

ST. MARGARET'S CONNECT



OCT-DEC

ISSUE #64

2022

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



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**SMESA Newsletters will be distributed in soft copies.
Hard copies are available only upon request.**



St. Margaret's 180th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

By Juliana Tenggara

Founder's Day brings together members of the St Margaret's Family for a time of remembrance, fellowship and celebration. And indeed what a joyous (and tear-jerking) this year's anniversary was, as a crowd of almost 600 comprising staff and students of SMPS and SMSS – both past and present – congregated in-person for the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 180th Anniversary took place in the beautiful St. Andrew's Cathedral New Sanctuary – a fitting venue to celebrate the milestone.

The Thanksgiving Service began with a prayer by Reverend Tang Wai Lung, Priest of St. John's Chapel, and an opening address by Professor Lawrence Boo, Chairman of the School Management Committee. Both honoured God for His abundant blessings and favour upon St. Margaret's for the past 180 years, enabling the schools to grow from strength to strength, furthering the work of Mrs Maria Dyer to light the paths of many young ladies and the community beyond. In addition, Professor Boo took the opportunity to honour the presence of The Right Reverend Dr. Titus Chung, Reverend Canon Dr. Lewis Lew, members of the school chaplain, former principals of SMPS and SMSS as well as alumni. He thanked them for their stewardship, faithful support and prayers.

Celebrations continued with the school song, songs of praise and worship, led by the choirs of both SMPS and SMSS as well as staff and students in their respective performances. The audience was also treated to a video montage documenting commemorative activities that took place over the year.



Performances by SMPS and SMSS choirs, as well as Singpiration led by Teacher and Student Councillors from SMSS

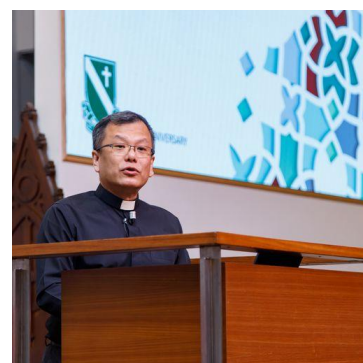
St. Margaret's 180th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

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Vicar Reverend Canon Dr. Lewis Lew expounded on the scripture read by Ms Linda Lim, Principal of SMSS (Haggai 2:3-9), titling his gospel aptly as "Honouring the Past, Celebrating the Present and Building for the Future".

Continuing with the spirit of thanksgiving, Dr. Lee Hoon Hwee, Ms Lee Soo Kwan and Ms Chew Siew Kheng were presented with the St. Margaret's School Alumna Award for their contributions and devoted service to the school (read article Pg. 6). Mrs Ko-Tan Li Ling, Principal of SMPS, updated the St. Margaret's Family regarding the SMPS PERI-upgrading project (read article Pg. 7-8), thanking the school community, partners and ultimately God, for their blessings.

The event culminated with the singing of the school hymn in the darkened Cathedral lit by candles that shone bright. In coherence with this year's theme and the school's motto, each candle served to symbolise and spur the doing of good deeds for all in service to God, even in the most challenging of times. May we continue to carry the torch first lit by our founder with charity, patience and devotion.



Rev. Cannon Dr. Lew delivering the Thanksgiving message



St. Margaret's Family singing the school hymn in the candle-lit cathedral



Mdm Lee Lin Yee, former principal of SMSS (2015 – 2019), taking a selfie with recipients of Alumna Award (2018)

St. Margaret's 180th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

The 180th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service can be viewed via this link:

<https://youtu.be/Jzp6jKHA1c>

If you would like to find out more about how SMPS and SMSS celebrated the 180th Anniversary over the year, please click on the following links:

SMPS:

<https://stmargaretpri.moe.edu.sg/smps/school-highlights/180th-anniversary-celebration>



SMSS:

<https://stmargaretssec.moe.edu.sg/180th-anniversary-celebrations>



St. Margaret's 180th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service

Reflection from Mrs Wong Hoe Eng, senior member of SMESA

"It was so uplifting to be in the midst of such a joyful gathering of young and old in the new sanctuary of St. Andrew's Cathedral, praising and glorifying God and thanking Him for the 180 years of St. Margaret's School.

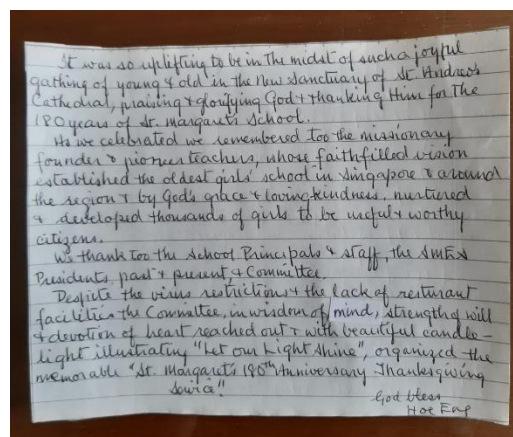
As we celebrated, we remembered too the missionary founder and pioneer teachers whose faith-filled vision established the oldest school's school in Singapore and around the region and by God's grace and loving kindness, nurtured and developed thousands of girls to be useful and worthy.

We thank too the school Principals and staff, the SMESA's Presidents, past and present and Committee.

Despite the virus restrictions and the lack of restaurant facilities, the Committee, in wisdom of mind, strength of will and devotion of heart reached out and with beautiful candle-light illustrating "Let our Light Shine", organised the memorable "St. Margaret's 180th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service".



