

ST. FRANCIS' CANOSSIAN COLLEGE PAST STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

**AUGUST 2025
NEWSLETTER**

ADDRESS: ST. FRANCIS' CANOSSIAN COLLEGE
PAST STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION,
9-13 KENNEDY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG

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We Care so We Do

Dear Franciscans,

We are delighted to share the latest updates from the PSA:

The PSA General Meeting, along with the IMC Election, was held on 24th May 2025. We are pleased to announce that Ms. Woo Mei Hou Nancy has been elected as the Alumni Manager for the term 2025-2027. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Ms. June Sieh for her dedicated service as the outgoing Alumni Manager and we offer our best wishes to Ms. Nancy Woo as she assumes on this role in support of our fellow Franciscans.

On 5th July 2025, the SFCCPSA Choir performed at the Annual Graduation Ceremony at SFCC, adding a special touch to the celebrations.

We are also excited to announce our upcoming collaboration with Caritas (Ngau Tau Kok) on 13th September for a volunteer service titled "Meal and Mingle: Walking to the Community Kitchen." While registration for this event has now closed, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all participants for their interest and support. A volunteer briefing will be held at the end of August to provide further details.

To further enhance our services, we have prepared a questionnaire to gather your valuable feedback. Your input will help us improve and better meet your needs.

Attached below, you will find posters with QR codes for easy access to event details. Please take a moment to review them and complete the questionnaire. We greatly appreciate your support and look forward to your active involvement.

Warm regards,
SFCC PSA Committee



Join us, SFCCPSA Choir

The SFCCPSA Choir warmly invites alumna to join our vibrant singing community. Whether you are a seasoned vocalist or a complete beginner, we would love to welcome you!

Under the direction of Choir Conductor Dr. Angelina Au and with guidance from our Honorary Advisor Mrs. Maria Jim—both passionate and accomplished musicians—our choir offers a rewarding musical experience.

Our mission is to:

- 🎵 Foster lifelong appreciation for choral music
- 🎵 Cultivate lasting friendships among alumni and friends
- 🎵 Create meaningful musical connections across generations

****Upcoming practice schedule of our Choir:****

From 20 September to 29 November 2025

Every Alternate Saturday

3pm - 5pm



Please feel free to contact us at psa@mail.sfcc.edu.hk or Ms Rebecca Tsang 9304 0714 (WhatsApp) for details.

Let's discover the joy of singing
with alumni and friends!!



Sign Up Here

SFCC PSA, CARITAS COMMUNITY CENTRE
NGAU TAU KOK

Empower Communities, Be a Volunteer

**REGISTRATIONS
ARE CLOSED**
We're full!

Thank you to everyone who registered-
See you on 13th September!

If you have any enquiries, please contact us at
psaprogram@mail.sfcc.edu.hk.



Share Your Ideas

We would like to invite you to share your ideas and suggestions for creating meaningful activities that benefit our PSA community.

Social Gatherings

Creative Event Ideas

Volunteer Opportunities

Workshops and Skill-Building Sessions

Cultural Celebrations

Educational Series

... and any other ideas you may have ...



Scan the QR code
and tell us more



Your Voice Matters
Together, we can make a positive impact!

