

IN TANDEM

In Tandem is jointly published by The Fairfield Methodist Schools Alumni Association and the Fairfield Methodist Schools (Primary & Secondary)

JAN 2021

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ANNIVERSARY

The Fairfield Methodist Schools

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Alumni Association Committee (Class of)

Kelvin Ong	1989
Cho Pei Lin	1994
Eunice Yao	1999
Lo Wei Pin	1980
Sharon Liat	1977
Felicia Foo	1976
Hannah Tan	2002
Stephanie Ang	1999
Low Guat Tin	1962
Roselyn Ho	1965
Kris-Tina Quah	1977
Zhan Yanxin	1997
Gracie Eng	1999
Joel Tan	2005
Chua Wei Wei	1990
Joseph Guo	1997

The President's Note

- Jan 2021



Dear Fairfield Family,

Once again, I bring greetings to you on behalf of The Fairfield Methodist Schools Alumni Association (TFMSAA). A happy and blessed 2021 to you and everyone at home. While 2020 presented many challenges to most of us, I hope we will head into this new year with renewed hope and strength as well as the enthusiasm to face the exciting times ahead of us.

If you are a staff or student of Fairfield, we want to welcome you back to school. I also want to welcome all the new Fairsians, staff and new alumni members into our community.

This year, we will be celebrating 133 years of our founding by Ms Sophia Blackmore, but more importantly, we also want to give thanks to God for the provisions and blessings He has showered upon the Fairfield family and Fairsians through the years.

2021 is also a special year for TFMSAA as we commemorate the 70th year of our establishment. Indeed, since our inception in 1951, we have been instrumental in partnering our 2 schools and contributing through many channels to our Fairfield

community. Today, we count more than 1800 Alumni members even as we welcome new members into our pool each year. Our Alumni Association serves as a valuable platform and link for all Fairsians to stay connected beyond the school years with their classmates, teachers, and friends. Many of our alumni parents continue to enrol their children to our Primary School (and most eventually at Secondary School) because they have benefitted from the holistic Methodist education they have received. It becomes their hope to continue the legacy through their children in our beloved institution where, to quote from our school song, "the leaders of the future, be found within thy walls".

While many programmes that our Committee planned in 2020 were shelved owing to the pandemic, it is still our prayer to carry out our plans and introduce new initiatives for our Fairfield community through our new Committee in 2021. We started our first webinar session on No Bake Cake Demonstration in November last year and we look forward to introducing more of such interactive webinars this year. Our website will be revamped in the months ahead and an online store where members can purchase special merchandise and souvenirs will be launched. We will also be introducing a new Volunteers' Network where Fairsians can sign up to contribute and work alongside our committee with the activities and events that we will be organising throughout the year. New members can also look forward to a welcome tea session (when the situation allows) to know more about us as we also share about the functions of our Alumni Association. Do keep a lookout for our announcements on email or follow us on our social media accounts (facebook/Instagram) to get more updates and news from us.

Come Saturday, Feb 27th at 2pm, we will be holding our 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) via Zoom. Do register and join us at the AGM if you are already a member of TFMSAA. If you are still considering whether to sign up for our membership, now is the time to come onboard and explore how you can contribute with our team to our Alma Mater. Let's keep the Fairfield Spirit alive and make it stronger together.

Even as we are living amid the Covid-19 situation, there are still many things we can be thankful for as we count our blessings. Let us forge ahead together as a Fairfield family and continue to support and uphold one another in these unprecedented times. The Fairfield Methodist Schools Alumni Association Committee are committed to serving our Alumni community and the Fairfield family as we celebrate together the 133rd year of our school's founding and the 70th Anniversary of our Alumni Association this year.

LOVE AND BLESSINGS,
Kelvin Ong



AT THE FRONTLINE OF COVID19

Ter Ying Seong Assistant Nurse Clinician Intensive Care Unit National University Hospital

Your full name, year of graduation and class.

Ter Ying Seong, Class 5A'03

What were your CCA in school?

I was in the school choir for 4 years.

What were your best memories of Fairfield?

