



HAPAG-DALAW

Bishop engages School Community in spiritual dialogue and fellowship

BY CHELSEA ALEISHA T. GARCIA

In a momentous occasion of spiritual upliftment and enriching dialogue, Bishop Moises Magpantay Cuevas, D.D. graced Holy Infant Academy with his presence in his first Pastoral Visit, presiding over a heartfelt Mass and engaging in a dialogue with students, teachers, and other school stakeholders, April 12.

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TALK WITH LOVE AND CONVICTION. Bishop Moises M. Cuevas, D.D. delivers a homily in front of the HIAN community highlighting the need to strengthen faith and uplift the spiritual life. Photo from Holy Infant Academy Official page

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MathematicHIANs conquers int'l math olympiad, to compete for championship in Hong Kong

BY ASHTON EARL P. ALCAIDE



MATH WIZARDS. Ashton Earl Alcaide and Xialdanne Opano prove their wit in math. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino

Holy Infant Academy (HIA) elementary pupils graced the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau spotlight as they bagged (awards) at the Greater Bay Area Mathematical Olympiad Heat Round (BIG BAY BEI), December 3, 2023.

Ashton Earl Alcaide won the silver medal while Xialdanne Opano won the bronze medal. Both contestants are in the Primary 5 level and are consistent awardees of the Mathematical Olympiad organization. Gold award accounts for 21 to 25 points, 16 to 20 points for the silver award, 11 to 15

points for bronze award, 6 to 10 points is merit award, and 1 to 5 points is participation award. The competition was presented on Eklavya platform consisting of 25 questions and 1 hour and 30 minutes to answer.

Upon surpassing the heat round, the awardees are invited to the final round which will be officially an in-person event on Greater Bay Area Mathematical Olympiad Finals Round (BIG BAY BEI) in March 2024. Additionally, the same participants are expected to anticipate the Thailand International Mathematical Olympiad (TIMO) Finals Round on April 2024 after surpassing the heat round.

AVCPS studes unite in Pupil's Encounter 2024

BY XIALDANNE P. OPANO

Baco Catholic School (BCS) recently hosted a dynamic two-day event, themed 'Harmony in Faith: Nurturing Minds, Igniting Hearts'. Led by AVCPS superintendent Rev. Fr. Raymond H. Ruga, the event aimed to foster spiritual growth, intellectual development, and community unity among students from various schools.

Through collaborative activities such as puzzle-solving and painting, participants embraced teamwork and shared values. The event concluded with closing ceremonies, leaving attendees with newfound connections and a deeper appreciation for diversity.

The event at Baco Catholic

School began with a Holy Mass at Blessed Trinity Parish, led by AVCPS superintendent Rev. Fr. Raymond H. Ruga. Students and staff gathered in reverence as the theme 'Harmony in Faith: Nurturing Minds, Igniting Hearts' set the tone. Following the Mass, vibrant opening ceremonies, including flag-raising



ECO-WARRIORS. Students plant a tree as part of Student Encounter. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino

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BORN READY. Students and facilitators strike a pose for the culmination of school-based Camporee. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino

BUILDING CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP School Scouting Movement conducts school-based Camporee

BY BEA NADINE I. GARCIA

With the aim to keep the timeless values of teamwork, resilience, and outdoor adventure amidst the technological advancements and distractions, Holy Infant Academy's School Scouting Movement conducted a School-Based Camporee held October 21 at St. Augustine Seminary, Suqui, Calapan City.

The said camporee was participated by the Grades 4-12 members of the School Scouting Movement (SSM). From camping trips and survival skills workshops

to team-building exercises, scouting activities provided students with practical knowledge and leadership opportunities that extend beyond the confines of traditional academic settings. Moreover, the emphasis on community service fostered a sense of civic responsibility and empathy among participants.

"Scouting teaches our students important lessons that cannot be learned in the classroom setting. It instills values of citizenship, responsibility, and respect for others, preparing our students to become compassionate and capable leaders in their communities," stated Mr. Arron

T. Santiago, scout master.

"Scouting has been a second family for me. I've made lifelong friends and learned invaluable skills that have helped me grow as a person and a leader," shares Juan Gabriel M. Maulion.

The said activity was one of the activities initiated by the School Scouting Movement with the aim to empower young people to become responsible and engaged citizens. It is a response to the school's goal of equipping students with the tools they need to succeed both in and out of the classroom.

HIA conducts Earthquake Drill to prepare students

BY SABELLA MARIAX S. MAURO

In response to the ever-present threat of earthquakes and to ensure the safety and preparedness of students and staff, Holy Infant Academy joined in the nationwide conduct of Earthquake Drill at exactly 9:00 in the morning of March 26, 2024.

Located near the sea, HIA is considered to be an earthquake-prone area. Thus, conducting regular earthquake

drills had become a top priority, equipping school communities with the knowledge and skills needed to respond effectively in the event of a seismic phenomenon.

During the drill, students learned essential safety procedures, such as "drop, cover, and hold on," which instructs individuals to drop to the ground, take cover under a sturdy object, and hold on until the shaking stops. Additionally, evacuation routes were practiced to familiarize

students with the quickest and safest paths to exit buildings in the aftermath of an earthquake.

Mrs. Jenilyn F. Mendoza, student affairs coordinator, emphasized the significance of the drill in ensuring the safety of students and staff. "Our priority is always the well-being of our students," she stated. "Through regular earthquake drills, we aim to instill a sense of readiness and confidence in our school community."

For many students, participating in earthquake

drills can be both educational and empowering. Fifth-grader, Izea Forgione A. Jumig reflects on her experience, stating, "At first, I was scared of earthquakes, but after practicing drills at school, I feel more prepared and less afraid. I know what to do to stay safe."

After the drill, a short evaluation was given by the PDRMO Officer. In his talk, he discussed earthquake risks, safety precautions, and emergency response strategies.

BE READY. Students and faculty follow the instruction to ensure safety. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino



Empowering Educators Teachers attends PEAC INSET

BY JAZMIN RYE C. RAMOS

Recognizing the need for continuous professional development, 12 teachers attended the 3-day training of the Private Education Assistance Committee (PEAC) in partnership with the Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines (CEAP) last July 17-19, 2024 at FAITH Colleges, Tanauan, Batangas.

In-Service Training for Teachers is conducted annually with the aim to equip educators with the skills and knowledge necessary to meet the demands of 21st-century learning. Guided by the year's theme: "Achieving Students' Mastery and Differentiating Instruction for Standards-based Learning Recovery", teacher attendees were able to learn how to craft a Standards-based Learning Recovery Plan (SLRP) as a response to the learning gaps brought about by the pandemic.

HIA teachers earned credit units from the training for the renewal of their license as PEAC is accredited by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) as a Continuing Professional Development provider.

"As the educational landscape continues to evolve, the importance of in-service training for teachers cannot be overstated. By investing in the professional development of educators, schools are not only supporting the growth and success of individual teachers but also ensuring the overall quality of education for all students," stated by Mrs. Alona V. Cueto, school principal about the annual participation of teachers in the said training.

"Attending workshops and seminars has allowed me to explore new teaching methodologies and incorporate innovative techniques into my classroom," shared Ms. Ana Kris Aclan, academic affairs coordinator. "It's incredibly rewarding to see the impact these strategies have on my students' learning."

SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER HIA holds Community Outreach Response

BY CHELSEA ALEISHA T. GARCIA

Driven by a desire to share the spirit of Christmas with marginalized communities, Holy Infant Academy (HIA) has embarked on a Community Outreach Response (COR) aimed to spread joy and goodwill to Mangyan indigenous communities at Dulangan II, Baco last December 23.

Through collaborative efforts of parents, students, teachers, and other school stakeholders, HIA was able to organize gift-giving initiatives for Mangyan villages. From toys and clothing to food supplies and household essentials, the gifts bring a ray of hope and happiness to families facing socio-economic challenges in their daily lives.

In addition to providing tangible gifts, the COR also served as opportunities for community engagement and cultural exchange. The prepared activities allowed interaction among the teachers, students, parents, and Mangyan families, sharing stories, and learning about their traditions and way of life. "It's heartwarming to see the joy and gratitude on the faces of the Mangyan families as they receive their Christmas gifts," said Mr. Arron T. Santiago, campus minister. "It's not just about giving gifts; it's about building relationships and fostering a sense of connection and solidarity with our Mangyan brothers and sisters," explained Mrs. Ana Fe C. Ferranco, internal affairs coordinator.



SEASON OF LOVE. Holy Infant Academy community gives back to indigent brothers and sisters. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino



ONE COMMUNITY, ONE HIA. Faculty and staff attends retreat and recollection organized by the school. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino

REFLECTING AND RENEWING APNAPEA Retreat caps faculty's faith

BY ANGELEA MIEL R. MALLORCA

In a serene and contemplative setting, the faculty and staff of Holy Infant Academy embarked on a journey of introspection and renewal during a retreat and recollection event conducted to nurture their spiritual and emotional well-being held at Tamaraw Beach Resort, Puerto Galera, September 27-29, 2023.

Against the backdrop of nature's beauty, educators came together to reflect on their roles, reconnect with their purpose, and recharge their spirits for the challenges and opportunities ahead as the new school year starts.

The retreat provided a welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of daily life, offering participants a rare opportunity to pause, reflect, and engage in meaningful dialogue with their colleagues. Facilitated by the school director, Rev. Fr.

Nestor J. Adalia, the retreat program was carefully crafted to foster personal growth, foster community building, and deepen participants' connection to their faith and values.

Throughout the retreat, faculty and staff engaged in a variety of activities and exercises designed to promote self-awareness, mindfulness, and emotional resilience. Guided meditation sessions offered moments of stillness and reflection, allowing participants to quiet their minds and connect with their inner selves. Group discussions and sharing circles provided a safe and supportive space for educators to explore their thoughts, feelings, and experiences, fostering a sense of camaraderie and solidarity among participants.

Fr. Adalia expressed his gratitude to the faculty and staff for their participation in the retreat, emphasizing

the importance of self-care and spiritual renewal in the demanding field of education. "Our educators play a vital role in shaping the lives of our students, and it's essential that we take the time to nourish our own spirits and recharge our batteries," he remarked. "The retreat provided a valuable opportunity for us to come together, support one another, and deepen our connection to our shared mission and values."

As the retreat ended, participants departed with a renewed sense of purpose, invigorated by the insights gained and the connections forged during their time together. Armed with a deeper understanding of themselves and their vocation as educators, they returned to the school with hearts full of gratitude and a renewed commitment to serving their students and community with passion, compassion, and integrity.

HIA hosts Family Fun Day extravaganza

BY CAMILLA THRES A. BOBOS

Families gathered in droves at Holy Infant Academy last April 6 for a day of laughter, games, and bonding during the school's much-anticipated Family Fun Day event. With the sun shining and spirits soaring, parents, children, and educators came together to celebrate the joy of community and the importance of quality time spent together.

With the theme, "Bario FiestaHIA: Pagbabalik-tanaw, Paglinang, at Pagpapatuloy, the Family Fun Day hosted by the Grade School PTA Officers, started with a Holy Mass presided by the school's assistant director, Fr. Ammiel Menorca. It was then followed by a Parenting Talk and Mental Health Seminar simultaneously facilitated by Fr. Lito Abella and Fr. Ammiel Menorca.

After that, the school transformed into a playground of excitement and adventure, with a wide array of activities, attractions, and food booths to delight guests of all ages. Parents and educators joined in the fun, engaging in friendly competitions, sampling delicious treats from food stalls, and taking part in interactive workshops and demonstrations led by school staff, headed by the GS-PTA officers.

But perhaps the highlight of the day was the

opportunity for families to come together and create lasting memories through shared experiences. Whether they were laughing over traditional Filipino games, bonding over a barrio fiesta tapungan, dancing to live music of Zumba, or showcasing gratefulness in various raffles, families savored the chance to connect and strengthen their relationships in a joyful and relaxed atmosphere.

Mrs. Alona V. Cueto, school principal, expressed her delight at the overwhelming turnout and positive energy of the event, stating, "Family Fun Day is a cherished tradition at our school, and it's heartwarming to see our school community come together in such a meaningful way. Today was not just about having fun; it was about building connections, fostering relationships, and creating memories that will last a lifetime."

As the sun began to set on another successful Family Fun Day, families departed with smiles on their faces and hearts full of cherished memories. For many, the event served as a reminder of the importance of family, community, and the simple joys of spending quality time together. And as they bid farewell to another memorable day, they looked forward to the promise of many more to come in the years ahead.

FESTIVE. Family Fun Day become more exciting as it was patterned to a barrio fiesta. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino



LOCAL NEWS

***Empowering Agriculture*
RFFA Program supports rural communities**

BY CAMILLA THRES A. BOBOS

In a bid to bolster the agricultural sector and uplift rural communities, the government has launched the Rice Farmers Financial Assistance (RFFA) program, providing much-needed financial support to rice farmers across the country. Aimed at alleviating the economic burden on farmers and promoting sustainable farming practices, the RFFA program is poised to make a significant impact on the livelihoods of those involved in rice cultivation.

Calapeño rice farmers are among the second batch who received Rice Farmers Financial Assistance (RFFA) worth Php 5,000 this January 18 at the Camilmil Gymnasium, Calapan City.

As of now, the Intervention Monitoring Card of the Second batch has not yet arrived so for the time being they received "stubs" first that will be taken to the Universal Storefront Services Corporation to get the Php 5,000 cash.

Under the leadership of the city government of Calapan, through the City Agricultural Services Department currently led by City Mayor Marilou Flores-Morillo, A total of 2,064 farmers in the city of Calapan have been granted the Rice Farmers Financial Assistance Intervention Monitoring Card that contains financial assistance which is Php 5,000.00 from the Department of Agriculture as a gift from President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. held this January 10-12.

