

22 March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This year's Founder's Day was celebrated in a different but meaningful way. Previous milestone anniversaries were celebrated in a large venue with all ACS schools, alumni and well-wishers gathered to give thanks for God's faithfulness to the school. With COVID 19 safe management measures in place this year, it was no longer possible to gather as a large group but it provided an opportunity to make the celebrations even more meaningful. The ACS OBA came together with support from ACS Foundation to organize an online thanksgiving service with contributions from all ACS schools in Singapore as well as ACS Jakarta. Through speeches, a visual tour of all the ACS schools and combined choirs featuring current and past students, the celebrations brought a deeper meaning to what it means to celebrate Founder's Day with one Hope, one Heart and one ACS. It also allowed alumni from all over the world to join in as one ACS to celebrate 135 years of God's faithfulness to the school. It was indeed an opportunity borne out of crisis and one that made the notion of one ACS real to all the students!

March is the month for the launch of Methodist Walk. The Methodist Walk is a biennial fundraising activity organised by the Methodist Schools' Foundation (MSF), on behalf of the Methodist schools in Singapore. Traditionally, on the last Saturday in March, student representatives from all 15 Methodist schools gather together with teachers, family members and supporters from the Methodist churches, to walk together and raise money for the individual needs of their schools. Each student would also have a pledge card with which they could seek donations from family and friends.

Due to safe-distancing regulations amid the ongoing pandemic, MWalk 21 will be conducted in a different format. Anglo-Chinese School (Barker Road) will be raising money for the ongoing school building maintenance and upkeep projects, and our fundraising goal is S\$200,000. The school has combined the Methodist Walk with our school's Annual Cross Country. Run, jog or walk, the school population of 1,600 students and staff will come together to cover our target distance of 13,500 km!

Personally, I undertook the ACS135 challenge of walking 135km over 4 weeks to challenge the staff and students to do their part for MWalk 21. I am glad to say that I managed to complete it within 3 weeks with the support of my family, colleagues and friends. On the final day of the challenge, I undertook a heritage walk from Amoy Street to Dover Road covering all the existing ACS schools and previous ACS school buildings. Starting from the ACS House in 70 Amoy Street, I stopped at Coleman Street at the current National Archives, moved on to ACS (Junior) at Winstedt Road, visited the old ACS (Junior) at Peck Hay Road, stopped at ACS (Barker Road) and ACS (Primary) at Barker Road and made that long trek to Holland Village and Dover stopping first at ACS (International) and then ACJC and ACS (Independent).

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Through the 17km walk over 4 hours, I was able to reflect on God's blessing and favour on the ACS schools as I stopped and took photographs of buildings that we occupied on Amoy Street, Coleman St, Peck Hay Road and the existing ACS schools. It was also a reminder of God's faithfulness in granting favour from the then colonial government to MOE and also the support of well-wishers, Methodist churches and various Foundations. Truly an unbroken heritage of faithfulness as we moved and expanded as a school!

It was also a reminder that the buildings and facilities that students enjoy today are a reflection of the community's desire to bless the generation of students in ACS that comes after them. That is what being in ACS is all about. To bless those who come after us. I remembered how alumni raised funds for this campus so that generations of students can enjoy the facilities. Now that heritage of faithfulness and blessing is passed on to the current generation of students by ensuring that they keep the campus facilities well for others.

As a government-aided school, ACS(BR) maintains the same education standards as Government schools and charge standardised fees. However, we are required to co-pay 5% of the cost of building and maintaining facilities that are considered standard for government schools e.g. classrooms, halls, canteens, special rooms etc. Additionally, Government-aided schools have the autonomy to build facilities that are considered non-standard and the cost of building and maintaining these non-standard facilities is borne completely by the school. Examples of non-standard facilities that our boys enjoy on this campus include swimming pool, tennis court, concert hall, drama theatre, futsal court among others.

The cost of maintaining both the standard and non-standard facilities on this campus can be quite substantial. This is the reason why ACS(BR), like many other Government-aided schools, continue to raise funds through parents, alumni and supporters. We earnestly seek your support as we hope to collectively raise \$200,000 this year. More information on how you can make the donation is captured on the school website and I have provided the information for the following channels here:

1. Online donations through Giving.sg:

- Please access the webpage (<https://www.giving.sg/methodist-schools-foundation-7028719/methodistwalk2021-acsb>)

2. Cheque donations:

- Cheque Payee Name: Methodist Schools' Foundation
- On the back of the cheque, please provide details (full name, NRIC and contact info) should you require a Tax Deductible Receipt
- Please drop the cheque at the General Office of ACS (Barker Road) on weekdays between 7.30 am to 5.00 pm

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Anglo-Chinese School
(Barker Road)

A Methodist Institution
(Founded 1886)

3. Donations through PayNow:

- For donors who do **NOT** require a Tax Deductible Receipt, you can donate through PayNow
- Please include "ACS(BR)" in the 'Reference/Remarks'

Account Name: Methodist Schools' Foundation

Bank Name: OCBC

Account No: 501-792881-002

PayNow Code: 199703727C002

Reference/Remarks: ACS(BR)

QR Code (**Scan & Pay** using your bank's online application):



I look forward to your support for the school. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Loo Ming Yaw
Principal

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