

"Why is HE my class teacher?" "Where does this door lead to?" "What does the gardener do there?" might be some of the questions you ask when you are daydreaming at school. They may seem silly, but there are in fact answers to all these questions. This issue of Flamma plans to unveil some of the secrets to satisfy your curiosity!

SECRET LOCATIONS IN OUR SCHOOL

Alvin So 3A

How many secret locations in our school do you know? What do you think they do? In this article, you'll be looking at 4 secret locations in our school.

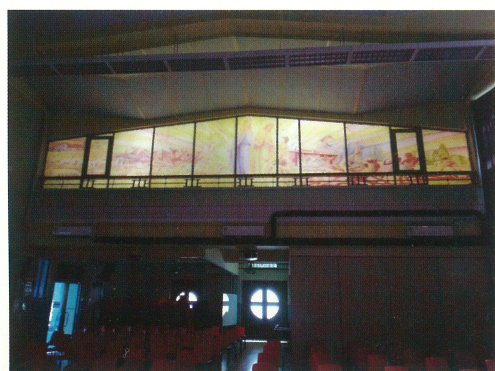
The English Corner

I bet the English Corner sounds familiar to you. But do you know that there is a balcony hidden behind the backdoor? The English Corner used to be a spectator platform for the School Hall. Although the platform is no longer needed, the wall outside has become a huge mural. Look up when you enter the Hall next time.



The back garden

Have you noticed that there are some plants along our corridors? They are actually grown by the gardener Mr Yim. But have you wondered where exactly the garden is? There is an alley between the hall and the hillside with a locked gate. That's where the gardener grows the plants and flowers. You can even have a peek at the back garden from the S1 classrooms.



A Second Football Court?

Indeed. At the back of the football court outside the School Hall, there is a staircase leading to another football court. Old boys (including our alumnus Aaron Kwok!) used to play in that football court and inter-class competitions were held there before. Even though it is locked off now and you can no longer go and see where it is, it is still a fun fact to know about!



6 Floors? Actually 7!

There is a 7th floor in our school with 2 rooms. One is the Server Room and the other is the Faculty Room. Teachers usually have meetings and lunch in the Faculty Room. Also, some teaching materials are stored inside. Unfortunately, students are not permitted to go there, but don't worry, there's really nothing very interesting.

PICKING NEW TEACHERS AND CLASS TEACHERS

Aeron Lee 2B

Every year we may have new teachers joining our school, and we also have new class teachers. But how are they picked and allocated? We have interviewed Principal To find out the "secret" behind that.

interact with students will be asked, and trial teaching will also be required. The goal is to see whether the candidates match the standard of subject knowledge and mission of teaching with our expectation.

How are teachers hired?

After calculating how many teachers (of which subject) is needed, we will put advertisements in newspapers and wait for application letters to come in. We need to match the candidates' qualifications with our requirements to find some suitable teachers for interviews.

There will be two rounds of interviews: with panel heads and with the Principals (Principal and Vice Principals). Questions about why they want to teach, how they

How are class teachers allocated?

From May to June, we will need to plan the workload and manpower for each subject (e.g. who teaches what subject to which class). Then the class teachers for S4-6 will be chosen first because they will likely follow the class for all three years. Teachers teaching full classes are usually a better choice for class teachers than split class teachers, but if there is no other possibility then we will still need them to help.

MYTHBUSTERS

Andre Lau 3A, Samuel Lam 4D

Have you ever heard about some interesting myths about our school? Do you believe in them? Let's debunk some popular myths!

The swimming pool? YES and NO.

I am sure you have been to the indoor basketball court in our school. But do you know it was supposed to be a swimming pool? A few decades ago, there was nothing there and our school decided to build a swimming pool. However, it was later found out that the budget wasn't enough: the maintenance and changing the water in the pool regularly to ensure the quality of water. Therefore, it was turned into the indoor basketball court that we see now.

The mass grave? NO.. but not far.

Almost all students in Hong Kong have heard of the rumour that their schools were once a mass grave. It wasn't exactly right for our school, but also not far from the truth. Salesian Missionary House (18 Chai Wan Road) was built before our school. During World War II, the House was occupied by Japanese soldiers and some people were killed there brutally. This bloody history is rarely mentioned, but let us not forget all the victims who died to protect Hong Kong during the Wars.

More information can be found here



TEACHERS, AS PARENTS AND AS FRIENDS

Dickson Lee 6D

There is no place like home, but school runs a close second. Teachers guide and teach us like parents, but they also play and joke with us like friends. We have interviewed Mr Daniel Yeung and Mr Wong, whom many of us would consider a father figure but also a friend, to find out what inspired them to devote their lives to building close relationships with the students.

Mr Yeung's true satisfaction of being a teacher is to see students' growth and improvement. He doesn't just teach us knowledge but also the right way to think. He hopes his students can understand the consequences of every action we take.

"Playing with the boys and becoming friends with them are a huge part of being a teacher. Inside the classroom, teaching children is a serious matter and focusing on their study always comes first. But outside the classroom, I often play with my students to relax and balance our lives. Those good times are very precious to me.

