



CANOSSIAN SCHOOL

REACH

NEWSLETTER JULY 2024

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS

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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.



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents / Guardians

Welcome back to the second half of the year! I hope that you had a restful break during the June holidays. Our students were welcomed back with a very exciting Adventure Week which ended with our Annual Camp on 28 – 29 June.

Non-educators may wonder why schools mount outdoor education programmes. This dimension of education is a holistic approach that aims to foster personal, social, and environmental growth through experiential learning. By engaging in a variety of outdoor activities, children grow in all aspects of their lives by taking care of their bodies, emotions, and social connections. They develop a deeper connection with nature, gain practical skills, enhance their problem-solving abilities, and build resilience in the face of challenges. Moreover, spending time in nature has a good effect on mental health by lowering stress and anxiety, making students feel better overall. Outdoor education allows for a positive impact on teachers as well by connecting with their students on a deeper level building stronger relationships and creating a sense of togetherness.

Other aspects of a well-rounded education were in the spotlight in Singapore. Recently the local newspapers covered the 2022 results of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) coordinated by OECD. Singapore was the top-performing education system in Creative Thinking among 64 participating systems. Our education system is not the sole contributory factor. Homes and peers also play their part, especially in encouraging them to try new things.

These results may have piqued your interest and you are curious to find out how families can foster creativity in children. A good starting point would be to understand that creativity is a skill that can be developed and sharpened over time and has become one of the most sought-after traits in adults. Creativity is about asking questions, challenging the norm and discovering possibilities. To develop this, children should be given more opportunities and room to exercise agency, to make their choices in open ended tasks. They learn best when they are supported by an older person, like a parent or a sibling. These older members of the family offer what we call scaffolding or learning support. The support is enhanced by avoiding the habit of over-instructing. Parents need to step back, and not be too quick to suggest or correct the choices made. Let children make mistakes. Mistakes are not fatal, they are opportunities for new learning.

Parents should also avoid the trap of scheduling activities or enrichment programmes down to the minute. This leaves little precious time for play and imagination. Unstructured time is just as important as sports or music practice or conversational mother tongue lessons. Free time allows your child the freedom to create and explore their imagination.

By encouraging our children to get creative, we also encourage physical, intellectual and emotional growth. As children engage with crafts and tools and explore construction and assembling, they are developing motor skills, control and coordination. They are also honing their abilities in concentration, problem-solving and making sense of the world. The creative experience can also help younger children communicate their feelings and emotions where they are unable to do so verbally. This helps greatly with expression, confidence and even esteem.

For us, creativity is a spiritual gift that we have a duty to nurture in our children. It is one of God's attributes and it is in God's nature that we honor Him by caring for His creation and working for the betterment of His world. With this, I urge you to spend time fostering this with your families.

God Bless.

Christina Michael (Ms)
Principal

Adventure Week

Our students were engaged in varied learning experiences that promote positive interdependence in learning amongst students and foster individual accountability towards their own learning. As they extend their learning of the formal curriculum through these learning experiences, they will be constructing knowledge and making meaning and connections to new knowledge and experiences. In addition, they will also get to exercise our 10 Canossian Principles as part of character formation as they learn together with their peers.



Pri 1 students engage in T-shirt design



Pri 2 students learn how to code



Pri 4 student honed his abilities in rock climbing wall



Pri 5 students learn to play chess

Important Dates to Note

Dates	Events
Monday, 1 July	There will be no school – <i>Youth Day</i>
Tuesday, 2 July	Afternoon lessons will resume
Friday, 5 July	CCA will resume
The P6 will be taking their Preliminary Examinations on the following dates:	Primary 6 Preliminary Exams
Tuesday, 23 July	Listening Comprehension
Monday, 19 August	English Language Paper 1 and Paper 2
Tuesday, 20 August	Mathematics
Thursday, 22 August	Science