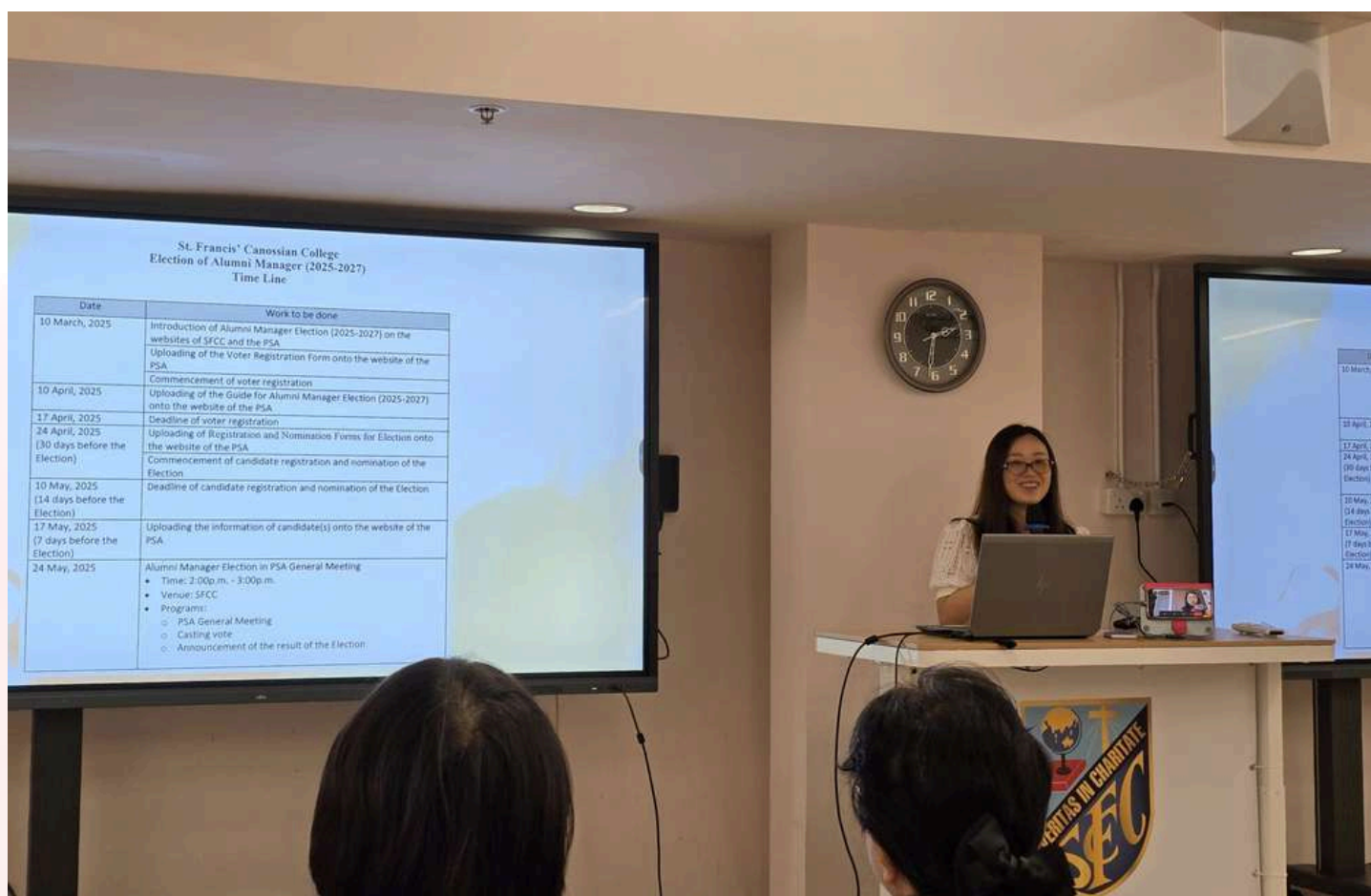
Thank you for your contributions!

If you have any enquiries, please contact us at psa@mail.sfcc.edu.hk.

