

YOUNG

The Official De La Salle Grade School Publication

OBSERVER

School Year 2012-2013 First Term Issue

Girls Rule
on the Hardcourt-

De La Salle
After **100** Years

WNCAA
Opening

PEP
RALLY
2012

The Grade
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Achievers

ROCK

Interview with

MS. MARGA
LIMENEZ

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Ako ay Lasalyano. Tunay na Kristiyano, Tapat na Pilipino.

Editorial Staff

Caroline Therese Sahagun
Editor-in-Chief

Stephanie Singson
Karen Bersamina
Associate Editors

Shanen Bautista
Operations Officer

Bea Tribiana
Production Coordinator

Ji O Son
Alyssa Guevarra
Miguel Ochoa
Staff Writers

Sofia Lamberte
Anica Jasmine Tiu
Artists

Mr. Micheal Jerome Encina
Header Designer

Mr. Jholan Torres
*Creative Director/
 Layout Artist*

Ms. Jackie Belgira
Ms. Wilma Renolayan
Moderators

Ms. Janette Torrato
 Reading Department
 Coordinator
Y.O. Consultant

Minding Our Waste Is Never a Waste of Time

By: Stephanie Singson, 7B

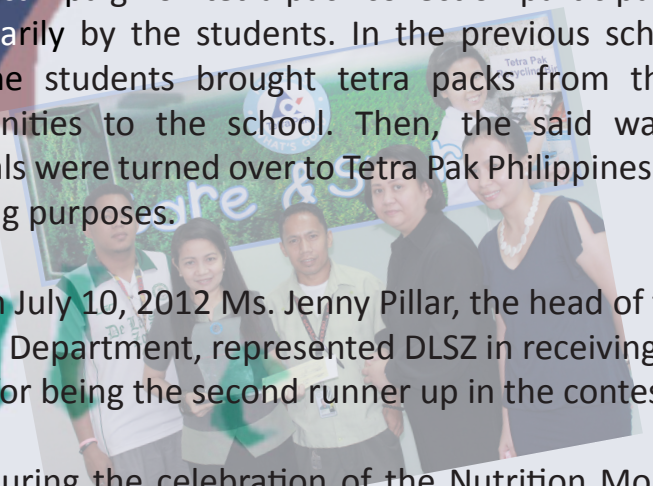
De La Salle Zobel has proven once again that minding our waste is never a waste of time when it was recognized by Tetra Pak Philippines as one of the top 3 schools that collected the most number of tetra packs to be recycled. There were 112 schools in that joined the yearly contest.

It can be recalled that the Science Department led the campaign on tetra pack collection participated in primarily by the students. In the previous school year the students brought tetra packs from their communities to the school. Then, the said waste materials were turned over to Tetra Pak Philippines for recycling purposes.

On July 10, 2012 Ms. Jenny Pillar, the head of the Science Department, represented DLSZ in receiving its award for being the second runner up in the contest.

During the celebration of the Nutrition Month in July, products such as cabinets, CD and book racks, organizers, clocks, jewelry boxes, key chains, and others made out of tetra packs were displayed on exhibit to inform the students that the tetra packs they collected did not go to waste.

Still on waste management, the graduating batch was tasked by their Science teachers, Ms. Joan Pe Benito, Ms. Evelyn Agcaoili, and Ms. Eloisa Pangan to interview home owners' association officers regarding their waste management programs. Based on the interview the students prepared their proposals that will help their respective villages improve their existing waste management programs.





After 100 Years...

By: Alyssa Guevarra, 7A

Thinking of some happy thoughts, with my classmates I entered the Sports Pavilion. As I stepped into the venue, I realized that it was not only my batch gathered in the said place. Instead, it was a gathering of students from Grade 7 to Fourth Year High School. And we were all there to celebrate simultaneously with other La Salle schools in the Philippines the closing ceremony of the Lasallian education's 100 years in our country.

June 15, 2012 was the big day. Ms. Mai Padua, one of the most respected teachers in the High School Department, hosted the event. She made the warm venue cool with her funny "pick-up" lines.

