TANDEM



This photograph was taken before the COVID-19 pandemic.



The President's Note - June 2021"

A screenshot of our Annual General Meeting held in February

Dear Fairfield Family,

In the twinkling of an eye, we have already journeyed past the first half of 2021. I trust you have been keeping safe and sound throughout this period. We went through Phase 2 (Heightened Alert) from May to June this year and we are slowly easing back to Phase 3 again prayerfully. We continue to pray unceasingly that the whole world will overcome this pandemic and lives will resume back to pre-COVID 19 days in due course.

Even in such challenging times, I am constantly reminded Of God's provisions in our lives and how we can be a blessing to others. In 2 Corinthians 9:8, the Bible through Paul the Apostle tells us, "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." The key word is that "God is able" to bless all of us. This is our most generous God who provides the important which we in turn can share or give to people around us at any time.

Being a blessing to others indeed as our Alumni Association organised our first webinar this year for parents. The topic was "Helping Your Child Achieve in Life" and the focus was on what defines success and what essential life skills children need to nurture today. The session was facilitated by Dr Low Quat Tin, who is also a member of our committee and we are truly thankful for that. Close to 70 participants attended the live webinar and benefitted much from the sharing. More exciting webinars will be coming your way very soon so watch this space. As we celebrate the 70th Anniversary of our Alumni Association and 133rd Founder's Day for our beloved be so for many generations to come.

This year, we will again not be having our Founder's Day Dinner where everyone can catch up and fellowship with our friends and teachers. However, our Alumni Association will be producing another exciting video showcasing the different Fairfield generations to celebrate our Founder's Day. What will that be? Do follow us on our Facebook/Instagram page for the latest news. It will be a video worth waiting for so watch out for it on 4th August

We will also be blessing our School leaders, Board of Management members, School staff, Alumni Teachers and Staff, as well as our Partners in Education with a special gift to commemorate and celebrate our Foth invaluable support and contributions all these years.

Our Alumní Volunteers' Network has also been launched recently and is opened to all Fairsians. Please do sign fairfieldalumní.org.sg for more details.

Our limited edition 70th Anniversary Alumni Association gifts and souvenirs will also be available for sale on our web page too. Do check them out and find out how you can order them. Stocks are limited so hurry and place your order with us soon.

Finally, let us continue to maintain a positive mindset as we move bravely forward amidst this pandemic. Stay vigilant and keep healthy...and as always, be Pure and Honest.



The Alumni Association 70th anniversary commemorative souvenirs

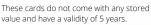
Established in 1888

The Alumni Association commemorates our 70th anniversary. To celebrate this amazing occasion, we have designed several limited edition souvenirs for sale at our brand new e-shop!. To order, please head over to our e-shop at http://fairfieldalumni.org.sg/shop



Limited Edition 70th Anniversary EZ-link Card

This is a limited edition adult EZ-link featuring the schools' facades over the years. Walk down memory lane as we look back at the old school building at Neil Road, to the 1990s Primary and Secondary school buildings, to the current school buildings.







Limited Edition 70th Anniversary foldable umbrella

Lightweight umbrellas that open up to 21" wide. Perfect for stashing into your bag while on-the-go, with the peace of mind come rain or shine, without weighing yourself down. Collapsed dimension: 25 cm length x 7 cm. Approximately 300g.



Limited Edition 70th Anniversary ID card holder

Functional portrait-direction ID card holders with a window pocket at one side, as well as an additional slot on the other for discretion if required. Dimension: 7.2 x 10.4cm.



Limited Edition 70th Anniversary microwaveable collapsible lunchbox

Save-the-earth with these microwaveable collapsible lunchboxes, made of silicon and plastic. They even come with a Spork (spoon/fork). Open them up for packing food and collapse them to take up minimum space during storage.

Approximately 170g.

