

FCMSM NEWS



THERE ARE NO BAD STUDENTS

There are no bad students, only bad teachers. Some teachers don't like this statement at all. They have known students who exasperate them to no end. Some parents agree with the statement. They feel that teachers have failed because their own child had not become better.

Let us not be too hasty to jump disagreeably at the statement. The sentence does not mean that all students are good, neither does it mean that a student's failure is the teacher's fault. I see the quote in a different light. It is meant to spur teachers on to be overcomers. If they have a weak student or an obnoxious one or an incorrigible ruffian, teachers shouldn't give up on that student easily. They shouldn't throw in the towel – that would make them 'bad.' A 'good' teacher would keep on trying to help or do something.

Every teacher would have had a student who just cannot grasp facts, or one who keep breaking rules and defying the school. I have had my fair share of such students. I still fail to help these students – some just cannot understand what I teach, some have not changed their behaviour. I am not a 'good' teacher, in the sense that I've not been very successful with students; but neither am I a 'bad' one, as long as I still keep going on and not giving up on these students.

Happy Teachers' Day and keep being a 'good' teacher!

Bible Knowledge

QUIZZES

	Quiz	No of participants		
		2020	2021	2022
1	National Bible Knowledge Postal Quiz	1993	1899	2065
2	BK Annual Quiz	2105	1805	1709
3	National Bible Knowledge Oral Quiz (teams of two)	202	169	126 ½

The BK and Oral Quizzes are recognised by the Ministry of Education. Mission Schools and Christian teachers can encourage their students to take up Bible Knowledge for SPM and participate in these quizzes.

Christian Fellowships, Catholic Associations and Boys' and Girls' Brigades can use these quizzes as their club activities and so encourage their members to take part in the quizzes.

There is no assurance that students can get any PAJSK marks for these quizzes. Nevertheless, students who still take part know where their true reward lies.

Registration for the BK23 and 27th National SPM BK Oral Quizzes starts from the 30th April 2023. To register for BK23, use this link: <https://bit.ly/BK23preregistration>. And to register for the SPM BK Oral Quizzes, use this link: <https://forms.gle/efFusifYrjFtxSXH7>.

VIDEO PROJECT

- i) 31 videos on Luke completed. 4 more to go for Luke.
- ii) Total expenditure: RM15 553.73 as at 12 May 2023
- vi) Copyright permission for the use of the Good News Translation text of the Bible:
 - One-time royalty fee of USD500 (RM2116.38)
 - Paid on 25 Apr 2022
 - In effect for current edition of the two sets of videos on Luke and Acts of the Apostles

GUIDEBOOKS REVIEW

- i) 20 chapters of Luke have been reviewed so far by the FCMSM Task Force.
- ii) 'Revision Guides on Luke and Acts of the Apostles' have been separately published by Peter J Pereira and Moses Samuel.

SPM BK RESULTS

Year		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Excellent	A+, A, A-	25.5	26.7	26.5	27.8	34.0
Credit	B+, B, C+, C	33.1	35.3	34.2	33.8	34.0
Pass	D, E	16.1	16.4	17.4	17.8	13.0
	A+ to E	74.7	78.4	78.1	79.4	81.0
Fail	G	25.3	21.6	21.9	20.6	19.0
No of candidates		372	397	339	370	285
Average subject grade		5.17	5.03	5.07	4.95	4.58

(Figures are in percentages, where applicable.)

What can a student do if he/she wants to register for SPM BK but the school is putting obstacles and excuses before him/her?

BK is a subject under LPM, and no school is allowed to restrict any students who wants to register for it.

However, we do understand the school's reservations. The student' parents should write a letter to the principal, expressing their intention for their child to take BK for SPM, and support it by mentioning the class or teacher who has been teaching their child. In the letter, emphasize that any parent wants their child to grow in faith, with good virtues (beriman dan bersikap mulia).

Mention that the first rukun of the RukunNegara is "Kepercayaan kepada Tuhan" and strong faith is the basis of a good moral compass. Assure the principal that they will make sure their child attends classes regularly and puts in the effort required (shows parents' commitment).

If the principal is still stubborn, call up the Unit Peperiksaan in PPD and JPN and bring up the matter.

In the name of Jesus, all things are possible and we shall have the victory!