Throughout the program, De La Salle Zobel School's contributions to the community as an academic institution were presented.

The highlight of the presentation was the mascot BroLee (whose name was coined from "libro"). He was introduced to the students to remind us to continually support the school's campaign to increase literacy in the country.

It is good to know that the existence of Lasallian education in the Philippines has produced citizens who are leaders of the country. To name a few, we have Sen. Peter Cayetano, world renowned fashion designer Rajo Laurel, former Budget Secretary Rolando Abaya, champion swimmer Eric Buhain, film and TV director Mark Reyes, and T.V. personality Sam O.

I hope that the presence of the Lasallian education anywhere in the world shall continue to teach minds, touch hearts, and transform lives.





THE EDITOR

Caroline Therese Sahagun, 7G



Although it has been a couple of months since the opening of the current school year, still I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to every Lasallian. I hope that despite the ravaging effects of the ten long days of continuous downpour in our country, we continue to carry some hope in our hearts.

This school year's theme: Creating Our Desired Future Today aims to introduce students like me to a new thinking pattern. That is, to decide the kind of future we wish to have for ourselves. Once we have visualized our future, we can then make choices and take the paths that will lead us to achieve that goal.

This issue of the Young Observer has Ms. Marga Jimenez on the cover. We chose her to be on the cover page of our school paper because we believe that she is one Lasallian who can best represent each of us. Get to know more about this humble and polite Lasallian achiever as she shares with us her personal goals and the actions that she plans to take to achieve those goals.

I would like to dedicate this labor of love to every Lasallian-students, teachers, staff, and parents. Let's keep the Animo spirit as we dream big and create our desired future today!

The Young Observer would like to thank Ms. Ruby Ramos, Ms. Evangeline De Peralta, Ms. Louie Embudo, Ms. Eden Calubayan, Mr. Allan Alveyra, Ms. Malou Salvo, Ms. Suzette Balgos, Ms. Kathryn Tan, Mr. Ricky Lopez, Mr. KC Zotomayor, and Ms. Lorie Cruz, for making the first issue of Y. O. a success.



President's Report

Hello fellow *Lasallians!*

How's school so far? Have you met new friends? I hope that you get to know your teachers and classmates well because you will be learning together for one school year. Always remember to pay attention to all your teachers. Although some of our teachers may be strict, it is still best to show them utmost respect.

In behalf of the S.R.C.C., I would like to inform you that our gameplan this year is DISCIPLINE. Therefore, we encourage everyone to practice this value in and out of the classroom. Moreover, we have lined up many new projects and activities relevant to this school year's theme: Creating Our Desired Future Today. Of course, we will do our very best for all these projects to become realities, so this school year will be one that is memorable and fun for everyone.

I sincerely hope that administrators, teachers, and parents will continually support the S.R.C.C. as we fulfill every goal for the community this school year.

Anton Rosas, 7A

Ms. Aj Roche
SRCC Moderator



The Grade School Achievers ROCK

by Mariana Urera, 4C



The Grade School Department of De La Salle Zobel School held the annual Honors' Convocation Program at the Sylvia P. Lina Theater on July 10, 2012. The activity was well attended by the parents of both the academic and conduct awardees.

Brother Dennis Magbanua, FSC, president of DLSZ, encouraged the students to keep on striving hard for excellence. In his inspirational message he shared the desire of his heart to see more students being recognized in the future Honors' Convocation programs. According to BroDen he longs for the day when the theater would be filled with students being recognized for their hard work and perseverance.

Ninian Patrick A. Sayoc, the previous school year's Grade 7 gold medalist,

inspired the young achievers with his heartfelt message. It was very striking to hear him quote a line from our Lasallian song: "Even if I'm not the light, I can be a spark." He explained that we may not be the Top 1 in our batches, but giving our best to any endeavor is already an achievement.

Alyssa Guevara, Grade 6 gold medalist, led the reading of the Lasallian Achiever's Pledge.

Br. Jose Lazaro Rodriguez, FSC, the Lasallian Animator of DLSZ, and Br. Dennis handed the exemplary conduct awards and the academic awards respectively.

