

REACH

Center of excellence for the education of children with hearing loss

August 2023



CANOSSIAN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



OUR MOTTO

VIA, VERITAS, VITA (The Way, The Truth, The Life)

Our motto draws its inspiration from Jesus Christ. We take Him as our model and seek to follow in His footsteps.

Via (The Way)

We walk confidently and joyfully on the path of life, overcoming all difficulties with fortitude and prayer.

Veritas (The Truth)

We are sincere in word, deed and action.
We are open to truth and knowledge.

Vita (The Life)

We live for others, ready to share, serve and sacrifice for others.

Our Mission

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

Our Values

The core values that guide the educative process at Canossian School are based on the Canossian values of Faith, Charity, Humility and Forgiveness.



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From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents / Guardians



August is a significant month for us for a number of reasons. We celebrate our nation's independence on 9 August. This year's theme is, "Onward as One" in a call to all Singaporeans to look forward confidently and move onward together in building our shared future as one united people. "Onward" reflects a united and inclusive nation that is forward looking and resilient to any challenges that lie ahead. The logo portrays Singapore's determination to come together to build a shared future. The number "58" embedded in the lion's head reminds us of how far we have come in the past 58 years. The logo is angled upward to represent the aspirations of Singaporeans who will take Singapore to greater heights, amidst any challenges that may lie ahead. This year's theme song, "*Shine Your Light*" can be viewed at this link: <https://youtu.be/Sodl8fo4uYQ>.

On 15 August, Catholics commemorate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who at the close of her earthly life was taken up, body and soul, into the glory of heaven. This has a special significance for us as her body was spared the physical process of decay that is natural for living beings. On this same day in 1941, our Canossian Sisters launched the first school, a mainstream primary school, within the premises at Sallim Road. This year, on 15 August, our Primary 6 students will take their PSLE Oral Exams and we entrust their success in the hands of our Blessed Lady. Following closely after this first paper, they will move into their Preliminary Examinations.

As we move into the time of year when the final examinations are drawing close, our Pri 6 may begin to feel some amount of pressure. This is when both families and schools can up the ante in providing support for them. On the home front, parents can keep a close eye on signs of them displaying changes in behaviour or in temperament. If there are signs of any combinations of these behaviours, please do inform your child's teacher. Here are some signs to look out for:

- Is your child struggling to pay attention to studies?
- Does he or she look very tired, have a loss of appetite or has difficulty sleeping?
- Are they overly rebellious?
- Do they give feeble excuses from coming to school?
- Are they more withdrawn or keeping to themselves more often than not?
- Are they displaying sulkiness or mood swings?

If your child shows a combinations of these signs, in extreme or sustained forms, it may be an indication that they are overwhelmed. Do inform your child's teacher so that we can work together to ease their anxieties. At the end of the day, our only desire is that they perform as best as they can and we celebrate their effort and determination.

God Bless.

Christina Michael (Ms)
Principal

Singapore Youth Festival

The school choir was invited to perform in the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Celebrations on 1 July at the Esplanade Theatre.

The students stole the show, they received compliments from the Creative Director, the crew members and even the secondary school performers. They really did the school proud.



The choir students joyfully rehearsed backstage before the performance began



The choir performing the finale at the Esplanade Concert Hall

NE Show



The Primary 5 students attended the National Education (NE) show on 8 July at the Padang. The NE show is an important means by which students develop a strong national identity based on a sense of belonging to the nation. At this year's show, they were fully immersed in the sights and sounds of the celebration. The spectacular fireworks brought the whole celebration to a greater height and the students had a whale of a time.



Madam Chua and Madam Loo, with their Pri 5 students, were delighted in the NE show together.

Singapore Youth Festival 2023 Art Exhibition



Encore to our young artists; Noah Tan (P1), Aisyah Amirah Bte Mohd Yusoff (P2) and Shreesha Saharoy (P2) whose artwork, “Happy Animals Living in the Forest” has been selected for the 57th Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) 2023 Art Exhibition. The students would be receiving a Certificate of Recognition each. Moreover, their artwork has also been selected for a yearlong exhibition at Ministry of Education (MOE) Lobby, starting in August 2023. Only 20 artworks out of all that were displayed at the SYF Art Exhibition have been selected.

The SYF celebrates the artist in every child. It showcases creative ideas, personal aspirations and hard work put into artistic expressions by students from over 190 Primary and Special Education (SPED) schools. 2023 marks the first year that SPED schools are participating. This year's SYF Art Exhibition, themed 'Artist and Inspiration', aims to nurture in students a keen appreciation for historical and cultural influences in art.

The Exhibition featuring more than 200 artworks which ended on 30 July was held at Stamford Arts Centre. There is also an online showcase of the artworks at: www.svf.gov.sg

Faith Formation by Sr Janet

Sr Janet shared the value of 'Forgiveness' with CS students. It starts with God who taught us forgiveness in the Our Father prayer and in various biblical stories. Many examples of people demonstrating forgiveness were shared and St Bakhita, a Canossian Sister, who is a model of forgiveness was specially mentioned.

Students were engaged through videos, dramatization and a song on forgiveness. Students reflected on the stories in the videos and offered their perceptions on forgiveness. They learnt to forgive and to ask for forgiveness. The session ended with an activity where the students write a note to a person asking for forgiveness.





