



PARENTS FIRST

Monthly Bulletin for Parents of Southridge School



PC Planning Workshop 2024



THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN EDUCATION

Home-school collaboration is pivotal in fostering a child's educational success, as it bridges the gap between learning environments and ensures a cohesive approach to student development. Parents play a crucial role in this partnership, as their active involvement in their children's education enhances motivation, reinforces learning, and provides essential support tailored to individual needs. When parents and educators work together, they create a unified front that not only addresses academic challenges but also nurtures social and emotional growth. This collaborative effort allows for consistent communication, shared goals, and a comprehensive understanding of each child's unique strengths and areas for improvement, ultimately leading to a more enriched and effective learning experience.



SHARED VISION

By Karlo and Anna Mortel
Grade 6 Parent Coordinators

The Parent Coordinator Planning Workshop, held last August 17, is an exciting event to see fellow parents and hear the different insights and shared experiences of our co parents. This is our second time to attend as parent coordinators and this event serves as a great introduction to the upcoming events for the school year ahead. It also serves as a means to strengthen the parent and school partnership and collaboration.

We were brought together along with the school administrators to begin the important dialogue on enhancing collaboration for the upcoming academic year.

The panel made up of co-parents gave insightful discussions and reflections. One of the parents shared that some of us have definitely chosen this school for our sons for their character formation and the values they will learn. All the parents agreed on how great and helpful the school is in helping our sons with their formation. It is therefore important that we live by example for our sons to look up to.

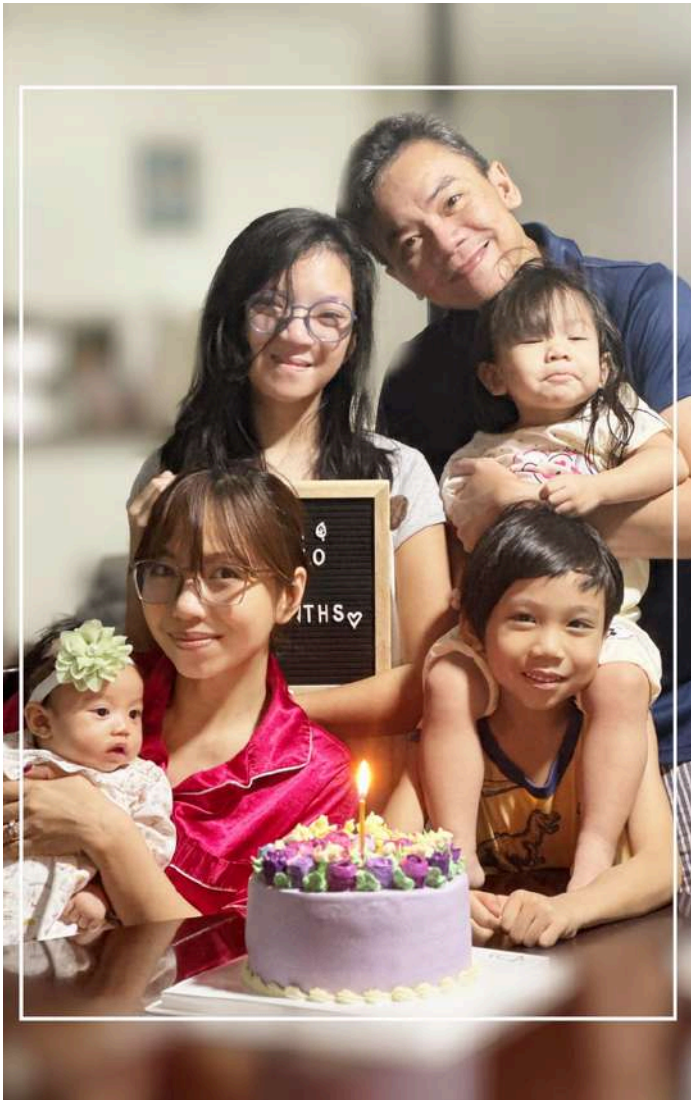
This statement emphasized to us the shared commitment to not only allow our sons to excel academically but also guide their moral and ethical development through exemplary conduct. They have remarked that formation is when you ask yourself as to what this action will teach my child.

