

The Beacon



JULY 2015 | ISSUE 5

55TH AWARDS AND THANKSGIVING DAY

By Mr. Heng Tee Wee



Reverend R. Prabhu
(Guest-of-Honour)

8 May was a joyous day for SFMS as the school celebrated the 55th Awards and Thanksgiving Day with vibrancy. The theme was, "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). Gracing the event was the guest of honour, Reverend R. Prabhu, ETAC President.

Long Service Awards were presented to the following SFMS staff for their service to the school – Mr James Teo (15 years), Mr Daryl Singh (10 years) and Miss Beatrice Tan (5 years). Following that, students received their awards for achieving sterling academic results in 2014:

Even as the awards were presented to the top students of each level for their outstanding academic achievement in 2014, our students also displayed their varied talent in music, dancing and drama.

The event started with a bang as dancers from the Funky Dance interest group light up the show with their slick moves and lively performance on stage. This was followed by worship accompanied with mime as SFMS honored God for His 55 years of grace upon the school. Then, it was Chen Kailin's (Sec 1A) turn to mesmerise the audience with her enchanting music and graceful motion. Perhaps, the highlight of the event was the very professional performance by students from the Destination Imagination interest group.



Awards Recipients

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

55TH AWARDS & THANKSGIVING DATE	1
130TH MCS DINNER	2
SEC 1 & 2 PASTORAL CARE WORKSHOP	2
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY 2015	3
CULTIVATING A SPIRIT OF SHARING & GIVING	4
UNLEASHED 2015	4

Keep yourself updated! Visit our new [website](#) & [Facebook](#) now!



Destination Imagination



Funky Dance



Chen Kailin's Dance

The event ended when dancers from the Funky Dance interest group had the audience on their feet with their closing dance item. As the school gave thanks to God for His faithfulness, we look forward to reflect the glory of Christ in our daily lives.

130TH MCS DINNER

By Mr. Heng Tee Wee

After celebrating SFMS' 55th Awards and Thanksgiving Day on 8 May morning, SFMS staff let their hair down during a relaxing dinner at The Wine Company at Sentosa Boardwalk to celebrate the 130th Anniversary of The Methodist Church in Singapore. Of added significance to the dinner was that The Wine Company was owned by the mother of our ex-SFMS student, Denise Yang.



Dr Wee Boon Hup, Bishop of The Methodist Church in Singapore, via video recording, spoke about how Methodists had established schools, provided community services and were “a beacon of truth and light” in Singapore. Many served the nation and the people quietly. These unsung heroes were like salt and light who bear the flavour of Christ. In response to the Church's theme this year, Moving Forward In Service, Dr Wee exhorted all to continue to be faithful to be salt and light to make Singapore a better place to live in.



As the dinner was served, a band of SFMS teachers called The Bruvs entertained with song and dance. There was also a performance by the student councillor band, The Aurora.

By nightfall, the dinner culminated in the cutting of a cake and three toasts to the good work done in SFMS, to the excellent contribution of The Methodist Church in Singapore over the years to the society and to the continued progress of Singapore as the nation celebrates the Year of Jubilee. To God be the glory!

SEC 1 & 2 PASTORAL CARE WORKSHOP

“I HAVE A DREAM!” LIFE-SKILLS PROGRAM

By Mr. Tommy Kei

The Secondary 1 and Secondary 2 classes had the life skills program in February, March and April by motivational speaker Mr Glenn Lim. The objectives of the workshop were to train and equip Secondary 1 and 2 students with personal development skills, a sense of purpose and direction, presentation and communication skills, self-confidence and self-esteem.

The programme consisted of 3 sessions. The first session, Discover My Purpose, was to guide the students through the ‘Life Road-Map’ model, Personal ‘Dream-Boarding’, build and conceptualise presentation and expose them to different types of communication structures and models. The second session was Discover My Personality. Students did their DISC profile graphing and analysis to know more about their individual personalities. With the understanding of one's own personality, students could work on their strengths and improve on their weaknesses. The third session was Presentation Skills. Students were guided step by step through the PREP model to prepare and deliver a speech.

