28 June 2013

To: All parents of Maris Stella Kindergarten, Singapore

Dear Parents,

Welcome back with your little ones as we begin the next school term on 1st July 2013! Hope you had a happy and eventful time with your precious little ones during the June holidays.

Here are a few updates:

1) New Principal
   Good news! God has answered our prayers for a Principal. Mrs Monica Koh will be our new Principal effective 1st July 2013. Let us thank the Lord as we welcome Monica to join us in the FMM mission of “To love through love”!
   Do give her all the support she needs to help us continue our mission at Maris Stella Kindergarten.

2) New Pre Nurseries
   While you were having your holidays, Sr. Agnes and all our workers were busy sprucing up and doing major maintenance of our buildings and grounds to get ready for our 2 new Pre nursery classes (who have been on the ‘waiting list’) and a brighter and cleaner environment upon the return of our children. Thank you Sister Agnes and all our helping hands and teachers.

2) In transition
   As mentioned before, Sr. Agnes Poon was meant to be Acting Principal for a shorter period when she said yes to an “SOS” while we searched for a lay Principal. It has taken us more than a year and many interviews with potential principals before the Lord sends Mrs Monica Koh. A big Thank You to Sr. Agnes for her “YES” to keep the kindergarten going all this while. FMM sisters would also like to thank all parents and friends for all your support and understanding during this period of transition.

Sr. Agnes will continue to help in this ‘last leg’ period of transition as she hands over the workings of the Kindergarten and sees to the completion of some KIVs of our maintenance. As soon as Mrs Monica Koh is integrated into our system we shall bid farewell to Sr. Agnes. We do hope that the moment of readiness for Mrs Koh would be soon or latest by Dec 2013.
We would also like to thank Sr. Marjorie for her availability should we need extra help with the transition.
As part of integrating into our school culture, Mrs Monica Koh is looking forward to meeting all parents once she is more settled.

3) FMM culture, values, mission/vision
It is a historical moment in the history of Maris Stella Kindergarten to have a lay Principal in the person of Mrs Monica Koh. Hence, besides the daily moments of helping our children and staff imbibe the values of our mission/vision and FMM culture, there will be a yearly Mission Orientation day on every 1st Saturday of February for teaching and non teaching staff.

4) FMM School Management Committee
Our new Team will be as follows:
Sr. Mary Soh, fmm : Provincial
Sr. Maria Ng, fmm : Supervisor
Sr. Veronica de Roza, fmm : Member
There shall be 2 lay members upon their ‘YES’
Briefly,
- Sr. Maria Ng has been in the field of education for many years, being once the Principal of Hai Sing Catholic School for 15 yrs and is the present Supervisor and member of the School Management Board of Hai Sing. She will be on the ‘grounds’ and more available especially during this period of transition
- Sr. Veronica de Roza has also been in the field of education for many years, once a teacher at Hai Sing Catholic School. She is also a member of the School Management Board at Hai Sing.
- We shall update you on the lay members once we have their ‘Yes’

5) The Bird Aviary
Although it has been built for the children, very few or hardly any child is attracted to the Bird Aviary. There have also been requests to set the birds free and as Franciscans, we shall be doing just that. Sr. Marjorie has kindly agreed to help release the birds back to its owners or the Jurong Birds Park. Let us wish the birds freedom and new life in their new homes!

The Psalmist in Ps 126 says: “If the Lord does not build the house, in vain do its builders labour”......God has been the prime mover of building our house at Maris Stella Kindergarten all these years. God has blessed us with many good things and continues to provide for all our needs. Join me in thanking the Lord our God for all His blessings!
New Life! New Life! He came to bring us New Life!............Praise and thanks be the Lord!

Pace et benedicta
Sr. Mary Soh, FMM
Provincial/Supervisor