That day the following students were recognized for general scholastic excellence award.

GRADE 1 TOP TEN

First (Gold)	Veronica Marielle Tiempo Guinto
Second (Silver)	Joaquin Nicholas Chan De Guzman
Third (Bronze)	Camille Marie Aromin Castro
Fourth	Martin Gabriel Casa Yulo
Fifth	Nathaniel Dale Siguan Crisaldo
Sixth	Wynona Danielle Castor Advincula
Seventh	Javier Mario Daez Dela Cruz
Eighth	Ysabella Nina Soriano Dagondon
Ninth	Joaquin Antonio Carteciano Marte
Tenth	Alen Christian Rosales Koyama

GRADE 2 TOP TEN

First (Gold)	Cholo Vergara Aguilar
Second (Silver)	Juan Carlo Salazar Hernandez
Third (Bronze)	Keileane Retizos Sales Diaz
Fourth	Anya Martina Vizcarra Ama
Fifth	Camille Elizabeth Consolacion Reyes
Sixth	Chelsea Gabrielle Gutierrez Pecson
Seventh	Justine Carina Temprosa Buan
Eighth	Martina Ysabel Pio De Roda Reyes
Ninth	Chiara Marie Fe Mojica Tolentino
Tenth	Diego Lorenzo Martinez Grageda

GRADE 3 TOP TEN

First (Gold)	Jose Mateo Emmanuel Franco Fernando
Second (Silver)	Victoria Therese Reyes Tsui
Third (Bronze)	Andrea Danielle Climaco Sy-Quia
Fourth	Fatrina Olaes Mercado
Fifth	Antonio Miguel Co Imperial
Sixth	Sabrina Espinosa Halili
Seventh	Mary Nicole Conato Datlangin
Eighth	Ethan Tyler aranas Tolentino
Ninth	Danielle Kirsten Sison Toledano
Tenth	Mariana Quesada Urera

GRADE 4 TOP TEN

First (Gold)	Edgar Desher pablico Empeño
Second (Silver)	Rheanne Angelica Josef Mendoza
Third (Bronze)	Bernice Patricia Aldeguer Favis
Fourth	Bea Alexa Ching Rondon
Fifth	Maria Noelleene Camero Bañez
Sixth	Gregorio Rafael De Ramos Herrera
Seventh	Ma. Sofia Andrea Acuña Oliveros
Eighth	Cedric Joshua Tingin Atienza
Ninth	Angela Chrystelle Sabularse Garcia
Tenth	Lorenzo Austria Barzaga

GRADE 5 TOP TEN

First (Gold)	Vincent Karlo Aldeguer Favis
Second (Silver)	Sofia Iliana Buhion Suarez
Third (Bronze)	Chiara Felicia Gabrielle Velazco Amisola
Fourth	Mattheus Paolo Valdeavilla Marcial
Fifth	Jania Rachel Alcaraz Cruz
Sixth	Julia Nicole villadolid Saulog
Seventh	Dorothy Ann Pacis Bayang
Eighth	David Matthew Agustin Garcia
Ninth	Adrien Thaddeus Jimeno Hernandez
Tenth	Joaquin Young Alonso

GRADE 6 TOP TEN

First (Gold)	Alyssa Guevara
Second (Silver)	Miguel Luis Gacutan Ochoza
Third (Bronze)	Zoie Isabella Garcia
Fourth	Lance Geronimo Estopen
Fifth	Job Andre Menor Mingoa
Sixth	Jonathan David Hernandez Gonzalez
Seventh	Bianca Margarita Gecale Alvarez
Eighth	Lilian Felina Inton Morales
Ninth	Manolo Enriquez Hernandez
Tenth	Maria Katrina Baylon Bisuña





The DLS BASKETBALL

by Caroline Therese Sahagun, 7G

Have you ever met our very own Girls' Basketball Team? The girls' undying thirst and hunger to prove themselves as a team pushed them to strive more for our school. This passion to win has always been in the hearts of our mighty midgets since 2006 when a new coach in the person of Ms. Angela Moreno formed the DLSZ Girls' Basketball Team.