PSA General Meeting and IMC Election

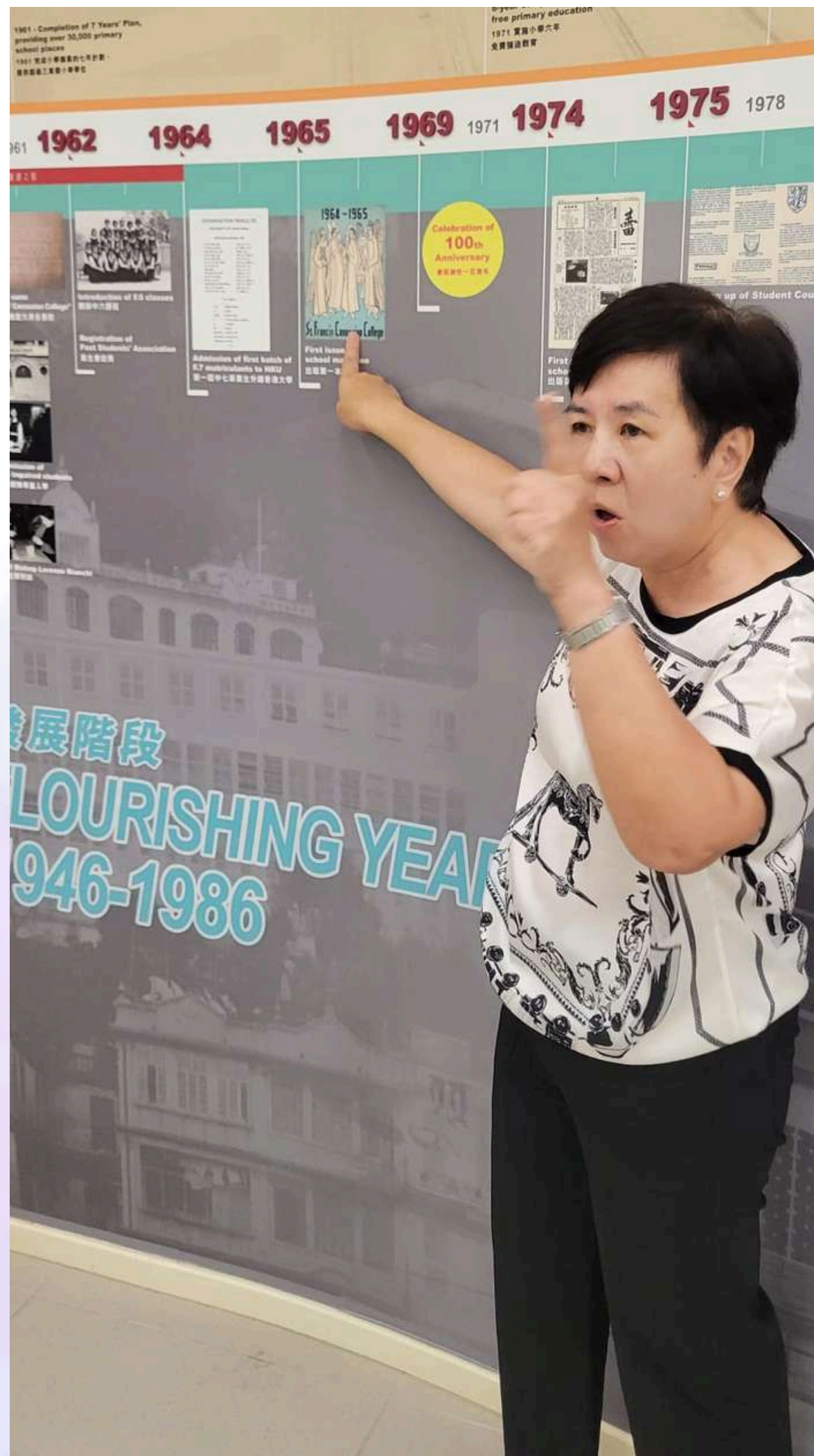
The PSA General Meeting, along with the IMC Election, was held on 24th May 2025. Our Chairperson, Ms. Rebecca Tsang, led the meeting and introduced the new committee to attendees. She also highlighted the regular SFCCPSA Choir rehearsals, participation in the Graduation Ceremony in July, and a newly launched volunteer program in collaboration with Caritas Community Centre (Ngau Tau Kok), scheduled in September.