The talk for us was an exchange of ideas and perspectives between the parents and the teachers. It also provided another highlight and an opportunity for us parents to align our goals for our sons with the formation of the school and also share our vision with each other. The insights and reflections shared during the talk are some of the guides for us parents to strengthen the collaborative efforts with the school.

It served importance on aligning the efforts of the school and our families. By establishing a shared vision, the planning's alignment towards a supportive and effective educational environment is always a great welcome and great learning experience for us.

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we can inspire others to do the same, and with it nurture an environment where each of our children can thrive. This is probably the biggest challenge for us to take on as Parent Coordinators -- but we take inspiration from the verve shown by Batch 2035, both parents and kids alike.

The seminar also stressed the importance of building relationships within the parent community: to make as many friends as possible, and above all, be inclusive. For sure, this community must be built on a real sense of belonging, collaboration and teamwork. Aside from offering a cohesive and supportive environment for our kids, we feel such a genuine community will set an example for our kids as they too will have their own communities growing up.

From the seminar, we arrived at the profound realization that our co-parents are people who could potentially remain in our lives not just years, but for decades to come. Bonded through our shared experiences, our journey in Southridge offers a unique opportunity to build enduring friendships. Whether through laughter, mutual support, or encouragement, it is surely more enjoyable to navigate the challenges and joys of parenting with friends.

More than anything, the seminar underscored the importance of Parent Coordinators in shaping the culture and spirit of our community. Through making meaningful connections, fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment, and purposeful school activities, we can create a strong, unified kinship that will benefit our children now and in the future.

COMMUNITY OF PARENTS

By Marlon and Diana Castillo
Grade 2 Parent Coordinators

The Parent Coordinators (PC) seminar at PAREF Southridge School was a welcome experience for both of us. It highlighted the role of Parent Coordinators in fostering the warm, inclusive, and supportive community that we want for our kids. At the same time, we also get a deeper perspective of the unique challenges faced by our co-parents, and how they are managing the same.

One of our impactful realizations was that Parent Coordinators should aspire to be role models and formators for other parents. As actions speak louder than words, so must Parent Coordinators lead by example. Whether it's through organizing events, communicating effectively, or simply being present, we understand that our behavior could set the tone for the entire Batch 2035 parent community. By embodying the virtues of respect, empathy, and collaboration,

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TEACH BY EXAMPLE

By Ronald & Sarah Belleza
Grade 2 Parent Coordinators

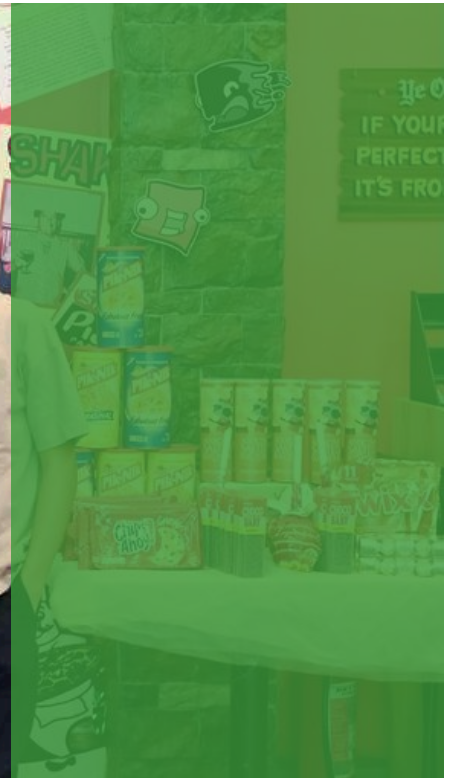
The workshop has given us so many valuable insights on how to better contribute as Parent Coordinators in our respective batches. One of the most significant materials discussed was Character Formation. How important that our values are aligned with what the school is trying to emulate and teach our kids. The best way for our kids to learn about virtues is regularly seeing them lived by people around them. This is where having a community of parents, teachers and friends who are running after the same goals and ideals is crucial. Their examples inspire us to be better and remind us of the Christian way of life we want to live.



