



O.B. MONTESSORI CENTER

CSMIC JOURNAL

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Fairview

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OBMC Fairview Students qualify for MTAP Oral Divisions

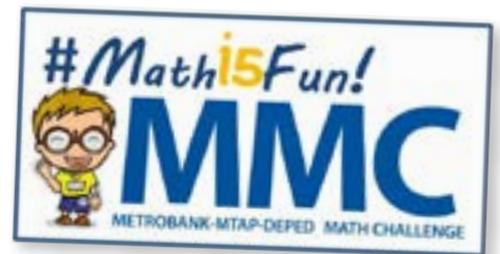
► By Athea Pandong (10 Emerald)

OBMC Fairview Grades 9 and 10 students advanced to the Metrobank Mathematics Teachers Association of the Philippines (MTAP) Math Challenge Oral Divisions on February 7, 2020.

The Grade 9 team is composed of Christian Viola (Sapphire), Svetlana Haberia (Ruby), and Min Kyung Lee (Emerald); while the Grade 10 team

is composed of Matthew Almonte (Ruby), Karina Dapal (Emerald), and Erica Villavicencio (Emerald).

The students took a written exam last January 17, 2020, at Lagro High School. The qualifying teams are joined by Sophia Montemayor (7 Sapphire), John Viggo Nicholas (7 Ruby), Adriana De Vara (7 Ruby), Marian



Mates (8 Sapphire), Julian Mantos (8 Ruby), and Matthew Versosa (8 Ruby). All the teams are being trained by Mr. John Camilo Asis, Mr. Earl Ketchner Aljo, and Ms. Janine Lim.

The Metrobank-MTAP-DepEd Math Challenge (MMC), the longest running math competition in the country, hones the competitiveness and analytical skills of elementary and high school students from private and public schools. *(with reports from Charisse Lee and Jeanne De Leon)*



NEWS

OBMC Fairview Students participate in JAPI Semi-finals

By Athea Pandong (10 Emerald)

On January 19, 2020, Athea Pandong (10 Emerald), Rogelen Cangayda (11 Amorsolo), and Shayna Fernandez (11 Amorsolo) represented OB Montessori Center-Fairview in the semi-final round of the JAPI Travel and Tours Business Program (JAPI TTBiz) competition held at Robinsons Cybergate Tower 2 in Pioneer, Mandaluyong City.

Together with their Japanese and Korean counterparts, Team YuGen constructed a travel plan to Japan that is connected to a Montessorian principle, the Interdependency Chart. They assigned places that represent



each of the fundamental needs of man to fully showcase Japan's beauty and what the country has to offer.

YuGen's leader, Shayna Fernandez, stated that working with foreign team members was difficult yet provided a sense of fulfillment as they saw their progress later on. She said, "The expectations from my teammates, advisers, and the

organizers of the event had made me really nervous about my every move during the competition. Even with the hardships, it was very fulfilling to see our progress and how far we came. Despite the struggles we faced such as members bailing out, my other teammates were there to cooperate making my responsibility as a leader less of a burden to me."

Camp-out postponed as Taal Volcano erupts

By Charisse Lee (10 Sapphire)

The scheduled Grade 6 and Grade 10 joint camp-out has been postponed until further notice due to the eruption of the Taal Volcano.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) raised Alert Level 4 on January 12, 2020. Classes in neighboring cities and towns were suspended because of the ashfall, total blackout, and inconsistent magnitude of earthquakes following the eruption.

Teachers, staff, and personnel, as well as the Scout Rangers of the Philippine Army, left the Preciosa Botanic Park and Farm Resort in Alfonso, Cavite the next day.

In line with that, donations and a blanket drive was initiated by OB Montessori Center to help the victims affected by the eruption. OBMC student-volunteers helped pack 300 care packages with goods donated by the students, school personnel, and alumni. These care packages were given to selected

Pagsasarili Communities in Batangas. The initiative was headed by Capt. Jose Mari Dela Peña. (with reports from Carmela Garcia, 10 Emerald)



COSMIC JOURNAL
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Annual Food Fair and Minimart 2019 yields success

By Anthony Antonio (9 Sapphire)

OB Montessori Center-Fairview held its Food Fair and Minimart last December 17, 2019, at the Teatro Preciosa Hall.