What were your best memories in Fairfield?

The best memories were the times when the whole class came together to raise fund for the funfair that we had in school. Prior to the event, we were selling root beer floats during recess to raise money for the materials needed for our "haunted house" and food stall.

Who were some of your most memorable teachers?

There were many teachers that I was grateful to meet during Fairfield days. The late Miss Lau Woon Yoke (Maths), Miss Lena Seet who was our form teacher in Sec 1, Mrs Martha Chew (Physics), Mr Vincent Chia (Maths), Miss Elsa Yow (English), Mrs Toh (Chinese) and Mr Siew Lin Tuck (Chinese) and Mrs Chan Kok Yong (Food & Nutrition).

What you do now?

I am an Assistant Nurse Clinician in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the National University Hospital. As a nurse, my responsibilities include providing and evaluating nursing care for critically ill patients whose lives are on the line. In addition to patient care, I also help to supervise and guide junior nurses and nursing students to ensure that our patients receive the highest quality of care.

I work closely with a multi-disciplinary team (comprising nurses, doctor, pharmacist, physiotherapist, respiratory therapist, dietitian and medical social worker) to care for critically ill patients.

Growing up, I never thought I would become a nurse. However, I kept an open mind and today, I truly enjoy my career as a nurse because the nature of nursing allows me to help people. I was given the opportunity to work in different ICUs to gain experience in managing patients with different types of complex illnesses.

I also believe that learning is a lifelong journey. Three years ago, I decided to work towards becoming an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) and pursued further studies by doing a Master of Nursing at the National University of Singapore. I am currently undergoing my internship as an APN. With the acquired advanced knowledge, decision-making skills and clinical competencies, APNs are able to diagnose and manage common medical conditions, including chronic illnesses.

Last issue, we featured two alumni who were working at the frontline of Covid19: Ms Ter Ying Ying (Senior Staff Nurse at NUH) and Mr Michael Goh (Head of Air Carrier Services, Certis Aviation Security). This time round, the spotlight is on two other alumni: Ms Ter Ying Seong who is also working in NUH (and is Ying Ying's sister) and LTA Irwin Tan of the Republic of Singapore Air Force. We also managed to pull aside our dear VP of the FMS(P), Mr James Chong, and invited him to share his experience at the frontline. Read on to find out more about the work they did at the frontline of fighting Covid19!

How are you involved in the frontlines during this COVID-19 period? Please describe what you do during this period as a frontline worker.

As an APN intern in the ICU, I work in a multi-disciplinary team to care for both suspected and confirmed COVID-19 patients, who have multiple medical conditions.

As nurses, we ensure that everyone adheres to the hospital's strict insolation and infection control policies. This includes practising good hand hygiene, wearing and removing our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) properly, temperature monitoring and social distancing.

During this period, there are certain visitation restrictions in place to ensure the safety of our patients. To help allay the anxiety of family members who are unable to visit their loved ones in the ICU, I often make phone calls to update them on the condition of their loved ones. For patients who are able to communicate on their own, I encourage their family members to use their smartphones to communicate directly with the patient, to encourage and support them in their journey to recovery.

Please share how you feel about being in the frontline working during this time.

While it is certainly challenging, I am thankful for the opportunity to be able to contribute to the nation during such difficult times. I am definitely honoured and proud to be a healthcare worker where I can support and be there for my patients.

It has also taught me to appreciate the small luxuries in life such as being to jog in the park and spending time with my extended family members.

Lastly, any words of advice for our younger Fairiansians?

Nursing had taught me to be more compassionate towards people, and to be a patient's advocate, to stand up for my patients especially in times when they can't voice their concerns to the doctors, or sometimes even to their own family members. Nursing these patients back to health from a critical state or making them feel more comfortable on their last journey is a different type of job satisfaction you can achieve.

In life, things may not go as planned or as what you have dreamed or aspire to be, persevere and do not give up. You might have a rough journey at the beginning, always remember that God is always there to oversee and protect us and He always have better plans for us.



Assistant Nurse Clinician
Ter Ying Seong



The hospital's strict infection control measures require us to be fully clad in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the safety of both patients and staff.