The said RFFA is a program of the Department of Agriculture that aims to provide aid for farmers who are registered in the Registry System for basic sector in Agriculture (RSBSA) and have less than 2 hectares of cultivated land.

According to the City Mayor, the RFFA is in accordance with the Republic Act. No. 11203 or "Rice Tariffication Law" And Republic Act No. 11598 or the "Cash Assistance for Filipino Farmers Act" which stipulates that all over-collected tariffs according to law will be given to qualified farmers.



WE CARE. Holy Infant Academy community happily donates blood to save lives of others. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino

SAVING LIVES, SAVING FUTURE
Community initiates bloodletting activity

BY PRECIOUS DAFFODIL B. DE CHAVEZ

With a spirit of generosity and altruism, participants rolled up their sleeves and gave the gift of life, contributing to the local blood supply and helping those in need in a recently conducted bloodletting activity with the theme, "Dugong HIA n Dugtong Buhay Para Sa Mga KababaHIA n: Donate Blood, Save Lives", Holy Infant Academy Covered Court, February 24.

The bloodletting drive, organized in collaboration with local health authorities and Calapan Blood Council, was met with overwhelming support from the school community. Parents, teachers, and staff turned out in force, eager to do their part to support the cause and make a positive impact on the lives of patients in need of blood transfusions.

Throughout the day, the school's covered court was transformed into a bustling hub of activity, with volunteer medical personnel on hand to assist donors and ensure a smooth and safe donation process. Participants were guided through a series of screening procedures to ensure their eligibility to donate blood, including health assessments and medical history checks.

With the necessary precautions in place, donors proceeded to the donation area, where they generously gave blood, each donation representing a lifeline for patients facing medical emergencies, surgeries, and chronic illnesses. The atmosphere was one of camaraderie and solidarity as participants shared stories, offered words of encouragement, and celebrated the collective impact of their contributions.

Ms. Maria Cristina C. Balancio, external affairs coordinator expressed her

gratitude to everyone who participated in the bloodletting drive, emphasizing the importance of giving back to the community and supporting those in need. "The success of today's bloodletting activity is a testament to the compassion and generosity of our school community," she remarked. "By donating blood, we are making a tangible difference in the lives of others and embodying the values of service and compassion that are at the heart of our school's mission."

The bloodletting drive not only provided an opportunity for individuals to give back to their community but also raised awareness about the critical need for blood donations, particularly during times of heightened demand or shortages. By mobilizing the school community in support of this vital cause, Holy Infant Academy demonstrated its commitment to making a positive impact on the health and well-being of others.

BISHOP ENGAGES SCHOOL...
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The visit, marked by moments of reflection, dialogue, and inspiration, left a profound impact on the school community, fostering a deeper connection to faith and strengthening bonds of unity, solidarity, and discipleship as envisioned in Ezekiel 34:15: "Ako mismo ang magpapastol sa kanila."

The day commenced with a solemn Mass celebrated by Bishop Cuevas at the Sto. Niño Cathedral, where students, teachers, and other stakeholders gathered in reverence and prayer. It was the first encounter with the bishop which is also known as the HAPAG-EUKARISTIYA. The liturgy, enriched by sacred music (HAPAG songs) and heartfelt readings, provided a sacred space for the school community to come together in worship and spiritual renewal. In his homily, Bishop

Cuevas delivered a message of hope, encouragement, and love, reflecting on Jesus Christ as the good shepherd, who offers comfort, guidance, and salvation. He also emphasized the importance of faith, compassion, and service in the lives of believers as reflected in Ezekiel 34:25 in which the depth of God's care for His flock, as He ministers to each individual with gentleness and love, addressing their vulnerabilities and meeting them in their places of brokenness can be profoundly seen.

Following the Mass, students, faculty and staff, parents, alumni, parish volunteers, and clergy gathered at the school's gymnasium for the second encounter which is called the HAPAG-SALITA. The bishop was welcomed by the attendees with warm smiles and uplifted spirits as the program started with a solemn

prayer and a lively animation dance. Mrs. Alona V. Cueto, school principal expressed her heartfelt opening remarks in which she conveyed the happiness and blessedness of the HIA community for Bishop Cuevas' presence. Similarly, Rev. Fr. Nestor J. Adalia, school director delivered his warm words of welcome in which he emphasized that the pastoral visit is an expression of the bishop's role as the shepherd of God's people, guiding, nurturing, and caring with love and compassion.

After the short welcome, Bishop Cuevas engaged in a dialogue with students, teachers, school staff, alumni, and parents, inviting them to share their thoughts, questions, and experiences related to faith, spirituality, synodality, and community life. The open and candid discussion touched on a wide range of topics, from the challenges of living out one's faith in a synodal way to the

evangelizing role of shepherds to young people in building a more just and compassionate society. HIA community and school stakeholders alike expressed gratitude for the opportunity to engage with Bishop Cuevas in a meaningful and authentic dialogue, finding inspiration and guidance in his words of wisdom and encouragement.

The third and last encounter is the HAPAG-KAINAN in which the school community shared a sumptuous lunch with the bishop marked by an atmosphere of warmth, camaraderie, and spiritual enrichment, creating a sense of unity and belonging among all present. His presence, characterized by warmth, humility, and compassion, resonated deeply with the school community, leaving a lasting impression on all who had the privilege of sharing lunch with him.

Reflecting on the significance of Bishop Cuevas'

visit, Fr. Adalia remarked, "Today, we were truly blessed to welcome Bishop Cuevas to our school community. His presence among us, his words of encouragement, and his spirit of fellowship have touched our hearts and inspired us to deepen our commitment to faith and service. We are grateful for the opportunity to share this sacred moment with him and to be enriched by his wisdom and guidance."

As the day drew to a close, the school community departed with renewed spirits and a sense of unity, inspired by the grace and presence of Bishop Cuevas. His pastoral visit served as a powerful reminder of the importance of faith, community, and solidarity in the journey of spiritual growth and discipleship, reaffirming HIA's commitment to nurturing the hearts, minds, and souls of its students in the light of God's love and grace.

AVCPs STUDES... FROM PAGE 1

and festivities, symbolized unity and pride, emphasizing the pursuit of knowledge and spiritual growth.

Delegates from various schools, including Saint Joseph Academy (SJA), Good Shepherd Academy (GSA), Sacred Heart Academy (SHA), Holy Infant Academy (HIA), Puerto Galera Academy (PGA), Northern Mindoro Academy (NMA), and Baco Catholic School (BCS), attended the event, exuding excitement and enthusiasm.

Participants later regrouped by color and tackled puzzle challenges, promoting mental strength and unity. Following this, they engaged in a collaborative painting activity, using their hands to create a visual representation of collective spirit and unity. Representatives shared the significance behind each artwork, fostering teamwork, creativity, and meaningful dialogue. Following a rejuvenating lunch break, participants embarked on an exciting treasure-hunting activity, guided by riddles leading them to seven challenges. Teams eagerly deciphered clues, uncovering values like teamwork and perseverance. Following this adventure, they engaged in a reflective clay-molding activity, sharing personal creations to foster empathy and understanding, through these experiences, bonds were strengthened, promoting unity and connection within the group.

After a satisfying dinner and refreshing aqua break, participants gathered in the gymnasium for a moment of prayer and reflection followed by an uplifting concert. Led by a spiritual guide, a brief prayer aligned hearts and minds before the evening's entertainment. The gymnasium filled with music and dance, showcasing diverse cultures and fostering unity. Through shared experiences of prayer, music, and lively dancing, participants formed a sense of spiritual connection and unity.

Early the next morning, participants gathered for a morning assembly, starting with a solemn doxology followed by spirited dancing, setting a vibrant tone for the day. After a short break, they engaged in a tree-planting activity, fostering unity and sustainability. Participants worked together to plant trees, symbolizing their collective commitment to environmental stewardship and fostering harmony with the natural world.

After a refreshing break, participants visited a local public school to engage with students, fostering connections and promoting inclusivity through play and teamwork. Maintaining their color-coded groups, they mingled with public school students, forming mixed groups that included members from both schools. This interaction enriched their understanding of diversity and strengthened their commitment to building a more harmonious community.

After lunch, participants gathered in their color groups to make bracelets together, fostering creativity and teamwork. As they crafted personalized bracelets, laughter and conversation filled the room, strengthening bonds within the groups. As the day concluded, participants gathered for a heartfelt closing ceremony, cherishing the shared experiences and expressing gratitude, they bid farewell.



MATHEMATICIANS IN THE MAKING. Students of Holy Infant Academy garner awards in the Math Fest 2024. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino

HIA Mathletes garner awards in Math Fest '24

BY CALEL JAIRUS R. BALBIN

In a display of mathematical and intellectual prowess, pupils from Holy Infant Academy emerged triumphant in the concluded Division Math Festival held at Oriental Mindoro National High School, March 16, 2024, solidifying their reputation as formidable contenders in the realm of mathematics.

With a combination of dedication, problem-solving skills, and sheer determination, the students showcased their academic excellence and brought honor to the school as HIA was hailed as the overall champion in the elementary level.

Calel Jairus R. Balbin, Grade 4 and Shawn Kendryk V. Ganzon, Grade 6 clinched first place, Warren Wade

A. Casuga, Grade 2 and Xialdanne P. Opano, Grade 5 nailed second place, and Frances Christia Ysabel S. Masaga, Grade 3 got the third place, while Simon Adam S. Delos Reyes, Grade 1 was recognized for his participation in the Math Quiz Bee Category.

Moreover, the following pupils were also recognized for their participation: Elijah M. Celiz as he employ a variety of techniques and algorithms to maneuver the cube's individual pieces for the Rubik's Cube Challenge and Alexandria Venice M. Celiz as she employ a combination of pattern recognition, logical reasoning, and systematic thinking to solve the puzzles efficiently and accurately in the Sudoku Challenge.

Similarly, the following pupils were recognized for showcasing

their mathematical prowess and strategic thinking abilities in the Damath Challenge: Lukas Aaden D. Masangkay, Grade 1, Ima Djamila M. Bondoc, Grade 2, Luis Matthew J. Ilagan, Grade 3, Keifer Eli D. Madrid, Grade 4, Ashton Earl P. Alcaide, Grade 5, and Xian Markus L. Turano, Grade 6.

The young mathletes were able to achieve these awards through the help of their math teachers headed by Mrs. Roselle B. Arellano whom in a statement said, "Our students have once again demonstrated their exceptional talent and dedication to excellence. Their success in the Math Festival is a testament to their hard work, determination, and passion for mathematics. We couldn't be prouder of their achievements."

Embracing New Beginnings, HIA's Welcome Walk embraces freshies, transferees with open arms

BY JAZMINE RYE C. RAMOS

As a new academic year dawns, HIA embraced the spirit of camaraderie and inclusion with its annual Welcome Walk, a cherished tradition that extends a warm embrace to freshies and transferees entering the school community. With excitement and anticipation in the air, students and faculty alike gather to celebrate the arrival of new faces and the promise of new beginnings, September 8, HIA Gymnasium.

The Welcome Walk serves as a rite of passage for incoming students, symbolizing their

transition into the school community and marking the beginning of their educational journey.

Clad in school colors and carrying flaglets while chanting the phrase "Salamat HIAns na kayo!", HIAns welcomed the new members of the HIA Family as they passed through the Welcome Walk Arc.

This was then followed by the cheers and yells prepared by each department. Selected students also showcased their talents to liven up the program. CSC officers also gave out tokens of appreciation as all students sang the Alma Mater Hymn.

Freshies and transferees, now fully immersed in the school community, looked ahead with

anticipation to the adventures that await them, knowing that they are supported every step of the way by their fellow students and dedicated faculty members.

Mrs. Alona V. Cueto, school principal emphasized the significance of the Welcome Walk in fostering a sense of belonging and unity within the school community. "The Welcome Walk is more than just a tradition; it's a symbol of our commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students," she stated. "It's a powerful demonstration of solidarity and support that sets the tone for the rest of the academic year."

FACES OF THE FUTURE. Holy Infant Academy warmly welcomes the freshmen and transferees. Photo by Ylanne Jasvil S. Tolentino



After almost 5 years, New Bishop installed to lead AVC, to ignite tradition and vision

BY JANNAH VENICE C. ACEDERA



RIGHTFUL. Bishop Moises M. Cuevas, D.D. was seated to lead the Apostolic Vicariate of Calapan and guide Holy Infant Academy towards strengthening of faith. Photo from Holy Infant Academy Official page

In a ceremony steeped in tradition and reverence, the Apostolic Vicariate of Calapan (AVC) welcomed its new shepherd, Bishop Moises M. Cuevas, D.D. to lead the faithful into a new chapter of spiritual growth and community engagement. The installation of Bishop Cuevas as the fourth apostolic vicar of Calapan marks a significant moment for the vicariate, as it looks toward the future with renewed enthusiasm and dedication to serving its members and the broader community.

The installation ceremony, held at Sto. Niño Cathedral Parish, was attended by around a thousand people to witness the event, including around 30 bishops from across the country, clergy, dignitaries, and members of the faithful from across the vicariate. In his first homily as the Calapan bishop, Bishop Cuevas

discussed the complementarity of the relationship between priests and the laity and the importance of both assuming their 'co-responsibility' in the task of evangelization. He also expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve and outlined his vision for the vicariate, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity, compassion, and collaboration.

Prior to the start of the liturgy, he knocked on the cathedral door three times in accordance with custom before the service began. He entered the cathedral through the open door, and Archbishop Gilbert Garcera of Lipa presented him a crucifix to kiss.

At the start of the Mass, Fr. Nestor Adalia, the apostolic administrator of Calapan read an apostolic letter announcing Bishop Cuevas' appointment.

After Bishop Cuevas confirmed that he accepted his appointment, Archbishop Charles Brown, the Papal Nuncio, escorted him to the

cathedral where he was seated and given a crosier.