The goal of the event was to train the High School students in trade skills such as managing, cashiering, and cooking in a business atmosphere.

Fairview Campus Manager Mrs. Marita Francisco, along with Rockstедdy's lead artist Teddy Corpuz and successful entrepreneur Ofelia Genabe, cut the ribbon to officially start the much-awaited activity. Students from all grade levels, some accompanied by their parents, filed into the hall to check out the items on sale.

From this point onwards, the Teatro Preciosa was jam-packed with guests and students trying to get in line at the different stalls. All the shops such as Street Treats, Meals on Wheels, and the Sari-Sari store, produced long lines that occupied a large amount of space in the hall.

When asked about the differences between this year and last year's events, 10 Emerald's Aebrahm Ramos noted the change of venue and the improved service given to the guests.

The event was hosted by Job Brioso of 10 Ruby and spearheaded by Ms. Joycelyn Mapalad and Ms. Julie Ann Paez.



Cadet Officers prioritize environment through Coast Guard tour

By Kristina Alaine Triumfo (9 Sapphire)

In accordance with the environmental awareness program for cadet officers of the OBMC campuses, a tour of the Philippine Coast Guard's National Headquarters (PCG NHQ) took place on Saturday, November 23, 2019.

The highlight of the tour was BRP Tubbataha (MRRV-4401), the lead ship of the Parola-class patrol vessels of the PCG and a recent addition to the fleet. It is one of the ten multi-role response vessels built by the Japan Marine United, designed to enforce maritime laws and conduct environmental, humanitarian, and patrol missions.

The cadet officers of Fairview



and Angeles campuses, accompanied by their LT teachers, were shown videos

onboard the ship on how the PCG operated, especially during rescue missions. They were introduced to the crew as they navigated through the 44-meter

ship, learning the functions of each equipment and the purpose of each room they entered. They spent most of their time in the bridge, which holds the ship's wheel, navigation devices, and the engine. In the bridge, some crew members recounted tales of missions they had gone through, and others taught a few interested cadet officers how to man the navigation devices and assert one's location at sea.

■ OPINION

Onward and Upward: A 12th Grader's Journey in High School

► By Carla Saludes (12 Jose)

They say that your years in high school are the best years of your life. I beg to differ; for me, they have been the most formative.

I have been in OB Montessori for more than half of my education—initially in 2012 and (hopefully) my last year in 2020. In the few months before graduating from Grade 6, the game plan was simple: complete clearance, savor every moment, hug my friends one last time—and I would be off. My hopes were high and my heart was set. Knowing that I had done well in a prestigious institution's entrance exam, I was ready for change. At least I

thought I was. I left OBMC–Fairview, only to return the next school year. The time I was away had been one of the toughest years of my life, so I decided to return to OBMC for Grade 8. Uncertainty became the root of my fear of studying anywhere else in Senior High.

I returned to OBMC in search of my old safe space. Instead, I still found myself struggling in both academics and behavior. My road to graduation was ruffled and non-linear; I know that my years in high school have been far from perfect. Despite all this, I was learning how to be better.



Batch 2019–2020

Batch 2013–2014

My two years in Senior High School at OBMC have fulfilled their role in preparing me for the coming years in college. Wherever I go, I believe now I will be ready. Come what may, I know I will manage because the personal adjustments I made as a senior have me prepared for college workload, while the curriculum also gave me time to think about what course I really want to pursue.