The road to success was not an easy one for these girls. It was a long arduous journey to the top. But they have proven that hard work, discipline, and unity must be in the heart of a champion team. The current WNCAA and IGBL's Most Valuable Player, Marga Ysabel B. Jimenez (7C), shared with the Young Observer the focused training they go through under the tutelage of a well respected coach whom the girls call *Coach Maan*.

The down-to-earth Coach Maan always reminds the girls to keep the virtues of humility and gratitude. "Our coach always tells us not to be too confident even though we have already won against a team we are playing again," said Marga Jimenez.

Every motivation begins with Coach Maan, but the hardworking lassies took their coach's grounds to heart. Dubbed as a disciplinarian by her team, Coach Maan desires only the best for her squad; hence, she pushes the girls to their limits. The young coach believes that it is only when one is stretched to his or her boundaries that strong potentials are seen.

The petite coach begins regular training with her team by ten sets of running around the school's basketball court in the Sports Pavilion. Running sets the mood and energy of the girls into some serious drills to improve their basketball skills.

These drills include dribbling, shooting, and sprinting among others. They meet three times a week after school, and on each meeting they spend two straight hours of extensive training and conditioning.

The routine before a game, though, is different. Aside from physical training, a day before a game, the girls load themselves with carbohydrates, so they will have enough energy on the day they face their opponents.

Truly, becoming a winning team doesn't come without sacrifices. Studies of the players get affected by their basketball practices and the physical demands of the sport. It's the discipline from this sport, however, that makes them take studies seriously while becoming passionate about winning in basketball. In the end, all these sacrifices never go to waste.

DLSZ Girls' BASKETBALL TEAM

Now, the DLSZ Grade School Girls' Basketball Team is enjoying the sweet harvest of its hard labor! The WNCAA (Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association), the IGBL (Interscholastic Girls Basketball League), the WBL (Women's Basketball League) back-to-back championship crowns, over and above runner-up awards in other leagues, must be the sweetest fruits in the young girls' basket.



Surely, girls rule when the DLSZ Girls' Basketball Team is on the hardcourt.

Aim and Soar High

by Miguel Ochoa, 7E

Upon reading the Vision-Mission statement of our school, I envisioned these images—an arrow and an eagle. These symbols which represent the great rivals, the blue school and our green school, reminded me of two actions: to aim high and to soar high.

To aim high. If we delete the action “to aim,” we cannot soar high. In fact, soaring without aiming is soaring blindly, without direction. But what should be our aim? Our founder, Saint John Baptist De La Salle, desired all of us to aim for the best, become the best, and be the best for others. Let that aim be our vision!

To soar high. “To soar” paints a visible action. It completes the aim. Therefore, we should take every step to make our Lasallian vision a reality. And I believe that realizing our vision is possible in this kind of environment that provides us vital resources—exemplary educators, modern facilities, top-of-the-line technology, and a supportive community.

Now, notice the adverb “high” in the two actions. It dictates how we should aim and soar. It tells us the degree of our desire to fulfil our goals, not actually for ourselves but for others, especially the less fortunate in our country.

Aim high and soar high! Aim to completely remove poverty from this country, and lead the people towards a better future. Who knows, you might be what the people need. Unite! Aim together, act together, soar together, and make a change for the better. For it is the Lasallian way.





Interview with *Ms. Marga Jimenez* Model Student

by Caroline Therese Sahagun, 7G

Consistent honor student. Exemplary conduct awardee. Most Valuable Player. What makes an ordinary student extra ordinary? For Marga Jimenez, it must be her drive for excellence. Read Y.O.'s interview with this young mind of substance and see for yourself why she deserves this recognition.

Y.O.: Who is Marga Jimenez?

Marga: I would consider myself hyperactive. My friends say that I'm very "makulit." When with them, I usually bring up random topics just so I won't get bored.

Y.O.: What are your personal goals this year?

Marga: To graduate is my main goal, but it would be really nice if I get honors and an exemplary conduct award this year.

Y.O.: How about your goal for your basketball team?

Marga: Another championship before I move to high school .