Following this, the IMC Election took place. Ms. Nancy Woo Mei Hou, as the sole candidate, was automatically elected as the IMC Alumni Manager. A retired principal, Ms. Woo is dedicated to advancing education and supporting our community.





The newly elected IMC Alumni Manager, Ms. Nancy Woo, graciously took on the role and warmly introduced the Memory Gallery to the alumni, serving as a guide to share its significance. She shared vibrant stories that brought our campus culture and traditions to life. The Memory Gallery is more than a historical snapshot. It is a collection of touching narratives that have captivated our entire alumni community.



Annual Graduation Ceremony 2025

It is hard to believe we have reached the end of another school year – and what a year it has been! The Graduation Ceremony for our Form Six graduates was held on the afternoon of 5th July 2025. Our distinguished alumna, Ms. Leung Yuet Yin, Esther, JP, served as Guest of Honour and delivered an inspiring speech (excerpts below).




Sister Veronica, Principal, Ms June Sieh, Ms Rebecca Tsang, Mrs Janet Lai, teachers, parents, Secondary 6 graduates, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon. I am most honoured to have been invited to be the officiating guest at the Secondary 6 graduation ceremony of St Francis Canossian College today.

May I first of all congratulate all the Secondary 6 graduates for your hard work and achievements over the years. I should also like to congratulate the Principal, teachers and parents for your dedicated and selfless efforts in guiding, supporting, and bringing up these graduates during their formative years.

Having spent a total of 13 years studying, learning and growing up here some 40 years ago, St Francis has always been my dearest second home in my life. This is also a memorable occasion for me as I belonged to the first cohort of Form 7 graduates having our graduation ceremony in this school hall which was newly completed in 1985, exactly 40 years ago. Though the new and modern school building today is not the same as the one I was familiar with, my memories of St Francis remain fresh and warm every time I come back to our school here.

For instance, I can still remember having mock exams in the cold rainy weather inside the cover playground when the school hall had yet been constructed. I can also remember paying 50 cents as penalty for each Cantonese word spoken during an English lesson. I will also not forget doing manual proof-reading for all the written scripts for the special school magazine for the 110th Anniversary because there was no computer in school those days.



Few months ago, at the Principal's invitation, I took part in conducting mock university admission interviews with some of the Form 6 students in school. I was very pleased with their overall performance in terms of their positive attitude, general knowledge and communication skills. They are indeed much smarter and brighter than I and classmates at their age some decades ago.


However, I note that almost no one indicated their wish to join the public service after finishing their studies.

This is no surprise to me. After all, entering the public service does not appear to be a very popular career choice amongst teenage students nowadays. I should therefore like to take this opportunity to encourage all the graduates to have an open mind to consider pursuing your career in the public sector some time in future, whether you are a teacher, a lawyer, a doctor, an accountant, an engineer, an IT specialist, a social worker, an architect, an arts and cultural administrator etc. The public sector includes not only the Government, but also public organizations like the public hospitals, universities, schools and other subvented organizations.

I have been working as an administrative officer in the Government for around 30 years and then in the Judiciary for five years in my current position as the Judiciary Administrator. Throughout the past 35 years, I witnessed quite a number of significant historical changes in Hong Kong. Despite the many challenges from these changes, I have no hesitation to say that serving the public has been a most worthy, meaningful and rewarding career.

During my civil service career, I felt very blessed and fortunate to have been involved in quite a number of major policy initiatives with a lasting impact on the community. One of the most impressive experience was related to the regularization of football betting (足球博彩規範化) in the face of strong oppositions from schools and Christian communities back in 2003. We fought a hard battle striking a proper balance between combatting illegal betting and avoiding encouraging gambling. Thanks be to God-this gave me the opportunity not only to put in place a proper regulatory system, but also to set up the first two service centres for problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong.