LTA Irwin Tan

Pilot Trainee

Air Force Training Command (AFTC)
Republic of Singapore Air Force

1. Your full name, year of graduation and class.

Irwin Tan Yong Kai, 2013, Class 5A

2. What were your CCA in school?

Badminton, PA

3. What were your best memories of Fairfield? Who were some of your most memorable teacher(s)?

My best memories of Fairfield would be my final year. We were celebrating Fairfield's 125th anniversary. My class took the initiative to set-up the haunted house "Asylum" for the event. The profits went to improving campus facilities for future generations.

I would like to thank Ms Trixie Chan, who had impacted me in intangible ways. Your never-die attitude had rubbed off me as a teenager and I cannot thank you enough for not giving up on me despite my poor academic results. I was able to overcome many hardships and obstacles such as juggling flying with Singapore Youth Flying Club (SYFC) and my academics with Singapore Polytechnic (SP). I saw the fruits of my labour during my stint with SP and brought the never-die attitude to my flying career with the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF).

4. What do you work as now? Please give designation, company name, and describe what you do. If possible, share with us when you first joined this 'profession'.

I just graduated as pilot with the RSAF. I signed on in 2017 after graduating from SP.

5. How are you involved in the frontline work during this COVID-19 situation? Please describe what you do during this period as a frontline worker.

Last year, while waiting for my pilot training to commence, I had served as an Executive Officer (EO) in Health Surveillance Task Force (HSTF) with the Ministry of Health (MOH), where I led a team of tracers for contact tracing in Mandai Hill Camp. My duty was to identify close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases and implement ring-fencing measures by issuing quarantine orders to minimise the spread of the virus.

6. Please share how you feel about being in the frontline working during this time.

I feel proud to be able to serve my country in this trying time and I was honoured to be a volunteer to work with MOH to combat this virus. This opportunity allowed me to be exposed to the cooperation and tight linkages between various governmental ministries in Singapore. Given my role to identify potential clusters of COVID-19 cases and warn our fellow Singaporeans to avoid these places to minimise infection, I feel honoured of being part of a bigger effort and operation to protect our nation.

7. Lastly, any words of advice for our younger Fairians?

Set mini goals and do your best to accomplish all of them. I have always wanted to become a pilot in the RSAF since I was a student in the Normal Academic Stream. Hence, I worked hard and ensured that I achieve my goals during my time as a student. As a pilot in the RSAF, I constantly set new goals and remind myself to continue to give my 100% and strive for excellence in all that I do, and more so a good officer in the RSAF. Your dreams would only remain as dreams if you do not put in the due effort to make it come true.





James Chong

Vice Principal (Admin)
FMS(P)

Your full name, designation, when did you join Fairfield?

James Chong Kok Chiang. I am the Vice Principal (Admin) and I joined FMS(P) in September 2015.

You were deployed to the frontline in 2020. Please tell us more about what led to this deployment.

On an afternoon in late March 2020, I was asked by my Principal, Mdm Law Li Mei, to enter her office as our Superintendent from MOE wanted to speak to me urgently. I was informed that I was selected as part of MOE's contribution to the nation's joint efforts to tackle COVID19. Little was shared then, and I really did not know what to expect from the deployment. I went back and shared with my family about how I was going to be involved at the frontline. At that time, there were many uncertainties as the world was still finding out more about Covid19. I am glad that my family gave me their fullest support despite their worries and concern about my well-being. They knew that if I was given a choice, I would not have hesitated and would have volunteered for such a task anyway.

15 April is my son's birthday and on that day last year, my family and I were discussing about how we were to going to celebrate the day when I received a phone call requesting me to report to MOE HQ for a briefing immediately. There, I was told that I was going to be a "Dormitory Manager" and was briefed about my duties and role. By the time I returned home that evening, my family and I settled with a simple meal delivery.