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*Tell me and I forget.
 Teach me and I
 remember. Involve me
 and I learn.*

-Benjamin Franklin



THE CORNERSTONE

By Sherwin and Ricelle Sikat
Grade 1 Parent Coordinators

As a parent coordinator, our role is essential in building a strong and cohesive community among parents, teachers, and students. We serve as the primary communication link between the school and families, ensuring that information about school activities, events, and student needs is effectively shared. This requires not only clear and timely communication but also an understanding of the diverse needs of the families we work with. By keeping parents informed and engaged, we help to create a supportive environment where they feel connected to their son's educational journey.

But our responsibilities go beyond communication; we also play a critical role in organizing and coordinating volunteer activities, helping parents to actively participate in their sons' learning journey. Whether it's arranging class and batch activities, organizing special events, or coordinating and preparing for Father's Day, our efforts contribute to a richer Southridge experience for our sons.

We act as a resource for parents, offering guidance on navigating school policies and addressing any concerns they may have. This requires empathy, patience, and a deep commitment to fostering positive relationships.

Moreover, as a parent coordinator, we support the school by helping to mobilize parent resources and volunteers, allowing educators to focus more on our sons' educational development. By facilitating a collaborative environment, we help to ensure that both teachers and parents are working together towards the common goal of supporting our sons' growth and development. Our role is crucial in creating an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere, where every parent feel valued and involved.

In essence, being a parent coordinator means being a cornerstone of the school community, helping to build strong relationships and ensuring that our sons have the best possible support as they embark on their educational journey. Our efforts help lay the foundation for a positive and enriching school experience, setting the stage for future success.

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PASSION AND COMMITMENT

By Ma. Luisa A. Maningas
Grade 4 Parent Coordinators

A Saturday morning filled with positive insights and wisdom from co-parents from different grade levels packed the SR Auditorium for the PC Planning Workshop. Despite their weekday hectic schedules from corporate job, from managing their businesses and/or a very occupied stay at home mom. They accepted and committed themselves to be parent coordinators as a representative of the school among fellow PAREF parents and a representative of PAREF parents to the school, help the school form their co-parents, be a good role model by putting words into action and a lot more.

Indeed, Parent Coordinators wear different hats, it is not a privilege nor a status symbol, it is a selfless, payless and an “unrewarded” but fulfilling task that we dedicated ourselves and pour our time, mind and heart into, in line with the core value of the school to be of service to God and others. But in spite of it all, camaraderie and lifelong friendships were built. Friendships that became your companions, your allies, your confidante, your support group and the friendship that became our chosen families. As for my take away, from this workshop let me quote the saying “It takes a village to raise a child”., PAREF Southridge is our village, our community, our tribe that will help and support us raise a true gentleman.

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SERVANT LEADERS

By Maria Claire Jacob
Grade 4 Parent Coordinators

As a new Parent Coordinator at Southridge, I am both honored and humbled to be a part of this wonderful community, where we share a unified vision for our families as well as the same values and goals for our children: **to raise men of integrity who live by Christian ideals and positively impact their families, community, nation, and the world.**

During the seminar, Tonio, the speaker, emphasized that how we lead the parent community must align with the school’s values. A healthy collaboration with the school is essential for effectiveness; otherwise, issues may arise if we don’t see eye to eye on how things are done. We must wholeheartedly embrace the school’s core values, which emphasize **love for the truth, serving God and others with all our hearts.**

The school strongly believes that **parents are the primary educators of their children** beginning in our own homes.

The speakers also asked the audience about our understanding of ‘formation.’ My understanding of formation is the act of ‘shaping’ something into a meaningful form. In Rick Warren’s best-selling book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, it is explained that **we are shaped to serve God.** To serve God is to serve others wholeheartedly as we live our lives, nurture our families, and ultimately guide our children to become who God wants them to be.

It was also mentioned that we must **set a positive example for other families.** Therefore, if our sons exhibit poor behavior or struggle academically, we must step back from the role and prioritize being a parent above all else.

Beyond organizing school events, collaborating with staff, and other responsibilities, it was stressed that the role of parent coordinator should not cultivate a sense of entitlement but rather foster servant leadership. The PCs act as a bridge between parents and the school, ensuring clear communication and collaboration. It is important that all parents feel represented and heard.

We must work to create a healthy and happy community among parents as we share this journey together until our children graduate in Grade 12, as one big family.