Next in line is the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (西九文化區). From 2006 to 2008, I was the subject officer responsible for relaunching the entire public engagement exercise (推倒重來、重新諮詢) after the Government gave up the previous approach of building a single canopy (興建天幕), and direct tendering from one single developer (單一招標). When we started off this process at that time, the Government was actually not really confident that we could make it to the end. During those two years, I had been working days and nights with my team of colleagues on an intensive consultation and consensus building exercise with the diverse arts and cultural community (music, dance, drama, Cantonese Opera, visual arts etc.) including debating on the concept of M+ for the major museum we have today. We also needed to draw up a feasible financing model, draft the law for establishing the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, and seek approval



from the then Legislative Council for the one-off funding injection of \$2.16 billion. I recalled that I personally did a total of at least 50 briefings and presentations on the proposals before they were finalized and approved. Again, with thanks to the guidance of God and the support from colleagues at all levels, we managed to go through all hurdles and our efforts paid off. And we are so happy to be able to enjoy the Cultural District now.

In my current position as the Judiciary Administrator, I have to provide the full range of administrative support to the Chief Justice and all the judges in upholding the rule of law and judicial independence in Hong Kong. These include all matters relating to manpower and resource management, legislation, court buildings, court operations and technology initiatives such as remote hearings and electronic filing, in ensuring the effective and efficient administration of justice. Our work has particularly been challenging over the past few years where we were to cope with an increasing caseload and longer court waiting times arising from Covid-19 pandemic, the upsurge of high-profile and national security cases, and insufficient judicial manpower. But our efforts have yielded positive results and been duly appreciated by court users.

All these public service projects are interesting, controversial and challenging in many ways. Despite the sweat and pains involved, there was enormous sense of satisfaction, excitement and fun from the teamwork experience, from engaging different stakeholders, and from the process of tackling complex issues, conflicting views and problems. Most important of all, the shared passion and commitment of civil service colleagues towards serving the public has brought with me fond memories and long-lasting friendships over the years.

As graduates of St Francis, joining the public service is one of the best and direct means of living the Franciscan spirit in our working life. As set out in the school motto of St Francis, 'Veritas In Charitate, Live by the Truth in Love', our core values which make up the Franciscan DHA has indeed made us most suited for serving the community in the public service.

Over the past decades, apart from the more prominent ones in top leading roles, there have been a lot of Franciscans serving competently in many different positions in the public sector. This may not be obvious to you all because Franciscan graduates tend to take a low profile generally. But it is not too difficult to recognize each other at work. Over the years, Franciscan civil servants have consistently been manifesting ourselves as most honest and reliable, dedicated and committed, principled and righteous; and most importantly, ready to serve with humility, and deliver responsibilities with integrity and without fear.

Here and now, the world has been changing rapidly with the increasing use of modern technology including generative AI. The geopolitical and socio-economic environment has also become more complex. The Government and the public service surely need to evolve and move with the times. That's why I should like to appeal to all the graduates, my fellow young Franciscans, bright, talented and capable young people, to consider joining the public service some time in your future career, bringing with you new, fresh, and innovative ideas. Let's work

together to make Hong Kong and our country a better place for everyone. Don't just complain and criticize the Government for not doing things well. Do join the public sector to bring about changes and improvements for the common good. This is for sure one of the best ways to realize the key message in our school song – "live St Francis, live forever".

Last but not least, I wish all graduates every happiness and success with God's blessings in your future endeavours. I also wish the Principal, teachers and support staff in St Francis continual achievements in bringing up good and responsible students. And finally to all parents and family members of graduates, I wish you all good luck and good health.

Thank you very much.



Moreover, Ms. Rebecca Tsang, our PSA Chairperson, presented the SFCC PSA Scholarship to four outstanding Form Six graduates in recognition of their achievements. We wish all the graduates a brilliant future and continue to shine as they enter universities.



In addition to recognizing our graduates, Mr Kan Hang Kuen received the Token of Appreciation For Long Service. Mr Kan will be retired this academic year after a remarkable career devoted entirely to teaching at SFCC. We extend out heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Kan for his exemplary professionalism and commitment. We wish Mr. Kan all the best in his retirement and hope he enjoys a fulfilling and wonderful life ahead.