"Everything belongs, everything is for the Lord, everyone is involved, everywhere is for the mission. This is our synodal Church, the Church walking together," Bishop Cuevas remarked. "If the Church takes up this missionary impulse, she has to go forth to everyone without exception to the poor and the sick, those who are usually despised and overlooked," he added.

As Bishop Cuevas assumes leadership of the vicariate, he inherits a legacy of service and stewardship built by his predecessors. He will lead over 750,000 Catholics scattered across 40 pastoral areas. His leadership comes at a pivotal moment, as the vicariate had been waiting for a new shepherd for almost 5 years. Bishop Cuevas succeeds 79-year-old Bishop Warlito Cajandig, whom the Pope had freed from his episcopal ministry for health reasons. Calapan had

been under the pastoral leadership of Fr. Nestor Adalia, the apostolic administrator of Calapan since November 2018.

For members of the vicariate, Bishop Cuevas' installation represents not only a new chapter but also an opportunity for renewal and growth. As they welcome their new shepherd with open arms, they do so with a sense of hope and anticipation for the blessings that lie ahead.

In the words of one parishioner, "We are excited to embark on this journey with Bishop Cuevas and to witness the grace of God at work in our midst. With his leadership, we are confident that our vicariate will continue to shine as a beacon of faith, hope, and love in our community."

As the youngest Catholic prelate, Bishop Moises Cuevas, 49, is remembered for calling out erring clergymen over lavish lifestyles, criticizing the 'addiction that has blinded our priests'.

Bible Festival 2024: Hians illuminate God's Word in contests

BY XIALDANNE P. OPANO

Under the vibrant skies of Puerto Galera Academy, the AVCPS Bible Festival unfolded on January 29, 2024, with an inspiring theme that echoed through the hearts of participants - "God's Word: The Breath of New Life." The campus, adorned with a rich tapestry of contests, an enchanting opening ceremony, and moments of collective worship, became a sanctuary where students from elementary to senior high school delved into the transformative power of divine scriptures.

The Bible Festival began with a meaningful Holy Mass held at the Immaculate Conception Parish in Puerto Galera. This significant start at the Immaculate Conception Parish

highlighted the festival's theme, "God's Word: The Breath of New Life".

Following the Mass, each school proceeded to the St. Joseph Freinademetz Gymnasium. Reverend Fr. Raymond H. Ruga, Ph.D., then officially opened the event, emphasizing the profound significance of God's Word as the guiding force for the day's proceedings.

In a remarkable showcase of knowledge about the Bible, Holy Infant Academy's (HIA) team secured championship with an outstanding total of 17 points. Good Shepherd Academy (GSA) claimed the position of 1st runner-up while, St. Joseph Academy of Bongabong (SJA) earned the esteemed position of 2nd runner-up.

Afterwards, the Junior High School Bible Quiz Bee unfolded, centering on the Pentateuch and the Pauline epistles.

HIA's representatives, Aeiram Santos and Eulo Martinez, demonstrated an admirable depth of biblical understanding, earning them the title of champions. Securing the 1st runner-up position was Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy (IHMA), and Baco Catholic School (BCS) clinched the 2nd runner-up spot.

The final quiz-type competition being of the Senior High School category revolved around the exploration of deuterocanonical books and their accompanying commentaries. HIA participants, Alecia Sanchez and Norhyn De Guzman, demonstrated a praiseworthy depth of knowledge, earning them the esteemed title of 2nd runner-up. Naujan Municipal Academy (NMA) seized the champion's position while SJA secured the 1st runner-up spot.

Rhianne Escalona's winning essay, titled "Mga Kabataan: Sa pagtaguyod at paglago ng Salita ng Diyos", not only reflected her thoughtful insights but also added a profound layer to the festival's celebration of diverse talents.

In the culmination of the AVCPS Bible Festival, the final contest, the Voice of the Catholic Schools (VOCs) competition, Kathleen Jurado of HIA exhibited exceptional vocal prowess, securing the well-deserved 1st Runner-Up spot.

The AVCPS Bible Festival wrapped up with HIA claiming many position, proving their dedication to understanding and excelling in God's Word. NMA took over as the next host school, continuing the tradition of celebrating biblical excellence and spiritual values within the AVCPS community.



ATTENDING RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES: A MATTER OF PURE INTENTION OR OBLIGATION?

In the realm of Catholic education, Catholic learners embark on a journey of faith that extends beyond the classroom walls, encompassing a vibrant tapestry of spiritual formation, communal worship, and active engagement in the life of the Church. The challenge among Catholic learners is to move beyond mere attendance at religious gatherings and embrace a deeper, more authentic expression of faith that permeates every aspect of their lives amidst the myriad demands of academic life.

The phenomenon of superficial participation in religious and church gatherings among Catholic learners is a pressing issue that warrants reflection and discernment. While the outward act of attending Sunday Mass, community mass, covenant mass, and other religious events may fulfill an obligation or satisfy a requirement, true participation entails a much deeper commitment—an intentional and wholehearted engagement of mind, heart, and spirit in the sacred rituals and traditions of the Catholic faith.

At the heart of this challenge lies the need for Catholic learners to cultivate a living and dynamic relationship with God—one rooted in prayer, nurtured by the sacraments, and sustained by a life of virtue and holiness. Too often, religious gatherings become rote exercises or obligatory rituals devoid of meaning and significance, failing to ignite the flame of faith in the hearts of participants. The phenomenon of

“for attendance only” and “for co-curricular points” has widespread among learners, particularly in this age of distraction and busyness.

Catholic learners may indeed struggle to prioritize their spiritual lives amidst the demands of academics and extracurricular activities. The temptation to approach religious gatherings as mere checkboxes on a to-do list, rather than opportunities for encounter and communion with the divine, is ever-present, leading to a superficial and shallow experience of faith.

Yet, the essence of Catholic education lies in fostering a holistic and integrated approach to faith formation—one that permeates every facet of a learner’s journey, from the classroom to the church, from the campus to the community which is a great challenge for Catholic educators as the evangelizers and shepherds of Catholic learners. Teachers as Catholic educators must also be evangelized, having deep connection to God to instill among the learners the true essence of evangelization.

Moreover, true participation in religious gatherings requires an intentional cultivation of the virtues of faith, hope, and charity—a disposition of openness, receptivity, and surrender to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. It involves active engagement in liturgical celebrations, attentive listening to the Word of God, and a willingness to respond wholeheartedly to the call to discipleship and mission.

In conclusion, the challenge for Catholic learners is not merely to attend religious gatherings, but to embrace them as opportunities for encounter, communion, and transformation. It is a call to move beyond passive observance to active

participation—to engage with the rituals and traditions of the faith with hearts aflame with love and devotion.

May Catholic learners heed this call with courage and conviction, allowing the grace of God to penetrate their hearts and minds, and transform their lives from within. In doing so, they will become true disciples of Christ, bearers of light and hope in a world hungering for the presence of God.

“ The temptation to approach religious gatherings as mere checkboxes on a to-do list, rather than opportunities for encounter and communion with the divine, is ever-present, leading to a superficial and shallow experience of faith. ”



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MATATAG Program to revolutionize PH Education

PEN POINT | **Xialdanne Opano**
Editor-in-Chief

Supporters firmly back the MATATAG Curriculum, citing its transformative impact on education. We believe that despite initial challenges, the curriculum's long-term benefits outweigh short-term setbacks. By prioritizing student learning and readiness for the future, the MATATAG Curriculum is seen as vital for educational progress.

The MATATAG Curriculum, developed by the Department of Education (DepEd), aims to simplify the existing educational framework for better student adaptability. This initiative intends to lessen overcrowding within the current K to 12 Curriculum.

Some argue that transitioning to a new curriculum might disrupt the learning process for both students and teachers who are familiar with the current system. They fear that such

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By prioritizing the needs of Filipino learners and striving for curriculum improvements, they demonstrate a commitment to fostering a more inclusive and effective learning environment.

a drastic change could lead to confusion and inefficiency in classrooms, potentially hindering academic progress. Additionally, concerns have been raised about whether the new curriculum sufficiently addresses the diverse needs of students and provides a comprehensive education.

Maintaining the current curriculum may seem like the safer option, but updating it could offer many benefits for education. A revised curriculum could address outdated or irrelevant content, ensuring that students are learning the most relevant and up-to-date information. Additionally, simplifying the curriculum could reduce the burden on both students and teachers, allowing for more focused learning and better retention of essential concepts. By adapting to the changing needs of students and society, a revised curriculum could better prepare students for the challenges and opportunities of the modern world.

Despite this, we believe that the MATATAG Curriculum could provide more benefits than harm. By reducing the number of learning competencies, the curriculum can provide students with a clearer and more focused learning path. Additionally, simplifying the curriculum could lighten the burden on both students and teachers, allowing for deeper understanding and mastery of core concepts. We also highlight the curriculum's adaptability to the changing demands of the global workforce, ensuring that Filipino learners are properly prepared for future challenges.

The MATATAG Curriculum has led efforts



to simplify the education system and make learning more accessible. By reducing the number of learning competencies from approximately 11,000 to 3,000, the Department of Education has taken an active step towards easing the burden of the current K to 12 Curriculum. This initiative, championed by VP and Education Secretary Sara Duterte, demonstrates a commitment to improving the quality of education in the Philippines. The simplified curriculum aims to ensure that students receive a comprehensive education while enabling teachers to focus on delivering high-quality instruction. Overall, the MATATAG Curriculum represents a significant improvement in the educational landscape of the country.

The ongoing efforts to implement the MATATAG Curriculum reflect a proactive and visionary approach by DepEd and its partners. Despite the challenges and complexities involved, their dedication to revamping the education system is commendable. By prioritizing the needs of Filipino learners and striving for curriculum improvements, they demonstrate a commitment to fostering a more inclusive and effective learning environment. We commend the leaders and organizations behind this initiative for their tireless efforts and determination to enhance Philippine education forward.

The MATATAG Curriculum offers a promising future for students across the nation. By prioritizing core skills like reading, math, and socio-emotional development,

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Nurturing growth from the ground up: Why the government must prioritize the agricultural sector

SCRIBBLED | **Chelsea Aleisha T. Garcia**
News Writer

In the vast landscape of economic development, the agricultural sector stands as the fertile soil from which prosperity and progress can spring forth. Yet, despite its fundamental importance, the agricultural sector often finds itself overlooked and undervalued in the broader discourse of national development. It is time for governments to recognize the pivotal role of agriculture and prioritize its growth and sustainability for the benefit of all.

We believe that the agricultural sector should be the top priority of the government because if not, it may lead to such negative effects. It is important for the government to be concerned about the agricultural industry since the agricultural sectors has always been an important sector to our country's economy.

If the government will not give attention to the agricultural sectors, there might not be enough food which can lead to hunger. It can cause food prices to rise. Not just foods will be affected, but also the jobs of farmers and people working in agriculture. This can also result to poverty. And without the attention

the sector needs, it may harm the environment like soil erosion and pollution.

To avoid these problems, it's important for the government to focus on agriculture, support farmers, and invest in the sector's development because the agricultural sector is the bedrock upon which the foundations of society are built—providing sustenance, livelihoods, and environmental stewardship for present and future generations. By prioritizing agriculture, governments can unlock a wealth of opportunities for economic growth, poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, and social cohesion. It is time to recognize the critical importance of agriculture and invest in its growth and development for the prosperity and well-being of all.

As President Marcos stated, "That is why I made agriculture the single, the highest priority of everything that we are doing, because you cannot build a strong economy unless you have a foundation of a robust agricultural sector, which assures food supply even in emergencies."

Let us sow the seeds of progress and prosperity today, knowing that a bountiful harvest awaits us tomorrow.



When fake news pixelates society's truth: How social media dissentiates information

ACT NOW | **Rio Joyze Ramos**
Lead Contributor

Social media is a widely used platform that many use for its functions that broadens its searches to entertainment, recent trends, or just to watch cat videos. Not to mention, a source of information which we tend to extract for various reasons. However, social media is a source of mixed data, both true and false. As of now, a large number

of people, knowingly the rising generation, are dependent on every post as of being real and reliable, without concluding facts and evidence of it being the truth and not a hoax. As learning students using sources like social media, we must have the ability to differentiate information, being a truth and a sham and to stop fake news from spreading like a plague of lies.

There are many

situations where social media can dissolve lies into being the truth which is one of the effects of disinformation, hence, causes confusion of significant issues and events. Since news posts are our way of knowing what's happening in the real and outside world, we consider them as everyday scenes. Yet as we all know, many people can distort or edit it with applications with intentions that benefit oneself. Many of these are seen with names from the most trustable sites

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For fake news, check if it has any relevance to any earlier news. If it seems they are different from one another, there is a probability that it's made-up.

that we all use every day that we seek for. Saying this, it's unquestionable that most users will be convinced even if it's a lie. Many might even share it to other users that leads to a wider variety of people believing in it that will result of us being blinded of the truth. One example of this problem fading into effect was during the COVID-19 pandemic when social media users posted far different information

TO PAGE 8

Eyes and ears of the campus



AWAKENED | Jannah Venise C. Acedera
Managing Editor

The concept of composing an article for the public with just a simple piece of paper can give you the best breath-taking feeling of expressing yourself and standing up for those in the darkness. Especially on campus grounds, everyone has been allowed to speak their voice and have their name on the school paper.

We have the RA 7079 that upholds the freedom of the press even at the school grounds for the sake of future journalists' development and integrity of campus journalism. Our land has the freest press journalism

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... it's more than just joining contests holding the name of the campus publication. That's why we are trying our best to value every word that we say, every string of ink that we make the pen sway on our paper, despite many educational challenges and red-tagged problems.

in the media today, but why does our platform serve as the multimedia of 'misinformation' by those in power? Why does our content have to be suppressed and neglected?

In the eyes of students, they only see journalism as the competitive and tiring activities of press conferences just to bring a prominent reputation as a whole. Not only that, they also neglected the societal and beneficial side of campus journalism to the public students, teachers, and parents. But, it's more than just joining contests holding the name of the campus publication. That's why we are trying our best to value every word that we say, every string of ink that we make the pen sway on our paper, despite many educational challenges and red-tagged problems.