I found out more about the role I had to play only after I reported for duty. My task was to lead a team to set up and run a dormitory in a specific vacated school. The dormitory was to house and take care of foreign workers and to provide for their daily needs such as meals. I had to manage the foreign workers who tested positive for Covid19 and, at the same time, ensure that the well-being and safety of my team remained intact and uncompromised.



Why were you selected?

Honestly, I still do not know for sure why I was selected. My best guess is that they needed someone who has operational background in managing contingencies, and those of us who were previously from uniformed services (such as SAF or SPF) would be experienced in such work. I was from the SAF before joining FMS(P). I also found out that some of my former SAF colleagues were also roped in for this operation – three of us were deployed to manage the dormitories while a handful helped to perform other tasks such as 24/7 monitoring or logistic support.

Give us more details about what you did at the frontline!

Once the physical and technical setup of the dormitory was completed, we prepared to welcome the arrival of the foreign workers assigned to our dormitory. There were more than 500 foreign workers who joined us. My team and I were constantly in touch with every one of them throughout the day whilst carrying out our daily tasks, such as when providing them meals, during room inspection etc. Such activities inadvertently put the dormitory staff in constant exposure to possible infection. The risk grew multi-fold when we had to manage foreign workers who tested positive for Covid19 and those who were in close contact with the confirmed cases.

What was most memorable about the entire experience?

I will never forget the first time I had to deliver results of a positive Covid19 test to a foreign worker from Thailand. His look of disbelief followed by despair and sadness will always be etched into my memory. I believe that back then, he was more worried about his loss of income than his well-being as he was asymptomatic. After placing this worker in an isolation ward, I momentarily started to worry about my own well-being even though I had all the necessary protective gear on. In total, we successfully managed over 20 positive Covid19 cases, and managed more than 300 cases of close contacts. Despite this, I did still think about the possibility of bringing the virus home to my family, and was extra careful about taking precautions like washing of hands regularly and having my mask and other protective gear on.

Please share how you feel about being in the frontline working during this time.

This experience helped me to better understand what our other frontline workers are dealing with the constant threat and fear of being infected, and how their families play an important part to support their tasks. I deeply appreciate the support and understanding that my family have given me. I am also indebted to my fellow colleagues back in school who covered me during my absence.





FOUNDED 1888

The Fairfield Methodist Schools
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

The Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the FAIRFIELD METHODIST SCHOOLS' ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ("Alumni Association") will be held on 27 February 2021 (Sat) 2pm. The AGM will be held as a virtual meeting via Zoom and all members are cordially invited to attend.

If you would like to attend the AGM please register by 17 February 2021 at this link <https://tinyurl.com/FairfieldAGM2021> or through the QR code below:



The meeting ID and password will be provided to you after successful registration.

If you have any enquiries, you may contact our secretariate, PK, @ 96461853 or email at pklau121@yahoo.com.sg.

AGENDA FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

1. To confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 22 February 2020.
2. To receive the President's Report.
3. To receive the reports from the Principals of Fairfield Methodist Schools (Primary & Secondary).
4. To receive and, if approved, adopt the audited Statement of Accounts for the year ended 30 November 2020.
5. To elect the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association for 2021 comprising:-
 - i. The President
 - ii. 2 Vice Presidents
 - iii. The Honorary Secretary
 - iv. The Assistant Honorary Secretary
 - v. The Honorary Treasurer
 - vi. The Assistant Honorary Treasurer
 - vii. 7 Committee Members
6. To appoint an Honorary Auditor to hold office for one year only.
7. To transact any other business of which notice shall have been duly given.

By Order of the Executive Committee

Lo Wei Pin
Honorary Secretary

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES THROUGH PERSEVERANCE

by Kayla Ng (Sec 2D), Eden Joyce Koh (Sec 3B) and Kylee Tan (Sec 3E)



"Through the setbacks that I encountered during my research experiences, I learned that it is only through perseverance that we can overcome challenges and achieve our goals."

Eugene Lek has won countless academic awards throughout his time in Fairfield Secondary, and it's no surprise that he continues excelling even after graduation. Recently, he gained recognition after receiving the prestigious Lee Kuan Yew Award for Mathematics and Science.

