



CANOSSIAN SCHOOL

REACH

NEWSLETTER MARCH 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



Celebrating 250 years of St Magdalene of Canossa

This year is a very special year for the Canossian Sisters. It is the 250th Anniversary of the birth of our Foundress, St Magdalene of Canossa (1 Mar 1774 – 2024). St Magdalene founded the Canossian Daughters of Charity in 1808. The Canossian Sisters work in three main areas – education, pastoral care for the sick and evangelization. With the establishment of her first “charity” schools in Verona, Italy, the Canossian Sisters now work in 33 countries around the world.

This year also marks the 130th year when the first 4 Canossian Sisters first arrived in Singapore from Macau (1894). The arrival of these Sisters marked the inception of the Canossian Daughters of Charity in Singapore. Currently, the order has 40 nuns who work in the provinces in Singapore and Myanmar, where they are involved in the formation of children and youth. In Myanmar, they give training to young women to be educators of children in villages, and provide vocational training in hospitality skills to prepare young women for employment.

On Saturday 2 March, the Sisters and the Lay Community will celebrate the gift of St Magdalene for the last 250 years. The mass will be celebrated at St Joseph's Church in Victoria Street by 15 priests, staff and students from all 4 schools, representatives from the homes as well as invited guests.

Canossian School, together with Canossa Catholic Primary School, will celebrate the 250th Anniversary with a mass on Friday 1 March, followed by a carnival for all staff and students at the Canossian Village. There will be no CCAs on that day and children will be dismissed at 1.30pm.

St Anthony's Canossian Secondary School celebrates its 145th anniversary with a Night Festival, *In Fiamme* on Friday 8 March. It promises to be a fun-filled festival of lights, games, food stalls, visual art displays, performances, and even a musical specially commissioned for the event. Details of this event are found on pg.6 of this issue.

The celebrations at the schools is a time for us to reflect on our distinctive Canossian charism that undergirds our education, the Formation of the Heart of each child at our school. This formation aims at developing the values of respect for the individual, the dignity of the human person, concern for the disadvantaged, social justice, forgiveness, love, service and a consciousness of God. When a child successfully imbibes these values, they also learn to be responsible, develop a healthy mind and body, a sound moral compass, a keen sense of self-awareness and the skills and knowledge to face challenges that life may throw their way. With this, children will do as well as they can academically, but more important, is that they will become active, contributing members of society.

On such a joyous occasion, it's a good time for all Canossians to check in on ourselves to see how true we are to being role models for our students. Do we think, speak and do as St Magdalene would have lived and acted? How well are we guided by this quote from St Magdalene?

“Those who love are never tired, since love knows no burden.”

God Bless.

Christina Michael (Ms)
Principal



Chinese New Year Celebration

Canossian School staff and students celebrated the Chinese New Year with exciting activities at CCPS such as Lion and Dragon dance performance. Fr Adrian Danker celebrated Mass with blessings and distribution of oranges at the chapel.



Sisters, Staff and Students gathered for a photo



Fr Adrian celebrated Mass at the chapel



Distribution of the blessed oranges to sisters, staff and students



Lion dance performance at CCPS

Invitation to World Hearing Day 2024 – Canossian Village is HEAR for you!

We will be celebrating World Hearing Day!

Join us as we come together to raise awareness about the importance of ear and hearing care!

Date: 23 March, Saturday

Time: 9AM (Breakfast & Registration will start at 8.15am)

Venue: Canossaville Children and Community Services – Hall via Gate 3)

This event will feature talks and tips by professionals on how to give the best support to children with hearing loss. Caregivers will also share their trials and tribulations.

This **FREE** event is supported by our partners from [@phonak](#) [@cochlear.sea](#) [@medel_global](#) [@listeninglabsg](#) and is **open to the public!**

RSVP via the link and spread the word! <https://forms.office.com/r/7swB6a9pah>

WORLD HEARING DAY 2024

Canossian Village is HEAR for You

JOIN US!
Let's make ear and hearing care a reality for all!

23 MARCH, 2024 (SATURDAY)
9AM TO 12PM
Breakfast & Registration starts at 8.15am

FREE ENTRY!