While I've always known that STEM subjects weren't my strong suit, the pedagogy of HUMSS subjects in OBMC's curriculum made me more certain of my interest in the fields I chose for college: arts and social sciences. I owe my present decisiveness to my experience in Senior High. My love and productivity in Anthropology and Oral Communication outweighed the struggle I felt in Chemistry and Calculus. To say that the two years as a senior have been exhausting is an understatement; despite everything, I have found ways to manage and persevere. With that, perhaps it is appropriate to end the last article I will ever write for OBMC as a student with the mantra that always keeps me going: *Kakayanin!*

■ FEATURES

Law on Persons and the Montessorian

► By Aron Benrnaldo (10 Emerald)

The Junior High School Department of OBMC seeks to mold the future leaders of tomorrow by arming them with knowledge necessary for life. To help the Grade 9 students understand the limits and extent of their rights as citizens of this country, they experience a class in Law on Persons (LOP) during the first two quarters of the school term. Unlike the rigorous drills of the Leadership Training subject, students study topics like the Philippine Constitution with an emphasis on the Bill of Rights, and a study on the Family and Marital codes.

The world poses many moral and ethical challenges that surprises the unprepared, so LOP is taught in the classroom to make Montessorians understand the responsibility and the consequences of their actions. It also helps them to know their rights and avoid being left exposed to exploitation caused by ignorance of one's rights.

Dialogue on the extent of human rights opens the eyes of many students, making them vigilant and aware of the social and political issues in this country. Moreover, it teaches the importance of respecting others' rights. As students learn in the Law on Persons class, "Your rights end where the rights of others begin."

■ FEATURES

Metamorphosis Complete: A Student's View of OBMC Senior High School

► By Athea Pandong (10 Emerald)

Warm handshakes shared between students and teachers, students' laughter reverberating off the classroom walls, amusing activities that teach students, and the neatly prepared environment of the campus. Amidst the stress over your future, you reminisce about what you will leave behind at OB Montessori Center once you supposedly go off for Senior High School.

As the thought comes to mind, you start to feel incomplete; like something is still left undone. Leaving OBMC and the memories that come with it is so hard, for this school will always serve as the epitome of a Montessorian's childhood. But what if you don't have to leave?

OBMC Senior High School offers more educational yet enjoyable activities such as Entrepreneurship Day, Elocution, and other competitions. The General Academic Strand (GAS) helps students become well-rounded in all disciplines necessary for collegiate life and be developed in talents and skills. This strand is a tailor-made mix designed for a student's success, whatever the future holds.

So why do we have to leave when OBMC provides an effective way of learning, along with quality teaching in a prepared environment? Wouldn't it be nice to complete your metamorphosis and finish where you started?



Why Rules Matter

► By Josh Lopez-Base (10 Emerald)

The Montessori curriculum prepares the child at every stage of his development to be a responsible contributing member of society. In Casa, as he learns to follow the blue or brown line, his physical balance is established. Psychologically, his need for order is addressed and strengthened. Subconsciously, he is already learning the importance of following rules.

Rules are a set of do's and don'ts that work for the continuous and harmonious function of people in an organization, big or small. Families have rules that allow its members to work together happily, and countries have rules—called laws—to ensure the smooth flow of work and interaction within its territory.

In the absence of rules, there is only mishap, crime, and chaos. All three disrupt the orderly way of life. To live with rules brings direction and productivity even if it doesn't guarantee perfection. To live without rules only leads to anarchy and draws us further away from the ideal of a well-lived life. Some rules are simple, some are complicated, but they make our lives easier.

At home, parents and guardians establish rules

for the protection of family members. For example, they set a curfew to keep us safe from danger. A curfew teaches discipline and it develops the important habit of being on time. This also trains us to be respectful and considerate of other people's time, for time is precious. This training is carried over from the home into the school as we grow and develop. Rules help us to work and get along with our peers and the adults around us. The quality of our interactions, our maturity and professionalism is honed as we progress from childhood to adolescence and into adulthood.

As adulthood is reached, we enter into a bigger world that is much more complicated and demanding. We look back to where we started at home and in school, and indeed life was easier when rules were simply followed. However, now we see and appreciate the beautiful harmony of society functioning as a whole, working toward a common endeavor for the common good. This is the ultimate reward of understanding and following the simple principle: Rules matter.



STUDY HABITS

Make studying interesting.

"I eat food while I study so I will not get bored."
Carlos David
(3 Flamingo)



HOW LONG DO YOU STUDY?

