



## NEWS & UPDATES



### Recycling Program

To fulfill the PBS project requirement for Geography and Moral Education subjects, students from Form One and Two brought old newspapers weighing over 2.1 tons, aluminum cans, cardboard boxes, plastic bottles and miscellaneous items to the school for recycling on 21 February. The items were sold to the recycling company which amounted to RM 1100.00. It is to be donated to charity. At the same time, this project is carried out to instill the sense of conserving the environment in our students.

A cheque of RM 1100.00 was presented to Ms Suzanna from the **Sarawak Children's Cancer Society (SCCS)** during our school assembly on 3 April as the donation part of this project. She also shared with the students the works and aims of SCCS, one of them being the *Go Bald Campaign* (see <http://www.gobald.my>).



Cheque presentation to Ms Suzanna of SCCS by student representatives, Nichol Adam Shim Wei Wan (F2B) and Ong Rui Jie (F1A).



## Congratulations!

Marcus Ho Hao Xiang (F1A) emerged as first runner-up in the Poomsae and Breaking Competition 2013, Junior Category C (Blue Belt-Red Tip 11-15 years old) organized by the Kuching Taekwondo Club TM/WTF.



## Salvation Army Flag Day 2013

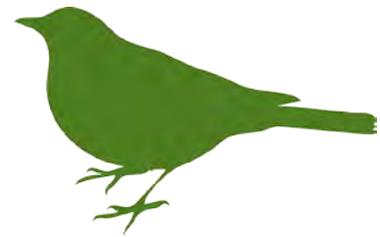
Students from the Primary School and the Secondary School put in money as donation to the flag day tins on 5 April to raise fund for the social and community work of the Salvation Army in Kuching, especially the Salvation Army Kuching Boys' Home, Jalan Ban Hock. The students received a flag sticker each after they have donated.



The First Reading was read by Isaac Lau Yujie (F1C).

A *School Mass* was celebrated on *3 April* (Wed) which happens to be the Wednesday within the Octave of Easter. The Gloria was sung at the beginning of Mass and the Easter Sequence to the tune of Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah* was played before the Gospel Acclamation.

# WORDS from some of our students from the Primary School



Maybelle Lee Huong Tiing  
(Primary 3)

I like studying at St Joseph's Private School. Though it is very small, I still can learn a lot from my school. We also have extra-curricular activities. They are taekwondo, computer club, brass band, needle craft, squash and dancing club. I join brass band and squash.

My school is surrounded by trees and beautiful plants. I can hear the birds singing when I arrive at my school every morning. It is cool and peaceful early in the morning. We study in air-conditioned classrooms. We say one decade of the rosary at the shrine of Our Lady. Even though our school is small, we still can have assemblies at the canopy area. One of my classmates could not speak a single word of English when he first came to this school. We can speak English to him now because he knows how to speak English.

Our school is a peaceful school. We have two priests and four nuns. We love our school. We are lucky to study at this school.



I like studying at St Joseph's Private School. Though it is a very small school, I have learnt a lot from my school.

We can join the different types of extra-curricular activities after school from Monday to Friday. The activities are taekwondo, computer club, brass band, needle craft and dancing club.

We have very hardworking, loving and caring teachers. I have learnt a lot of things from my teachers. I love all the subjects being taught by them too.

I am very proud of St Joseph's Private School. I love my school very much.



Amanda Loi (Primary 3)



I like to study at St Joseph's Private School. Although the size of the school is very small, I have learnt a lot from the activities in my school.

I like all my teachers and subjects. Not only have I learnt a lot on education, I have also learnt how to pray. I also like my English teacher because she is kind and helpful.

I am very happy to study here because I have made many friends in this school.

Cordy Pang Yao Yin (Primary 3)



I like to go to school. My school is clean and neat. I love my school and my teachers very much.

*Joel Tiong Chuan Wei (P1A)*



I love my school. I love my school teachers. I have many friends at my school.

*Karen Koh Wen Wen (P1A)*



I love my school.

*Thian Yii Tung (P1A)*

My school is St Joseph's Private School. It is situated at Jalan Budaya, Kuching and is about three kilometers from my house.

I like my school because my teachers are all very patient, helpful and kind. They help me when I have problems. I also learn a lot from my teachers.

I also like my school because it is clean. Even though the school has supporting staff to keep the school clean, I am also taught to help by cleaning my own place after eating my food.

*John Lembat (Primary 3)*



Our headmistress asked the school keeper to draw three hopscotches for us to play.

Most of our teachers are hardworking and caring. One of our classmates could only speak a few words of English at the beginning of 2013. Now he can even use English to quarrel with us.

I am very proud of my teachers and my school. I am very glad to study at St Joseph's Private School.

*Fredrick Tiong Ze (Primary 3)*

I like my school very much.

*Lucas Hii (P1A)*



I like the food at my school. I like my Dancing Club at my school. I like to play with my friends at my school.

*Ashleigh Wan (P1A)*



I always do my homework in the school. I like to play with my friends. During recess time, I always go to the canteen to buy food.

*Joshua Ng (P1A)*



I am happy to study in this school because I have a lot of helpful teachers.

*Penny Lau (P1A)*



**E**aster is the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus and is the most important feast in the church's calendar. **Easter Sunday** is celebrated on the third day after Good Friday, the day of Jesus' passion and death.

