Day Goodie Bags designed by Katelyn Mah (Primary One)

Canossian School is roaring with joy together with Katelyn Mah from P1 Hope! Her design, “Roar with Courage!” was among 23 designs selected by the National Day Parade (NDP) EXCO team '22, to be printed on the NDP'22 packs. This initiative was started in 2020 by Sg Enable, Social Service Agencies and Special Schools, to showcase the artistic abilities of students from SPED schools. Katelyn drew a fierce, roaring lion, which is her favourite animal. Together with the lion are her parents and herself.

Katelyn’s story will be featured in the “Book of Stories” which will be available in both print (limited) and digital (available to general public) formats. On 17 July, she attended an Engagement session with President Halimah, together with the other 22 artists whose designs were used on the tote bags.



The exhibition, “Our Gift to Singapore” showcasing NDP artworks including Katelyn’s will be held at Opera Gallery @ ION Orchard #02-16 S(2238801). It will be opened to the public after its launch on Friday 5 August 2022 till Wednesday 10 August 2022.

This is in partnership with [Opera Gallery](#) and [Thirdspace Global Pte Ltd](#), organised in conjunction with Singapore’s National Day celebrations and SG Enable’s i’mable public education initiative.

ART:DIS

ART:DIS would like to extend complimentary passes to all persons with disabilities/alumni to participate in “Object-Making and Fabrics Crafting towards Well-being and Clemency” Workshop. Conducted by Researcher and Multi-art Practitioner, Dr. Dawn-joy Leong, participating individuals will get to go on a personal and intimate adventure where they can use objects we see everyday to create their own space. The details of the workshop are as follows :



Object-Making and Fabrics Crafting towards Well-being and Clemency

Date: 10th September 2022, Saturday
Time: 10am to 1pm & 2pm - 5pm
Venue: ART:DIS @Bukit Merah
Social Service Office @Bukit Merah
3779 Jalan Bukit Merah #03-01 Singapore 159462

If you are interested, please register by filling up this form: <https://forms.gle/rPs7BhkAs5YEd5CE9>

CS Choir Got Talent

CS Choir had our first ever singing contest on 22 July 2022. All the participants did well and we are really proud of their commitment and hard work put in to prepare for their item and the boldness to perform solo before an audience. We would also like to extend our appreciation to all the parents for their support from the home-front to journey along with their child from choosing the song, costume and props to video recording of a preview of the item, in preparation of this contest. The CS Choir have enjoyed this maiden experience and we hoped the parents have too!



Group photo of the participants

Winners of 2022 CS Choir Got Talent!

Gold Award – Obnial Renz
Joaquin Songco

Silver Award - Benedict Goh

Bronze Award - Ishaan
Hitesh Doshi

Important Dates

National Day Celebrations

The school will be celebrating National Day on Monday, 8 August. Students will report to school by 7.00 am and be dismissed at 10.30 am. Please note that Tuesday, 9 August is a public holiday and Wednesday, 10 August is a school holiday. Students will return to school on Thursday, 11 August.

PSLE Oral Examination

The oral examination will be conducted on Monday, 15 August. P6 students who are sitting for the exam will report to school. Details will be provided by the Form Teachers. It will be Home-Based Learning (HBL) for P1 to P5 and P6 students not sitting for the exam.

On 16 August, all students are to report to school at 7.00 and will be dismissed at 1.30 pm. The canteen will be closed so students are reminded to bring their own snacks for recess.

Dates	Events
<u>Primary 6 Preliminary Examinations</u> The P6 will be taking their Preliminary Examinations on the following dates: Tuesday, 26 July Thursday, 18 August Friday, 19 August Tuesday, 23 August	English Language Listening Comprehension English Language Paper 1 and Paper 2 Mathematics Science
<u>PSLE Oral Examination</u> The Primary 6 students will be sitting for their oral exams on Monday, 15 August.	Students from Pri One to Pri Five will be on Home-based Learning (HBL) on 15 August 2022. Normal lessons will resume on Tuesday 16 August. School will operate from 7.30am to 1.30pm with no support programme in the afternoon.

Tips for Parents

Strategies to Avoid a Power Struggle with Children

As children grow and become more independent, they will naturally prefer making their own decisions, for example: what clothes they like to wear, what time they go to bed, what food they want to eat, etc. If their choices differ from the adults', this will inevitably give rise to power struggles causing distance and hostility which may lead to resistance, rebellion and even resentment between children and adults.



Adults can create a win/win or safe learning environment where closeness and trust are built on where there is no fear of blame, shame or pain. The following suggestions teach children important life skills of self-discipline, responsibility, cooperation and problem-solving skills, avoiding a power struggle between child and adult.

Offer Controlled Choices

To get your child to cooperate, offer him two or three options that you are comfortable with. This way, whatever he chooses is a win for you. When your child feels like he has made his own decision, he is more likely to own it and will follow through. Children have a strong need to maintain their autonomy and often throw tantrums when they feel their autonomy is threatened. Giving them limited controlled choices puts the ball right back in their court and makes them feel empowered.

Offering choices may be a good way to avoid a fight but be careful not to offer one that is not immediately available. As children aren't mature enough to control their impulses, this also means that patience isn't really their strong suit. So enticing them with "ice cream later in the week" or "a favourite toy for Christmas at the end of the year" may actually backfire and put you right back in the middle of the battle you were hoping to avoid.

Suggestions:

Limited choices: "Do you want to do your homework before dinner or after dinner?" "Do you want to set the table or clean up after dinner?"

Make a "Wheel of Choice" together. Draw a big circle and divide into wedges. Brainstorm lots of solutions to problems. Draw illustrations for each solution. During a conflict, invite child to pick something from the wheel.

Avoid Making Empty Threats

As tempting as it is to use threats because they may have worked on some occasions, making empty threats like cancelling a birthday party or a planned family vacation are bound to work against you. The odds are, your children will soon learn that your threats are empty and are less likely to have an impact on them in future.

Suggestions: Decide what you will do. "I will read a story after teeth are brushed." "I will switch on the television when the toys are kept."

Control Your Reaction

Children are known to test limits and every time we have a big reaction to something they do that annoys us, we are giving more power to that particular behaviour. So when your child repeatedly does something infuriating, take a deep breath and keep your temper in check. If not, your naturally curious child will be more inclined to continue the annoying behaviour to see just how much of a reaction he can get from you. If you do not respond negatively, he will lose interest and move on.

Suggestion: The key is KINDNESS AND FIRMNESS AT THE SAME TIME. (Stop all activity without saying a word. Children learn more from kind and firm actions rather than words.)

Give Them Time to Comply

Even adults need time to transition from one task to another. Telling your child to put down what he is doing and move on to another task is a recipe for disaster as children need a lot of time to process change. Instead, tell your child he has 15 minutes before he has to do the task you need him to do. Then remind him again when he has five minutes left on the clock. Your child is more likely to comply because he had been given the time to process the request and gotten the closure he needed from the task he was previously busy with.

Hope the strategies help!

References:

<https://familiesforlife.sg/discover-an-article/Pages/4-Ways-to-Avoid-a-Power-Struggle-with-Your-Children.aspx>

<https://www.positivediscipline.com/articles/18-ways-avoid-power-struggles>