If once so brilliant journalists find themselves as silenced neglected puppets of the government, we won't let that happen again. We will continue to stay as the 'eyes and ears of the campus' because we want press freedom just by screaming our voices out from the school grounds.

A true society of freedom of the press will be achieved just by our ability to write and report, no matter the consequences. As they say, with great power comes a great responsibility. And so with us, student journalists, we amplify our little voices and courage to start a change, to call out the wrongdoings and to applaud the good deeds.

AI: Are we building our own nightmare?

CORRESPONDENT | Jloyd Micheal A. Marasigan
Sci-Tech Writer

Most of us have probably used AI for something in our lives. May it be for school, for your job or simply because you're entirely bored. But, if one thing is for sure, we all know that AI is a big example of what humanity can achieve. Most of all, the most known for AI: OpenAI. Founded by Elon Musk-acquirer of Twitter, founder, chairman, and CTO of SpaceX and founder of Tesla; Sam Altman- named one of the 100 most influential people in the world and CEO of the Year by Time magazine, one of the "Best Young Entrepreneurs in Technology" by Businessweek in 2008, and the top investor under 30 by Forbes magazine in 2015. OpenAI was created to benefit humanity as a whole while being a non-profit organization.

This may seem good at first, but when you look at what people are using AI for, their "benefit humanity" goal has been completely corroded. How though? You're probably asking.

The thing is, OpenAI is very accessible which means anyone can easily get a chatbot to talk to. How is this a problem? Well, the problem lies within us. Most students and college students manipulate AI to do their homework rather than actually doing it themselves. This shouldn't be allowed and already is in some schools. Which is good, but all of the other schools are just allowing... CHEATING?! I know that schools would never encourage students to cheat but, if they're this myopic at what's happening with students and AI, they basically are! They better open up their eyes and strictly ban this!

I'm actually nonplused at how blind some schools are regarding this issue since again, AI is very accessible which leads to more and more cheating in schools. Sure,

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I'm actually nonplused at how blind some schools are regarding this issue since again, AI is very accessible which leads to more and more cheating in schools. Some may just be using it to understand a topic that they can't but, an enormous majority just take what their chatbot says and use it for their activities.

some may just be using it to understand a topic that they can't but, an enormous majority just take what their chatbot says and use it for their activities.

Why is this bad? It's promoting laziness to millions of learners around the world and no one is actually taking this into account but should. Almost everyone is doing it and yes, it's very hard to actually make students not to cheat—especially if they've been just using AI for a long time, but if using AI is THIS big amongst learners, school and college rules should be stricter!

Sure, you'll never know if a particular student is using AI or just that good but AI cheating has been around since November 2022...

Two years and no one is doing something about it?! This is actually ludicrous?! Schools! Wake up!

And of course, we have using AI in college... Students



have really set the bar low for their credibility.

According to an article published by Diane Gayeski, "Since its launch in November 2022, 30% of college students have used ChatGPT to do their schoolwork. Of this group of ChatGPT users, 46% say they 'somewhat' (35%) or 'very frequently used' (11%) ChatGPT this past school year. When asked which subjects they used ChatGPT for, the most commonly-reported subject was English (49%) followed by "hard" sciences like chemistry and biology (41%). It's no surprise that a large number of college students are using ChatGPT to help with their English homework, as our study back in January 2023, just a couple months after ChatGPT's release, found that 30% were already using the tool to complete their written assignments."

Wow, just, wow. Some really trustable college students there. Well, why are we supposed to care about these college students using AI instead of their brain?

Good question, nonexistent person. Students, especially college students are not just going to not learn anything in their multiple years of school, but when they become mature adults, they're going to just rely on AI for everything. Kids are attached to their phones which is already bad and somehow, they get their hands on AI and that's the end of them actually thinking. Sure, it may sound exaggerated, but it's not actually far from the truth.

What about the college students? For them, it's much, much worse. When they finish college, they are also going to rely on AI to do everything and when they'll just forget everything they learned in college. How? Because, it wasn't actually

TO PAGE 9

WHEN FAKE NEWS... FROM PAGE 7

about health updates on the haunting virus that caused us to be locked into our homes for more than 2 years.

Another is online gossip, a massive problem that affects a vast total of people. Online gossip is filled with information (that isn't verified by facts and are simply rumors) that purposely damages another person's reputation with rumors and made-up stories that lead to benefitting one

person: the source. Most known articles that contain online gossip are usually about artists and popular people that generate an important role in society. However, this can also happen between close community ties, mainly for young adolescents. This is also one of the leading causes of loneliness and anxiety especially for minors since the majority of social media users like TikTok and Instagram are today's generation. Not to mention, online gossip is a part of

the causes of cyberbullying that affects our own actions and thoughts unknowingly. In addition, it leads to promoting social conflict and concludes the result of an entire population with a lack of unity between the online community that affects life as it is.

Lately, nothing is completely valid until proven by facts. Due to the large population affected by these, we must be aware of the dangers and how to prioritize from further spreading any more. For

fake news, check if it has any relevance to any earlier news. If it seems they are different from one another, there is a probability that it's made-up. Next, search for official websites. This is one of the many ways that many has not often done when reading news, especially during the pandemic. Since many reports were revolving around the cases and how many are affected by the CORONA virus, a few of them have been reported to be fake yet believed by the people who laid their eyes

upon it.

Although spreading disinformation may seem small, it leads to a long history of never-ending lies until completely verified of facts and logic. Not only that, since social media affects the way of thinking especially for the youth of today, it can affect our making of our own future and for all. So, the question to everyone, of our current problems of circulating fake news, to both young and old, do you want to see the future as an open society for truth or a brainwashed society of lies?



Navigating troubled waters: The effects of the West Philippine Sea dispute on our lives

HARBINGER OF TRUTH | Xian Markus Turano
Associate Editor

As waves of tension crash against the shores of the West Philippine Sea, not only fishermen but all of us are affected. As President Bong-Bong Marcos says, “Nagbabago ang sitwasyon, but—well, maliwanag naman para sa atin, we don’t really—we just watch, of course, what everybody is doing, but really for us, patuloy pa rin natin, we just defend our maritime territory.” As tension is rising and waves are crashing, let us now navigate the treacherous West Philippine Sea Dispute.

The West Philippine Sea (South China Sea) is found in the western part of the Pacific Ocean and is now being claimed by six countries, namely the Philippines, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei, and Taiwan. It is known for its rich abundance in oil, one of the main reasons why many countries are claiming it.

Persons such as fishermen, Filipino sailors, and the like are the ones most affected. For these individuals, not only is their livelihood harmed but also their way of life and tradition. Encounters with foreign vessels and restricted fishing grounds

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One solution to this is by being more cooperative with the other countries that have claims in the West Philippine Sea. Having a more collaborative approach and treating other countries with respect is vital in these kind of situations.

also contribute to their loss of livelihood.

Beyond the fishing industries, other industry sectors such as tourism and maritime trade are also deeply affected by the dispute. All of these crucial effects of the West Philippine Sea Dispute add up to be detrimental to the economy of the Philippines as it relies mostly on the fishing, tourism, and trade industry.

One solution to this is by being more cooperative with the other countries that have claims in the West Philippine Sea. Having a more collaborative approach and treating other countries with respect is vital in these

kinds of situations.

In conclusion, the West Philippine Sea Dispute causes multiple effects on the livelihood of our fellow fishermen and sailors. It also affects the industries the Philippines relies on mainly: tourism and fishing. As the tension is rising and more claims are being made, we should take note that we should always try and cooperate with the other countries that are claiming the West Philippine Sea. As the waves are crashing and the tension is building, what is your stand on this issue?

MATATAG PROGRAM FROM PAGE 7

this initiative ensures that every learner receives the necessary tools for success. Embracing the MATATAG Curriculum means supporting a streamlined approach to education, where students can excel academically while also developing essential values and character traits. Let’s champion this initiative and empower our students to reach their full potential, laying the groundwork for a brighter tomorrow.

Is it not time for us to embrace change and support initiatives like the MATATAG Curriculum, which seeks to improve our education system and empower our students for the future?

AI: ARE WE BUILDING... FROM PAGE 8

them doing their homework, it was the AI.

All of the money their parents spent? For nothing. It’s actually sad seeing every generation just get worse. I guess now that AI’s in the use, it’ll get passed on for generations to come.

However, not everyone who uses AI use it for doing their homework. And there are also plenty of people who just use OpenAI’s ChatGPT to help them with their day-to-day activities. Despite the allegations I have made regarding the use of AI for making their activities a piece of cake. But, AI is again, a of just what us humans can achieve and it is extremely helpful for assisting people on numerous topics.

At the end of the day, it’s your decision on what you want to use AI for. It may be giving you topics to write about or giving you a complete essay about a certain topic that you need for school. Whatever it is, just do it if you want to. I can’t stop you. It’s your freedom.

HIAN PULSE

With the recent installation of CCTV cameras within educational settings, we have invited respondents to share their thoughts, concerns, or support regarding this initiative. Let us dwell on how individuals expressed their viewpoints on the potential benefits and drawbacks of having surveillance cameras in classrooms, providing opportunity for stakeholders to voice any privacy or security concerns they may have and to offer suggestions for improving the implementation of CCTV systems in educational environments.

Installing CCTV inside the classrooms provides lots of advantages for the whole community but we also need to consider the privacy of everyone being monitored by the cameras. We must always observe the rules or policy in accessing the information from the CCTV cameras like the persons who are only authorized to access and monitor the CCTV and the mechanics in requesting for the access of any recorded data. — **Ms. Ana Kris A. Aclan, PS and GS Academic Affairs Coordinator**

Incorporating CCTV cameras in classrooms can provide several benefits, such as maintaining discipline, ensuring safety, and acting as a deterrent for undesirable behavior. These cameras can also help in resolving conflicts or disputes by providing evidence. However, it is essential to strike a balance between security and privacy, ensuring that the cameras are not overused or misused, as this could negatively impact the learning atmosphere and students’ willingness to express themselves freely. — **Mrs. Gerlie R. Bolasco, Grade 1 teacher**

Having a CCTV camera inside of the classroom is a great help in monitoring the students. It can provide evidence in case there’s a conflict inside the classroom. Students will also be aware of their actions since they were monitored. — **Mr. Joshua Olgado, Genyo Learning Integration Specialist**

For me, I think the new installation of CCTV cameras in the classroom is a great idea. This can help to monitor and protect students and teachers, which can prevent incidents from happening in the classroom like bullying, theft, violence, and such. CCTV cameras can improve student’s behavior, and it allows teachers to manage the classroom more easily. But, it is important that we use them appropriately and responsibly. — **Mauriz Jyniell R. Casanova, Grade School CSC President**

Having CCTV in our classroom is good because it’s like having extra eyes to make sure everyone is following the rules, making me more conscious of my actions and behavior because I always feel that there is someone watching me from wherever. It’s like having a detective in our classroom! — **Gianmarc Andrei delos Reyes, Grade 3 pupil**



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editors,

As a concerned parent of two students, I am writing to address a concerning trend that has been observed in our community: the tendency to blame teachers for the misbehavior of students. As a parent and an advocate for education, I believe it is crucial to challenge this narrative and recognize the complexities surrounding student behavior and discipline and the critical role of parents in rearing their children before they embark on their educational journey.

Teachers play a vital role in shaping the lives of our children, providing them with knowledge, guidance, and support as they navigate the challenges of growing up. However, it is important to acknowledge that teachers cannot single-handedly control or dictate the behavior of every student in their classroom. It is essential to recognize that teachers are not solely responsible for addressing behavioral issues in the classroom. There is also a need to underscore the profound impact that parental guidance and support have

on children’s development and readiness for school.

Before children ever set foot in a classroom, they are shaped by the nurturing hands of their parents. From the earliest moments of infancy to the formative years leading up to school enrollment, parents serve as the primary architects of their children’s growth and development. It is during this crucial period that children absorb the values, beliefs, and behaviors that will shape their educational trajectory and future success.

Furthermore, the factors influencing student behavior are multifaceted and often extend beyond the classroom walls. Students come from diverse backgrounds and face a myriad of challenges, including socio-economic factors, family dynamics, and personal struggles. These external factors can significantly impact a student’s behavior and attitude towards learning, presenting teachers with complex challenges that cannot be easily addressed through disciplinary measures alone.

Therefore, rather than assigning blame to teachers, we must adopt a collaborative and holistic approach to addressing student behavior. It involves fostering open communication and partnership between teachers, parents, and school administrators to ensure that students receive the support and guidance they need to succeed. Additionally, we must recognize the importance of empathy and understanding when dealing with student misbehavior.

In conclusion, I urge our community to reject the notion of blaming teachers for the misbehavior of students and instead embrace a collaborative and compassionate approach to addressing behavioral issues in our schools. By working together and supporting our teachers, we can create a positive and nurturing learning environment where all students have the opportunity to thrive.

Truly yours,
Concerned Parent

Journeying Together: Embracing Evangelization Where Minds and Hearts Meet

NI HONEY SOFIEL V. ONAL

PHOTOS FROM HOLY INFANT ACADEMY OFFICIAL PAGE

In a world marked by diverse beliefs, ideologies, and cultures, the call to evangelize takes on a profound significance, inviting individuals and communities to journey together in faith, compassion, and solidarity. Rooted in the transformative power of love and reconciliation, one of the key principles of evangelization is the idea of journeying together as evangelized and evangelizing communities, where individuals support and accompany one another on the path of faith. This journey is characterized by mutual respect, dialogue, and humility, as each person brings their unique gifts, experiences, and perspectives to the shared quest for truth and meaning. In this journey, minds and hearts converge in a sacred dance of learning and transformation, as individuals engage in dialogue, reflection, and discernment. Through encounters, minds are opened, and hearts are touched, leading to a deeper encounter with the living God. Holy Infant Academy, as a mission school and a member school of Apostolic Vicariate of Calapan Parochial Schools (AVCPS) embraces this year's theme: "Journeying Together as Evangelized and Evangelizing Communities Where Minds and Hearts Meet". As the school year is about to end, let us take a look on HIA's journey on how this theme is embodied on school activities and in the teaching and learning process.