When Eugene was asked about the people who had helped him during his journey thus far, he expressed his deep gratitude towards his teachers who had patiently guided him throughout his four years in Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary). He remarked, "My awesome teachers have contributed a lot to my academic success, patiently answering every question and setting aside their precious time to have consultations with me."

How did he develop such a deep interest and expertise in Mathematics and Science? It was none other than his participation in Fairfield's Science Programme for the Education of Aspiring Researchers (SPEAR). SPEAR provided platforms and resources for Eugene to nurture his passion in the Sciences. Besides the national competitions, his teacher mentors in the SPEAR programme encouraged Eugene to attend other science fairs and events. This gave him the opportunity to explore different possibilities and learn more about the different Sciences during his enriching SPEAR journey in Fairfield Secondary.

"My experience in SPEAR gave me the opportunity to explore and discover many aspects of Science that were beyond the textbook. This encouraged me to think more critically, thereby helping me to become a more logical person today. I'm also grateful that SPEAR helped me to attain the Lee Kuan Yew Award for Mathematics and Science."

At the same time, Eugene humbly shared that he could not have accomplished so much if not for the unwavering support from his friends at Fairfield Secondary. He felt that it was the caring school environment and the unforgettable friendships he had forged in Fairfield Secondary that drove him to become the best version of himself.

"I have been fortunate to have a nice group of friends. In good times, hanging out with them has brought me much joy. More importantly, in tough times, their company has helped me to carry on, thereby enabling me to become more focused on my studies."

Eugene concludes, "In a friendly environment such as Fairfield's, making good friends is easy. We should not take them for granted. Instead, we must appreciate our friendships." Eugene thus attributed his success to the many fruitful interactions he had with different people in Fairfield Secondary. Indeed, his teachers and friends in Fairfield played a great role in shaping his character and developing his academic ability. With so many opportunities and experiences to walk away with, Eugene truly feels blessed to have studied in Fairfield Secondary.

MENTAL WELLNESS TAKES CENTRESTAGE

Initiatives by FMS(S)'s Peer Support Board

by Kylee Tan (Sec 3E), Joshua Ho (Sec 3B), and Athena Liu (Sec 4E)



Imagine sitting in the classroom for long hours, day after day. Imagine a school life with just that. Wouldn't it be extremely boring and stifling? Thankfully, we have the Peer Support Board (PSB) here in Fairfield Secondary! The PSB takes care of our student community and often organises meaningful events to break the monotony of school life. These interesting activities provide opportunities for students to bond with one another which in turn create a caring and supportive school environment for all Fairsians.

For one, the PSB set up a Board Games Café before the examination season for students to destress and bond with one another. This was especially helpful for the Secondary One students who were new to the school as they were able to make new friends and foster stronger bonds with their seniors.

Another creative event initiated by the PSB in 2019 was Project Blue Sky. This project aimed to promote cyber wellness, encourage students to reduce the usage of mobile phones, spend more time cultivating better relationships with their friends and family members, and enjoy the simpler things in life such as the blue sky. Project Blue Sky was submitted as part of the PSB's participation at the NCAC Cyber Wellness Competition in 2019. The judges were thoroughly impressed with the PSB's initiative and awarded Fairfield Secondary the Gold Medal in this competition.

The PSB focuses on three domains: social wellness, class cohesion, and mental wellness. Mental wellness has been emphasised on in the PSB's recent initiatives, especially during this unprecedented COVID-19 year.

Ever since the imposition of the Circuit Breaker in April 2020, some students have had difficulties coping with the drastic changes. For this year's Mental Wellness Week, students from the PSB conducted a school wide survey to understand the challenges that each student faced during this period of uncertainties. The PSB then shared their findings with the school during morning assembly and provided the students with various tips on how they can cope with this new normal. Class Chairpersons were also trained to share mental wellness topics with their classmates during Class Contact and Lifeskills lessons.

Even during Home Based Learning, the PSB was still able to come up with innovative ways to foster class bonding as part of the Class of the Year (COTY) programme. For example, each class got to organise a 'class breakfast' through zoom before they proceeded to complete the day's learning tasks. There were also different photo competitions that sought to encourage everyone to keep their class spirit up during this difficult time.