Collapsed dimension: $12.5cm(H) \times 15cm(L) \times 3cm(W)$ Opened dimension: $12.5cm(H) \times 15cm(L) \times 6.6cm(W)$

A FAIRFIELD MUSICAL JOURNEY

Not being able to gather physically will not stop the Fairfield family from coming together to show our love for Fairfield. Tune in on 4 August 2021 at 7.30pm on Facebook @ FairfieldAlumni to celebrate Fairfield's 133rd Founder's Day with us on A Fairfield Musical Journey: a 45 mins show packed with nostalgia as our hosts bring you through the streets of Telok Ayer, Neil Road and Dover Road with performances of songs that occupied the billboard charts during the same era!

4 AUGUST 2021, WEDNESDAY

TIME: 7.30PM

Venue: www.facebook.com/fairfieldalumni

HAVING FUN AT HOME!



It is a time of staying home in Singapore the past year as the world is forced to shut its borders and strongly discourage travelling due to the ongoing pandemic. Most of the recent June holidays were also spent in a "heightened alert", thus confining us to our homes. Bored with being stuck at home? Not sure how to use your SingapoRediscover Vouchers? Here, one Alumni shares what his family does together and another Alumni shares how she used her SingapoRediscover vouchers for a day out at sea.

Kelvin Ang (Class of 1988, FMPS) has three children. All of them attended school at FMS(P) and his eldest son is now at FMS(S). Kelvin was one of Singapore's first "Daddy blogger" and most recently an author of two editions of "Got Kids, Go Where?" - a book of 550 activities for parents to do with their kids in Singapore. He is also frequently invited as a guest speaker and contributor for parenting issues.



"Pre-COVID, we usually head outdoors during weekends. In addition, we travel quite a fair bit too, taking short trips to nearby places like Malaysia and other S.E.A. countries. Post-COVID, we are at home most of the time but we make it a point to head out during weekends to go on a weekly nature hike together. We also tried to allocate some for all of us to enjoy an activity together, be it a board game, online gaming, working out to a YouTube video, baking cookies, or even washing the toilet!





We head outdoors for a weekly family hike. There are plenty of nature parks in Singapore that one can go to, and most of them are easily accessible. However, with teenagers in my household, there is a greater need to keep them 'impressed' and interested, which was why I started to look for off-thebeaten-track nature trails that we could explore together.

We have visited remote places like the disused Keppel Hill Reservoir, abandoned Seng Chew Quarry and even jungle bashed to locate the WWII Kay Siang bunkers!

For beginners, I would recommend hiking along the Green Corridor and if you are feeling more adventurous, you can hike through Clementi Forest with your family."



Cho Pei Lin (Class of 1994) is an active member of the Alumni Association. She is a Public Relations Consultant and manages one of Singapore's oldest and largest independent PR agencies. She also serves on the Schools' Board of Management, and various other community and non-profit organisations.

"My favourite destination for a short break is Hong Kong, a city I used to visit a few times a year. My family has a tradition of taking a few days off every Chinese New Year to spend time with our relatives in Malaysia. All these have to be put aside since Covid-19.

My friends and I contemplated how best to use our SingaporRediscover vouchers - we each have \$100 to use till 31 December 2021! When we booked, it was the period when up to eight people could gather at the same time. After much research and checks, we settled for a trip out to sea!

My friends and I were treated to a unique sailing experience along the coast of Singapore where we heard stories about Singapore's coastal history and developments. The yacht then parked near Lazarus Island where we had hours of water activities with complimentary kayaks and water mat. We also brought along marinated chicken wings and hot dogs - the yacht had a BBQ pit!



One of them brought a fishing rod along, and was fishing from the yacht. We caught a small fish which we returned to the sea immediately. It was fun chilling out in the sun, and spending five solid hours "out of mainland Singapore". It almost felt like we had our first holiday in a year!"



Postlude: Pei Lin and her friends booked the trip individually using one of the appointed vendors by Singapore Tourism Board – GlobalTix. They then informed the yacht company (Yachtly by Waterspot LLP) their preferred day for the trip.





Chloe Lee: Nurturing A Passion To Teach



by Ang Jan Tsi (Sec 3F) and Jessie Ng (Sec 4B)

"The teachers here are very caring and passionate," said Chloe Lee. "And that has definitely grown my passion for learning into an attitude of lifelong learning."

Chloe Lee graduated from Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary) in 2018. After her GCE A-Level examinations, she decided that teaching was her calling. As such, she came back to FMS(S) as a relief teacher.

