



MARYKNOLLER

MAY 2008

Newsletter for MCS Former Students' Association Members Only

Getting to know Mrs Josephine Lo

Mrs Lo Tsang Git Ging, Josephine, current Principal of the Primary Section, first joined as a teacher of Maths and English in the PM session of the Primary School in 1983. Sister Marie Corinne Rost, then Supervisor, Mrs Elsie Wong, AM session Principal, and Mrs Hilda Kan, PM session Principal formed the panel of interviewers. Tall and stately in built, confident and full of life and energy, Mrs Lo, or more precisely Miss Tsang back then, proved herself a capable teammate and soon became an indispensable part of Maryknoll life.



Mrs. Lo had been the panel heads of the English and Art departments. Leading the art teachers, moreover, offered her many opportunities to become involved in school events, ranging from anniversaries to ad-hoc exhibitions and celebrations, all of which she participated with enthusiasm, and accomplished with flying colours.

"One of the most memorable extracurricular duties ever carried out, however, was to lead the Christmas Folk Dance Programme," Mrs Josephine Lo smiled in reminiscence. With no prior dance experience, Mrs Lo took a crash course from the Physical Education teacher on folk dancing for one week and started preparing the Primary One girls for the Christmas performance! It was a challenge to teach and coordinate the young children in the complicated manoeuvres of folk dances. But with patience and determination, Mrs Lo successfully guided the girls to the proper steps. Needless to say, the dance performance was well received and applauded. And Mrs Lo, acting on her keen sense of foresight, took the time to learn folk dancing properly and was put in charge of the folk dancing programme for the next few years.

In 1996, Mrs Lo was promoted to become a Senior Teacher. Her leadership, foresight and dedication were further recognised when she became the Vice Principal in 2001, upon the retirement of Miss Joyce Fong. When Mrs Teresa Chow retired in 2003, Mrs Lo succeeded the post of Principal of the Primary Section, which by then was a whole-day school.

A highly motivated person with clear goals and vision, Mrs Lo went about to improve the extra-curriculum for her students, introducing new activity items, such as the English Drama Club, lion dancing, and athletics training for her students. "Academic achievements do not make a person all-round," Mrs Lo pointed out, "Moral education, sports training and other group activities are just as important to the development of young children. In Primary School, our aim is to discover as many talents as possible within our girls. Hence we work hard on elaborating our choices of non-academic learning. Our students have been to Beijing, Singapore and Vienna on Students Exchange Programmes to broaden their horizon. I also encourage my staff and students to enter external contests and win the satisfaction of achieving the recognition which they so deserved."

The quality of students very much reflects the performance of the teaching staff. Mrs Lo believes that peer evaluation can serve as a reminder to bring out the best teaching practices. The 'critical buddy' system, a means of peer-to-peer evaluation which has become popular in organisations was successfully introduced to the teaching staff. A hugely beneficial system, the teachers now welcome their 'critical buddies' to help them teach better and are keen on collaborative lesson planning.

As a grant school, the intake of Primary One students is entirely a result of the government's central allocation. "The standards of Primary One students are varied," said Mrs Lo, "But I'm proud to say that my dedicated staff is able to bring up the average standard visibly in just six years' time, as indicated by the improving results of our girls in the Pre S1 HK Attainment Test. It is the combined achievement of the students, teachers and parents. The school herself provides a favourable environment. For my part, I keep up with words of encouragement and act as a facilitator."

Mrs Josephine Lo would like to extend her sincere invitation to all former students to join the celebrations on May 17th, 2008. "The day will be one of the most memorable of the School. I am proud to be Principal at this homecoming event. Welcome home!"

Welcome home, alumnae!

May 17, 2008 will be one of the milestones in Maryknoll's history

Our Primary School Building has been established for over 70 years. Its architectural beauty and historical values have always been cherished and revered. Let's gather to recognise this unique building for what she is worth. On May 17, 2008, there will be special ceremonies and programs to celebrate the 71st anniversary of the Building. It will be a full-scale homecoming event. As former students, you are cordially invited to be part of this meaningful day. Spread the word and join the historical moment.

Date: May 17, 2008 (Saturday)

Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Venue: The Auditorium, Primary Section

Program

- Mass (please be seated by 1:50 p.m.)
- Address by Mrs Carrie Lam, Secretary of Development
- Officiating Ceremony
- Performances by Primary and Secondary students
- Exhibition in Covered Playground
- School Tour

Sign up for Charity now!! Parent and child are welcome to join this charity event – the schedule, games and gifts will be prepared by student officials from the Secondary School. Please reserve time. To sign up for this event, please send email to membership@mcsfsa.com.

Date: 13 July (Sunday)

Time: 2:00-5:00 pm

Venue: 方樹泉青少年綜合服務中心（紅磡黃埔二期第十八座地下及一樓）

No. of helpers: 20

Target group: newly arrived children

Theme: Aeroplane



Xmas Feast

The Pre-Xmas Feast held in December was well attended

Maryknoll former students and their respective family members.

Our celebration began with a Cookie Baking Session in the DS room. The room was packed with enthusiastic mums (and dads too) and laughing children, all having their sleeves rolled up, and working their way through the dough made from the famous Sister Jeanne's secret recipe. You could smell those delicious cookies miles away!

The celebration concluded with a festive dinner in the canteen. Our sincere thanks to all those who attended the event. We have managed to raise HK\$7,287.40 from this function and the proceeds have been donated to MCS Educational Trust.



Sister Jeanne and Ms. Melaine Lee prepared the cookie dough for the children.



Children gathered around to watch a demonstration of making decorations with icing.



Great team spirit was evidenced in every corner of the DS Room.



Mrs. Lydia Huang presented a prize to one of the winners in the colouring competition.



Sister Rose was admiring some of the good work of the children.



MCSFSA Exco members relaxed with their friends in the canteen after a day of hard work.

LAUNCH OF MCSFSA MEMBERS FORUM

The official FSA website at www.mcsfsa.com is now renovated with a new look to foster better communication among all Maryknollers. We have launched a Members' Forum section on our website so that fellow Maryknollers will have a communication podium where we can update among ourselves and keep in touch with girls from all years. You can try to locate a long lost classmate or teacher through this forum, or check out with our School's latest update. Please register at once!

All members please register at this forum and start to link up with fellow Maryknollers and keep in touch with our Alma mater.

Login now using your registered email address, and a temporary password <123456>. For any enquiries, or to update your email address in our records, please send an email to enquiry@mcsfsa.com.



Become a Rep for Your Graduating Class

Being a representative for your graduating class entails keeping a most up-to-date contact list of your class and help us disseminate information on forthcoming FSA events. Once in a while, you may also be invited to attend FSA meetings. Let us add your name to the following list! Send an email to membership@mcsfsa.com.

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