Sr Janet conducted a highly impactful sharing session for all the students

forgiveness

The students were fully engaged during the sharing session




The Leading Foundation Teacher Award 2023 - Call for Nomination



An Institute of

The Leading Foundation Teacher Award 2023 for Early Childhood and Special Needs Education



*“Celebrating Teachers as Change Agents –
Heart, the Spirit of Innovation and Advocacy”*

The Award

The Leading Foundation Teacher Award recognises passionate and dedicated teachers who have made significant contributions to the care and teaching of children in the fields of early childhood and special educational needs [i.e. Preschool Educators, Early Years Educators, Infant Educators, Early Intervention Professionals, Special School Teachers, and Special Educational Needs Officers. These are the teachers who have put in commendable efforts to make a difference in the lives of children. The Award is therefore looking out for teachers who display any one of these qualities:

- show exceptional dedication and commitment to go beyond the call of duty in caring for their students' well-being – this depicts the 'heart' of teaching.
- take risks in searching and (re)searching for new ideas and in the process, enhances the quality of teaching and learning – this engenders the spirit of innovation.
- vocalise and stand up for the rights of children – this portrays advocacy at work.

The 'change' (i.e., benefits, improvements and/or progress) can be to the individual child and family, school/centre, or community.

Award winners will each receive a cash gift of \$2,500 and an award certificate.

Nominations

The National Institute of Education (Psychology and Child & Human Development Academic Group) invites schools, early childhood development centres, teachers, parents, children, and members of the public to nominate full-time practitioners in any of the following categories:


- Preschool Educators, Early Years Educators, Infant Educators from Kindergarten, Child Care and Infant Care Settings
- Special School Educators from EIPIC and Special School Settings
- Special Educational Needs Officers from Primary and Secondary Schools

Nominees should have at least 3 years of teaching experience in Singapore. They can be from the private or government educational settings.

Please note that this is a **TEACHING AWARD**. Those in management positions (e.g., principals, supervisors, operators, etc.) or who do not have teaching as their primary responsibility are not eligible for this award.

[**Submit Your Nomination Online Now!**](#)

Closing date: 25 Aug 2023



Nomination for the Leading Foundation Teacher Award is now open till 25 August 2023!

[Click here to submit your Nomination now!](#)

The Leading Foundation Teacher Award recognises exemplary educators in the fields of early childhood and special needs education [i.e. Preschool Educators, Early Years Educators, Infant Educators, Early Intervention Professionals, Special School Teachers and Special Educational Needs Officers.

All schools, early childhood development centres, teachers, parents, children, and members of the public are welcomed to submit your nominations for the prestigious Leading Foundation Teacher Award [via this link](#).

Upon nomination, the nominee will receive a notification to complete nominee form. Only online submissions through the new GEVME platform will be considered, and both the nominator and nominee forms must be submitted before the submission deadline on 25 August 2023.

We look forward to receiving your nominations!

Important Dates to note

National Day Celebrations

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

PSLE Oral Examination

The oral examination will be conducted on Tuesday, 15 August (To be confirmed). 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
Tuesday, 22 August	Dialogue session at 6.00pm (via zoom) with Principal and Form Teacher for Pri 6 parents
Primary 6 Preliminary Exams Pri 6 students will be taking their Preliminary Examinations on the following dates: Tuesday, 25 July 2023 Friday, 18 August 2023 Monday, 21 August 2023 Wednesday, 23 August 2023	English Language Listening Comprehension English Language Paper 1 and Paper 2 Mathematics Science
PSLE Oral Examinations The P6 will be sitting for their oral exams on Tuesday, 15 August 2023 Wednesday, 16 August 2023	

Audiological updates for Parents

Healthcare funding schemes available for cochlear implant / hearing aids in Singapore

There are a few funding schemes available for cochlear implant / hearing aids for children in Singapore. They are:

1) ACE (Agency for Care Effectiveness)

- In 2018, MOH's Medical Technology Advisory Committee recommended that children who were severe-to-profound in both ears should receive bilateral cochlear implantation as early as clinically suitable.
- For children who had received unilateral CI, the second CI in the contralateral ear should be provided by 6 years of age if this is judged to provide sufficient benefit.
- Subsidies are granted for eligible children (Singapore Citizens) and parents may approach hospital personnel to apply. All applicants are subjected to Means Testing.
- In late 2019, subsidies for replacement of existing CI processor has been used for at least 5 years, and warrant replacement for achieving optimal hearing had also been approved.
- Subsidies however do not apply CI accessories eg. rechargeable batteries, cables.

2) ATF (Assistive Technology Fund)

- Administered by SG Enable, it provides subsidies for persons with disabilities to purchase assistive technology devices e.g. hearing aids, CI processors, Roger (FM) systems etc.
- It can be used to replace or upgrade devices.
- To be eligible, the applicant must:
 - i) Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident
 - ii) undergone qualified assessor's assessment to determine the need and type of device eg. audiologist recommend hearing aids
 - iii) household gross monthly income per person of \$2,000 and below
- Applicants may apply through a Therapist or a Social Worker from Touchpoints such as Hospitals or Social Service Agencies to assist the submission of ATF application form.
- Successful applicants are granted a means-tested subsidy of up to 90% of the cost of the device, subject to a cap of \$40,000 in his/ her lifetime.

Per Capita Monthly Household Income	ATF Subsidy Rate	
	SC	PR
\$0 to \$800	90%	65%
\$801 to \$1,200		50%
\$1,201 to \$2,000	75%	30%
\$2,001 and above	0%	0%

3) Medifund Junior

- MediFund is an endowment fund set up by the Government to assist children (S'pore citizens, below age 18) from needy families to pay for their medical expenses towards hearing assessment, therapy and medical consultation.

- Parents must apply through approach the Medical Social Workers at the Medifund-approved institutions.

4) Individual hospital's schemes (Medical Social Services)

- Subsidies are given case-by-case basis.

- Parents must apply through approach the Medical Social Workers of the hospitals