Y.O.: What do you do to achieve your goals?

Marga: I study hard to get outstanding and high scores. I participate in class. For basketball, I focus during trainings and I help the new players to excel so that when I leave the team they will continue to win championships.

Y.O.: Why do you think you were given the M.V.P. award?

Marga: Honestly, I don't know why. I'm just thankful for it.

Y.O.: What is your motto in life?

Marga: "No pain, no gain." When you don't experience any pain, you don't improve. Another would be "Never fear the result of your best effort." If you know you tried your best, you shouldn't be scared to see the results- whether good or bad. The most important thing is you gave your best.

Y.O.: Who influenced you to try basketball?

Marga: My P.E. teacher, Ms. Ana Evangelista, encouraged me to try out for the varsity team.

Y.O.: Do you believe every Lasallian should be an achiever?

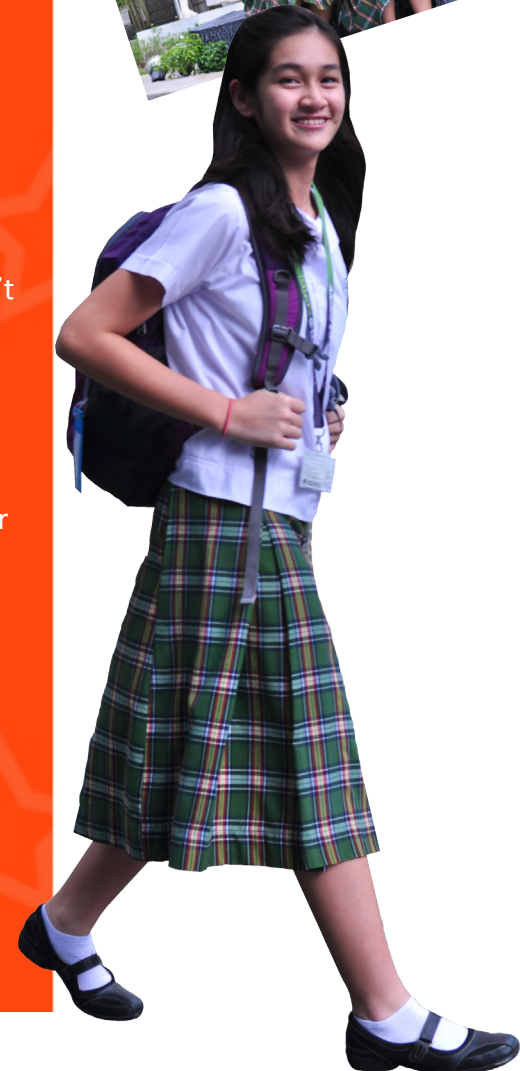
Marga: Yes. After all, we are all blessed with talents. We just have to develop them to become achievers.

Y.O.: For you, what are the ingredients of success?

Marga: Hardwork and patience. It takes time to achieve our dreams. You don't become a legend in a snap of fingers. Also, remember to be humble all the time.

Y.O.: Any message for other students?

Marga: Don't stop believing in yourselves and never allow anyone to put you down. Challenges may occur, but they are there to make us stronger. As they say, "After every rain comes out the rainbow."



"Animo La Salle!"

This year's PEP Rally, held last July 4 and hosted by Mr. Ben Sazon of the Social Action Office, elicited a resounding cheer from the Upper Grades students that marked its success!

The PEP

message, saying that he has been an athlete all his life, and that he desired to share his skills and talents with young children.

The Karatedo members of Coach Chino thrilled the young audience as they showcased their prowess in karatedo.

This intermission number of the siblings Sakura (Grade 2) and Naopi Alfonte(Grade 3) started with Sakura displaying her



RALLY 2012

by Bea Alexa C. Rondon, 5B

As always, the program started with a prayer. Then, the energetic lady archers (Baby Gap) of the Upper Grades wowed the crowd with an exciting dance routine.

