



Biba, Class of 2018!



The very first SBCS PreK4 class graduating on May 18, 2018.

The graduating class of school year 2017 to 2018 attended their last outdoor prayer last May 16, 2018. After all said the morning prayers and singing the national anthem and hymns, Sister Maria Rosario Gaité recognized the winners of the Isla Art-athon. Among them is Audrey Edusada of 8A who won first place in the regional competition for her artwork.

The batch also donated \$1000 to the school, in gratitude for the education they received. Several students in the batch were part of the school's first pre-kindergarten class. Afterwards, all who were present did a laying of hands to bless the eighth graders as they prepared for their graduation on May 18. Finally, the eighth grade students, as part of tradition, went around the campus to thank and say goodbye to their teachers.



FDHMS Color Guard perform during CSW18.

HEY, BROTHER!

by Audrey Edusada

During Catholic School's Week, Father Duenas Memorial School Naval Reserve Officers' Training Corps came to aid us, for yet another year, in celebrating SBCS's Catholic Schools' Week through a traditional presentation of "colors", or as we know it, flags. FD's ROTC cadets showed us their impressive synchronized marching and gun-throwing performances that left even the kids in awe with their cool and well-coordinated moves.

Among the ROTC cadets, there are two alumni from our school: Adrian Edusada, from the graduating class of 2015, and Ron Coloma, from the graduating class of 2016.

"We spent hours, practicing our performance, and it paid off, just by hearing those little kids' amazement through their 'ooh's' and 'aah's,'" shared junior ROTC cadet, Adrian Edusada.



SBCS Alumni and
FDHMS ROTC cadet
Ron Coloma.

RACE TO THE FINISH

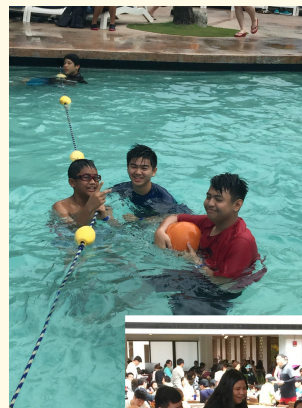
by Audrey Edusada

I didn't really expect much from going to Pacific Islands Club, because all I ever did at water parks were: float, and eat. As you can tell, I got bored of doing just that, so my expectations about our trip to the said water park were dull. I was quite hesitant to have a dip in the water due to an injury, because — who knows what would happen at that point?! Even though my hesitant self held back a lot, I managed to have so much fun with my classmates who were there to bring joy to my day with their bright smiles and energetic attitudes.

Racing my classmates in a kayak, only to have myself bump into other people's kayak and into walls; animatedly playing ping-pong as if I was having an ultimate showdown to see who was the "champion" of the game (I lost nonetheless); and getting three plates filled with food at the buffet because I was so hungry from all that swimming and ping-pong playing — it was great.

Spending time with these people who I will most likely not see in the future makes me all teary-eyed, but it's worth it. As long as I have those 50 pictures of my classmates having fun in my phone, I will always remember this day, and everyone who was part of it.

I'm really going to miss this chaotic batch I somehow managed to be caught up in.



8th graders
having some
fun in the sun!

OUR TAKE: HONK JR

by John Childers

Throughout the year, our Spartans have been in all kinds of extracurricular activities. One of these activities was the spring play, Honk Jr. I have interviewed two people, a cast member and an honor choir member.

“Being in the play has really helped me become a more confident person,” Kyra said. “It’s really fun!” Her experience shows that the play has helped some people to be more confident and to be more open about themselves with others and with an audience.

Our cast had fun, but what about the choir? I talked to Bernice Turla accompanied by Roselle Ocampo to find out more. “It was fun,” says Bernice, “I had a fun time with the cast members.” The performance has an important role to some too. “It had some mistakes, but honestly, it was really good,” says Bernice, “It was my first time being a second voice. It was challenging. It was fun.” I’ve seen and heard the honor choir, and it was a very good performance. They hit each note with precision and timing was off the charts.

As for the acting, I thought it was very nice, with characters getting their lines right! I had never seen this before with any of the other plays I’ve either been in or watched. Some plays were incredibly boring, with the characters showing no real enthusiasm. I was impressed by the amount of joy and excitement filling the characters as they were not acted, but came to life through these actors.

Overall, the play was great to witness and enjoy, moreover when I saw my friends doing these wonderful dances and songs as well. The atmosphere created an almost dazzling experience and almost had me believing that I was right up and personal with the characters.



Kyra dela Cruz and Bernice Turla in Honk, Jr.



by Vincent Dichoso

In March 2018, SBSCS launched its annual spring play “Honk! Jr.” With colorful spotlights, fun animal puns, and amazing characters like the classic Ugly Duckling, they’ve been able to deliver an important lesson: “Being unique is okay.”

