

CBS Exchange Schools Exchange Program 2016



The CBS Exchange Programme is an annual event organized by the Student Associations/Unions of the Lasallian secondary schools in Hong Kong co-organized by HKLYM and Lasallian Family. This year, the five participating schools are: St. Joseph's College, La Salle College, De La Salle Secondary School, Chan Sui Ki (La Salle) College, and Chong Gene Hang College.

The programme kicked off with an opening ceremony on April 23 hosted by Chong Gene Hang College. The participants, School Principals, Supervisors, Staff, and the Brothers were present. Br. Chris Soosai gave a presentation on the Founder, emphasizing the need to couple faith with action.

On the following weekdays, the participants were sent to different schools to experience how the Lasallian spirit is lived in a different environment and make new friends from other Lasallian Schools. The highlight of the programme was a gathering at La Salle College on April 27 wherein they were able to visit the LEAD Provincialate and Brothers Community, spend some time for sports, and of course, a barbecue/cookout on the school grounds.

Congratulations to the organizers and participants for a job well done!

De La Salle Zobel Visits Hong Kong

Twenty four delegates from De La Salle Santiago Zobel School composed of the Grade School, High School and BRafeNHS Student Representative Coordinating Councils and from different organizations like the M.O.V.E. and Campus Ministry Office Affiliates visited La Salle East Asia District (LEAD) in Kowloon, Hong Kong on April 5 – 8, 2016.

Br. Edmundo Fernandez FSC, Brother Visitor of LEAD, together with Br. Sockie De La Rosa FSC, LEAD Administrator, warmly welcomed and gave the participants a bird's eye view of the roles and functions of La Salle East Asia District in the region. They also shared the similarities and the differences of the eight Lasallian schools in Hong Kong that are being subsidized by the government. Other Lasallian Partners who showed their earnest hospitality were Br. Patrick Tierney FSC, Director of LSC Brothers' Community, Br. Steve Hogan, Principal of La Salle College, Mr. Eric Ku Wing Hong, Principal of De La Salle Secondary School, N.T. and Ms. Nikki Chan, Lasallian Family Coordinator, who generously assisted in the Service Learning of the young Lasallians.



With the theme, “ Continuing the Lasallian Mission of Serving Others and Serving God”, the visitation is Part 2 of the Lasallian Leadership Empowerment And Development (LLEAD) Series 3 of the Lasallian student leaders who are attended by the Student Representative Coordinating Councils of Grade School, High School, BRafeNHS and CMO Affiliates. Part 1 was held last March 11 – 12, 2016 at the Br. Ceci Hojilla FSC Center for Lasallian Formation.

The participants were accompanied by Ms. Llewelyn S. Embudo, SCAO Head, Ms. Clarissa E. Teves, GS-SRCC Adviser, Mr. Jesus M. Sulit, Jr., Assistant to the SCAO Head / HS-SRCC Adviser, and Dr. Ronald S. Samonte, DLSZ Parent. (<http://www.dlszobel.edu.ph/?p=10964>)

Arts, Heritage, and Culture



The Songkran festival (Thai: สงกรานต์, pronounced [sǒŋ.krāːn], listen) the Thai New Year's festival. The Thai New Year's Day is 13 April every year, but the holiday period includes 14-15 April as well. The word "Songkran" comes from the Sanskrit word *saṃkrānti* (Devanāgarī: संक्रांति),^[1] literally "astrological passage", meaning transformation or change. The term was borrowed from Makar Sankranti, the name of a Hindu harvest festival celebrated in India in January to mark the arrival of spring. It coincides with the rising of Aries on the astrological chart, the New Year of many calendars of South and Southeast Asia. The festive occasion is in keeping with the Buddhist/Hindu solar calendar.

The Songkran celebration is rich with symbolic traditions. Mornings begins with merit-making. Visiting local temples and offering food to the Buddhist monks is commonly practiced. On this specific occasion, performing water pouring on Buddha statues is considered an iconic ritual for this holiday. It represents purification and the washing away one's sins and bad luck. As a festival of unity, people who have moved away usually return home to their loved ones and elders. As a way to show respect, younger people often practice water pouring over the palms of elders' hands. Paying reverence to ancestors is also an important part of Songkran tradition.

The holiday is known for its water festival which is mostly celebrated by young people. Major streets are closed for traffic, and are used as arenas for water fights. Celebrants, young and old, participate in this tradition by splashing water on each other (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>



Fraternally,

Edmundo Fernandez FSC