Br. Dennis Magbanua, FSC, President of DLSZ, welcomed the spectators to the event and mentioned the objective of the activity, which was to acknowledge the school's very own athletes. He encouraged the crowd to support the Lasallian athletes, and added that DLSZ looks forward to the next season of the WNCAA and this year's Inter-La Salle Athletic Meet which will be held in Ozamis City. It is good to know that the 43rd WNCAA season will be hosted by DLSZ.

Coach Chino Veguillas, an alumnus of Batch 1998, graced the gathering with his motivational

stunts skilfully. The audience, especially the Grade 4 students, was mesmerized.

Kristen Mayuga of 7H, the captain of the Track and Field Team, lighted the torch. The said ceremony was followed by the presentation of athletes from various DLSZ teams. The DLSZ PEP Squad and the Baby Gap were likewise acknowledged.

On the latter part of the program, Mr. Julio Fernandez (DLSZ alumnus of Batch 2003) from Tom's Philippines gave away gift vouchers to two lucky students whose names were drawn prior to the program. Paolo Ajero of 7B and Louise Franchesca Vijandre of 5C emerged as the lucky winners.





Book Caravan to Bataan

by Stephanie Singson, 7B

The Grade School Reading Department, in partnership with the Grade School Learning Resource Center and the Social Action Office, travelled to Bagac, Bataan before the start of the school year to bring to our partner school, Jaime Hilario Integrated School, the books donated by the students during the book shower campaign held early this year.

An exciting line up of activities included storytelling, drawing, an entertaining program for children, and of course book giving. Furthermore, the La Salle teachers and staff joined the community's coastal clean-up that day.

Kalayaan 2012

by Jose Mateo Fernando, 4D Zoie Garcia, 7B
Vicente Carlo Favis, 6A Mary Rae Seco, 5B

The Grade School Department celebrated the nation's 114th Independence Day with various activities that reminded us the significance of our independence as a people.

The students in the Upper Grades watched an entertaining video that showcased the amazing tourist destinations in the Philippines. The shadow play by the sensational group Penumbra encouraged the young audience to visit tourist spots in the country.

Aside from the film viewing, contests such as iPad poster making in Grade 4, poster and essay writing in Grade 5, and video making in Grade 6 were held.

Kyla Isabelle Jimenez (3rd place), Denzel Lyle Salmingo (2nd place), and Claire

Therese Joseph (1st place) were the winners in the Grade 5 Poster Making Contest. For the Essay Writing Contest in the same level, the winners were Jose Manuel Macababbad (3rd place), Bea Alexa Rondon (2nd place), and Louise Franchesca Vijandre (1st place). In Grade 6, the winning sections in the Video Making Contest were 6D (3rd place), 6H (2nd place), and 6G (1st place).

The graduating batch watched a documentary film entitled *Pobreng Pinoy*. The presentation aimed to open the eyes of the audience to the real condition of the Filipino children along the poverty line. After the film viewing, the students were tasked to write down their pledges to make the Philippines a better country in the future.

The Grades 1-3 pupils watched the animated film *Dayo: Sa Mundo Ng Elementalia*. The activity gave the children some exposure to the world of Philippine mythical creatures and enchanting elements. After the film viewing, the children engaged themselves in differentiated activities

Children's Literary Week

by Karen Bersamina, 7B

The Grade School Learning Resource Center led the school in the annual celebration of the National Children's Literary Week. With this year's theme: *Kaysarap Magbasa sa Sariling Wika*, our very own librarians created a resounding noise to encourage everyone in school to have a passion for reading.

First of all, there was a book fair from July 16-20. National Bookstore, Fully Booked, Power Books, and Scholastic sold very interesting children's books at affordable prices in the fair.

During the entire week, students participated in other activities relevant to the celebration. These activities included a quiz bee sponsored by the Literary Club, a Comic Read Aloud by Mr. Jamie Bautista, the writer of the popular comics *Private Iris*, the opening of the Educational Toy Center in the Lower Grades building and Reading Centers in the Upper Grades L.R.C.

The Educational Toy Center offers to students an alternative way of learning. In the center children are encouraged to explore toys that will surely challenge their brain cells!

A unique photo exhibit made a mark in the celebration. Mr. Jay Diola, the creative mind behind the said activity shared that in all the photos, our very own varsity players were the models promoting love for reading.