VENUE:
CANOSSAVILLE CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - HALL
1 Sallim Road (Gate 3), Singapore 387621

RSVP HERE

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Talks to help parents better understand hearing loss
- Tips on how best to support a child diagnosed with hearing loss
- Sharing on how caregivers and family can find support

ABOUT THE CANOSSIAN VILLAGE

Within the Canossian Village is the Canossian School (Hearing Loss), Canossian Catholic Primary School, The Convent where the Canossian nuns reside, and Canossaville, which comprises of 4 sectors - Canossaville Preschool, Canossian Early Intervention Programme for Infants and Children (EIPI), a Student Care Centre and Canossian Child Development Unit.

Together, as the Canossian Circle of Care, the aim is to enhance and integrate services across the traditional silos of early childhood, primary school, special education, and after-school education systems.

This demonstrates how coordinated care can benefit children, particularly those facing adversity, as well as children with additional needs.

OUR PARTNERS

PHONAK **COCHLEAR** **MED-EL** **LISTENING LAB**

Notification on School-based Events

Please take note of the changes in scheduling of upcoming school programmes and events. There will be changes to dismissal hours and it is imperative that parents take note of these changes.

S/No	Programme	Target group	Dates	Remarks
1.	Afternoon Support Classes (suspended)	Pri 1 & Pri 2	1, 5 & 7 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dismissal at 1.30pm
2.	Interest Week	Pri 3 – Pri 5 classes	28 & 29 Feb 1, 4 & 5 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organised by CCPS • Details on activities will be sent separately • Dismissal at 4.00pm
3.	Afternoon Support Classes	Pri 6	1 and 5 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue as planned • Dismissal at 3.30pm
4.	Meet-the-Parents	Pri 1 – 6	8 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students do not report to school • Teachers will arrange to meet parents via zoom • Some appointments will be made with parents during the week of 4 – 8 Mar
5.	I Listen, I Read, I Can Workshop	Parents of Pri 1 & 2 students	4 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop will be conducted at Learning Space at 4.00pm
6.	P's Dialogue	Parents of Pri 4 & 5	21 March at 6.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoom link will be sent closer to the date
7.	P's Dialogue	Parents of Pri 3 students	25 March at 6.30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zoom link will be sent closer to the date

School Operating Hours:

During the **March school holidays**, the General Office will be open from **7.30am to 3.30pm**. Parents are advised to contact the school first before coming. The General office contact number is **67498971**.

Celebrate With Us – In Fiamme: SACSS Night Festival 2024

2024 marks a significant milestone for St Anthony's Canossian Secondary School as they celebrate their 145th anniversary as well as join our global family of Canossians in commemorating the 250th anniversary of the birth of our Foundress, St. Magdalene of Canossa.

To celebrate this momentous occasion, they proudly present In Fiamme - the SACSS Night Festival 2024, coming up on 8 March.

They would like to invite all parents and students from their affiliated schools to come and join them for a fun-filled festival of lights, games, food stalls, visual art displays, performances, and even a musical specially created just for this event! This is where they celebrate and showcase the talents and gifts of their students, staff, alumni and our Canossian Sisters. There is also a fun “night market” run by their students to support charitable causes.

Special highlights include a musical on the life and legacy of our Foundress, Saint Magdalene and choir performance by our Canossian Sisters. This is a perfect opportunity to explore their school grounds and see firsthand, the myriad of experiences your daughter could have when she enters secondary school.

Come celebrate with them as one big Canossian family and make wonderful memories together. Your presence and support will mean the world to their performers.



This event is open to the public, so mark your calendars, rally your family and friends, and let's make it a night to remember!

Tickets can be purchased from the link below: <https://go.gov.sg/tickets-SACSSNightFest>



INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL SPORT & EXERCISE PARTICIPATION SURVEY (NSPS) 2024



Sport Singapore, a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, has commissioned Blackbox Research Pte Ltd to conduct an important survey on Singapore residents' sporting, exercise and recreational activities, including the participation among individuals with disabilities.

With the support of the Ministry of Education's Special Education branch, they would like to invite individuals with disabilities, parents or caregivers of individuals with disabilities to participate in the survey to find out more about their sporting / exercise habits and perception towards sports. Survey participants will receive a small token of appreciation in the form of Fairprice vouchers.