Every teacher who had taught Chloe blessed her with selfless love and care, and she would like to pass it forward to future generations.

"These teachers ignited the fire in me to similarly reach out and impact the lives of the younger generations," Chloe exclaimed.

One FMS(S) teacher who who encouraged Chloe was her upper secondary form teacher, Ms Lim Chee Shan. Besides being her chemistry teacher, Ms Lim also taught Chloe numerous life lessons that went beyond the classroom. For example, Ms Lim emphasised on the importance of respect and care for each other. Even after graduation, she continued to look out for her former students including Chloe.

Chloe's dream is to be a teacher, but she is more specifically hoping to teach geography. When asked, "Why geography?", Chloe replied that Mr Wee Guoyuan, her upper secondary Pure Geography teacher, was the main reason.

Mr Wee's passion for Geography was evident in his classes. His Geography lessons were never only about what they needed to learn in the textbook. He would often share broader perspectives about Geography and its relation to the world. Mr Wee encouraged Chloe to apply what she had learnt in the Geography classroom to her own experiences and perceive these experiences from a geographical viewpoint. Since then, Chloe fell in love with the subject.

"I also hope to inspire the younger generation to see that Geography is everywhere around us," Chloe shared, "and to be able to cultivate curiosity in learning."











Besides her interest in geography, Chloe reflected that she had matured mentally and spiritually as she grew closer to God during her time here in FMS(S).

"Fairfield has always placed great emphasis on character development, giving me many hands-on opportunities to grow my leadership capabilities and to give back to the community. Most importantly, the Christian environment Fairfield provides allows me to focus on God and to honour Him in all that I do."

Chloe has definitely grown in personhood during her time in FMS(S). How then can we learn from her terrific example?

She advises her juniors, "I experienced great personal growth as a secondary school student, so I feel most sentimental about the time I spent and the people I met in Fairfield. So to my juniors - cherish the remaining time you have here, and make the most out of it. These are happy memories that are unforgettable."

That piece of advice will surely ring true for most of us!

MUSCLES OF INCLUSIVIT

by Ian Lau (Sec 2E), Bertrand Tang (Sec 2E) and Kylee Tan (Sec 3E)

With the impending subject streaming, school had been more intense than ever. Shouts reverberated through the corridors, tears streaked down faces, and sleepless nights had come and gone. Thankfully, Term 1 was coming to an end, and the Secondary Two students were bursting with enthusiasm for the highly-anticipated Fairfield Learning Experience (FLEX) Week.

The focus for the Secondary Two FLEX week is on inclusivity. As such, different activities and talks were planned to educate and increase the awareness of our students on mental health and special educational needs.

For some classes, they began with a workshop on special educational needs. The workshop consisted of many engaging activities that were designed and carried out by our very own Allied Educators (Learning and Behavioural Support), school counsellors and teachers!

For example, one learning station was about hearing impairment. The teacher who facilitated the learning station shared her personal experience learning sign language as she has a family member whose hearing is impaired. She also taught the students sign language. Despite the loud 'ah's of bewilderment at the beginning, the unmistakable furrowing of the pupils' eyebrows showed just how daunted they were by the activity. Nevertheless, they persevered, and by the end of the session, they could 'speak' in full sentences.







The last activity of the segment involved arts and crafts. Some groups received a box of colour markers while others got only pens and pencils. They were all tasked to create a poster. Some had vociferously groaned and complained that it was unfair. However, this disparity represented the final lesson the teachers had for the students:

'Not everyone has the same starting point or abilities, but that does not, and never will, define them.'

This message was further underscored when the group that received a few colour pencils was able to craft the most incredible poster — illustrations were drawn beautifully and messages were artistically written on the paper. It was just remarkable what the group could accomplish even when they were at a disadvantage. Indeed, these activities and talks on mental wellness had provided Fairsians with a deeper insight into the lives of those afflicted, and encouraged them to be more empathetic and inclusive in their daily interactions.

Fairsians also had the opportunity to write messages on post-its, where they pledged to make the school a more inclusive place for everyone. These post-its were then used to create a beautiful 'empathy pledge board' that was made up of multiple coloured hearts.