Ms. Vivian Chan received Appreciation and Gratitude for 25 Years of Dedicated Service



The Chinese Dance Team, SFCCPSA Choir and School Orchestra filled the hall with their beautiful performances and symphonies.





The SFCCPSA Choir performed three meaningful songs centered on themes of faith, resilience, and hope. The performance began with Bach's masterpiece, "Den Tod Niemand Zwingen Kunnt", which reflects on human helplessness against death due to sin, yet concludes with a consoling, uplifting "Hallelujah" proclaiming salvation.

This was followed by the traditional American spiritual "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel" – originally sung by enslaved Africans who found hope in divine salvation. Through biblical references to Daniel's and Jonah's deliverance, the song reassured believers that faith would ultimately bring their own salvation.

The choir concluded with "Over the Rainbow", the timeless classic from The Wizard of Oz that has inspired generations to pursue dreams beyond their horizons. Through this musical journey, the SFCCPSA Choir wishes the graduating class success in pursuing their dreams and the strength to maintain faith when facing life's inevitable challenges.



Franciscan Spirit



The gathering on 1st July proved to be a delightful reunion, as current committee members engaged in lively conversations with esteemed alumnae, including Ms. Alison Cheung and Ms. Nancy Woo, alongside our dedicated music teacher, Mrs. Maria Jim, and our talented Choir Conductor, Dr. Angelina Au. The atmosphere buzzed with laughter and shared memories, beautifully bridging generational divides. Each participant contributed unique perspectives, enriching discussions and fostering a profound sense of community that resonated with all present.

We were particularly thrilled to witness the impressive evolution of our SFCCPSA Choir, now a cornerstone of our school's musical heritage. Equally commendable were the achievements of our current SFCC School Choir, most notably their Gold Award-winning performance in the Senior Category at the 2025 Joint School Music Competition (held in April-May), a shining testament to their dedication.

Throughout the event, the palpable passion for our alma mater underscored a collective commitment to excellence. This shared ethos not only honors our institution's legacy but also inspires future generations to pursue their aspirations with unwavering determination. As we reflected on both accomplishments and aspirations, one truth became evident: the pursuit of excellence unites us, binding our community in a shared mission to cultivate talent and celebrate artistic achievement.