The PSB's efforts enabled the students and teachers alike to strengthen their bonds. "It was really amazing to see the class unite and complete some rather challenging tasks." Mr Joel Tan, the form teacher of Secondary 3E 2020, said.

Indeed, the PSB has been a blessing to all in Fairfield. No matter how small or big the PSB projects have been, they have touched the lives of each and everyone in the school. Their willingness to try new things and initiate projects to ensure our mental health and well-being are taken care of really makes Fairfield special to so many of us!



SPEAK UP WITH CONFIDENCE

Voice Of A Fairsian Programme

by: Ilya Aquilah (Sec 2D), Cheryl Chua (Sec 2A) and Jessie Ng (Sec 4B)

If you had a chance to speak in front of a thousand people, what would you say? Perhaps you might share about a personal experience that you think will benefit your audience or on a topic that you are highly interested in.

In Fairfield, we have the 'Voice Of A Fairsian' (VOAF) programme which helps students to develop the ability to form sound opinions. In the classroom, teachers employ a variety of instructional modes to develop students' confidence in public speaking. Debates, presentations, talk shows and multi-media projects are some examples of the learning activities that Fairsians participate in.

Outside the classroom, a 'Pronunciation Challenge Booth' was set up in March 2020 to raise awareness on commonly mispronounced words. The challenge presented a game format in which students were able to win prizes that were sponsored by the Speak Good English Movement. This fun and interactive session is one way the VOAF programme develops confidence in students on the use of languages.

Students are also given platforms to share their personal experiences and opinions respectfully in front of their fellow peers and teachers. In the process of writing and delivering their speeches, students are able to grow their personal voice. We had many Fairsians who stepped up to make speeches during morning assemblies this year!

Wen Hui from Secondary 1B 2020 is one such student. When asked about her experience speaking to the school during morning assembly, she commented, "I was really struggling to speak fluently since I stutter quite a bit. I had to repeatedly practise my script especially when I stuttered on a word." However, Wen Hui realised that this opportunity helped to improve her reading and

presentation skills, which eventually enabled her to present her speech eloquently.

Amanda Reyes from Secondary 3E 2020, another participant who is also the 2020/2021 Head Councillor, shared, "I had a hard time trying to come up with what I wanted to share about and how to make my script more interesting and engaging for my audience. My friends and teachers gave me good advice and feedback which helped to improve my script."

Indeed, the VOAF programme has encouraged all Fairsians to develop a personal voice such that they can influence others positively. The frequent sharing sessions by students in the classrooms, during morning assemblies or even during Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) sessions have made public speaking a norm in Fairfield. This programme has also successfully helped students who were once fearful of speaking in front of large groups to take small steps in overcoming their phobia.

As Amanda commented, "Although I have spoken in front of numerous people multiple times, it is still nerve-wracking. However, this opportunity made me more confident in expressing my opinion in an intellectual manner."

Of course, the VOAF programme does not only benefit those who speak. Fairsians in the audience are able to gain insightful knowledge pertaining to real-world issues and enhance their understanding of many important issues.

As Malala Yousafzai once said, "When the world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful." The VOAF programme has indeed created a school culture where every Fairsian learns to reflect about and share their opinions confidently.



SHARE YOUR Fondest Memories

2020 WAS AN EVENTFUL YEAR THAT IMPACTED EVERYONE. WITH THE SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES, OUR STUDENTS HAVE GONE THROUGH A VERY DIFFERENT SCHOOL EXPERIENCE. WE AT FMS (P) WOULD LIKE TO REMIND FAIRSIANS, YOUNG AND OLD, OF THE FOND MEMORIES THAT WE HAVE HAD AT FAIRFIELD DESPITE THE CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCE.



Thus, we will be embarking on publishing a compilation of poems on the theme of **School Life at Fairfield.**

We would like to invite **all FairSIans & ex-FairSIans** to contribute to this book.

We hope to have memories of school life at Fairfield spanning as far back as possible.