Christian Living and Religious Education Classes: HIA offers Christian Living and Religious Education classes as part of the curriculum, where students learn about the teachings of their faith, study sacred texts, and explore the principles of morality and spirituality. These classes provide students with a foundation in their religious beliefs and foster a deeper understanding of their faith tradition.



Daily Prayer and Worship: Prayer and worship has been part of HIA daily routines since time immemorial, providing students with opportunities to engage in communal prayer, reflection, and spiritual growth. Morning assemblies, church services, and BEC (Basic Ecclesial Communities) allow students to come together in worship and fellowship, nurturing their relationship with God and strengthening their faith community.



Recollection and Spiritual Retreats: Recollection offer students the chance to step away from their daily routines and immerse themselves in prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal. These experiences provide students with opportunities for personal growth, self-discovery, and deepening their relationship with God. Teaching and non-teaching staff also convene in spiritual retreats before the start of the school year.

Outreach Programs: HIA engages students in service learning and outreach programs that emphasize the importance of social justice, compassion, and service to others. Through volunteer work, community service projects, and mission trips, students have the opportunity to put their faith into action, serving those in need and making a positive difference in their communities.



Faith-Based Clubs and Organizations: HIA offers faith-based clubs and organizations, such as School Catholic Action (SCA) and Liturgical Ministries Association (LMA) where students can gather for fellowship, prayer, and mutual support. These clubs provide students with a sense of belonging and community, helping them grow in their faith and strengthen their spiritual lives.



Celebration of Religious Holidays and Festivals: HIA celebrates religious holidays and festivals associated with different faith traditions, providing students with opportunities to learn about and participate in religious rituals and customs. These celebrations promote cultural

awareness, interfaith dialogue, and respect for diversity, fostering a spirit of unity and understanding among students of different backgrounds.



Integration of Faith Across the Curriculum: HIA integrate faith and values across the curriculum, infusing religious teachings and ethical principles into various subject areas. Whether it's discussing moral dilemmas in literature class, exploring the wonders of creation in science class, or studying the history of religious traditions in social studies, integrating faith across the curriculum helps students see the relevance of their religious beliefs to all aspects of their lives.



With the aforementioned school activities and teachings that promote spiritual growth, social responsibility, and a commitment to living out one's faith in the world, HIA believes and hopes that students, teachers, and communities alike are evangelized and became evangelizers who foster a culture of faith, service, and discipleship. HIA continues its mission of nurturing the spiritual development of students and empowering them to become agents of positive change in their communities.



UNVEILING THE OF PINOY POP

A Fusion of Music, Dance

BY ALLYZA REIGN B. ESCALONA

In the vibrant landscape of contemporary music, a new phenomenon has emerged, captivating audiences around the globe with its infectious beats, dynamic choreography, and diverse cultural influences. This phenomenon is known as PPop, a genre-defying fusion of pop music and dance that celebrates the rich tapestry of Filipino culture while embracing the universal language of music and movement.

At its core, PPop is more than just a musical genre; it's a cultural movement that seeks to celebrate and promote Filipino identity and creativity on the world stage. Drawing inspiration from a wide range of musical styles, including K-pop, J-pop, and Western pop,

PPop blends these influences with traditional Filipino rhythms, melodies, and themes to create a truly unique and captivating sound.

But beyond its entertainment value, PPop also serves as a platform for cultural exchange and dialogue, bridging the gap between different communities and fostering a sense of unity and solidarity. Through their music and performances, PPop artists celebrate the diversity of Filipino culture while promoting messages of love, acceptance, and empowerment.

One of the most notable success stories in the world of PPop is the rise of groups like SB19, whose meteoric ascent to international fame has garnered widespread acclaim and admiration. With their catchy tunes, captivating choreography, and unwavering dedication to their craft, SB19 has become a global sensation, paving the way for other PPop artists to follow in their footsteps.

Ms. Lady Genesis Abanilla, a



Spilling the Tea:

The Kaleidoscope Elegance in London

From the picturesque structures to its vivid history, the inside of London is full of the most beautiful and memorable landscapes the world has ever seen. Not to mention that London is one of the most visited by tourists, estimating 19.827 million each year from all around the world. It presents various places specializing in delicious food and colorful history; and in this article, I'm spilling the tea on the most popular landmarks that made London the place it is now.

THE BIG BEN

Big Ben is known for being one of the beloved trademarks in the land of London, England. Found in

the Elizabeth Tower at the north end of the Houses of Parliament in Westminster, Central London next to the River Thames, Big Ben is also called the Elizabeth Tower which was previously known as St. Stephen Tower yet was changed due to the Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee that occurred in 2012. It is recognized for its accurate time frame and massive bell inside the clock which tolls once an hour to the tune of Westminster Quarters. In addition, its tall height; although it is misinterpreted for being the reason for its name, "Big Ben" refers to the largest five bells inside the tower which contributes to the loud sound it makes. Not only is it a landmark, but a standing symbol for politics, integrity, peace, and prosperity in accordance with the city's pride and independent identity.

THE TOWER BRIDGE

Standing 65 meters high and 244 meters long, it's the Tower Bridge! It's most known for its unique design and structure that poses as a neo-Gothic architecture. It has two towers, one on the left and one on the right, and a walkway in between which many vehicles pass. The walkway also can divide into which the two plates rise above to make way for the boats and other types of water transportation to go through, which rarely occurs occasionally, it's a likely source of land vehicle traffic. It was also colored red, blue, and white to signal Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee but was then restored to its famous colors, blue and white, as currently seen.

THE LONDON EYE

Well-known for its architecture and well-engineered structure, the London Eye has won multiple awards and hearts of tourists. It's the world's largest cantilevered observation wheel that was introduced to the public on December 31 in the year of 1999. The ride is estimated to have a length of 30 minutes which gives a clear and wide view of London in its own location, and no, you cannot see the Eiffel Tower that many rumors say to be true so.

THE WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Titled the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter at Westminster, the Westminster Abbey is an Anglican Church in the City of Westminster. It is known for its burials of British monarchs and famous persons such as Queen Elizabeth I and Winston Churchill. To add, it's also a place for coronations and weddings for royals such as Queen Elizabeth II's and Prince Philips.

THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Since it's the official residence of the current British royalty, it is commonly visited by tourists to have a glimpse of the royal family. It is open to the public based on the season, preferably



THE PHENOM P: e, and Cultural Diversity

PHOTO FROM SB19 OFFICIAL

vivacious young woman and a proud A'Tin (SB19) fan whose passion for PPop transcends mere fandom has shared how she was drawn into a world of infectious beats, dazzling choreography, and boundless creativity as she stated, "Once they caught you, there is no going back."

SB19 is just top tier for me. They have incredibly stable vocals in every song they perform, be it Ballad, Live or with dance breaks. Each member also has a wide and different vocal range that perfectly harmonizes with one another. Their discography is multi-genre as well, so you can see baby A'tin as early as 1 year old to senior A'tin.

The lyrics of their songs have deeper meanings, thanks to their leader Pablo, who wrote almost all of their songs.

They are very synchronized as well when they dance. The kind of discipline and sharpness we often see

in Kpop idols. Well, the Philippines have them as well.

Have I talked about their stage presence? Like once they step on the stage, they can't hear their own voices even with their in-ears. They have this undying energy and "gigil" everytime they perform live. Like what people say, "nanlalamon".

Their 4-year training actually developed their close bond and they treat each other like family. They also have this very Pinoy personality. They are not afraid to show their real selves even in front of cameras. Their "kanal humor" is what actually relates them to the mass.

This group is an ALL-IN-ONE. Pablo, Ken, and Josh write their song; Stell, Josh, and Ken can choreograph, Justin is the creative director of some of their Music Video including the Billboard Nominee, "What?".

Lastly, they came from almost nothing so their story is really truly an inspiration. Better check out their Vlogs and songs, to know what I mean.

e of Beauty and on

BY RIO JOYZE C. RAMOS
PHOTO FROM PNGWING

in the summer. It has over 775 rooms, including 52 royal and guest bedrooms, 188 staff bedrooms, 92 offices, 19 staterooms, and 78 bathrooms. Although photography and/or filming is allowed outside the gate, it is strictly permitted to cease any kind of these activities once inside.

THE HAMPTON COURT PALACE

The palace is famously known as the home of King Henry VIII which he further resided until the time of his death. Although no royal residence appears to be recent, it serves as one of the landmarks visited by tourists all around the world. The Hampton Court Palace, despite the many monarchies lived there, it is mostly

devoted to the reign of King Henry VIII and his family. It's also a place where many ghost hunters seek since many rumors are said to be haunted by one of the wives of King Henry VIII.

Though we find ourselves to be astonished by the walkways and paths themselves, I believe that we stir this thought in our mind is because of the diversity of each one that blossoms the idea on its own. Likewise, the colorful trifecta of flowers in a bouquet, it displays colors that each complement each other in the background with themes of diversity. Exploring and discovering are two words that aid us in finding the true significance and purpose of life in the simplicity that surrounds us in different areas. Through being open and accepting of new ideas, we may not only see the magnificence of places such as London but also the goals that we dream of and aim to achieve in oneself and the whole world.

FEATURES

Which Love-Related Song are You? Do you relate to any of these songs?

BY ANGELEA MIEL R. MALLORCA PHOTO FROM PNGWING

AKIN KA NALANG! BY: ITCHYWORMS

All of us have gone through the phase of being obsessive of a certain someone, haven't we? Whether it'd be a friend or a crush! "Akin ka nalang" can be directed to a person being possessive of a certain somebody by persuading the somebody in question by saying some rather 'unencouraging' traits of the other person, this fact can be heard in the lyrics, and even the title itself; due to the fact they're already trying to claim that person because they had begun to lose control of their devotion to them! This type of person can be found infodumping about their special someone, talking about how they'd be better and should be with them instead of their current partner; although, trust me when I say that they're still a good person! What can I say? They're just very loving of the person they're attracted to!

Bahala Na! By: Kenaniah

We can all agree that we've at least met someone that when they come across a challenge they simply go with the flow and brush it off as 'it's just my destiny', right? Well, "Bahala Na" is a song about surrendering to fate, or in this case, destiny. It relates with people who have faced or are still facing some uncertainty and challenges in their lives, but continue to have a carefree and optimistic attitude. This type of person may be lighthearted and relate to the idea of just trusting that things will work out in the end! Meeting this type of person is always a joy to be around, some may say these types of people are considered to be bundles of sunshine that can make your day better!

Panalangin! By: APO Hiking Society

Now, does anyone have that one friend that's in a relationship or is simply just head-over-heels for someone? Well this is a song expressing love and devotion to someone special! It associates with people who are deeply in love and longs for a romantic connection. This type of person may relate to the feeling of tenderness, sincerity, and hopefulness conveyed in the song, as well as the desire for a deeper bond with their loved one. You can think of these people as the golden retriever of the group! Always there to help to earn their well-deserved validation. Guess you can say this includes the terms of puppy love?

Sa Susunod Na Habang Buhay! By: Ben&Ben

Many people say that there's always a second chance; and this type of person believes in that, or at least they try to. "Sa Susunod na Habang Buhay" relates to individuals who've most likely experienced heartbreak or an end of a relationship. It associates with people who are reflecting on past mistakes, expressing regret, and hoping for a second chance to fix those mistakes. This type of person may relate to the feeling of desperation, remorse, and the desire to make better decisions for their past relationship.. Everyone knows that some relationships can't always go as planned, and these types of people are the ones who realize that fact. Although this type of person tends to end up being understanding and wise because of their experiences! #Getwellsoon!

Ako Naman Muna! by: Angela Ken

Now, we've called out all the ones while they're still falling in love, the ones that are in love, and the ones that are still in the process of moving on! But how about the ones that have moved on and are healing from it? "Ako Naman Muna" is a song about self-love, empowerment, and the act of prioritizing one's own happiness and well-being. It relates to people who may have experienced putting others' needs before their own and now chooses to focus on themselves! This type of person indulges themselves in self-care, setting boundaries, and reclaiming their own identity! These people are just the type of people who you can't help but be proud of!

So! Have you found yourself relating to any of these songs? Or is there any other song that isn't here that you relate to?



A Tale of Two Worlds Unfolds:

HIA's Spectacular Production of "The Princess and the Pauper"

BY REIGN ALEXA M. MERCADO

PHOTOS FROM THE WAVES AND PNGWING

In a whirlwind of enchantment and adventure, Holy Infant Academy Theater and Visual Arts Guild (TVAG) recently transported audiences to a world of royalty, friendship, and unlikely connections with its captivating production of "The Princess and the Pauper." Bringing together students from diverse backgrounds and talents, the school's rendition of this timeless

tale breathed new life into the classic story, leaving audiences spellbound and inspired.

Under the guidance of dedicated TVAG Moderators, Ms. Katherine B. Alagao, Mrs. Leilani M. Cuasay, Mr. Chris Joseph Miralles, Ms. Lady Genesis D. Abanilla, and Ms. Anne Kristel D. Orilla and talented scriptwriter and director, Mr. Banjo Cleofe, students spent months rehearsing, perfecting their lines, and honing their acting skills to deliver performances that were both engaging and heartfelt. Each student brought their unique talents and personality

to the stage, creating an unforgettable experience for all.

At the heart of the production were the talented cast members who brought the characters to life with energy, emotion, and flair. From the spirited princess yearning for adventure who was portrayed by Sabella Marixa S. Mauro to the humble pauper dreaming of a better life portrayed by Alexandria Venice M. Celiz, each actor imbued their role with depth and authenticity, captivating audiences with their performances.