Repetition is key.

"I always read my notes again and again for two to three hours to understand it, so I can do well on my exams."
Kelsey Sahsa Tolentino
(4 Saturn)



STUDY HABITS

Take down notes.

"Everytime that there is a discussion, I take down notes."
Matthe Gutierrez
(5 Jupiter)



ROUTINE BEFORE EXAMS

Review in advance.

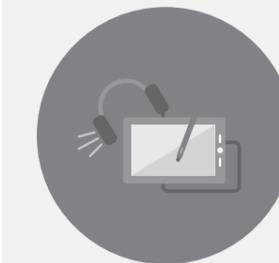
"I study about a week (approximately) before the exam."
Matt Royo
(10 Emerald)



STUDY HABITS

Study where you can focus.

"I usually want to study by myself than with a group because I can focus better without anyone interfering in my review."
Jen De Guzman
(11 Amorsolo)



FEATURES

Filipino Identity: A Sacred Flame

► By Kal Joshua Palafox Fuentes (7 Emerald)

Exquisite biodiversity, a rich tradition of artistic values, a deep and meaningful history—the Philippines is indeed a unique country. Our wise and noble ancestors were a gifted people long before the colonizers came. They found artistic inspiration in nature, developed their own culture, and recorded history in their art. Their way of life was their identity and their legacy to be preserved for future generations.

As we have been gifted with such a beautiful cultural tradition, it is we, the Filipino youth of today, who have been given the sacred duty to uphold this burning flame. Alongside the other cultural societies of the world, we carry this torch as a representation of our national identity.

The Filipino culture originated

from various sources, whether from the indigenous groups inhabiting our islands, the foreign sailors and merchants passing through, or the colonizers who came among us.

With the passage of time, we have drifted away from our original cultural and artistic traditions, patronizing what is not ours rather than what is our own. In preferring what is foreign, we hinder the potential of our own Filipino talents: performing artists, designers, writers, artisans, woodcarvers,

weavers—the list goes on and on.

To keep our culture's sacred flame burning, we the youth must seek beauty in our artistic traditions. We must learn how to keep our heritage alive in this age of industry and technology. We must embrace who we are—our “Filipino-ness”—to begin the journey of preserving and continuing the legacy entrusted to us by our wise and noble ancestors.



A Good Day to Love Oneself

► By Athea Pandong and Patricia Baterina (10 Emerald)

Flowers here, chocolates there, and couples everywhere. It's the 14th of February, St. Valentine's Day to others, and a nice day to be bitter for some. I look around and find myself surrounded by a ton of *kilig* moments: from a person confessing to his crush to a person giving gifts to his or her significant other. “*Ayie*” in every corner and excited shouts can be heard in classrooms.

Amidst this *kilig*-chaos, I feel a sudden emptiness in my heart as something catches my attention. I am still wearing the necklace he gave me; and as I hold it closer to my heart memories come flooding back to me. Something is lacking in such a celebratory day, like an unfinished puzzle with its missing

pieces. They say, “It's better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all.”

It is a mystery to which I am a stranger. It takes time to figure out and complete it. When a heart is broken it takes time to rebuild. However, I think we heal, get back up, and connect the pieces again.

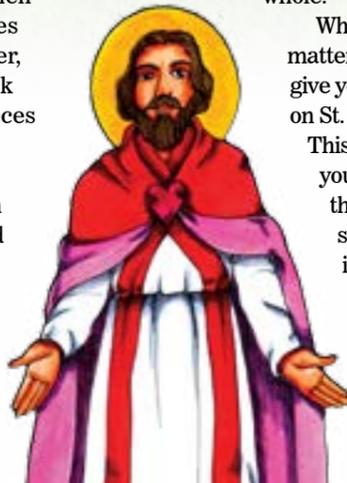
Finding and discovering happiness in ourselves takes time and varies from person to person. Occasionally, we may be able to get help from others, but we have to remember that we can find

strength in ourselves, too.

Only we can accept that our imperfect pieces are part of a perfect whole.

