

ST. MARGARET'S CONNECT



JUL-SEP

ISSUE #55

2020

A Publication of St. Margaret's Ex-Students' Association

IN THIS ISSUE

Announcements / New Members

St. Margaret's 178th Anniversary
Celebration (Virtual Concert) on
Facebook & YouTube Live

SMSS Students' Journey

SMSS Speech & Prize-Giving Day

PERI-Upgrading at SMPS
(Support our PUP)

Celebrating with CI-NTU 15th
Anniversary

SMPS Charity Golf
(School Building Fund Raising)
Tuesday, 08 September 2020

SMESA visit to St. Andrew's Cathedral
Home for the Aged
(Outreach Programme)
Saturday, 25 July 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

**SMSS POST-EXAM ACTIVITIES
(Virtual)**
October 2020

**SMESA SPEAKER SERIES
(Virtual)**
Wednesday, 14 October 2020 at
SMSS

**SMESA LEGAL AWARENESS
PROJECT**
(Postponed until further notice)

**SMSS GRADUATES 2010
(10-Year Reunion Hi-Tea)**
(Postponed until further notice)

**SMESA VISIT TO ST. ANDREW'S
CATHEDRAL HOME FOR THE
AGED**
(Outreach/Chaplaincy Programme)
(Visits subject to further advice from
the relevant authorities)

Note:
**Due to COVID-19, all events are
postponed until further notice**

For enquiries to the above events,
Please e-mail us at smesa.sg@gmail.com



St. Margaret's School

178th Anniversary
One Family Unbroken



Virtual Concert

16 November 2020

7pm on Facebook and YouTube live@SMESA1842

Enquiry: stmargsanniv@gmail.com

Organised by:

- St. Margaret's Ex-Students' Association • SMPS Parents Teachers Association
- SMSS Parents Support Group • St. Margaret's Primary School • St. Margaret's Secondary School

Presented by the St. Margaret's School, the first ever virtual Anniversary Concert is non-ticketed and free for all viewers. Join us for a night filled with singing, reminiscing and celebrating, as one big family. Remember to like SMESA Facebook page so that you will be notified of the event.

SMESA BOARD MEMBERS 2020/2021**President**

Ms Chew Siew Kheng

1st Vice-President

Ms Pamela Rachel Kwan Ka Foong

2nd Vice-President

Ms Lina Wee Mei Ling

Honorary Secretary

Ms Irene Fong Wei Wei

Assistant Honorary Secretary

Ms Kalavathy d/o Suppiah

Honorary Treasurer

Ms A.Vani Aaliyah

Assistant Honorary Treasurer

Ms Hui Choon Wai

Committee Members

Ms Lee Soo Kwan

Ms Pixie Ho Pik Yew

Ms Brenda Lan Shu Mei

Ms Juliana Tengara

Ms Lee Mian Jun

Co-opted Members

Ms Susan Merahwati Wijaya

Ms Joy Gillian Quek

Auditors

Mrs Tay-Lang Ren Jee Renata

Ms Bridget Choy Wai Fong

EDITORIAL BOARD**Chairman**

Ms Lina Wee Mei Ling

Editor

Mrs Tay-Lang Ren Jee Renata

Layout Artist

Ms Lina Wee Mei Ling

Ms Lee Mian Jun

Advisors

Ms Pixie Ho Pik Yew

Ms Lee Soo Kwan

St. Margaret's Ex-Students' Association

111 Farrer Road, Singapore 259240

www.smesa.org.sgwww.facebook.com/smesa1842smesa.sg@gmail.com

Fax: (65) 6534 5127

SMSS Students' Journey (Class of 2020)

Reflections by Sarabelle Joy Tan

My council journey was as fulfilling as it was challenging. Serving others in our school and community with my fellow councillors taught me what it truly means to put love at the centre of all our actions. I'm so thankful for my Ex-Co and councillors, who always serve others so readily and with so much enthusiasm, and I give thanks to God for empowering all of us to do so. I'm extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve in council, and for the nurturing environment the teachers and the school have provided us with. Council has been one of the best experiences of my life, and I will hold the lessons I have learnt and the people I have met dear to my heart always.

On behalf of the Student Council, we would like to thank SMESA for your continuous support and for being present at every commendation ceremony.