Mrs Wong attending the Thanksgiving Service



Mrs Wong's handwritten reflection

God bless,
Hoe Eng"



St. Margaret's School Alumna Award

By Pixie Ho Pik Yew

The St. Margaret's School Alumna Award (the Alumna Award) was set up in 2018 by the School Management Committee (SMC) specially to recognise the outstanding service and dedication to the School by members of the St. Margaret's Ex-Students' Association (SMESA).

The Alumna Award is to be distinguished from the St. Margaret's School Service Award as the latter applies to all the School partners, namely, PSG, SMESA and others whereas the Alumna Award concerns only the members of SMESA.

The Alumna Award is conferred every year where there are deserving candidates but the presenting of the Award is carried out at the significant anniversary celebration of the School such as the 180th Anniversary of the School and every 5 years thereafter. A plaque is presented to the recipient.

There are 2 categories of the Alumna Award, namely:

- Distinguished Award
- Meritorious Award

Candidates have to meet the requisite criteria in order to be conferred the respective category of the Alumna Award.

Up to the present day, the following candidates were conferred the Alumna Award:-

- Two candidates were conferred the Distinguished Award on 16 November 2018, namely, Dr. Lee Hoon Hwee and Ms Lee Soo Kwan; and
- One candidate, namely, Ms Chew Siew Kheng, was conferred the Distinguished Award on 20 September 2022.



The plaques were presented to them by The Right Reverend Dr. Titus Chung during the School 180th Anniversary Celebration at the Cathedral New Sanctuary, St. Andrew's Cathedral.

*(From left to right)
Ms Chew, Rt Revd Dr. Titus Chung, Dr. Lee, Ms Lee*

SMPS – PERI-Upgrading Project Updates



Construction @ 136 Sophia Road

Preview of upgrades

SMPS did a tribute video, thanking all PERI upgrading partners.
Link: <https://youtu.be/hx7-Tc8I8Rs>



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SMPS – PERI-Upgrading Project Updates

– Continued from Pg. 7

A Community of Learners Growing and Glowing for God



Charity • Patience • Devotion

Fundraising updates

Target to raise = \$3 mil

Amount raised so far = \$1.3 mil

Amount to be raised = \$1.7 mil

St Margaret's Fundraising

< Support our PUP >

Items for sale#. Proceeds will go to the PERI Upgrading Project.



Car Decal (\$10 each)	Print cards* (\$8 per set) (each set consists of 4 different designs & envelopes)
<p>Design 1</p>	<p>Set A (click for details)</p>
<p>Design 2</p>	<p>Set B (click for details)</p>
	<p>Set C (click for details)</p>

while stocks last

* Designs printed on the cards are selected from the students' works.

For purchases, please call general office at **63394247** (during office hours).
Thank you for your support.

School Website : <https://stmargaretspri.moe.edu.sg/>



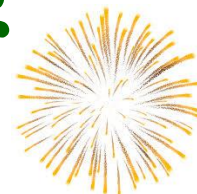
If you would like to donate or purchase the decal or greeting cards (designed by our very own girls), you can drop us an email and we will provide the necessary information to you.

Email Address: stmargaretps@moe.edu.sg

A tax-deductible receipt will be issued for donations of S\$100 and above (subject to clearance of cheque).



Congratulations!



Singapore National Day Awards 2022

SMESA would like to convey our heartiest congratulations to staff of SMPS and SMSS for being awarded the Singapore National Day Awards. The awards are a means of recognising various forms of merit and service to Singapore.

SMPS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Award</u>
Ms Tan Cher Lang	Vice Principal Admin	The Commendation Medal
Mdm Sharon Simon	Year Head (P3 & P6)	The Commendation Medal
Mdm Chan Soo Sian Adeline	Teacher	Long Service Medal
Mdm Loganathan Mageshwari	Teacher	Long Service Medal

SMSS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Award</u>
Mr Jason Chew	Head of Department (Science)	The Commendation Medal
Ms Ng Shau Ching Cecilia	Teacher	Long Service Medal
Ms Ho Wai Yu	Senior Teacher (Mathematics)	Long Service Medal
Mrs Wendy Lai	Teacher	Long Service Medal

Details of the awards:

- The Commendation Medal may be awarded to any persons who has distinguished himself / herself through commendable performance and conduct, or significant efficiency, competence and devotion to duty.
- The Long Service Medal may be awarded to any person who is of irreproachable character and whom the President is satisfied has completed at least 25 years service in the service of the Government.

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President's Award for Teachers 2022

SMESA would also like to convey our heartiest congratulations to Mdm Dawn Chan Wee Teng (Class of 1989) for being awarded this year's President's Award for Teachers. Mdm Dawn is currently serving as Lead Teacher (Music) in Dazhong Primary School. With social inclusivity the core focus of the award, Mdm Chan was recognised for her efforts in adding inclusive teaching methods to her music lessons for her neurodiverse pupils.

Mdm Chan dedicated her award to all teachers serving in SMPS and SMSS. May she continue to inspire members of the fraternity!

Established in 1998, the President's Award for Teachers recognises outstanding educators for their dedication and hard work in nurturing our young. This year's award recipients will be able to participate in an overseas learning programme to further their professional development. Finalists will each receive a grant to attend conferences, seminars and courses, or to purchase resources for professional development.



Mdm Chan receiving the award from President Halimah Yacob at the Istana (1 September)

Link to watch live coverage of the ceremony:
<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/watch/8-teachers-receive-presidents-award-teachers-istana-video-2916191>