"I've always loved the story of 'The Princess and the Pauper,' and getting to play the role of the princess was a

dream come true," shared Sabella Marixa, a Grade 5 pupil who portrayed the princess. "It was an incredible experience to bring this beloved tale to life and share it with our school community."

But the magic of "The Princess and the Pauper" extended far beyond the stage, touching the hearts of students, parents, and faculty alike. For many audience members, the production served as a reminder of the power of friendship, empathy, and kindness to transcend social barriers and unite people from all walks of life.

Ms. Katherine B. Alagao commended the students and staff for their hard work and dedication,

stating, "The annual school play is not only a showcase of talent but also a testament to the power of collaboration and creativity. It's inspiring to see our students come together to create something truly magical."

As the final curtain fell on another unforgettable performance, the legacy of "The Princess and the Pauper" lives on in the hearts and minds of all who were fortunate enough to experience its magic. Through the power of storytelling and the art of theater, HIA-TVAG's annual play has once again proved that dreams can come true, and that even the most unlikely of friendships can change the world.



BY FR. AMMIEL MENORCA PHOTO FROM AND PNGWING

Young People Navigating Faith in Digital Space

The advent of the digital age has significantly transformed the way the world operates. It alters the way people live, study, work, and relate to one another. The speed of breakthroughs is evolving exponentially, thus, heralding changes in the entire system of living—the possibility of connecting to the entire populace through social media, the unprecedented access to the vast amount of knowledge, and Artificial Intelligence and the pivotal role of algorithms in enabling machines to mimic human cognitive abilities. Thus, Klaus Schwab, the Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum, coined the digital age as “The Fourth Industrial Revolution” as it represents an era of convergence where digital, physical, and biological systems traverse. Undeniably, it impacts our spirituality and religious practices. In this ever-evolving landscape, what are the opportunities and challenges in navigating faith in the digital age?

During the 10th Philippine Conference of New Evangelization, Bishop Pablo Virgilio David, D.D., told about an experience with a young person in the recently commenced Synod on Synodality in Rome. In a roundtable discussion, the young told them that the Church oftentimes views the digital space only as a medium of communication but for them, it had evolved to become as real as a “continent”—it became extensions of experiencing life, where they truly live, relations are forged and faith can thrive. Hence, the Bishop emphatically concluded that digital space is not only virtual but real to many young people and in it, the Church must facilitate Godly experience. Despite the young person coining the term digital continent, it was Pope Benedict XVI who first conceived it. In his address to the plenary assembly of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, he said: “I have encouraged [communicators]... to promote a culture of respect for the dignity and the value of the human person; a dialogue rooted in the sincere search for truth and for friendship not as an end in itself, but capable of developing each person's gifts in order to place them at the service of the human community. In this way the Church carries out what we could define as a “diaconate of culture” on the current “digital continent”,

moving forward to proclaim the Gospel, the only word that can save mankind.”

Today, young people can cultivate and express their faith through unique avenues in digital space. Mobile applications such as meditation platforms, Gospel reflections, prayer, and devotional accompaniment, Christian doctrines instructions that allow young people to conveniently deepen their prayer life, spiritual awareness, and self-reflection. It reshapes sacred spaces as it immerses believers to participate in livestream masses, and fostering connections among online communities. Nonetheless, with the benefits of digital space come unique challenges to one's faith. Among the many challenges posed by digital space is the lack of depth and authenticity in digital interactions and the constant influx of information that may distract the spiritual focus. It can also be a breeding ground for confusion as our beliefs and values encounter different ideologies online. Likewise, virtual gatherings which cannot fully replace the sense of community may cause isolation and loneliness. In addition, digital space sometimes fosters negativity, cyberbullying, and hostility that may contest our faith. Hence, formation and guidance must be provided for young people to maintain a healthy balance between digital

life and faith.

Navigating faith in digital space can sometimes seem like an overwhelming maze. But one can successfully cross it by allowing Christian values and principles to steer the course. The digital space may broaden one's horizon and expose us to different kinds of ideas but the spiritual compass remains crucial. Thus, Pope Benedict XVI encourages young people to be digital witnesses rather than influencers. A witness is someone who embodies what he or she believes, hence, his or her words and actions are so persuasive that they attract others to the beauty of truth. Also, one is invited to forge a culture of encounter where the young should engage wholeheartedly not passively. Pope Francis reminds us that “culture of encounter is a simple way as Jesus did: not just seeing, but looking; not just hearing, but listening; not just passing people by, but stopping with them; not just saying ‘what a shame, poor people,’ but allowing yourself to be moved with compassion.” By being purposeful in this modern age, one's faith may harness the opportunities of being a digital disciple while adeptly facing its challenges. It will ensure a meaningful existence in this modern landscape while allowing faith to flourish in digital space.

Android-Controlled Circuits: Revolutionizing Appliance Automation with Mobile Phones

BY MAURIZ JYNIELL R. CASANOVA

PHOTOS FROM PNGWING

As technology continues to evolve, the potential applications and capabilities of Android-controlled circuits are limitless.

In today's era of smart technology, the integration of Android-controlled circuits represents a groundbreaking innovation in home automation. With the power of mobile phones at our fingertips, controlling household appliances and electronics has never been easier or more convenient. With this in mind, HIA researcher, Mauriz Jyniell R. Casanova invented a device called, "Android Controlled Circuits – Modern Appliance Automation Through the Use of Mobile Phone".

The project was all about Android Controlled Circuits. It is one way of automation using android phone through Bluetooth application. With the help of this

set-up, it can help the elderlies and disabled persons to control the switches of her appliances. Unlike the commercially available Bluetooth appliances, the project deals on controlling the circuits and not the appliances. For this reason, any appliances can be controlled when being plugged in this circuits.

At the heart of this Android-controlled circuits lies the fusion of hardware and software components, enabling seamless communication between mobile devices and electrical appliances. These circuits typically consist of microcontrollers or single-board computers, such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi, equipped with wireless communication modules (Bluetooth) and connected to relay modules or solid-state switches.

By using HC05 Bluetooth module as the connecting link, the Arduino Uno processed any programmed command given by the android phone that control the entire circuit. Using a Bluetooth application on mobile phone, it can shut on and off the appliances individually and can be shut off and on at the same time.

The project has the following benefits and impacts: It could help the elderlies and disable person to effectively control the electrical circuits of their appliances within the house. It could maximize the use of android phone which are readily available to everyone. It helps the user to effectively do some tasks without having any trouble doing it. It gives the user the feeling of fulfillment once she had controlled her appliances within the tip of her hand.

As technology continues to evolve, the potential applications and capabilities of Android-controlled circuits are limitless. These represent a revolutionary advancement in appliance automation, offering users unprecedented convenience, flexibility, and control over their home environment. By harnessing the power of mobile phones and wireless communication technologies, these circuits are transforming the way we interact with and manage household appliances, paving the way for a more connected and efficient future.

PRESERVING THE Tamaraw: HOW CAN WE CONSERVE THIS ONE OF A KIND ANIMAL

BY XIAN MARKUS L. TURANO

In the beautiful landscape of Mindoro in the Philippines, You will find an endangered species called the Tamaraw or Bubalus Mindorensis. Was once an abundant species in Mindoro is now facing extinction having fewer than 600 individuals left in the wild. Let us now look in the ways how we can conserve and protect these unique animals.

The Tamaraw faces multiple threats. One of which is illegal logging and human settlements which has significantly reduced the Tamaraw's Natural Habitat. Other threats such as poaching and diseases transmitted by livestock pose great dangers to this unique species of animals.

One Way on how to solve the Tamaraw's Extinction is through the usage of Advanced Technologies such as satellite imagery which plays a crucial role in monitoring the Tamaraw's Habitat and Population. Drones and the like also prove successful in conserving the Animal through gathering data on the Tamaraw's behavior and Habitat without disturbing the Animal.

Conservation Breeding Programs and Genetic Studies also prove useful in conserving the Tamaraw. These kinds of programs

aim to increase the Tamaraw population and diversity which is crucial when talking about the possibility of Tamaraw's going extinct.

We can contribute to the Conservation of Tamaraw's by donating to certain charities or participating in events that aim to protect and conserve Tamaraws. We can also contribute by avoiding illegal logging, and poaching. Spreading Awareness of the Tamaraws Conservation is another great way on how all of us can join together and continue the protection of Tamaraws.

In conclusion, the Tamaraw now mostly relies on scientist, technology and especially the community on which help conserve and protect the future of the Tamaraws. With continued efforts and support, we can bring back the Tamaraw from Extinction.

PHOTO FROM RAPPLER



Beyond Plastic: Examining Calapan's Environmental Shifts in the Post-Ban Era

PHOTO FROM
CALAPAN TOURISM

BY XIALDANNE P. OPANO

In Calapan, a city once a heavy user of plastic, things are changing. The decision to ban plastic has not only altered the city's appearance but has also brought about various transformations. This article explores how Calapan's plastic ban is impacting the environment, society, and daily life. From reducing plastic waste to adopting new practices, join us as we examine the effects of this significant move towards a more sustainable future.

PLASTIC IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Calapan's decision to ban plastic has brought positive changes to the environment. Firstly, there's less plastic litter in the streets and waterways, making the city cleaner. This helps keep wildlife safe and protects the natural beauty of the surroundings. The reduction in plastic waste is a

visible improvement that benefits everyone.

Moreover, people and businesses in Calapan are now using more eco-friendly choices. They're opting for things like reusable materials and sustainable packaging instead of single-use plastics. This shift towards greener practices is not only good for the environment but also promotes a mindset of taking care of nature.

As Calapan continues to make these changes, the city is creating a positive impact on its environment. The plastic ban is not just about cleaner streets; it's about making choices that benefit the planet and show a growing commitment to a healthier and more sustainable future.

HOW'S THE PEOPLE?

The plastic ban in Calapan has made life better for residents. With less plastic litter, the city looks cleaner, making people feel proud of where they live. This positive change has improved the overall quality of life and strengthened a sense of community in Calapan. The atmosphere is now more enjoyable and pleasant for residents to share.

The ban has also changed the way people shop and use plastic. Residents are now using more sustainable options, like reusable bags and containers. This shift helps the city reach its environmental goals and encourages people to make choices that are better for the planet. Overall, the plastic ban is making life in Calapan more pleasant and eco-friendly for its residents.

BUSY BUSINESS

The plastic ban in Calapan

has led local businesses to adopt eco-friendly practices. Many shops and restaurants now use sustainable packaging instead of single-use plastics. This change not only supports the city's environmental goals but also meets the preferences of environmentally-conscious customers. Businesses making this shift not only follow regulations but also position themselves as leaders in sustainability, helping to create a cleaner and greener Calapan.

The plastic ban is inspiring innovation among local businesses in Calapan. Entrepreneurs are finding creative ways to package and deliver products without using traditional plastics. This innovation not only helps businesses adapt to the ban but also positions them as leaders in eco-friendly practices. Whether it's compostable packaging or reusable alternatives, businesses are actively contributing to a more sustainable and environmentally-conscious city.

Moreover, the plastic ban is encouraging businesses in Calapan to take on a sense of corporate social responsibility. Many are getting involved in community initiatives to raise awareness about the environmental impact of plastic. By participating in these initiatives, businesses not only improve their reputations but also build positive relationships with the local community. The plastic ban is more than just a rule; it's sparking a cultural shift where businesses play a key role in promoting environmental awareness and responsibility.



DAILY LIFE

The plastic ban changes how we live day-to-day by encouraging us to use alternatives to single-use plastics. We now carry reusable bags, choose products with less packaging, and use non-plastic containers. These changes promote a more mindful and eco-friendly lifestyle, aligning with the goal of reducing plastic waste in our daily routines.

In summary, Calapan's plastic ban has transformed the city by making it cleaner and more environmentally friendly. The reduction in plastic waste has improved the overall appearance, and the shift towards eco-friendly practices has affected the daily lives of residents and businesses. Beyond just a rule, the plastic ban represents Calapan's commitment to a greener future, showing the significant impact a simple decision can have on creating a responsible and resilient community.

COOL SOLUTIONS

Beating the Heat the HIA Way

BY JLOYD MICHAEL A. MARASIGAN

As El Niño casts its scorching shadow, schools face the challenge of keeping students cool and comfortable amidst rising temperatures. How does Holy Infant Academy deal with this scorching heat waves which is a result of climate change? How do HIAs maintain a conducive atmosphere for teaching and learning?

HIA embrace the spirit of innovation and resilience, harnessing the latest advancements in science and technology to beat the heat and create a cool, comfortable, and conducive learning environment through the following science and technology-driven strategies to combat the effects of El Niño:

OPTIMIZING COOLING SYSTEMS

Each classroom has two energy-efficient air conditioning units with advanced ventilation systems, ensuring efficient cooling while minimizing energy consumption. HIAs study in a well-ventilated classroom amidst the hot and humid weather conditions enhancing the ability to concentrate, reducing fatigue, and promoting overall well-being.

MONITORING INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Each classroom is equipped with air quality monitoring systems to ensure healthy indoor environments. This ventilation systems and air filters can help remove pollutants and allergens, improving overall air quality and comfort.

PROMOTING INDOOR GREENERY

HIA is not blessed with a wide open grounds to plant trees. As a response, indoor plants are being incorporated into classroom spaces to improve air quality and create a more comfortable environment. Plants naturally cool the air through evapotranspiration, enhancing overall comfort and well-being.

PROVIDING HYDRATION STATIONS

Hydration stations can be found throughout the campus to encourage students and staff to stay hydrated through an automatic coin water dispenser. Thirst will be quenched by just a one-peso coin.

IMPLEMENTING HEAT SAFETY MEASURES

Students and staff are being educated on heat safety practices, such as staying hydrated, wearing light clothing, and taking regular breaks in shaded areas. Wearing of school shirts instead of school uniform is being implemented.

