

REACH

Center of excellence for the education of children with hearing loss

May 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 Charity, Humility, Forgiveness and Faith.



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From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents / Guardians

This issue heralds the end of Semester 1 for this year. The first four months seem to have whizzed by incredibly fast. Before we end the term, it would be prudent to take stock of our journey thus far as we look ahead to the mid-year break.

To start off, allow me to extend our gratitude to all of you, parents and guardians, for the trust and partnership with our staff over the last few months. The progress we see in our students is testimony of the mutual benefit of having parents work in collaboration with the school. We acknowledge that supporting students of this profile in accessing the national curriculum is challenging for each of you. Making time to supervise their studies does not happen without effort especially for parents who hold down full-time jobs. Your tenacity bodes well for you and your charges.

As you continue to support your children, here are a few tips to help your spirits stay buoyant. Growing as successful parents creates an open mindset which models positive behavior for your children. Here are some morsels of advice that you may want to bite into:

- That there are likely to be days when being a parent is just too much as you struggle with your children, your schedules or your insecurities. On such days, admitting that the going is tough does not mean you are giving up. It just validates the fact that some days you do better and that mistakes are opportunities to learn and try again.
- Working with children to help them understand expectations is not easy. Talking to them can be challenging. Try listening to them instead. We can learn from them.
- As much as our children matter, so do you. You cannot take care of your child if your mental and physical health are neglected. This is why flight safety briefings always remind you to put on your oxygen mask before attempting to put one on for your child.
- Remember to accept your child is different from how you were at their age. Continue to work with your child's team (teachers, family members, etc.) to help them succeed.

While mulling over these tips, another area to focus on is how you plan to spend the mid-year holidays with your child(ren). Spending quality time with them does not necessarily involve heavy expenses. Here are some low-cost activities that could create treasured memories for your family:

- Start the day with some exercise, either at home or at a nearby park. An early morning cardio workout is beneficial to both mental and physical well-being. Simple, uncomplicated workouts for children are easily available online.
- Continue to encourage the reading habit with your child. Take a break from RAZ Kids and explore other virtual libraries such as the National Library Board's (NLB) website from home at: <https://nlb.overdrive.com/library/kids>.
- Discover Singapore's first-ever Children's Museum (<https://www.nhb.gov.sg/childrensmuseum>). Designed to be a "starter museum", has interactive installations and experiences that spark imagination and curiosity in kids of all ages or the Gallery Kids for all the latest insights, festivals, exhibitions and events specially curated for them.

I hope you have some nuggets here that bring joy to yourself and your families. God Bless you always!

Christina Michael (Ms)
Principal

Acts of Charity – Gift of Love Boxes

Our students participated actively in the Annual Gift of Love project during the season of Lent. They saved part of their daily allowance in their specially designed money boxes made out of recycled materials. Their savings will be channelled towards a charity organisation. This project helped to raise their awareness to be others-centred and that they can do their part to help those in need.

Some of our students were commended for the creative and eye-catching designs and were awarded prizes.



Cute Gift of Love boxes created by Pri 3 students

Interactive Session at Princess Elizabeth Primary School: Love Experience Project (Co-design A Toy)

Canossian School has been in partnership with Princess Elizabeth Primary School for their Love Experience project since 2021.

With this project, students of Princess Elizabeth Primary School are provided basic information about hearing loss so that they gain an understanding of how students with hearing loss overcome their challenges and learn how to interact with them. This initiative is an effort by CS to raise public awareness of hearing loss. In turn, students from Princess Elizabeth Primary School develop a sense of empathy for people with disabilities and a platform for them to apply design thinking in creating small toys for our students as a symbol of friendship.

Over the last two years, the project has taken place via a virtual mode. This year, the teachers of Princess Elizabeth Primary School invited our students over to their school for an interactive session on 11 Apr 2023. Our students were warmly welcomed and integrated into 3 Primary 2 classes from Princess Elizabeth Primary School and students from both schools worked together to co-design some toys. This visit had provided our students with a good opportunity to socialize with peers from another school and students from both schools were observed to be in high spirits. School leaders and teachers from both schools also had a fruitful time networking and had discussed about future sessions of similar nature.

The session end on a joyous note when our students presented their partners from Princess Elizabeth Primary School some unique, hand-crafted cards as gifts and also performed an Italian song 'Maddalena Va'. School leaders, teachers and students from Princess Elizabeth Primary School enjoyed the performance and were impressed by our students.



Students from Princess Elizabeth and Canossian School doing the project together



P2 students performing the Italian song, Maddalena Va

Important Dates to Note

Dates	Events
Monday, 1 May	Public Holiday, Labour Day
Friday – Saturday, 12 – 13 May	Annual School Camp. All students will report to school as usual on Friday. More details will be provided nearer the date.
Thursday, 4 May	Last Day of Support class.
Friday, 5 May and 19 May	There will be CCA on Fridays, 5 and 19 May. Last day of CCA will be on 19 May.
Tuesday, 16 May – Monday, 22 May	<u>Meet-the-Parents (MTP)</u> There will be parent-teacher meeting for selected students. Form teachers will inform parents accordingly.
Saturday, 27 May to Sunday, 25 June	The last day of Term 2 is Friday 26 May followed by the June term break. Students are to report to school on Monday, 26 June
Thursday, 29 June	Public Holiday – Hari Raya Haji

School Operating Hours during the June school holidays:

General Office will be open from **7.30am to 3.30pm**. Parents are advised to contact the General Office at **67498971** before coming to school.

Tips for Parent – Child Communication

How often have you asked your child, “How was school today?” and received the standard reply, “Okay.” Know that you are not alone. Know that it’s not that your child does not want to provide a better reply. They probably need a little more prompting to be directed to provide more meaningful responses.

Here’s a list of questions that may help you get under their skin a little more and encourage children to speak in longer sentences. Use different combinations of these prompts on different days so that your conversations sound fresh every day.



Try these:

1. What was the best thing that happened at school today? (For a twist: What was the worst thing that happened at school today?)
2. Tell me something that made you laugh today.
3. Whom would you like to sit with in class? (Whom would you not want to sit by in class? Why?)
4. Whom did you sit with at recess? Whom would you like to play with at recess?
5. Tell me a new word that you heard today. What do you think it means?
6. How did you help somebody today? How did somebody help you today?
7. Tell me one thing that you learned today.
8. When were you the happiest today?
9. When were you bored today?
10. Tell me something good that happened today.
11. What word did your teacher say the most today?
12. What do you think you should do/learn more of at school?
13. What do you think you should do/learn less of at school?
14. Who in your class do you think you could be nicer to?
15. Who is the funniest person in your class? Why is he/she so funny?