The information gathered will be used to help shape local services in the future. All data will be kept confidential, and only aggregated results will be used for statistical analysis.

To sign up, please register your interest via the link or QR code below. An interviewer from Blackbox Research will be arranged to visit and conduct the interview at your convenience.

Survey Sign Up Link	https://go.gov.sg/nsps-survey-registration
QR Code	

Should you have any queries about the survey, please contact Blackbox Research Pte Ltd, Ms Dibiya Chatterjee via email at Dibiya@blackbox.com.sg. Alternatively, you can contact Sport Singapore, Ms Ma Ruijing via email at SPORT_Research@sport.gov.sg.

Ways to Improve Your Child's Social Skills (Part 2)

Introduction:

Parents of children with hearing loss often find themselves navigating social communication by explaining facial expressions and considering the influence of a communication partner's mood on responses. Body language becomes a vital tool, conveying messages like "I'm really busy right now," "Wait a moment, and I'll pay attention to you," "I'm upset," and "I'm happy to see you and spend time with you."

Strategies for Social Communication:

Monitor your child's interactions with others. Reinforce positive social behaviors, offering specific praise and acknowledging effort. When your child makes a social mistake:



- Immediately demonstrate the correct response.
- Use words to illustrate the appropriate action (e.g., "You mean...").
- Express how their actions made you feel (e.g., ignored, angry).
- Describe how your child's actions might be misinterpreted by others, unintentionally conveying a lack of care or interest.

Additional tips you can use:

1. Encourage Active Listening

- Model Active Listening:
 - When your child is speaking, make eye contact, nod, and respond appropriately to show that you are fully engaged in the conversation.
 - Avoid interrupting or formulating your response while your child is talking. Instead, wait for them to finish before expressing your thoughts.
- Use reflective statements:
 - Repeat back what your child has said in your own words. For example, "It sounds like you had an interesting day at school. Can you tell me more about it?" This not only demonstrates that you are actively listening but also helps clarify any misunderstandings.
- Ask Open-Ended Questions:
 - Encourage your child to share more about their thoughts and feelings by asking open-ended questions. These questions require more than a simple "yes" or "no" answer.
 - For instance, instead of asking, "Did you have a good day?" you can ask, "What was the highlight of your day?"
- Be Patient and Avoid Judgments:
 - Give your child the time they need to express themselves without rushing them. Avoid making immediate judgments or offering solutions too quickly.
 - Sometimes, children just need a listening ear rather than immediate advice

2. Promote Empathy:

- Help children understand the emotions behind spoken words. Discuss how different tones of voice convey feelings, and encourage them to consider others' perspectives during conversations.

3. Social Storytelling:

- Engage children in storytelling or discussions about their day. Encourage them to share their experiences, and actively listen by responding appropriately to what they say.
- Social Stories: Create social stories using pictures or simple drawings to explain specific social situations, expectations, or appropriate behaviors. Social stories can be especially beneficial for preparing children for new experiences or addressing challenges they may face.

4. Practise Turn-Taking:

- Emphasize the importance of taking turns in conversations. Teach children to listen while others speak and wait their turn to share their thoughts.

5. Utilize Visual Supports:

- Emotion Charts: Use emotion charts with pictures or drawings to help children recognize and understand different emotions in themselves and others. Discuss appropriate responses and actions based on the emotions displayed.
- Role-Playing Visuals: Use pictures or symbols to represent different roles or situations, allowing children to practice and reinforce social skills in a controlled environment.

6. Community Involvement:

- Encourage participation in community activities for real-world experiences.

7. Positive Reinforcement:

- Visual Reward Systems: Establish visual reward systems tied to social skill development. Use charts with images or stickers to track progress, acknowledging and reinforcing positive social behaviors.

8. Collaborate with Professionals:

- Work closely with teachers and therapists for tailored guidance.

9. Set Realistic Expectations:

- Understand and celebrate unique social development milestones.

10. Create a Supportive Environment:

- Foster an inclusive home environment, encouraging open communication.

Remember that every child is unique, and the tips provided can be adapted based on individual needs and preferences. Tailoring strategies to align with your child's specific challenges and strengths will contribute to a more effective and personalized approach to social communication development.