After listening to the inspiring senior parent coordinators share their experiences, we branched into groups according to our batches. It was such a wonderful experience to meet other passionate parent volunteers who are dedicated to the work and planning. I felt excited to collaborate with a variety of amazingly competent co-parents, all of whom generously share their time, talents, and resources in serving the school and building the community. Not only can I learn from them and from all these, but I am also given the chance to serve. For me, this is a way of honoring the Lord for the gift of family and with all the blessings He has given us, by humbly serving my children’s school and, in turn, growing into a better parent and person overall.

I am **Claire Jacob** and my husband, **Karlo ‘Kim’ Jacob**, is an ophthalmologist. We are the proud parents of **Karl Francis Jacob**, who is in Grade 4C and **Kaleb Ray Jacob**, who is in Grade 2A.



ROLE MODEL

By Illian and Rosie Pascual
Grade 1 Parent Coordinators

Key Learning points:

Parents are the #1 educators of their children. With PAREF, they align with the goals and vision of the school, they are an active and integral collaborator.

We as PCs, not only need to be role models for other parents but also a FRIEND, giving apostolate in any small way we can.

We can build a strong community of families through the many activities of the school and batch. Keeping in mind that PCs are always there to support, unite and collaborate with the parents and the school.

PRIMARY EDUCATORS

By Mark and Rica Jumao-as
Grade 1 Parent Coordinators

Our key takeaway from the 2024 PC planning workshop is that we are the primary educators of our Children. This is why we need to be more involved in our sons' school activities and work together with their mentors and teachers.

As PAREF Southridge parents, we should take advantage of the enrichment activities that the school offers, such as the Educhild courses, recollections, and parent forums. These are all opportunities for us to become better parents and educators."



GRADE 1 BATCH 2036 MEET & GREET

By Eric and Monica Tan
Grade 1 HPC

On Friday, August 21, 2024, despite the sudden, heavy downpour in the early evening, the Grade 1 Batch 2036 of PAREF Southridge School held a vibrant and memorable Parents' Meet and Greet. The gathering, facilitated by the dedicated Grade 1 Parent Coordinators, was led by Eric and Monica Tan alongside Liz and Victor Aliwalas, HPC's and DHPC's respectively. The event was a resounding success, with an impressive attendance rate of 82%, as 143 attendees out of the expected 174 people participated.

The potluck setup showcased the parents' enthusiastic support with an abundance of food that delighted everyone. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming, setting the tone for an enjoyable evening.

Following the hearty meal, the energy in the room was elevated by a series of engaging games organized by PC couple, Nestle and Trina Jeturian.

These activities broke the ice among parents, fostering connections and camaraderie. The games allowed parents to interact in groups, facilitating new friendships and strengthening the community spirit within the batch.

A highlight of the event was the lively dance-off, where talented moms and dads showed off their skills on the dance floor. Their impressive performances inspired everyone present and heightened the anticipation for future activities, particularly the upcoming father-and-son camping and Father's Day celebrations.

The event concluded with a presentation that outlined the year-round activities planned for the batch. The day wrapped up with a photo session for each section, hopefully to further solidify the bonds formed among the parents.




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*There are friends,
there is family, and
then there are friends
that become family.*”
-Hearst Owned

UPCOMING EVENTS


PAREF Southridge

1ST PARENTS FORUM (GRADE 5)

SEX EDUCATION 1: *The What and How of Sex Education*




RALLY GANAR
High School Personal Formation Officer

 **20 September 2024**
6:00PM-9:00PM

Schedule:

- 6:00 PM Registration & Dinner (Basement Cafeteria)
- 7:00 PM Opening Prayer & Vice-Principal's Report (SR Auditorium)
- 7:30PM Talk
- 8:30 PM HPC Report



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EDUCHILD
Living Couples. Great Parents. Happy Families

SCHOOL FOR PARENTS LAUNCHING OF THE NEW PARENTS EDUCATION PROGRAM (NPEP) CASE #1



SEPTEMBER 21, 2024 (Saturday)

- 8:30 am Registration
- 9:00 Welcome Remarks
- 9:10 Filling-out of Personal Guidance Form
- 9:20 Introduction about EduChild and Case Study Method
- 9:45 Break-out into Small Group Assignment
- 9:50 Morning Break
- 10:15 Small Group Discussion
- 11:00 Moderated Plenary Session
- 12:00 Wrap-up / Q & A / Filling-in of Evaluation Form