Furthermore, students were also tasked to create a meaningful social media post that conveyed the message of inclusivity. Eagerly pacing around the school, the Secondary 2 students took the lighting and background into consideration, as they sought for 'the perfect spot' to capture their final product. Hidden talents were discovered as students exhibited their creative flair in the dynamic photos and videos that they had produced. They were also given the opportunity to share their creative processes with their classmates.

To end FLEX week on a more light-hearted note, the class committee of each class devoted their best efforts into planning and executing a memorable Class Fun Day for their peers. Many classes played different bonding games, with snacks being distributed during class parties. Broad smiles were plastered across the students' faces as they enjoyed delectable, mouthwatering treats. Chatter and laughter filled the air as the Secondary Two students finally got some rest to relax with their peers after such an eventful term.

"I really enjoyed my experience during FLEX Week. Learning about mental health and those with disabilities truly opened my eyes and helped me to become an even more empathetic person," Samantha Lim of Secondary 2E shared.

Indeed, the Secondary 2 students benefited from FLEX Week and will certainly remember this event for many years to come!

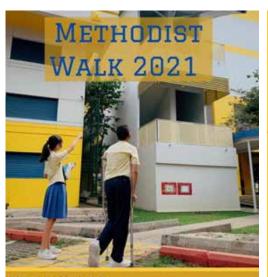




Methodist Walk 2021



This edition of the Methodist Walk was conducted virtually in accordance to the prevailing safe management measures. Students were given time during their PE lessons in Term 2 Week 1 to complete a 2.4km walk or run. Even the fundraising was done online via the Giving.sg website as well as through a QR code. It was indeed heartening to see student councillors creating e-flyers and calling on the student body to pay it forward and contribute towards this cause (see Nathaniel Tang's speech below). By God's grace, the school met its targeted amount of \$60,000, and we are thankful for the support of all our partners, well-wishers and parents. The funds for the construction of two lifts in the school will help our staff and students with mobility challenges to easily access all levels of the school.



What we are raising funds for:

This year's fundraising is to make the school more accessible for injured students, as well as people with mobility issues by installing 2 lifts (costing about \$1.7 million in total).

Why your contribution matters:

- The lifts will allow our friends and teachers with mobility issues to access the various levels with ease.
- We will not have to swap classrooms when someone gets injured and need to be on the provinced floor.
- It will also make it easier for our teachers who may have to carry heavy loads up long flights of steps.

For donors who would like tax deduction, you can give via giving sg through this:



For donors who DO NOT need tax deduction, you can now donate using PayNow:



Account Name: METHODIST SCHOOLS' FOUNDATION Reference No: FMSS

Please remember to state in the remarks/notes field: FMSS

If there is no school code, or if MSF is unable to determine to which school the donation is made, MSF will, at its sole and final decision, treat the donation as a donation to the general funds of MSF.









Speech by NATHANIEL JOSIAH TANG

Good morning, Ms Chen, Vice-Principals, teachers and friends. I am Nathaniel from Secondary 3E. This morning, I want to share with you my journey of raising funds for the Methodist Walk. It was one of initial disappointment that later turned into a great encouragement for myself.

When I first learnt about the possibility of having a lift in our school, I was overjoyed! Finally! Lifts in school! What a great blessing it will be for us! But the question is – how can I help to turn this blessing into a reality? The school has to raise \$60,000, and to me, that is a mammoth task! As a student of the school, I know it is my responsibility to do whatever I can to help. I can, within the means of whatever ways possible, help to raise the money. Thus, I told myself I have to be a bit 'thick skinned' in asking people to help the school.

Thus, I went through my phone book to jot down the names of friends and relatives whom I can approach for help. In addition, I asked my parents for help and they kindly gave me a list of names of the Uncles and Aunties whom I am familiar with, both from my church and my family's friends. I then drafted and sent the message to appeal for their donations.