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO SEND IN A POEM BASED ON THE THEME, ALONG WITH

a **photograph** or **illustration**

THAT DEPICTS THE TIME YOU WERE AT FAIRFIELD.

IF YOU ARE USING A PHOTOGRAPH, DO GET THE CONSENT OF THOSE FEATURED IN IT.

WE ENDEAVOUR TO COMPILE

133 POEMS!



Mrs Rena Tham, a teacher at Fairfield as well as an alumni herself, will be helming this along with the teachers driving the WRITERS programme. She will be providing greater information as to how to submit your entries. please feel free to email her at

ho_tze_kim_rena@moe.edu.SG should you require any clarifications! we look forward to sharing your stories!

you can submit your POEMS as individuals, a pair, as a family unit or as a class!

Sample

Who are we if we forget our past

What is our future if we ignore those who have passed

Why do we need a legacy in order to carve our memories

Where do we go if the future is all we see

When the question arises our heritage holds the answer

Thank you

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

do something + dream





UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH THE
VICE-PRINCIPAL OF FAIRFIELD
METHODIST SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

MRS YAP TSUI LAN



QUESTION:
WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF FAIRSAINS WHEN YOU FIRST STARTED SERVING AS A VICE-PRINCIPAL IN FMSP?

ANSWER:

FAIRSAINS ARE ALL SO FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING! ONE BOY WAS SO CONFIDENT THAT HE ASKED ME TO HELP HIM WITH HIS ZIP WHEN HE HAD DIFFICULTY! I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY INTERESTING!

QUESTION:
WHAT IS THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED?

ANSWER:

ONE OF THE BEST ADVICE EVER GIVEN TO ME WAS BY MY TEACHER, MS CHUA. I USED TO BE A SQUASH PLAYER AND I WAS LOSING THE FIRST TWO MATCHES OUT OF FIVE MATCHES. I HAD PLAYED BADLY AND WAS VERY DISCOURAGED FOR PLAYING SO POORLY. MS CHUA NEITHER SCOLDED ME NOR MADE ME FEEL LOUSY ABOUT LOSING. INSTEAD, SHE TOLD ME TO 'NEVER GIVE UP!' SHE ENCOURAGED ME TO STAY THE COURSE AND DO MY BEST AND THAT WAS EXACTLY WHAT I DID! AND GUESS WHAT, I WON THE TOURNAMENT IN THE END!



QUESTION:
WHAT WERE SOME OF YOUR FONDEST MEMORIES AS A PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT?

ANSWER:

I WAS FROM METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL AND AT THE OLD COMPOUND, I REMEMBER VIVIDLY HOW I LOVED PLAYING ON THE SLIDE! ONE OF MY MOST FAVOURITE MEMORY! I BELIEVE THAT PLAY IS VERY IMPORTANT IN SCHOOL, ESPECIALLY FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN!

QUESTION:
WHAT IS ONE PIECE OF ADVICE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH ALL FAIRSAINS, ESPECIALLY DURING THIS CHALLENGING PERIOD?

ANSWER:

I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS IMPORTANT NOT JUST ONLY FOR FAIRSAINS FROM THE PRIMARY SCHOOL, BUT ALSO FROM SECONDARY SCHOOL AND BEYOND.
YOU ONLY NEED JESUS.
ONCE YOU HAVE GOD IN YOUR LIFE, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO OVERCOME ALL DIFFICULTIES, WHETHER IT IS COVID-19 OR SOMETHING MORE CHALLENGING.



QUESTION:
WHAT IS ONE EMBARRASSING SITUATION THAT YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED?

ANSWER:

I WAS ATTENDING A LESSON OBSERVATION AND WHEN I ENTERED THE CLASS, I REALISED THE STUDENTS WERE STARING AT ME... TO MY HORROR, I REALISED THAT I WAS NOT WEARING MY MASK! I HAD REMOVED IT FOR A SHORT WHILE AND HAD FORGOTTEN TO PUT IT BACK ON! I RAN OFF INSTANTLY TO MY OFFICE TO RETRIEVE IT!