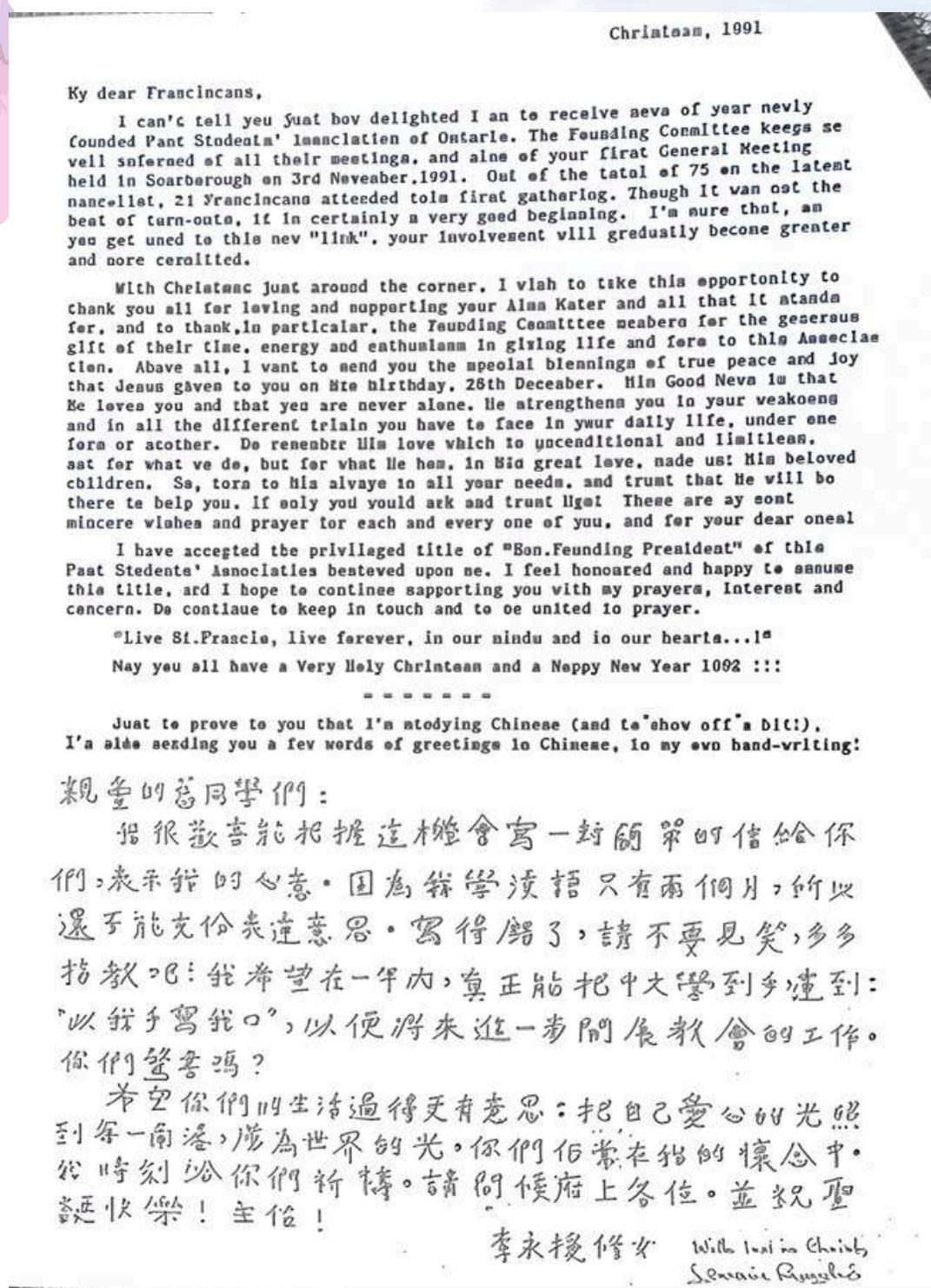
Alumni Column



St. Francis' Canossian College Alumni Association Ontario SFCCAAON

Dear Franciscans,

The SFCCAAON (St. Francis' Canossian College Alumni Association Ontario) was found in July 1991 under the guidance of Sr. Marie Remedios. Since 1997 was approaching, Sr. Marie started to learn how to read and write in Chinese.



Please see attached the letter that Sr. Marie sent to us in 1991 to encourage our bonding and link together.

Very impressive, right?!

SFCCAAON Highlights



SFCCAAON participated in the HK Joint Schools Alumni Association to celebrate the Chinese New year on 2025.02.01.

SFCCAAON AGM & Annual Dinner

SFCCAAON is going to have the AGM at 5 pm and annual dinner at 6:30 pm on September 7, 2025 (Toronto time).

Anyone who is interested, please contact us :
SFCCAAON@yahoo.com

Please visit our [website](#) for more information

Stay Connected

To keep abreast of the latest PSA activities, you can browse the PSA web page under St. Francis' Canossian College

(<https://www.sfcc.edu.hk/> > Our Partners > Past Students' Association).

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If you want to update your personal information, or refer your Franciscan friends to the PSA, please scan the QR Code of the General Membership Form.

SFCC PSA
*General Memberships
Form*



To enhance the bonding of our members, we welcome your contributions to the PSA Newsletter, Facebook and Instagram. Share your news regarding alumni gatherings by sending photos or articles to us at psanews@mail.sfcc.edu.hk.