However, I did not receive any response for one full day. Silence! Total silence. I felt discouraged and lousy because it took me a lot of courage to send that message out. The feeling I had was close to being rejected. Lo and behold, on the night of the second day, to my biggest surprise, messages started to flood my phone and donations started to come in. To date, I have garnered a considerable sum of money from my friends and relatives. Hopefully, there will be more money coming in over the next few days, because I believe there is always hope when we try to make things work.

We are only about a week away from the closing date of the Methodist Walk. The Student Council has created an e-flyer that is published on different social media platforms. We hope you can forward this e-flyer to your friends, relatives and parents as we reach the last lap of this fundraising campaign.

We will be sending e-flyers to you via your class chairpersons and our ohitsfairfield Instagram account. We will also be emailing them to your school accounts.

Let's unite and do our part for Fairfield! Thank you!



Have you ever wondered how Ps camp 2021 was like? If you have, read on!

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, this year's Ps camp was a three-day camp with no overnight stay.

However, it was still filled with interesting activities. The first day started with our instructor telling us a story about a monitor lizard, Biawak, which would be our imaginary guide for the rest of the camp.

After having our lunch, the activity for that day was a four-kilometre walk to Changi Beach and back. We took breaks in-between our walk, one of which was a memorable stop at the beach. We even had a picnic and played with the sand with our friends. We had such an amazing time!

on the second day, there were exciting activities planned for us zip-lining and abseiling! When several of my friends and I were on the sth floor vaiting for our
turn, I could see the anxiety written on their faces. For me, I was quite calm until I finally stood at the platform. My
heart started racing and my palms were sweaty. Looking down at my classmates cheering for me, I plucked up the
courage and jumped off the platform. I glided down so quickly and in a split second, I had reached the bottom.

I was in shock but elated I had made it. We then moved on to abseiling. When my turn came, I found it quite hard to keep my legs straight on the wall as they kept slipping but I persevered and got to the bottom in the end. After all the thrilling activities, my classmates and I gobbled up our lunch as we were famished.

on the last day, there was a group activity. We learned more about the plants at the campsite so that we could use those materials to make a house for the monitor lizard. Biawak. My group and I gathered some sticks, sand, leaves and pebbles. We taped the sticks and leaves to make the house and made a sand wall around the house so that Biawak would be protected against predators. We also made a path with pebbles as a welcome path.

After going through the camp, I realised that I could do things I would not have thought I would be able to. I also learnt that teamwork plays a huge part in some activities and most importantly, it was a great opportunity to forge friendships with my new classmates this year.

Written by Alexis Lim Primary 5B 2021



The camp was only three days long. The first day started with safety rules and getting ourselves into groups of five. After lunch, the highlight of the day finally came! We were going on a long trek at East Coast Park!

Our group packed a bag with the basic essentials and soon we were set to go! We chatted on our way to the park, periodically clutching our hats when strong gusts of winds blew intermittently. The trek was tiring but truly enjoyable as we made amazing discoveries along the way. First, we saw a frog and were quite distracted by it.

Later, we spotted a huge tarantula and our eyes were glued to it as we had hardly seen such a creature. We then continued the trek for another hour before reaching the other end of the park. We sat down together for refreshment. During the break, a grasshopper unexpectedly hopped onto the mat, causing my groupmates to jump up in fear. In the nick of time, another groupmate, who is an avid insect lover, walked over nonchalantly and simply caught it with his bare hands! We were all dumbfounded by this. After a few more fun activities, we strolled back to the campaite.

The second day was my favourite day. We got to try the rock-climbing and "High Elements", both of which I had done before so I thought that this would not be a feat to me. However, I was wrong! Under the pressure of being watched and judged by my friends, I started feeling uncomfortable. I focused on what I had to do and managed to complete the whole obstacle course despite the pressure. However, I did not manage to finish the rock wall as my arms were so tired by then.

The last day ended with simple class games. It was a bit stressful when everyone competed to win. This day ended earlier than the other days but it was still memorable nonetheless. The camp fulfilled its purpose of bringing us together as a class and strengthening our bonds. This camp served as a good ice-breaker for us to know one another better. Even though it was a camp full of challenges, it was an amazing new experience for everyone.