Another exciting activity was the yearly Book Character Parade. What made this year's parade very special were the librarians who joined the event. They themselves were seen in costumes of famous book characters!

The celebration of the Children's Literary Week was extended even to DLSZ's partner communities in nearby provinces and municipalities through the mascot BroLee. So far, BroLee has led the school in book donation projects to Bukal Elementary School, Sucat Elementary School, Hukay's Elementary School, Carlota Elementary School, and Encarnacion Elementary School.

In our interview with Mr. Diola, he emphasized that the school, through its endless effort to promote literacy, truly hopes that each one (whether young or old) will realize that reading is indeed fun.

The Young Observer hopes that the school will become successful in making reading fun for everyone since pleasure in reading is the first step to literacy.

Pinay, World Golf Champ

by Shanen Bautista, 7B

Another Lasallian created waves in the summer heat of the United States when she beat the representatives of all the countries that competed in the 2012 Callaway Junior World Golf Tournament held in San Diego, California from July 10-12, 2012.

Frances Bernice Olivarez Ilas of 5F, ranked 1 in her age category in world golf scene, made all of us proud when she emerged as the champion in the said tournament. Although the modest Pinay beauty admitted having a difficult time defeating each opponent, she continued giving her best to gain honor for the country. In the end, her hardwork, sacrifices, and determination paid off.



WNCAA Opens with a BANG

by Marga Jimenez, 7C

Despite the rains on August 4, 2012, DLSZ hosted the opening of the 43rd season of the Women's National Collegiate Athletic Association (WNCAA) held at the PhilSports Arena. As expected, our very own Pep Squad, Baby Gap, and orchestra wowed the crowd with their performances that welcomed the member schools.

With the return of Assumption College Makati and La Consolacion College as members of the league, this season promises more exciting games across the league's three divisions: midgets, high school, and college.

DLSZ President Br. Dennis Magbanua, FSC led the administrators and other La Salle personnel that graced the important occasion.

Ms. Dianne Castillejo, sports caster of ABS-CBN and host of Sports Unlimited, shared an inspirational message with the spectators.

Prior to the big day, a press conference was held at the Philippine Columbian Association Sports Club on August 1, 2012. Ms. Ruby Ramos, DLSZ Grade School Principal, and Ms. Evangeline De Peralta, Director for Lasallian Formation and Mission Department, DLSZ Cultural Affairs Office Head Ms. Lynette Feliciano, DLSZ Sports and Development Head Mr. Ace Gacutan attended the said event with Br. Dennis Magbanua, FSC and Lasallian Animator Br. Lazaro Rodriguez, FSC.

At the press conference, the president of WNCAA, Ms. Vivian Manila of St. Scholastica emphasized that the league will continue to promote women's sports with this year's theme: Making a Difference in Women's Sports.

DLSZ Para sa Kapamilya, Kapuso, at Kapatid

By: Shanen Bautista, 7B

Sa pangunguna ng Social Action Office at Campus Ministry Office, minsan pa nagkaisa ang mga estudyante at magulang, guro at iba pang empleyado ng DLSZ para makatulong sa mga nasalanta ng sampung araw na walang patid na pag-ulan.

Matatandaan na pinauwi ang mga estudyante noong ika-6 ng Agosto matapos kanselahin ang klase sa mga paaralan sa Muntinlupa. Nang sumunod na araw, agad sinimulan ang relief goods operation sa paaralan. Nakakagulat ang napakaraming Lasalyano na nakiisa sa panawagan na tumulong sa mga kababayan nating nangailangan ng pagkain, damit, at matutulugan.

Ang lahat ng donasyon ay umabot sa 4M at agad naming naipamahagi sa mga naapektuhan ng kalamidad hanggang sa malayong lugar ng Malabon at Antipolo

Pinoy Math Wizards in Taiwan

by Bea Tribiana, 7D

Our very own Alyssa Guevarra and other Pinoy Math wizards finished second in the recently concluded Taiwan International Mathematics Competition (TMIC) 2012 held in Taiwan.