TECHNOLOGY-ENABLED LEARNING TOOLS

Each classroom is equipped with technology-enabled learning tools and resources to engage students in subjects related to climate science and sustainable energy solutions. Interactive simulations, virtual reality experiences, and online platforms are being used to explore real-world phenomena and promote critical thinking skills.

PROMOTING BEHAVIOR CHANGE

Sustainable behaviors among students and staff are being encouraged, such as turning off lights and electronics when not in use, using fans instead of air conditioning when possible, and carpooling or using alternative transportation to reduce carbon emissions.

By implementing these sci-tech strategies, HIA can effectively beat the heat during El Niño and create a cool, comfortable, and sustainable learning environment for all. With a combination of innovative solutions and climate-resilient practices, students can be empowered to become informed global citizens and agents of positive change in the face of climate challenges.



Safeguarding Against PERTUSSIS:

SCIENCE-BASED STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTION

BY JANNAH VENISE C. ACEDERA PHOTOS FROM PNGWING

Pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, is a highly contagious respiratory illness caused by the bacterium *Bordetella pertussis*. While pertussis can affect individuals of all ages, it poses the greatest risk to infants and young children, often leading to severe complications and even death. In this article, we explore science-based strategies for preventing pertussis and safeguarding public health.

Preventing pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, involves several simple yet effective measures that can help reduce the risk of infection and transmission. Here are some key strategies:

HAVING VACCINATION

The most effective way to prevent pertussis is through vaccination. Ensure that you and your family members are up-to-date with the recommended vaccination schedule, which typically includes a series of pertussis-containing vaccines during infancy and childhood, followed by booster doses in adolescence and adulthood.

PRACTICE GOOD HAND HYGIENE

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, especially before eating, after using the restroom, and after coughing or sneezing. Handwashing helps remove germs and reduces the risk of spreading infectious diseases like pertussis.

COVERING YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE

When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow to prevent the spread of respiratory droplets. Dispose of used tissues properly and wash your hands afterward to reduce the risk of transmitting pertussis bacteria to others.

STAYING HOME WHEN SICK

If you develop symptoms of pertussis, such as prolonged coughing fits, fever, or difficulty breathing, stay home from school, or social activities until you have recovered and are no longer contagious. Avoid close contact with others to prevent the spread of the illness.

AVOIDING CLOSE CONTACT WITH INFECTED INDIVIDUALS

Pertussis is highly contagious, especially during the early stages of infection. Avoid close contact with individuals who have pertussis or are experiencing symptoms of the illness to reduce the risk of exposure.

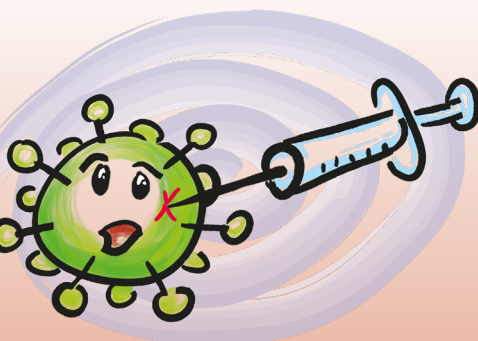
PRACTICING RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

Encourage proper respiratory etiquette among family members, particularly children, by teaching them to cover their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and to dispose of used tissues promptly. Reinforce the importance of hand hygiene to prevent the spread of germs.

MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Ensure that you and your family members maintain a healthy lifestyle, including eating a balanced diet, getting regular exercise, staying hydrated, and getting enough sleep. A strong immune system can help reduce the severity of illnesses like pertussis and enhance overall resilience to infections.

By implementing these simple preventive measures, individuals and families can help reduce the risk of pertussis and contribute to the protection of public health.



ADOLESCENTS AGED

10-19

PRONE TO VACCINE-PREVENTABLE DISEASES (VPDS) INCLUDING CHICKEN POX

13 OUT OF 100

HAVE CHICKEN POX CASES IN 2022

data from Department of Health

Protecting Ourselves from Chicken Pox : The Vaccine's Crucial Impact on our Lives

BY XIAN MARKUS L. TURANO PHOTOS FROM PNGWING

In the massive variety of highly contagious diseases, Chicken Pox stands out as one of the most infectious and deadly of them all. Now, Let us explore the Sickness we call Chicken Pox.

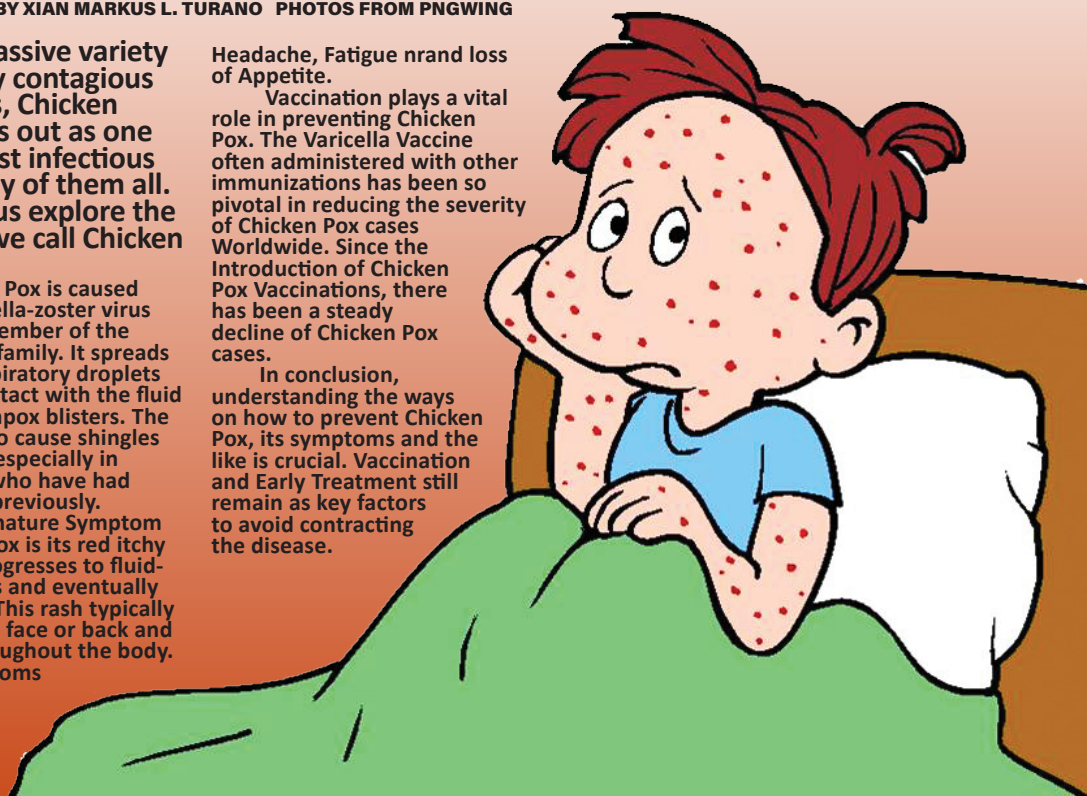
Chicken Pox is caused by the varicella-zoster virus which is a member of the herpesvirus family. It spreads through respiratory droplets or direct contact with the fluid from chickenpox blisters. The virus can also cause shingles later in life, especially in individuals who have had chickenpox previously.

The Signature Symptom of Chicken Pox is its red itchy rash that progresses to fluid-filled blisters and eventually crusts over. This rash typically starts on the face or back and spreads throughout the body. Other symptoms such as High Fevers,

Headache, Fatigue and loss of Appetite.

Vaccination plays a vital role in preventing Chicken Pox. The Varicella Vaccine often administered with other immunizations has been so pivotal in reducing the severity of Chicken Pox cases Worldwide. Since the Introduction of Chicken Pox Vaccinations, there has been a steady decline of Chicken Pox cases.

In conclusion, understanding the ways on how to prevent Chicken Pox, its symptoms and the like is crucial. Vaccination and Early Treatment still remain as key factors to avoid contracting the disease.



The True Measure of Victory: Behavior Over Winning

In the fast-paced world of sports, where competition reigns supreme and the pursuit of victory often consumes athletes and fans alike, it's easy to lose sight of what truly matters. Athletes are celebrated for their talent, determination, and ability to outperform their opponents on the field. However, amidst the thrill of competition, it's crucial to remember that sportsmanship and integrity are values that transcend the final score.

At its core, sportsmanship embodies the principles of fairness, respect, and ethical conduct. It's about more than just winning or losing; it's about how we play the game and the example we set for others. While winning may bring temporary glory, it's the way in which athletes conduct themselves both on and off the field that leaves a lasting legacy.

One of the most powerful displays of sportsmanship is seen in moments of adversity. Whether it's a gracious handshake between competitors after a hard-fought match or a show of support for an injured opponent, these gestures remind us that there's more to sports than simply coming out on top. True champions are those who handle defeat with grace and victory with humility, recognizing that the true measure of success lies in how we treat others.

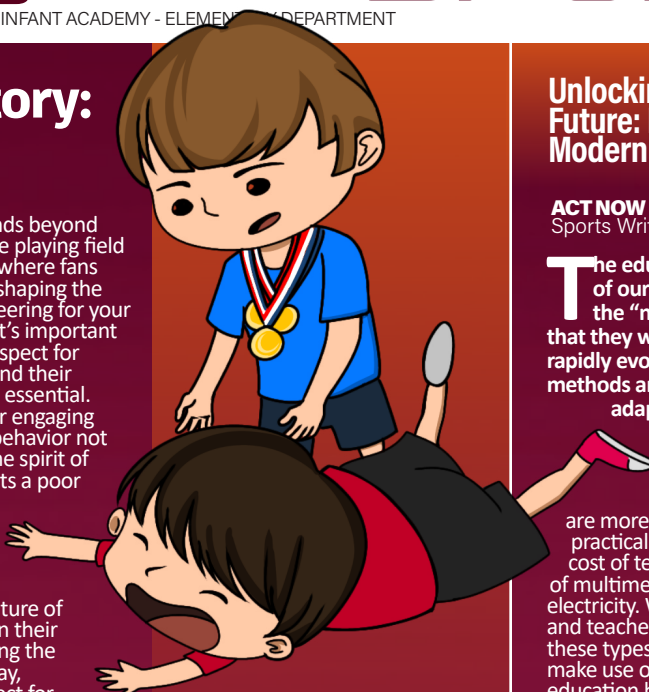
Furthermore, sportsmanship extends beyond the boundaries of the playing field and into the stands, where fans play a crucial role in shaping the culture of sports. Cheering for your team is natural, but it's important to remember that respect for the opposing team and their supporters is equally essential. Taunting, heckling, or engaging in unsportsmanlike behavior not only detracts from the spirit of the game but also sets a poor example for future generations of athletes and fans.

Coaches also play a pivotal role in fostering a culture of sportsmanship within their teams. By emphasizing the importance of fair play, teamwork, and respect for opponents, coaches can instill values that go beyond the pursuit of victory. Ultimately, the lessons learned on the field will carry over into other aspects of athletes' lives, shaping their character and guiding their actions long after their playing days are over.

It's important to recognize that winning is not the only measure of success in sports. While victories may fade and records may be broken, the lessons learned through participation in sports – teamwork, perseverance, discipline – endure for a lifetime. Ultimately, it's the way in which athletes conduct themselves, both on and off the field, that defines their true

legacy and impact on the world. By prioritizing sportsmanship over winning, we can ensure that the true spirit of sports continues to shine brightly for generations to come.

As we continue to celebrate the thrill of competition and the joy of victory, let's also remember the importance of behavior over winning. Let's strive to be good sports, gracious competitors, and positive role models for future generations. After all, in the game of life, it's not about whether you win or lose, but how you play the game.



Unlocking the Future: Embracing Modern Education



ACT NOW | Jetro Enrique S. Martinez
Sports Writer

The educational system is an essential part of our society, as it provides the children, the "next generation", with the knowledge that they will need in their future lives. In today's rapidly evolving world, traditional teaching methods are no longer sufficient. We must adapt to new ways of learning to prepare ourselves for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

However, many still believe that the old methods of teaching are more favorable, due to its quality and practical integration. This is because the cost of technology and gadgets for the use of multimedia is high, along with WIFI and electricity. With the rise of new tools, students and teachers alike may find it difficult to operate these types of things. However, many institutions make use of these tools to deliver quality education by applying their learnings through online assessments.

Moreover, one of the most compelling reasons to embrace modern education is its ability to cater to diverse learning styles. Gone are the days when all students were expected to learn the same way, at the same pace. With modern tools and techniques, educators can tailor their approach to meet the individual needs of each student. Whether through interactive multimedia presentations, online tutorials, or hands-on activities, modern education offers a variety of methods to engage students and foster deeper understanding.

In conclusion, the benefits of modern education are undeniable, it is part of our society and is important due to the fact that it brightens young minds and aids the future generations with their learnings. Let us embrace the spirit of innovation and curiosity as we embark on this journey towards a brighter tomorrow.

Dive into the Sporting Archives: UNRAVELING FASCINATING SPORTS TRIVIA

COMPILED BY ENRIQUE JETRO S. MARTINEZ

Sports history is a treasure trove of fascinating anecdotes, records, and trivia that captivate fans and enthusiasts alike. From legendary athletes to iconic moments, the world of sports is rich with stories waiting to be discovered and shared. In this, we take a dive into the archives to uncover some intriguing sports trivia that will test your knowledge and spark your curiosity.

THE OLYMPIC MARATHON ORIGIN

Did you know that the modern marathon race originated from a legendary event in ancient Greece? According to historical accounts, the marathon commemorates the run of Pheidippides, a Greek soldier who purportedly ran from the battlefield of Marathon to Athens, a distance of about 26 miles, to deliver news of the Greek victory over the Persians in 490 BC.

THE OLDEST SPORTING TROPHY

While many sporting events boast prestigious trophies and awards, none can rival the longevity of the America's Cup, the oldest trophy in international sport. First awarded in 1851, the America's Cup is a sailing trophy awarded to the winner of the America's Cup match races between two sailing yachts.