Reflections by Hannah Choo

My journey in council has been an enriching and an amazing experience. My heart of service for others and for the school has grown. I have learnt that love binds everything together; that with love, I would be able to lead with influence. With love, I would be able to impact lives. With love, I would be able to serve wholeheartedly. Together with my Executive Committee, I pray for God's blessings and love to continue to grow in council - that this capable group of leaders would stand firm to our council's motto "To Serve and Love Always".

SMSS Speech & Prize-Giving Day

By Lina Wee

This year, SMSS could not hold their Speech & Prize-Giving Day physically like in previous years. No past year's graduands and no guests were invited except for Valedictorian, Megan Wang who delivered her valedictorian speech live (virtual) on 7 August 2020, Friday at 8.20am. The Principal, Ms Linda Lim, presented the prize to Megan at St. Margaret's Secondary School office. In her speech, Megan thanked Ms Toh and Ms Woon, teachers and students for the four years she spent in the school. All other prizes were presented in the classrooms and past year's graduands were notified to collect their certificates and prizes on a separate day.



Congratulations for receiving the National Day 2020 Awards

By Lee Soo Kwan

Our heartiest congratulations to SMESA Member, Mrs Chua-Lim Yen Ching on being conferred **The Public Administration Medal (Gold) Award** on National Day. Many will know Yen Ching and recall her numerous messages of wisdom and encouragement to students and members of the St Margaret's Family in the speeches she has given at the School. We are blessed with such an illustrious alumna who is a wonderful role model for all of us.



Mrs Chua-Lim Yen Ching

Yen Ching has this to say to us when we congratulated her on her National Day Award:

'We are in public service and our main driver is the mission. The medal does not belong to an individual, it belongs to a team.'

MOE as well as many people have provided me with the opportunities to enhance my professional growth.

My days in St Margaret's both at the primary and secondary level had also developed me of who I am today. The teachers have taught us that there is nothing too small for us and nothing is too big that we cannot solve especially with God's help. In life many of the challenges are beyond us but what is important is how we react to the challenges and disappointments that come our way. We are never at a place by chance, there is always a purpose of where God has put us.'

National Day Commendation Awards

We would also like to congratulate the following 2 teachers who have been conferred the **Commendation Award in the 2020 National Day Awards**. The Commendation Award is given to an individual who has distinguished himself/herself through commendable performance and conduct, or significant efficiency, competence and devotion to duty.

SMPS:

Mdm Elaine Khoo May Yin

SMSS:

Mr. Lim Bing Hui

PERI-Upgrading at SMPS (Support Our PUP)



To facilitate the extensive two years' upgrading which involves demolition and rebuilding, the school has moved to a temporary site at 2 Mattar Road (previously Macpherson Primary School) on 18 November 2019.

It was announced by MOE on 27 May 2020 that SMPS upgrading works will be delayed for another year and that SMPS will hence return to Sophia Road in January 2023 instead of 2022.

We would like to thank the many hearts and hands that come together to raise funds and contribute towards providing a better and more conducive learning environment for our girls. However, the safety measures that followed after the pandemic disallowed fundraising for the new SMPS building to happen physically. Thus, we hope that you would make a *donation to aid us to weather this storm together for the future SMPS generations to come.

(* Cheque can be made payable to 'St. Margaret's Primary School' or you can contact SMPS General Office at 6339-4247 for assistance)

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome aboard the following new members :-

	SMPS	SMSS
1. Deborah Lee Lee Chen	1999	2003
2. Tiffany Koh	1995	1999
3. Chan Chiew Yin	1994	1998
4. Nelly Nogiaman	2000	None
5. Eileen Seah	1999	2003
6. Samantha Quek Ying Shan	1997	2001
7. Suhasini Ramakrishnan	1997	2002
8. Jane Hock	1995	None
9. Jean Er Chen Ching	1995	2000
10. Adelle Yii Li Huei	None	2013
11. Posha Rai	1990	None
12. Anna Wirija	2002	2006
13. Grace Khoo Pheng Jia	2000	2004

Celebrating with Confucius Institute-Nanyang Technological University (CI-NTU) on its 15th Anniversary

By Lee Soo Kwan

Confucius Institute-Nanyang Technology University (CI-NTU) has been a staunch supporter of the SMESA Job-Shadowing & Work Attachment Programme for several years. On the 15 August 2020, CI-NTU celebrated its 15th Anniversary.

Dr Neo Peng Fu, Director of CI-NTU, invited SMESA Member Ho Lian Geok who was responsible for connecting SMESA with CI-NTU and Board Member Lee Soo Kwan to join in the celebrations at its One-north campus. The Welcome Speech was delivered by Ms Lien Siaou-Sze, NTU Vice-President (Advancement) and CI-NTU Board Chairman.