Honk! Jr. is like the classic Ugly Duckling story, and it seems to be a favorite within the school as this is their second time doing Honk! Jr. again. The main character, Ugly, is a newborn duckling that is literally ugly, as perceived by his siblings and everyone he meets. One day, Ugly gets lured away from his home lake and gets himself stranded instead. While he’s lost, Ugly runs into many different animals, like the very annoyingly “punny” Frog, a flock of geese acting like they’re in the military, and a family of swans. Later, Ugly would presumably die in a storm, but then come back to life as a beautiful swan instead of a duck to everyone’s surprise.

This play may have been two months ago, but it’s worth remembering as it had been a fantastic performance. The cast played amazing characters and acted their parts well. The school’s kindergarten to 7th grade classes delivered fun-filled choreography. Santa Barbara’s performance was wonderful.

RAIN OR SHINE, IT'S RUNNING TIME

by Danica Tamondong

“Rain or shine, it’s running time!” Those were the words I would often hear in the second quarter sport, cross country.

Santa Barbara had its own cross country team to race in the IIAAG cross country sport. There were a few coaches that greatly supported the team in training and at the meets. They were Coach Piana, Coach Dion Tamondong, Coach Ron, Coach Darren, and Coach Jayvee. Coaches Darren and Jayvee, still attending high school, shared their passion for running with us as cross country and track athletes. The adult coaches shared a love for the fun, but challenging sport of running. In the last cross country season, several middle schoolers participated in the sport and challenged themselves. The team for the season 2017, mostly composed of girls, didn’t place or have any individual winners, but as one they had an exhilarating time.

Most of the practices were either core workouts, sprints, distance, or an easy day. We had to work hard for months because you could really lose everything in a week. Other days, we had time trials or games. The time trials were meet simulations. Games we played included relays, scavenger hunts, team games, zombie tag, balloon tosses, and basically anything with running or teamwork.

When it came to the meets, we were nervous, but our coaches told us to relax, have fun and to do our best. The race was one and a half miles long for middle school cross country. We went against all the private schools that were fortunate to have teams.



Danica Tamondong (2nd row L) joins her Cross Country Teammates after a race.

Some teams were bigger than ours and others, which intimidated us. But because the minimum number of players on each team for each gender was seven, we all needed to focus on getting in that slot. The point system is like golf: the team with the lowest amount of points wins, but only the first seven in your team are counted in for the points. I don’t mean to say the rest aren’t important. If ever someone can’t make it or the other racer isn’t feeling it that day, the rest should still show up to help their team. Every meet, which occurred on Fridays, we challenged one to three schools, so we just focused on beating our opponents for that day instead of everyone as a whole. Whichever place you got between your school and your opponent’s, that was the score you got for your team.

Sadly, we didn’t win anything, but we had fun as a Spartan team and family. As said in our chant and cheer, we were mighty, mighty fast, mighty, mighty strong. We were ready to charge, ready to run. We ran with heart and ran as one.

THE ADVENTURES OF LUKE: BAD BEGINNINGS

by John Childers

Spartan writers also have personal works in progress. This excerpt is from John Childers's Sci-Fi/Fantasy story. John hopes to complete this and publish it as a novel. He hopes to share his stories with more people who would enjoy them.

Summary

Luke is your everyday kid in school learning about atoms and getting his newest atom project when he is thrown into a brand new world centered in the middle of the bermuda triangle! He must battle foes and fight bosses to get his way home, while meeting new and old faces. There are caves, castles, islands, and gods! His friends and his foes make a difficult challenge as he must kill inexplicable monsters! His sword and his shield help him on his way! The Adventures of Luke: Bad Beginnings is the collection of Luke's adventures as he gets back home.

EXCERPT

I was at my desk in my boring science class. The walls were a weird shade of yellow. I think it was that one crayon by Crayola called monkey's breath. It got a little lighter from the fading of the years. The teacher was in front of the chalkboard now. She was talking about atoms or something, I wasn't paying attention much. I was going to fall asleep if something didn't happen. "Luke, what is the thing that makes up everything in the universe?" asked our teacher. "Uh, an atom." I answered, unsure. "Correct." she said.

I walked back to class, but I heard some clunking metal on the floor at the end of the hallway. I turned around and saw a silhouette that seemed to be the stature of me. I walked over to it but it walked away.

What is

Spartan Stories?

Spartan Stories are works by SBCS students who belonged to the Spartan Literary & Writers Society.

SY 2017-2018 writers:

John Childers

Vincent Dichoso

Audrey Edusada

Jamar Nucum

Danica Tamondong

Advisers: Miss Julianne Castro & Miss Jhoanna Co

Photos courtesy of SBCS Gallery,
Audrey Edusada and Xerya Anderson

A PUNNY STORY

by Jamar Nucum

Why couldn't Santa go into the chimney?



Because he was...
Santa *Clause*-trophobic!

Claustrophobic. *adj.* Having the fear of entering small places (*claustrophobia*).