What matters is you give yourself love on St. Valentine's Day.

This love will give you strength to show the world you're still standing. February isn't just a month for couples to show affection, but it is a month for all people to show love for each other.



Ant's Kitchen (Valentine's Special): Strawberry Graham Float

► By Job Brioso
(10 Ruby)

This mouthwatering and vibrant dessert is a twist on the well-loved Filipino mango graham float. Every bite gives our taste buds a sour delight mixed with the creamy layers of sweetened condensed milk. This easy-to-make dish is a perfect gift for the special person you wish to surprise this St. Valentine's Day. So prepare your whisk and follow my basic recipe!

Servings: Good for 4

Ingredients:

- 1 c. fresh strawberries
- 250 ml. all-purpose cream
- (reserve extra for toppings)
- 75 ml. condensed milk
- 1 c. honey graham crackers
- 10 tbsp. strawberry syrup
- (crushed)
- 4 pcs. 12 oz. plastic cups

Instructions:

1. Chill the all-purpose cream and condensed milk overnight.
 2. Wash the strawberries thoroughly and trim off the leaves. Then, cut them into 1 centimeter-sized cubes.
 3. In a large bowl, place 1 cup of chilled all-purpose cream. Whip at high speed until the cream thickens.
 4. In a separate bowl, place a cup of condensed milk and add 2 tbsp. strawberry syrup. Add more syrup to your liking.
 5. In the bottom of a 12 oz. cup, sprinkle 2 tbsp. of crushed graham crackers.
 6. Layer $\frac{1}{4}$ of the cup with your strawberry cream mixture.
 7. Drizzle a tablespoon of your strawberry condensed milk mixture on top of it.
 8. Place a layer of your cubed strawberries.
 9. Repeat this process until you fill the cup. Decorate it with fresh strawberries.
 10. Refrigerate for 30 minutes and serve.
- Serve this to your valentine, and expect a kiss on the cheek in return!



LITERARY

Natagpuang Pag-ibig

► By Athea Pandong (10 Emerald)

Pinanood ko ang mga dahong sumasayaw, sa ilalim nang lumulubog na araw. Kasama niyang malunod ang ating pag-ibig, nung pinakawalan mo ko sa iyong bisig.

Akala ko mamahalin mo ko hanggang dulo. Sa istorya ng pag-ibig natin, ako yung talo, kasi tingnan mo naman, wala nang tayo, at dito na nagtatapos ang ating kwento.

Ngunit sana nakikita mo ang epekto,

nang pagwasak mo sa aking puso. Sa pagbuklat ng isa pang libro, dito magsisimula ang kwento ko.

Ngayon, niluha ko na ang mga sakit. Pinakawalan na ang mga tanong na bakit. Sapagkat, nawala ko ang pag-ibig mo, ngunit nakuha ko naman ang sarili ko.

Ang puso na inakala kong ibinigay ko sa iba, ay ngayo'y nasa isa na. Ang pagmamahal na ibinigay ko sayo ay natagpuan ko na sa sarili ko.

Will You?

► By Aron Bernaldo (10 Emerald)

Ego has become the name of the game. This foolishness has brought our nation shame. Politicians act with impunity and so-called “divinity,” And others who wield authority are never worthy.

The Filipino was born out of struggle against tyranny. From Pugad Lawin to EDSA, people fought with fury. The oppressed of yesterday, the oppressors of today. The Filipino weep.

Our love for country and neighbor should come first. For the Filipino, we must Set aside differences and boundaries to pave the road— The road for a better Philippines!

Good Practices to Prevent the Spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)



Use face mask if you have cough and colds to prevent transmission to other people.



Avoid crowds and close contact with people showing symptoms of cough, colds, fever, and sore throat.



Observe proper cough and sneeze etiquette: Maintain your distance; cover your mouth or nose with tissue or the crook of your elbow while coughing or sneezing.



Wash your hands frequently. If you have no access to water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.



Strengthen your immune system by eating a diet high in fruits and vegetables. Get enough sleep, drink water, and exercise regularly.