The students found that the programme was relevant and engaging. They enjoyed the DISC profiling and the presentation, through which they developed their confidence and self-esteem.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY 2015

By Ms. Beatrice Tan



SFMS celebrated the International Friendship Day on 17 April 2015. Being an international school with students from approximately 20 countries, International Friendship Day becomes a special and meaningful occasion to foster friendship and to give our students the opportunity for inter-cultural discovery, understanding and acceptance. It also reinforces our pastoral care value of 'Getting Along'.

The celebration started off with a cultural show featuring songs and dances performed by our students from different countries. Our students from China presented a miniature orchestra, modern Chinese dance, Beatboxing and a piano solo. Our students from Indonesia gave us a rendition of an English song and an Indonesian folk dance. From the land of the rising Sun, we were entertained with a Japanese song sung by one of our Japanese students. There was also an ethnic costume parade by our teachers and students from the different countries. The grand finale was a medley of Thai, Vietnamese, Indian, Korean and Africa dances performed by our international students and our teachers took part in the dance to mark the end of the celebration.

Students were able to savour food from different countries such as China, Taiwan, Thailand, Korea, Indonesia, India, Malaysia and Singapore. A traditional games corner was also organised for students to bridge the gap and enjoy their friendship through fun and interactive games.

The event was a success seeing the smiles on the students' faces as they immersed in the spirit of internationalism on this occasion.



CULTIVATING A SPIRIT OF SHARING & GIVING

By Mr. Yu-Jin Lim

Martin Luther King Jr. once said “Intelligence plus character, this is the goal of true education”.

Character Education

Many schools in Singapore focus on academic achievements. This is more so in the private education sector. SFMS is a firm believer in character education. Indeed, at the entrance to the school, you can see the big bold letters “Guide a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. – Proverbs 22:6”.

SFMS believes that an essential part and parcel of character education is to show care and concern to our society. To this end, we expose our students to the less fortunate in our society – the elderly or people who are ill. Students are encouraged to think of ways in which they can do their part to make it a better place for these people.

Contribution to Society

And the results? The students surprised and delighted residents of Bethany Methodist Nursing Home with a musical concert, belting out old tunes that some residents sing along with. They engaged in social entrepreneurship to raise funds for charity. Over \$1000 was raised by selling various food items, including sushi, muffins, tarts and apple pies in the school canteen during break time. A portion of the fund raised are used to purchase food and gifts for these residents. These food and gifts are distributed in a “sure win” Bingo game with residents. And at the end of day, all remaining funds of \$600 are donated to Methodist Welfare Services to help the needy.



Students selling sushi to raise funds for Bethany Methodist Nursing Home.



Students getting ready for a musical concert.

We thank God for giving us the opportunity to serve and hope to do even better next year.

This article also appeared in Methodist Message July 2015 issue.

UNLEASHED 2015

By ACS Oldham Hall

Incepted in 2012, “Unleashed” is ACS Oldham Hall’s version of “OH’s Got Talent”. Organised by our student councillors, it showcases our boarders varied and unique talents to the boarding community.



Christie and BichDiep singing - Amazing Grace & Oh Danny Boy



Yimei performing Chinese dance item

Throughout the event, we witnessed the creative side of our boarders as they expressed themselves through song, dance, theatre, etc.

Initially, about 30 boarders auditioned in front of a panel of judges to earn a spot in the semi-finals. The judges selected six worthy contestants, eventually three or four would proceed to the final. An open voting system picked the winner.

On 8 Feb 2015, Christie and Bich Diep from Innova Junior College sang a medley of Amazing Grace and Danny Boy and won themselves the first prize. Yi Mei from St Francis Methodist School was placed a close second for performing a Chinese dance item.

Our intention is to encourage our boarders to showcase their different skills, and it is heartening to discover that ACS Oldham Hall indeed has an impressive pool of talent.