To document the 15-year journey of CI-NTU, the 15th Anniversary Commemorative Album 《南洋理工大学孔子学院十五周年纪念特刊（2005-2020）》 was also launched, with a copy given to every guest.

Amongst the VIP guests present were Professor Su Guanling, former President of NTU, Professor Ling San, NTU Deputy President & Provost and Mr Kang Kai, Counsellor (Education), Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Singapore.

SMESA is grateful to CI-NTU for this partnership through the years and long may we continue to work together for the benefit of SMSS students and for our School to support the work of CI-NTU.



(Left to Right)
Dr Neo Peng Fu, Director of CI-NTU
Lee Soo Kwan and Ho Lian Geok

SMPS FUND RAISING GOLF 2020

By Professor Lawrence Boo, Chairman of SMC

"Swinging for a Good cause"

The SMPS Fund Raising Golf was originally planned for 29 April 2020 with about 80 golfers poised to tee off at Tanah Merah Country Club but had to be postponed to 8 September 2020 due to the onset of COVID-19. The one-day event had to be finally abandoned in compliance with COVID-19 health safety measures which forbid any social gatherings of more than 5 persons. Undeterred, the organizing committee embarked on redesigning the event and came up with maintaining the tournament concept but paced play over the next 6 months. Save for the hole-in-one prize, all other prizes remain up for grabs and more importantly for fun and a great cause.

Under bright morning sun but cool breeze, the 1st flight of golfers teed off at the Tampines course this morning at 8.43a.m. led by Ms Jeanne Cheng (CEO of SP Services) dressed in dazzling orange top, together with her colleagues from Singapore Power and Mr. Niam Chiang Meng (Chairman, MediaCorp and former PS in PMO) played a great game with Mr. Niam winning himself the nearest-the-pin at Hole 14 and very decent score with more than 6 pars. We will have to see if he would be one of the runners for the best gross score when all flights are completed before March 2021.

Arriving early at 12.10p.m. were Mr. Kok Choon Heong (Executive Director of Heng Long Int'l Ltd), Mr. Mah Bow Tan (ex-Minister), his son Warren and Mr. Koh's good friend Mr. Khoo Boo Tat. After relishing wagyu beef burgers and with much time to spare, they took pictures and excitedly teed off at 1.43p.m.

Justice Lee Seiu Kin (Judge Supreme Court), Mr. Siva Shanmugam (Principal District Judge), Mr. Chong Kah Wei (Dy Snr State Counsel, Attorney-General's Chambers) and Ramu Miyapan (Asst Registrar, Supreme Court) arrived early for lunch. As if on cue, they, too chose TMCC's wagyu beef burgers as their main course. They were pleasantly surprised to see the goody bags all ready for them. Packed with cooler boxes full of drinks for the hot afternoon, they teed off at 1.51p.m.

At about 2.45p.m., as if to cheer the players on, rumblings were heard and soon peals of thunder wailed through the otherwise bright afternoon sky. Strange. Then just as the players had dreaded, the siren sounded, faces dropped and moans heard – "play suspended" was sounded over the course.

"All clear" was given at 3.30p.m. and all went off merrily as golfers do. Swing, swing and one putt (not more). That's the way to go.

As at writing this short note, the event has raised \$130,000. We are hoping for more to follow. If you know of anyone wishing to support our cause, the fun and game is still waiting. A donation of \$6000 will bring you a flight of 4 players to TMCC. You get 2.5 times tax deductibility for the donation, plus a game with your friends. Pass this message on.



Visit to the St. Andrew's Cathedral Home for the Aged (Outreach Programme)

By Susan Wijaya

SMESA's regular visit to St. Andrew's Community Home For the Aged (SAC HFA) was disrupted because of the COVID pandemic. The members missed visiting our friends at SAC HFA. In place of the visit, we gave each resident a gift on 25 July 2020 to bring cheer to them. The gift set included home sewn face mask, hand sanitizer, Salonpas patch, Rumagon ointment, face towels all packed in a colourful toiletry bag. Along with the gifts, we brought 2 pandan chiffon cakes that were specially baked by a friend of SMESA.

The next day, we received photographs of the residents wearing the face masks and a thank-you note to SMESA from the centre manager. She shared that the residents were overjoyed to receive the lovely gifts.



Wishing all P6, 'O' & 'N' Level Students in their examinations