**R**esurrection Sunday is so important that the church extends the one day celebration of **Easter Sunday** into a one week celebration of that day which is called **Easter Week** or the octave (eight day period) of **Easter**. **Easter Week** is considered as one single joyful day. The Gloria is sung or said at Mass each day of the octave. The paschal sequence, *Victimae Paschali Laudes* (May you praise the Paschal Victim), may be sung before the Gospel reading on each of these days and the Gospel readings for each of these days is a scriptural account of the resurrection of Christ (Monday--Matthew 28:8-15; Tuesday--John 20:11-18; Wednesday--Luke 24:13-35; Thursday--Luke 24:35-48; Friday--John 21:1-14; Saturday--Mark 16:9-15).

**T**he **Easter** season goes on for fifty days. It begins on **Easter Sunday** (31 March 2013) until Pentecost Sunday (19 May 2013) this year. It is preceded by the season of Lent, a period

of forty days of prayer, fasting and penance.

**T**he word **Easter** is English which is similar with the German word, *Ostern*. It comes from the Old English word, *Eastre* or *Eostre* which may refer to the name of an Anglo-Saxon goddess, *Eostre* who is an Indo-European dawn goddess. *Eostre* may have also meant the "month of opening," possibly connected with spring. The name **Easter** may also have arisen from the designation of Easter Week in Latin, *in albis*. *Albis* is the plural form of *alba* which means dawn. *In albis* is translated into Old High German as *eostarun*.

**E**aster is also called *Pasch* or *Pascha*. This word comes from the Greek word Πάσχα. The Latin form *Pascha* is derived from Hebrew Pesach (פֶּסַח), meaning the festival of Passover. In Greek the word Ἀνάστασις, *Anástasis* (upstanding, up-rising, resurrection) is used also as an alternative.

**N**o matter what the origin of the word **Easter** is, **Easter** is the English name for this great feast of the resurrection of Jesus Christ which we celebrate with great joy and is accompanied with the singing of Alleluia which means praise the Lord in Hebrew.

# 22 April *Feast of Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus*



*22 April holds a great significance for me in my life, because on this day in 2001, I entered the Society of Jesus. Also on 22 April 2003, after two years of basic formation in the novitiate, I took my simple perpetual vows in the Society of Jesus.*

Fr Francis Lim Chin Choy, SJ

**S**t Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits had a strong devotion to Our Lady, which intensified during his period of convalescence following the injury he received during the battle at Pamplona. After his recovery and roundabout change of life, major events in his life occurred on feasts or at sites honouring the Virgin: his vigil before the Black Madonna of Montserrat on the eve of the Annunciation, 1522; his

first vows at Montmartre, Paris, on the feast of the Assumption, 1534; his first Mass in St. Mary Major in Rome on Christmas, 1538.

**O**n Friday of Easter week, April 22, 1541, seven months after papal approval of the Society of Jesus and two weeks after Ignatius was elected its first general,

he celebrated Mass with the first companions at Our Lady's altar in the basilica of St. Paul Outside-the-Walls in Rome, during which all pronounced their solemn vows. This feast thus commemorates the birth of the vowed Society and its dedication to Mary as

its mother and queen.

When we reached St. Paul's," wrote Ignatius, "all six went to confession, one to another. And it was decided that Inigo [Ignatius] should say



This image of Mary, Mother and Queen of the Society of Jesus surrounded by Jesuit saints may be found behind the altar in the chapel of Lansing-Reilly Hall, the Jesuit residence at the University of Detroit Mercy, USA.

Mass in the church, and that all the others should receive the Blessed Sacrament from his hand, making their vows in the following manner: Inigo, saying the Mass, just before Communion, holding in one hand the paper on which the vow formula was written, turned toward the kneeling companions, and said the words of the vows."

“After saying them, he took Communion, receiving the Body of Christ our Lord. When he had finished consuming (the chalice), he placed the five consecrated hosts on the paten and turned to the companions... Each one took the page of vows into his hand... and said the words aloud. When the first had finished, he received the Body of Christ our Lord. Then, in turn, the second did the same; so too the third, fourth, fifth.”

“When Mass was over,” Ignatius continued, “after praying before the indulgenced altars, they came together at the high altar, where each

one came to Inigo and he went to each. Giving an embrace and the kiss of peace, not without much devotion, feeling and tears, they brought an end to the ceremony of vows and of the beginning of their vocation.”

Pedro Ribadeneira, who accompanied them, spoke of the extraordinary devotion of Pierre Codure; “with such vehement divine consolation that he was unable to hold it in, it came bubbling out... He went ahead in Lainez's company across the fields. We heard him filling the heavens with sighs and tears. He cried out to God in such a way we thought he would pass out...”

## Progress of the new building so far ... (as of 9 April 2013)



# Staff Reflection

A Staff Reflection was given by Fr Larry Tan, SJ on 11 April. All teachers from both the Primary and Secondary Schools attended. The theme was on meditation. He taught us on how to be still in mind and body. He guided us through three sessions of stillness meditation. It is actually an awareness exercise where we are aware of our surroundings and how we can quiet ourselves down.



Fr Larry Tan, SJ

The mind is a very active thing. We often think of many things at the same time. Hopefully with this introductory session, we can begin to put into practice some sort of meditation and at the same time help us to pray. Fr Larry stressed that there are many ways to pray, and this stillness awareness meditation is only one of many. Whenever we encounter a method of prayer that we find useful, we can use it for our greater spiritual enrichment.



Next School Mass and Assembly are on **9 May** (Thu) which coincides with the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord.

Our school-level Teachers' Day celebration will be held on **23 May** (Thu) in the school.