Out of the 28 countries, including the U.S., Australia, and Singapore, the Philippines finished second overall. China emerged as the champion.

The team of Alyssa Guevarra wound up as first and second runners up in the elementary team and group competitions.

Our delegates from various schools mainly in Metro Manila brought home a total of 41 medals. Out of the 41, there were 2 gold, 2 silver, and 9 bronze. Aside from the medals, the country was given 2 merit awards. Guevarra was one of the recipients of the prestigious awards.

WORD SEARCH

By: Sean Brago & Bastin Cruz, 5G

As we create our desired future today, let us be mindful of the Lasallian core values. Loop the 10 key words in the Lasallian core values in the word maze below.

F	A	X	E	L	W	O	R	K	T
I	C	N	E	E	A	N	T	E	N
L	O	O	C	A	S	J	Y	L	E
I	N	I	N	D	R	Z	M	B	T
P	F	S	E	C	O	T	U	A	E
I	I	S	L	H	E	W	H	P	P
N	D	A	L	I	U	R	E	A	M
O	E	P	E	S	Q	T	N	C	O
X	N	M	C	T	K	P	W	E	C
A	T	O	X	I	A	R	I	U	D
F	B	C	E	A	C	N	K	L	P
G	Y	K	T	N	R	V	F	P	H



Christian competent concerned earth Filipino
concerned lead excellence compassion committed

Story for the Heart

by Karen Bersamina, 7B

Teacher Sarah told her Junior Prep pupils, Mary Sarah Lorraine Lapeña, graduated from Grade 7 here at DLSZ in 2004. She finished high school at Whitley Secondary School in Singapore where her family lived for several years because of the demands of her dad's work. After high school Sarah decided to take up Early Childhood Education because she had always dreamed of becoming a teacher. It was her brother who inspired her to pursue this dream. Find out why as you read her inspiring story written by Teacher Sarah herself straight from the heart when she was only in the 7th grade. Her story was featured in the issue of the Young Observer which was chosen by the Philippine Daily Inquirer as The School Paper of 2004.



a good bargain

By: Mary Sarah Lorraine Lapeña (7D SY2003-2004)

When I found out that I was going to have a baby brother in 1996, I got excited. Jeremy was going to be my first brother. I wanted him to grow up at once. I looked forward to teasing him like older siblings do to the younger ones. I imagined myself playing with him, and I wanted to feel what it was like to have a naughty little boy at home until I found out something else.

The moment I entered the hospital room where my parents were, the first thing I noticed was that my mom's eyes were red from crying. My mom said, "Sarah, your brother will be different. He will still play and do lots of things with you, but he'll be slow in learning, ok?" Mom and dad told us that we should treat Jeremy just like any other kid. Being five years old, I just said, "Yes." My two-year-old sister, Patricia, was just as excited.

My parents didn't mention anything about Down Syndrome, but I learned that those children with D.S. take longer time to learn to walk, talk, read, and write than normal children do.

We had to help Jeremy learn how to crawl, unlike normal babies who can do it on their own. We had to teach him to do everything step by step. Jeremy had to go not only to one kind of therapy but three: physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy. Physical therapy helps him become stronger. It will help his muscles tone stronger. Speech therapy helps him communicate with others. Jeremy still goes to speech therapy until now. He can say a few words and phrases. Jeremy stopped occupational therapy about 2 years ago. This therapy taught Jeremy how to draw and do things like coloring, painting, and other things related to art.

It was hard in the beginning, sometimes it is still difficult coping with his behaviour. But we learned to cope with it and make things fun for him. So far, Jeremy is doing fine. He can talk quite properly, he uses polite words like "Please" and "Thank you," "Sorry." And when we punish him he says, "Sorry, Remy (short for Jeremy) good boy."

Yes, Jeremy is a good boy. He's a great help in the house. He likes to help do the cleaning, cooking, and in doing lots of household chores which most kids like us hate doing.

I still play with Jeremy, and I know now what it's like to have a younger brother. I help him draw and I tutor him with his homework.

I love Jeremy. He may not exactly be the brother we had asked for, but we got a good bargain.