Sumbangan Bantuan

bagi Sekolah Bantuan Kerajaan

2023 Allocations

i) In 2021, BPA disbursed the monies to schools directly while FCMSM coordinated the distribution through the Mission Authorities. RM20.94 million was allocated for Mission Schools (SK and SBK only) in the National Budget.

ii) In 2022, LPS forwarded their applications through the PPD, which pass it on to the JPN and then on to BPA. BPA then disbursed the monies through JPN and PPD before finally reaching the LPS. RM24.03 million was allocated for Mission Schools (SK and SBK only) in the National Budget.

iii) In 2023, the method of disbursement is the same as for 2022. To date, we still do not know the total amount allocated to Mission Schools in the National Budget.

Data for how many MS applied and total allocations requested is not available because some schools did not provide the information. An estimate is that 291 schools requested for a total of RM40.27 million,

2022 Allocations

	No of schools	Amount requested	Amount received
Applied	363	29,071,826.97	9,046,762.45
Did not apply for some reason or other	61	0	939,384.00
Total	424	29,071,826.97	9,986,146.45

Note: Schools that did not apply yet received allocations, probably received them from other funds.

	No of schools	Amount received
Received	155	9,986,146.45
Did not receive for some reason or another	269	0
Total	424	9,986,146.45

155 schools out of 363 which applied received the allocations ie the success rate was 42.7%.

REPORTS

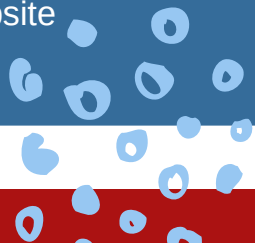


A Handbook for Governors/Managers of Boards of Christian Mission Schools

by
Federation of Christian Mission Schools Malaysia

INSPIRE 2 - HANDBOOK FOR BOARDS OF MISSION SCHOOLS

- Printed on 29 November 2022
- Number of copies printed: 2500
- Cost of publication: RM8300
- Distribution method: 5 copies per Mission Authority and per Mission School
- Also made freely available on the website with FAQs



SESI LIBAT URUS

- On the 2nd Feb 2023
- In Hotel Averly, Putrajaya
- Organised by the Bhg Perancangan dan Penyelidikan Dasar Pendidikan
- We were almost not invited to the meeting.



MEETING WITH THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION

- On the 21st Feb 2023
- A session for building rapport and understanding.
- We requested for consultation with MAs be extended even to the appointment of the Penolong Kanan.
- YB Lim HY promised to follow-up on allocations this year.

TAKLIMAT TATACARA PERMOHONAN SUMBANGAN

- Held on 5th April 2023
- At the request of FCMSM and Ms Teh, our MOE liaison officer
- Online via Microsoft Teams

5TH FCMSM AGM

- On the 10th Apr 2023
- Online via Google Meet
- VIP Guest: Datuk Dr Mary Yap



Chairman	Thomas Huo Kok Sen
Vice Chairman	Lim Kah Cheng
Secretary	Winnie Voo Nyuk Yung
Assistant Secretary	Angeline Lazaroo
Treasurer	Marie Yong
Committee member	Yap Pak Shun
Committee member	Douglas Telajan
Committee member	Brian de Rozario
Committee member	Moey Yoke Lai
Committee member	Satkunamary Gnanakkan

NEW EXCO 2023-2025

Advisor	Arch Julian Leow
Advisor	Khor Hong Yin
Advisor	Dato' A.R. Peter
Advisor	Yap Kok Keong
Int Auditor	Mabel Nayagam

FOR LIGHT READING - A MOVIE REVIEW



It was one of those nights you flicked through the channels on the TV box and they are all showing reruns. So you decide to watch a Hindi movie and you chanced upon one with a storyline revolving around a teacher. Catching my interest, my eyes stayed glued to the TV till the end of the movie.

'Hichki' is a movie starring Rani Mukerji as Naina Mathur who is a teacher suffering from Tourette syndrome (TS). According to Google, TS is a condition of the nervous system which causes people to have "tics".

Tics are sudden twitches, movements, or sounds that people do repeatedly. People who have tics cannot stop their body from doing these things.

For Naina, she would bite a pen to control her tics. Or taps her chin repeatedly. Otherwise, she would go 'Chuck! Chuck!' while shaking her head to the left quite vigorously.

She wants to be a teacher but is rejected repeatedly by the schools she approaches.

Principal: "The children will laugh at you." Naina: "I'll make sure instead of laughing at me, I will teach them to laugh with me."