QUESTION:
IF YOU WERE A BOX OF CRAYONS, WHAT COLOUR WOULD YOU BE?

ANSWER:

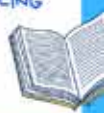
OH! I WOULD BE YELLOW! WHEN I WAS IN MGS, I WAS FROM OLSON HOUSE! BUT IN MGS, OLSON HOUSE WAS REPRESENTED BY THE COLOUR 'YELLOW'! HERE IN FMSP, OLSON IS RED! I LOVE YELLOW AND I AM SO HAPPY THAT I AM SURROUNDED BY FAIRSAINS WEARING YELLOW EVERY DAY!



MRS YAP IS A REALLY GODLY PERSON AND WE WERE REALLY HONOURED THAT WE WERE ABLE TO INTERVIEW HER.

FROM THE INTERVIEW, WE LEARNT THAT SHE IS A SPORRY AND KIND PERSON THAT UNDERSTANDS THE NEED FOR PLAY AND INTERACTION WITH FRIENDS IN A CHILD'S LIFE. SHE IS A RISK TAKER AND LOVES TO TRAVEL AND SPEND TIME JOURNALLING HER THOUGHTS.

WE ARE REALLY THANKFUL THAT A PERSON LIKE MRS YAP HAS COME TO SERVE OUR SCHOOL AND WE LOVE HER GODLY CHARACTER. WE CANNOT WAIT FOR HER TO SHARE MORE DEVOTIONS WITH THE SCHOOL! SHE IS INDEED INSPIRATIONAL AND WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT FAIRSAINS CAN LEARN A LOT FROM HER.



8 QUESTIONS WITH MAGDALENE SEE

A professional emcee and actress, Magdalene See is more a full-time mother and “part-time everything else” now. The Alumni Association recently invited her to host a virtual online baking session at our Facebook channel and it was met with great success and enthusiasm from our community. Read on to find out how she tackles our ‘8 Questions With!’

Question 1 : Your full name, year of graduation and class.

See Huijing, Magdalene. I graduated from Fairfield Primary in 1993, class 6A (FMPS).

Question 2 : What were your CCA in school?

I was part of the Girl's Brigade and I was also a prefect.

Question 3 : What were your best memories of Fairfield?

My time in Fairfield Primary were some of my happiest years in school. One of my favourite memory was raising the national and school flags during morning assembly as part of my prefect duties. It was so much fun trying to time the speed of the flags to the songs and having to deal with winds, all while keeping a poker face!

Question 4 : Who were some of your most memorable teachers?

Unfortunately I've forgotten most of my teachers' names, but the one I remember the most would be our then Principal Ms Dorothy Ho. I remember being very scared of her because she would always tell us to walk, not run, along the corridor.

Question 5 : When did you first become interested in hosting and acting?

I got into showbiz by chance really. I didn't know I liked it until I landed a TV hosting job in a youth travelogue at age 20. I was still in university then but I continued TV and event hosting part-time until I graduated. When I graduated, I was approached by an artiste agency that introduced me to the world of TV and theatre acting and I've been hosting and acting ever since.

Question 6 : What is 'Whisk n Fold' and what motivated you to start that?

I've always liked baking and would experiment with different recipes. Ten years ago, I decided to go to pastry school while living in Vancouver, Canada and then worked with an award-winning pastry chef. When I returned to Singapore, I decided to combine my training in both hosting and baking by starting a 'recipe blog' which evolved into Whisk n Fold - a baking channel featuring tried-and-tasted recipes.



Question 7 : Tell us more about your work now. What does it involve?

These days, I'm a full-time mom and part-time everything else. My priority right now is to care for my two children (ages 7 and 3) and I still act/host/bake part-time but on an ad-hoc project basis.

Question 8 : Any words of wisdom for your junior Fairsians?

My son just entered FMS(P) and I find myself telling him a lot about the importance of being 'pure and honest'. I never realised how foundational our school motto was to living a life of character and integrity so the one thing I would say to younger Fairsians is... be pure and honest in everything you do!