THE FASTEST SERVE IN TENNIS

Think you know who holds the record for the fastest serve in tennis? Surprisingly, it's not one of the sport's towering giants like John Isner or Ivo Karlovic. The record for the fastest serve belongs to Australian tennis player Sam Groth, who blasted a serve clocked at 263.4 km/h (163.7 mph) during a Challenger event in 2012.

THE LONGEST FIELD GOAL IN NFL HISTORY

American football fans might be familiar with the names of legendary kickers like Adam Vinatieri and Justin Tucker, but do you know who holds the record for the longest field goal in NFL history? It's Matt Prater of the Denver Broncos and Detroit Lions, who booted a 64-yard field goal on December 8, 2013, against the

Tennessee Titans.

THE PERFECT GAME IN BASEBALL

Achieving a perfect game in baseball, where a pitcher retires every batter he faces without allowing any hits, walks, or errors, is a rare and remarkable feat. Did you know that only 23 perfect games have been recorded in Major League Baseball history, with the most recent one pitched by Félix Hernández of the Seattle Mariners on August 15, 2012?

These are just a few examples of the countless intriguing trivia nuggets waiting to be unearthed in the world of sports. So, the next time you find yourself watching a game or reading about your favorite sport, take a moment to appreciate the rich tapestry of history and trivia that surrounds it. Who knows what fascinating tidbits you might discover?

VOCAL VIRTUOSO TAKES... FROM PAGE 20

harmony and emotion. Contestants poured their hearts and souls into their performances, captivating the audience with their vocal range, emotional depth, and sheer musicality.

The competition which served as a testament to the rich musical heritage ingrained in Filipino culture was evaluated by a panel of distinguished judges, comprised of music teachers and industry professionals who had the difficult task of evaluating the performances and selecting the winners. Criteria such as vocal technique, stage presence, and interpretation were taken into account as the judges deliberated on the top contenders.

Following next to Familia Caritas is Familia Integritas who claimed the 1st runner-up spot with a powerful performance of Fight Song. Familia Fides secured the 2nd runner-up position with a heartfelt rendition of Celine Dion's timeless classic, I Surrender. While Familia Excellencia captured the third place with a moving interpretation of the song Paraiso.

The INTRACAD Fest solo singing competitions not only crowned team champions but also celebrated the universal language of music that unites the Filipino community. Each note sung resonated with the pride and passion of a people deeply connected to their musical roots. Students and audience members left the gymnasium inspired and uplifted by the power of music to unite and inspire. With its celebration of talent, creativity, and passion, the competition exemplified the spirit of HIA Community and underscored the transformative impact of the arts in enriching the lives of HIAns and communities alike.



FOCUSED. Ashton Alcaide takes his time to think about his next move. Photo from The Waves

Alcaide moves victory over Delgado

BY CALEL JAIRUS R. BALBIN

Ashton Alcaide unleashed the power within him, jumped over Delgado's only piece, in a score of 2-1 he succeeded in getting the first place in Grade 5 Dama during Intracad 2023 at Holy Infant Academy, Wednesday morning.

Fighting with excellence in a match between Alcaide and Delgado, he stood in the mission of

winning by moving his horse from A3 over Delgado's pawn in B4.

It settles the first place for Alcaide from Familia Fides, second placer Delgado from Familia Excellentia, third placer Cubos from Familia Caritas, and the fourth place for Jardin from Familia Integritas.

"I had good comebacks, it was a pretty nice game," Alcaide stated.

Upon the gameplays, respect and acknowledgement were earned.

JAGUARS CONQUERS BASKETBALL THRONE... FROM PAGE 20

Excitement filled the air as the HIA team geared up for the cluster meet. With each game, their determination shone through, leading them to victory. Their relentless practice and unwavering dedication fueled their confidence as they stepped onto the court, ready to showcase their skills and passion for the game. As the competition intensified, so did their resolve, with every member of the team giving their all to secure each hard-earned win.

In their first game, the HIA team took on the tough competitors from school Rose of Sharon. The match was intense from the start, with both teams giving their all. Jaguars showed off their offense with quick passes and accurate shots, while Rose of Sharon's defense was tough to break. Each possession was crucial, and the game remained close throughout. But with teamwork and determination, the HIA Jaguars managed to pull ahead in the final minutes. Their hard work paid off with a well-deserved victory, marking a strong start to their journey in the cluster meet.

In their next game, the HIA team found themselves facing an unexpected turn of events when their opposing team opted to withdraw from the match. Despite the disappointment of not being able to compete, the HIA players remained focused and determined, using the opportunity to rest and strategize for the challenges ahead in the tournament. While the abrupt end to the game may have caught them off guard, it only fueled their resolve to approach the remaining matches with even greater determination and readiness to seize victory.

In the championship game against Love Lace, the HIA team was determined to win. Fans cheered

loudly as both teams battled it out on the court. This game was the result of weeks of hard practice and dedication. Both teams fought hard, but the Jaguars showed their skill with precise passes and strong defense. The game was intense, but the Jaguars remained determined. In the end, their teamwork and effort paid off as they emerged victorious. The crowd cheered as the Jaguars proudly lifted the championship trophy, celebrating their well-deserved win.

After the game we asked some players about their experiences. One was Juan Manuel Flores stating "Una sobrang excited ko dahil makakapag cluster meet ulet kami. Noong nandoon na kami sa camilimil gym ay nag laro na kami nung una panalo kami noong second game namin umayaw ang aming kalaban edi waiting na kami sa finals nung finals naman ay nanalo kami sa love lace. Another participant we asked was Ram Latorre who said that he was both nervous and happy. But a collective response from them was that their teamwork with each other was their winning move.

As the final buzzer echoed through the gymnasium, the HIA team stood victorious, their journey through the basketball part of cluster meet culminating in a triumph of sheer determination and skill. With each game, they had faced adversity head-on, overcoming obstacles with resilience and teamwork. Their unwavering commitment to excellence had propelled them to the pinnacle of success, reaffirming their status as champions.

Looking ahead, the HIA team stood ready to carry the spirit of their triumph into future challenges, knowing that with unity, determination, and passion, they could overcome any obstacle that stood in their path.

In INTRACAD 2024, Caritas claws back-to-back Overall Champion tilt

BY MARIA FATIMA M. JIMENEZ

Title-driven and will-powered Caritas was proclaimed as the Overall Champion in the 2024 School Intramurals which culminated on Friday, December 1, at the Holy Infant Academy (HIA) gymnasium.

In a thrilling conclusion to the 2024 School Intramurals at the Holy Infant Academy (HIA) gymnasium, Caritas emerged victorious as the overall champion, amassing an impressive total of 2415 points.

The announcement of Caritas' win brought jubilant cheers from the members of the Pamayanan, underscoring the team's dedication and success in various athletic and academic events throughout the competition. Led by Jian Ceruelas, Grade 12 and president of Familia Caritas for two consecutive years, the team's triumph symbolized unity, perseverance, and the spirit of excellence within the school community.

Reflecting on his role as president, Jian Ceruelas expressed profound gratitude and pride, attributing their success to his leadership and motivational support. Ceruelas highlighted his satisfaction in leaving HIA as a double champion president, emphasizing the impact of his motivational words on the team's performance and unity.

Despite any previous challenges or setbacks, Ceruelas remained resolute and focused on fostering a sense of camaraderie and determination within Familia Caritas, which ultimately translated into their exceptional performance and victory.

As the leader of Familia Caritas, Ceruelas anticipated sharing their back-to-back championship win with a touch of pride, acknowledging the potential reactions from peers while relishing the accomplishment as a testament to their collective strength and determination.

Through Ceruelas' guidance and the team's unwavering commitment, Familia Caritas exemplified unity, drive, and a competitive spirit that propelled them to consecutive victories, leaving an indelible mark on HIA's intramural history.

The celebration of their achievement reverberated throughout the school, underscoring the transformative impact of teamwork and leadership within the Pamayanan.

"I am proud to be with Caritas because I have been influenced to do my best to contribute to the team so we can achieve the back-to-back championship," said one of the players from Caritas.



STAGE PRESENCE. Excellentia wows the crowd with a chilling performance. Photo from The Waves

EXCELLENTIA CROWNED AS BATTLE OF THE BANDS CHAMPS

BY YLLANE JASVIL S. TOLENTINO

In a nail-biting final in front of a packed audience at Holy Infant Academy (HIA) stage, Excellentia came out on top after beating all of their opponents in first-ever Battle of Bands which was part of the cultural contest during school's intramurals, December 1.

Representatives from Familia Excellentia: Zildjan Brent C. Dela Cruz, Ziggy Brei C. Dela Cruz, Liza Marie Cidrielle A. Cariaga, Reiven, Christie J. Aboboto, Allyson B. Lugmao, and Jhon Nathaniel A. Genato impressed the judges with their musicianship and stage craft as they delivered very lively performance of Ang Buhay Ko by Asin, of the 2023 Intracad Fest, Battle of the Bands.

"Siyempre at first parang dehado kasi magaling din yung Familia Caritas, tapos nawawalan na ako ng pag-asa na manalo. Tapos biglang tinawag yung

Familia namin as champion, super saya lang sa feeling kasi pinagpagudan namin sya and ang tagal namin syang p-in-ractice, tapos di pa rin maayos boses ko so ayon super thankful lang," the team's vocalist, Allyson Lugmao said when asked what they felt after winning.

Lugmao also added that her mindset while performing is that pretending she's only practicing to ease out the nervousness, and that the words of encouragement their team received served as her motivation to give her best shot.

Crowd cheered when their drummer, Ziggy Dela Cruz covered his eyes mid-performance showcasing his amazing skills at a young age.

Familia Fides came in 2nd with their soulful performance of Huwag na Huwag Mong Sasabihin by Kitchie Nadal, and Familia Caritas and Integritas tied in 3rd place with their performance of Kisapmata by Rivermaya and Narda by Kamikaze respectively.



THE RIPPLES SPORTS

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SUPREMACY

Jaguars conquers basketball throne in Cluster Meet, 3-0

BY XIALDANNE P. OPANO

The HIA Jaguars soared to victory on Feb. 1 in the Private Schools Cluster Meet 2024 basketball at Camilmil Gym from the very start to championship, sealing their triumph with a 3-0 standing. Their skillful plays and unwavering teamwork showcased their undeniable strength on the court, earning them well-deserved glory.

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STAGE PRESENCE. In the quest for supremacy, Caritas in red and Excellencia in yellow battles it out in a jump ball to start the most awaited basketball tournament. Photo from the Waves

Vocal Virtuoso takes Center Stage, Familia Caritas claims victory in Solo Singing Competition

BY DANIELA ASHLIE ROSE MAGPANTAY

In a crescendo of talent and passion, Familia Caritas representative, Princess Christine D. Mercado emerged as the champion in the INTRACAD Fest Solo Singing Competition with her soul-stirring rendition of the classic OPM song Himala, November 30, HIA Gymnasium.

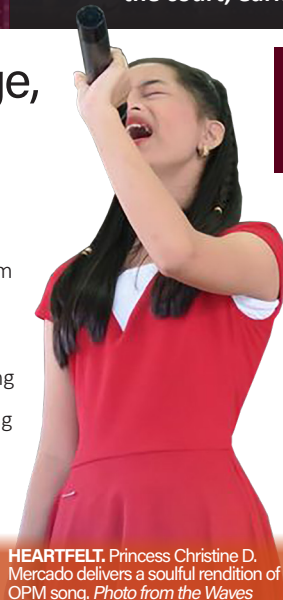
The solo singing competition featuring participants from kindergarten through Grade 6 has become a highly anticipated

event every Intracad Fest providing students with a platform to showcase their individual musical talents and artistic expression. From soulful ballads to electrifying pop anthems, contestants delivered breathtaking performances that left the audience spellbound and cheering for more.

As the competition unfolded, the gymnasium reverberated with the melodious strains of voices soaring in

TO PAGE 20

HEARTFELT. Princess Christine D. Mercado delivers a soulful rendition of OPM song. Photo from the Waves



Sanchez outwits Martinez, triumphs in Chess tourney

BY CALEL JAIRUS R. BALBIN

Paolo Sanchez of Familia Fides won the first place in Grade 6 Dama after almost 1 hour of battle, with a score of 2-1 during Intracad 2023 at Holy Infant Academy, Wednesday morning.

With intense and pressure during the Championship battle, Sanchez managed to end the game after 5 rounds including 2 draws which took them the longest battle during the

said day.

Sanchez achieved first place from Familia Fides, second place for Martinez from Familia Excellencia, third placer Mercado from Familia Caritas and Bagasan coming in fourth place from Familia Integritas.

"Masakit na po pwet kakalaro ng 5 rounds, ang tagal ng laro. Kinabahan po ako pero nanalo naman," Sanchez said.

All players showed sportsmanship and respected each other as they played the game.

Canilang spawns big splashes in City Swim Meet, commands lead over championship tilt

BY ENRIQUE JETRO S. MARTINEZ

In a breathtaking display of skill and determination, Raff Clynton B. Canilang emerged victorious in the recently conducted City Meet Swimming Competition held at Oriental Mindoro National High School, April 12.

With flawless technique,

unwavering focus, and unmatched speed, Canilang captivated spectators and competitors alike, leaving an indelible mark on the pool and etching his name in the frontline of City Meet swimmers.

As the starting horn sounded and the race began, Canilang wasted no time asserting his dominance, surging ahead with

explosive speed and precision. With each stroke, he carved through the water with effortless grace, leaving his competitors trailing in their wake.

In a stunning display of sheer athleticism, he touched the wall in a flurry of bubbles and splashes, claiming victory with a commanding lead over the competition.



READY TO DIVE. Raff Clynton Canilang starts his quest for gold in swimming with a powerful dive. Photo from Raff Clynton Canilang