Principal: "I'll give you the job if you can stop the noises." Naina: "Sir, even you have a disorder: ignorance."

Principal: "Are you sure you can teach?" Naina: "Tourette affects my speech, not my intellect."

Naina's parents even argued over how to bring her up when she was still young. Her dad thought she needed a special school.

But her mum thought that she needed a normal school. "Because she needs a normal life," says mum.

Why does Naina want desperately to be a teacher? Because 22 years ago, during a school concert, she was having her tics as usual and spoiling the performance.

But at the end of the concert, her teacher called her up and instead of reprimanding her, affirmed her in front of everyone. Since then, she wanted to do the same for 'similar' students.

Finally, Naina gets accepted in a 'good' school not on her own merits but because the school desperately needed a teacher to fill in a long-time vacancy. She is assigned the last class, 9F, where the students come from the slums.

In India, apparently, there is a government mandated quota for schools to accept underprivileged students.

On the first day, Naina gives her phone number to the class, inviting them to contact her anytime. When asked why she did that, her response was because education is not restricted to the school, but should be available anytime anywhere.

The class makes life miserable for her. The school thought she wouldn't last a week. After an 'explosive' mischief, the school wanted to suspend her whole class. But she defended them saying she would find a way to channel their energy correctly and constructively.

One day, Naina brought some boiled eggs to school. She tossed the eggs to each student, with each one catching the eggs nicely.

She then told them that they caught the eggs without knowing the equation of a parabola. This showed that they were already mathematicians. But one student retorted, "Ma'am, if we know everything already, why are we in school?"

Full of exasperation, Naina tried to think of ways to change her students' mindset. She tried writing on the blackboard with a screeching chalk. She tells the students that if she breaks off the tip of the chalk, it would stop screeching.

A tiny piece, a tiny change but the result is transformational. She challenges them to make that small change in their lives or keep on screeching.

Naina made her lessons interesting. This got students from other classes envious. They asked their teachers, "Why can't we have fun in our experiments?"

On Parent-Teacher Meeting day, none of her students' parents turned up. Sneering at her, the discipline teacher, Mr Wadia said, "Maybe, your PTM should be held in every kid's home."

That got her thinking and indeed she went off to find her students. She saw their lives and she saw what they were good at in their environment.

One student was playing and betting at card games. She told him that he is good at calculations. He can learn to dabble in share markets.

Another student was helping out in a garage. She asked him why the car moved faster in the fourth than the second gear. And that's knowing Physics.

Another girl was cooking and she added salt to the ladies' fingers towards the end. That's understanding Chemistry. She tells each of them that they are experts at their own subjects.

All to no avail. Surrendering, she tells them that there's one more thing they are good at – blaming their circumstances.

Finally, she asked them to write their fears on a piece of paper and fold the paper into a plane. Throwing the paper planes into the air, she asked them to accept their fears, and let the truth set them free, like the wind beneath the aeroplane's wings. Their fears will become their strengths, not weaknesses.

Mr Wadia didn't like Naina's students and felt they were out of place in the school. He told her that she was wasting her time on them. She answered back, "There are no bad students, only bad teachers."

Wow, that was like a bolt from the sky. I have never thought of it like that. My first instinct has always been to put the blame on the student if they didn't change. I have already done what I can and if they don't change, you cannot blame me.

But Naina didn't mean that her students were angels. She was just saying that we cannot give up helping these students.

In the Bible, Peter asked Jesus, "How many times must I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me?" Jesus' simple reply was, "No, not seven times but seventy times seven!" (Matthew 18:22 - NLT)

Jesus was really saying to keep forgiving. Likewise, I believe we are to never give up on our students no matter how bad they are.

Towards the end of the movie, it turned out that Mr Wadia's 'good' student plotted to make Naina's whole class fail in the exams. Mr Wadia was devastated.

Here, his own student whom he was proud of for doing well in his studies had stooped lowly to devise a devious plan against 9F.

Mr Wadia makes a deep statement: "A student can lose marks for learning something wrong, but a teacher never loses marks for teaching something wrong."

He was the bad teacher though he had 'good' students; Naina was the good teacher though she had 'bad' students.

Afternote

Some days later, I watched the movie, "Front of the Class," an autobiographical movie about Brad Cohen. Only then did I realise that "Hichki" was actually based on Cohen's character in the movie. Cohen's book was titled, "Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had." Hmm, an interesting title.