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45



PEER COACHING Seminar (PART 1)

SEPT 21 2024 | SOUTHTRIDGE AUDITORIUM

Time	PART I - Plenary Sessions
1:30pm	Registration
2:00pm	Opening Prayer
2:05pm	Welcome Message
2:15pm	Get-together with Dr. Bernie Villegas
3:30pm	Afternoon Break/Snacks
3:45pm	Round table discussion on the Peer Coaching Experiences
4:45pm	Closing Remarks

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45

1ST PARENTS FORUM (GRADE 2) Big School, Big Skills: How to Help (and Not Help) Your Sons Succeed in Southridge

 **26 September 2024**
6:00PM-9:00PM

Schedule:

- 6:00 PM Registration & Dinner (Basement Cafeteria)
- 7:00 PM Opening Prayer & Vice-Principal's Report (SR Auditorium)
- 7:30PM Talk
- 8:30 PM HPC Report



PAUL CHRISTOPHER Y. CHENG
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR ACADEMIC STANDARDS

September
Virtue of the Month
DILIGENCE

Parents

Guiding Your Son's Academic and Personal Growth

Supporting your son's development requires a balanced approach that encourages both discipline and open communication. Here are some effective ways to guide him:

1. **Set Clear Boundaries:** Establish rules for studying and limit the use of TV, computers, cell phones, and gaming consoles to ensure they don't interfere with his focus.
2. **Enforce a Study Schedule:** Ensure your son follows a consistent study routine that helps him manage his time effectively.
3. **Monitor Academic Progress:** Spend a few minutes each day reviewing his notebooks to stay informed about his schoolwork.
4. **Create a Distraction-Free Study Area:** Make sure his study space is clean, organized, and free from distractions that could disrupt his concentration.
5. **Assign Household Responsibilities:** Give your son tasks at home and hold him accountable for completing them on time and with care.
6. **Acknowledge His Efforts:** Recognize and appreciate your son's successes and the effort he puts into his work.
7. **Discuss Your Profession:** Share insights about your career with your son to broaden his understanding of different professional paths.
8. **Encourage Earning Rewards:** Teach your son the value of earning rewards through hard work and dedication.
9. **Provide Quality Reading Materials:** Make good books and educational materials readily available at home to encourage a love for reading.
10. **Engage with His Schoolwork:** Show interest in his academic life by asking about his assignments and the projects he's working on.
11. **Promote Organization:** Ensure that your son keeps his school materials tidy and in order.
12. **Listen and Advise:** Be attentive to your son's concerns about school and offer guidance on how to address them.
13. **Foster Open Communication:** Create a positive and open environment at home where your son feels comfortable sharing his thoughts and feelings.

SEPTEMBER 2024 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES



PAREF Southridge



SEPTEMBER Calendar of Activities School Year 2024 – 2025

1	Sunday	1st Sunday Recollection for Men (English)
4 – 6	Wed – Fri	SHS Mid Sem 1 Period 1 Exams
4	Wednesday	Club Meeting for GS & JHS Unit Faculty Meeting at 2 pm
5	Thursday	GS & AS Student Assemblies
6	Friday	JHS & SHS Student Assemblies First Friday Vigil
11	Wednesday	Club Meeting for SHS Unit Faculty Meeting at 1 pm except for SHS Grade 10 DS First Parents Forum
13 – 17	Fri – Tue	DS Grade 10 Mid 1st Trimester Exams
18	Wednesday	Unit Faculty Meetings at 1 pm Faculty Development Session: Voice Caravan
18 – 20	Wed – Fri	GS & JHS Mid 1st Trimester Exams
19 – 24	Thu – Tue	Grade 10 DS Bicol Student Seminar
20	Friday	Grade 5 First Parents Forum
21	Saturday	Launching of New Parents Education Program Peer Coaching Seminar Part 1
22	Sunday	4th Sunday Recollection for Men (Filipino)
23 – 25	Mon – Wed	Guidance Week
23 – 27	Mon – Fri	Admirals' Spirit Week
25	Wednesday	Unit Faculty Meeting at 1 pm Guidance Week Talk for Teachers
26	Thursday	Grade 2 First Parents Forum
27	Friday	Admirals' Day
28	Saturday	AS First Parents Forum Launching of Pinoy EduChild for Grade 7 AS