Before the pandemic, Mr. Wong would hang out with the students to play sports and even enjoy meals together. Although they all seem impossible for the time being, it hasn't stopped him from being best friends with the students.

Walking into students' hearts is never easy, yet many teachers in Salesian English School never stop trying and have become part of the sweet memories in our school life and the trustworthy friends of our lives. Let's appreciate their effort by saying "Thank you" on days other than Thanksgiving Day!

"As a former Salesian student, my teachers were my idols and people to learn from. I was inspired by my teachers when I was your age, so I have set the goal of becoming the lighthouse: teaching children to behave by being a role model, and giving them the knowledge for their future."



CAMPUS CORNER

STUDENTS' WORK

INTERVIEW WITH SU PRESIDENT Harry Chan 5B

How much do you know about our school's newly selected Student Union? Let's find out more about Solidarity from the President Caleb Hon.



What does the name Solidarity mean?

The meaning of Solidarity is to gather as a unit. We have planned to organise a lot of activities for schoolmates of different levels to come together to have fun and learn from each other. We want each and every Salesian boy to work together to make a difference and create a joyful and harmonious environment for everyone.

What makes you form this Student Union?

When I was in Form 1, I was lost and a bit arrogant. Luckily, my classmates and teachers helped me to learn and grow as a person. Now I want to help them in return by serving others. I aspire to help those who share my experience. I believe my friends and I can help build brotherhood and promote interaction among the Salesian boys. That is why I got together with my friends to form this SU.

INTERVIEW WITH SCHOOL'S CELEBRATORY MUSICAL PERFORMER

Harry Chan 5B

To mark the school's 70th anniversary, there will be an English musical to let our schoolmates showcase their talents in singing and dancing in December. We are glad to have a chance to interview Jeffrey Lau, a performer in the musical.



What's your most memorable experience so far?

I'm very glad that I can participate in this celebratory event for our school's anniversary and I'm thrilled that the director gave me this opportunity to act as one of the main characters.

How do you feel about having a chance to perform in the musical?

The most interesting part is when we do our dance practice. Everyone really enjoys themselves when we dance together. It's such a fun thing to do as a group and it helps us learn about each other.

TEACHERS' GO-TO PLACE FOR RELAXATION

Aeron Lee 5B

After a long day, most people will go somewhere to relax or hang out with other people. We want to know how our teachers relax, so we interviewed some teachers about where they do that.

Mr Tither's favourite place to relax is in Tai Tam. One of the reasons is that there are not too many people on the trail and the view there is beautiful. Also, he likes doing exercises and meeting new people. To those who are interested in hiking or running, he recommends the mountain bike trail below Dragon's Back, because it is flat and easier to walk, has good views and beautiful waterfalls.



Mr Lai's favourite place to relax is Kwun Tong Promenade. He likes this place because it is near the sea, spacious and good for relaxing. Another reason is that it is near to his home in Lam Tin. He always walks around the Promenade, especially at sunset because it is very calming and soothing.

Recently, Ms Wong has a new baby son. Her favourite place to relax is Clear Water Bay Second Beach because the water is really clean and her son loves to swim in the sea. She enjoys spending quality time with her new family member. She likes to take photos of her son and let him walk on different surfaces. She does this because her son is very young, and thinks that going out can give him more fun and chances to learn new and fascinating things.



Ms To's favourite place to relax is Hong Kong Dog Rescue Shelter in Tai Wo. In the shelter, she walks the dogs, cleans their enclosures and feeds them. She does this because she enjoys having fun with animals. Besides, she likes volunteering and homeless dogs are the least concerned in modern society. So she likes to help dogs in her spare time.



EXTRA EMERGENCY HOLIDAY

Samuel Lam 4D

Do you still remember one October morning when we had to leave early for apparently no reason? This was a special day for all of the Salesians because we had an emergency evacuation!

What happened?

On that day, it was found that there was smoke coming out from the electricity meter room, so the situation had to be reported to the Education Bureau urgently.

Who made the decision?

After that the school had contacted the Education Bureau, professionals were sent to the school to assess the situation. After the assessment, they thought that the school might need to have a thorough check of the whole electric supply system and the power had to be switched off. Thus, all students should be evacuated immediately. A few moments later, the school announced to all of the students that we had to leave the school urgently.

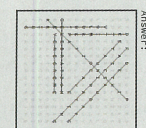
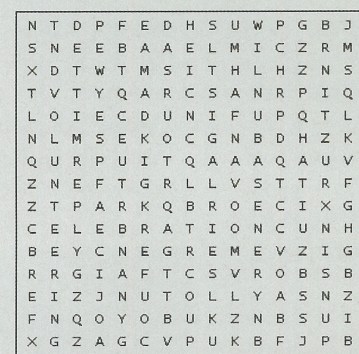
Were you excited about the news? It was equivalent to a day free from school. What did you do? While we were enjoying the half-day off, we should be thankful that there were so many people working behind the scenes to ensure the safety of the school.

WORD PUZZLE

3A Andre Lau

celebration
fascinating
relationship

emergency
graduated
volunteering



If you scored:
2/6: Try harder next time! Practice makes perfect!
4/6: Good job! You passed!
6/6: Wow! You got full marks! Impressive!

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