



MDPS Journal

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The Official School
Paper of
Mother of Divine
Providence
School

Tanggatang Zaccaria



We remember the life of St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria

*"Consider my love for you, and how I long for your perfection. Look into my heart; I lay it open to you.
I am ready to shed my blood for you provided you follow my counsels." -- Letter II*

We Remember the Life of St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria

By Vienne Felicity D. Palomo, 10-Misericordia

What is a leader? Do they threaten people out of control? Someone who continues to be blinded by the scorn desecration of the riches while they let those below drown in debt that the people of high seats have made? Perhaps it unfortunately is. People in seats too big for them, surrounding themselves with pillars of sand. Warfare, death and violence beseech these lands like a plague we've all grown used to. But, do we continue to live like this?

Four hundred eighty-six years ago in Cremona, in Northern Italy — a beloved man was born. In the same era where Martin Luther fought the abuses made by the Church, counter-reformists ran rampant, and among them was Anthony Zaccaria. Once he was ordained, he was later called to Milan a few years after and established a foundation for three religious congregations; the Barnabite Fathers, Angelic Sisters of St. Paul, and the Laity of St. Paul. The aim of his congregations was to rectify their corrupt society. To bring back the ideas and values that the Church was supposed to strive for. He was beloved for his hard work and his passion to drive out the full fire of faith of his people, preaching tirelessly through rain and shine. His leadership is commendable, bringing people together in the hands of God, spreading His word and preaching Christian values.

Even after death his work is still viewed today. Church leaders walk in his example in order to provide for the youth, schools and community making it a priority to teach the values of his leadership to the new generation so that one day — a leader like the doctor and saint may rise among us and help guide us into a promising future. A future that isn't taken from us, one where we all can look forward at MDPS and shaping leaders from a crowd of young adolescents. Giving us an opportunity to peer into the future of the leaders we could have once the ballot lands in our hands, and



hopefully one day will inspire an MDPsian to rise from the struggle and share their voice to our country bringing it into a progressive tomorrow.

Last July 4, 2025, we had a holy mass presided by Rev. Fr. Jimmy George Anastacio, CRSP. During the mass, Fr. Jimmy shared to us the good deeds of St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria and he emphasized that we need to be like him.



The New SBO Officers and New Administrators Swear for their Roles and Responsibilities

By Eirene L. Meran, 9-Fortezza

The installation of the new SBO Officers alongside new Administrators, was done on August 15th of 2025; along with the Mass, Dakilang Kapistahan ng Pag-aakyat sa Langit ng Mahal na Birheng Maria. The new

SBO Officers and administrators were then blessed during the Mass as a formal ceremony, where they swore an oath that their position in the organization will be a contribution to the school. This dignified each officer, as they were trusted by the school's community to be seen as leaders, and persons of character. They were then declared as official officers in their respective roles, which highlighted their importance to the school and its students.

Sr. Ruby Diva, ASP is back as our school directress, Sr. Janeth Millanes, ASP is our General Services Administrator, and Ms. Melissa Ann A. Salvador is our school registrar.

The new set of SBO Officers are the following:

President	: Phia Cassandra Mamaril
Vice President	: Myiesha Lyn Tolentino
Grade School Vice President	: Aeron James Cuntapay
Secretary	: Marquise Zuleika Velasco
Asst. Secretary	: Nathaniel Castilla
Treasurer	: Shanti Ellise Urbano
Auditor	: Shawn Jerwin Clark Ordon
P.R.O	: Estelle Felicity Borbolla and Jace Zachary Badillo
Grade School P.R.O	: Althea Miguel (Girl)
High School Peace Officer	: Kaye Lynn Borja (Girls)
High School Peace Officer	: Ricardo Felipe Trinidad (Boys)
Grade School Peace Officer	: Vana Saniya Monsad (Girls)
Grade School Peace Officer	: Uno Ramoso (Boys)

On the cover



MDPS remembers the life and works of St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria

MDPSians Click, Read, and Connect in the Literacy Week

By Jessie Samantha C. Nebab, 11-Onesta'

With the theme "Promoting Literacy in the Digital Age," this year's Literacy Week celebrated how literacy continues to evolve in a digital world powered by technology. The theme reminds us that literacy isn't just about reading and writing, it's also about knowing how to click, read, and connect responsibly in digital spaces.

Planned and organized by the English Department together with the MDPS Educational Media Center (EMC), the celebration aimed to spark creativity, inspire critical thinking, and remind everyone that learning goes beyond textbook pages. Throughout the week, MDPSians took part in engaging activities that showcased their creativity. The culminating day kicked off with excitement and energy, hosted by Hamir Melitante and Shanti Urbano of Grade 12 – Serenita', who kept the crowd alive. The campus turned into a sea of colors as students dressed up as their favorite characters from books, movies, and video games. Some showed off their fashion while many amazed the crowd with their creative costumes.

The grade school students charmed everyone with their Disney-inspired performances filled with music, dance, and storytelling. Their energy and enthusiasm made the venue feel almost magical and nostalgic, entertaining parents, teachers,



and fellow students. The high school students, on the other hand, took the stage with jaw-dropping performances. The Grade 7 performed a dramatic Readers' Theater, the Grade 8 impressed with their loud Jazz Chant, and the Grade 9 gave a powerful Speech Choir performance. The Grade 10 wowed the audience with their full musical theater production of Moana, complete with acting, singing, and choreography, while the Grade 11 took a different route with a Podcast about communication in the digital age. Each grade level brought something special from their class to the stage, proving that MDPSians have both incredible literacy and talent.