Written by Jevyn Tan Primary 5A 2021







This issue, we persuaded Vice-President of the Fairfield Methodist Schools Alumni Association, Eunice Yao (Class of 1999), to answer eight questions for In Tandem. Eunice is a partner at Singapore's leading law firm, Dentons Rodyk's, corporate practice. She was recognised in Singapore Business Review's 2020 list of most influential lawyers aged 40 and under, a report that identifies the most promising lawyers in the industry based on thought leadership, influence and success.

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

Yao Enci, Eunice. I graduated in 1999, Class 4A.

Question 2: What were your CCA in school?

In Primary School I was a prefect and also in the Christian Fellowship. In Secondary School, I was in the Girls' Brigade & Prefectorial Board.

Question 3: What were your best memories of Fairfield?

I have too many good memories of Fairfield but some of the best ones definitely involved lovely interactions with my friends and teachers. As Mrs Tang always says, we are the "Fairfield Family", going to school was like going home. I remember having very patient and dedicated teachers who attended to my every question, even in the subjects I was the weakest in (especially A Maths and Art). Without them giving me a second chance to work at my weaknesses, I'll never had the confidence of facing my weaknesses and praying for strength and divine solutions for them.

It was fun helping out and organising school events as a prefect and later Deputy Head Prefect, learning from the teachers like Mr Hou Meng Hsien and Mr Siew Lin Tuck on how to best plan and execute duty plans for the prefects for daily school duties, Founders' Day etc. On hindsight, it was also a blessing that the teachers gave us the opportunity to be hands-on for these projects, trusting young teenagers like us with tasks and giving us the room to make mistakes, teaching us as we go. I also remember being so patiently guided



by the late Ms Yee Pui Leng on how to make announcements at the orderly session after recess time.

In the Girls' Brigade, I had the privilege of learning and growing up with my peers, seniors and juniors. I loved attending the weekly meetings (playing games at recreation) and also preparing for the various competitions with my friends and squad members (love Squad 3 forever).

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

I was one of the students who was blessed to have interacted with many teachers both inside and outside of the classroom. There truly are too many of them to name (including the staff!), wish I can name all of the teachers and staff in Fairfield when I was there from 1990 to 1999. Those from Primary School will be teachers such as Mrs Chua Ai Hua, Mrs Annie Fong and Mrs Theresa Chua. Some of them from Secondary School include our principal and vice-principal Mrs Tang Poh Kim, Mrs Victoria Tham, and the teachers like Mr Hou Meng Hsien, Mr Siew Lin Tuck, Mr Lim Sin Heng, Mrs Choe Wai Leng, Ms Yeo Li Li, Mrs Myrna Koh, Mrs Martha Chew, Ms Priscilla Song, Ms Santha Maniam, Ms Thio Lay Hong, Mr Wong Kok Heng, Mrs Toh Keow Lam, Mrs Grace Fong, the late Mrs Tan Chay Hoon, the late Ms Yee Pui Leng and late Ms Lau Woon Yoke

Question 5 : When did you first become interested in becoming a lawyer?

I first became interested to be a lawyer when I was in junior college and found an interest in thinking of the respective dynamics in any relationship.



Question 6 : Tell us more about your work now. What does it involve?

I am a corporate lawyer involved in mergers & acquisitions, corporate finance and fintech. My work involves working with clients who intend to acquire companies, assets, raise funds and effect various corporate actions.

Question 7: Amidst a busy work schedule, you find time to serve in the Alumni Association. When did you start serving, what do you do as a volunteer, and why serve?

I first started serving a couple of years ago. As a volunteer, I assist with the respective duties assigned to me by the Committee of the Alumni Association and these include assisting to organise events for members such as webinars, online baking classes, home-coming and helping out at Founders' Day dinner.

I believe with every season, the Lord will provide us with the desire, the resources and the time to serve. It is also super fun interacting with alumni from all works of life, seeing how everyone has grown from glory to glory.

The privilege to serve in the Committee of the Alumni Association is a very very small way for me to continue to give back to Fairfield which has given me so much and to also fulfil the desire to serve in this beloved school

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

Dream big, work hard, pray for Jesus to give you the wisdom and provision in anything you want to achieve. Everything is possible with Jesus and in Christ you can do all things for He gives you strength