Adding to the fun, the MDPS EMC teamed up with WS Pacific Publisher to organize a week-long Book Fair at Tanghalang Zaccaria. The fair offered everything from pens and keychains to a wide range of books and stationery, attracting students and teachers who enjoyed window shopping and rediscovering the joy of reading like kids. Meanwhile, the Speech and Drama Club kept the spirit alive with MDPS Literacy FM, a school radio segment where students could request songs and dedicate them to friends and teachers.



MDPS Celebrates the Mass of the HOLY SPIRIT

By Eirene Meran, 9-Fortezza

MDPS commemorated the Mass of The Holy Spirit on June 27th of 2025. The Mass of The Holy Spirit is a Catholic Tradition, where schools celebrated the guidance and gifts the Holy Spirit offers us as Catholics. As the third divine Person of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit reminds us of the many gifts in our life as believers. It empowers and motivates us to live a spiritual life with true freedom and strength, and to be united in the Kingdom of God, which is why it is important to celebrate the Holy Spirit. The MDPSians celebrated the Mass with full devotion and respect to the Holy Spirit as one of the Holy Trinities.



When CORRUPTION Floods The Nation

By Marquise Zuleika J. Velasco, 12-Serenita

Is it really the floods that destroy lives, or the corruption that causes suffering? Tax money meant for safety projects to protect the lives of Filipinos have instead been used to fund the lavish lifestyles of public officials.

The Philippines is a disaster-prone country. According to PAGASA, roughly 20 tropical cyclones enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility each year. The Philippine Statistics Authority recorded 53 flash-flood or flooding incidents in 2024 alone. Recent storms such as Typhoon Opong, have taken the lives of dozens and thousands were displaced. Likewise, flooding breeds disease. According to the Philippines News Agency, Quezon City noted 103 leptospirosis cases and 20 were fatal. This situation clearly reflects the government's negligence in addressing disaster preparedness and public health concerns.

Yet when projects connected to the Discayas whose responsibility is to execute the flood control projects properly, have yet to give us a working project. Sarah Discaya, in her previous campaign running for Pasig's Mayor, stated that "We didn't use government funds for those projects; we used our own money. We're showing what we can do for Pasig without relying on public funds." is now being questioned by many because of their hypocrisy. Upon the Senate's inquiry, they discovered that the Discayas took many of the flood-control contracts but when officials checked the location of these sites, there were little to no structures in sight. These projects were listed as "completed" on paper even if there is no visible work found. Discaya's companies are now listed among

contractors under investigation. The couple have profusely denied wrongdoings even as their rapid wealth raised public suspicion. These contradictions and empty promises sparked widespread outrage and calls for accountability.

Many Filipinos once hoped that promised flood projects would finally protect them from harm, instead, the tax money is being used for personal gain. If we want fewer flooded streets and fewer families at risk, we must not let this issue be forgotten. This is not a trend meant to be forgotten, this is reality. Only then will the tax funds be used for the betterment of the country, not for private gain.

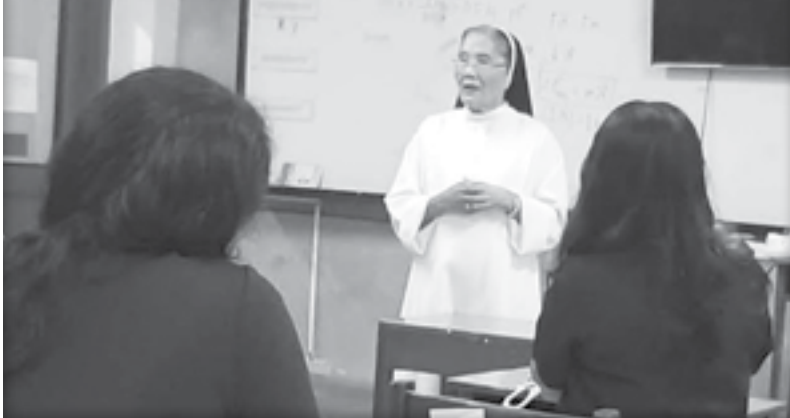


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Sr. Ruby D. Diva, ASP Returns as MDPS' Directress: An Interview

By Jessie Samantha C. Nebab, 11-Onesta'



After two years away, Sr. Ruby Diva, ASP, is back as the Directress of MDPS, and she's ready to take our school to the next level. In this interview, she shares her vision, the challenges she faces with a big responsibility in her hands, and the changes she hopes will shape students, teachers, and staff, showing her leadership that is all about dedication and commitment to making a difference.

Q: How did you feel?

A: Having served MDPS for many years, Sr. Ruby shared that returning to the school did not feel entirely new to her. However, she noted that after two years away, several changes had been established within the institution. "If you lead a place like this—an institution—it is expected for you to continue the changes that you have initiated," she explained, highlighting the importance of maintaining progress regardless of transitions in leadership. While these changes were minor, she acknowledged that these affected the operation of the school.

Q: What are the responsibilities you took upon your return?

A: Sr. Ruby described her role as one that requires both leadership and collaboration. "As the head of the school or the directress, you are the chief executive of the school," she explained. She emphasized that the overall management and supervision of MDPS rest in her hands but

added that she does not carry this responsibility alone. "You don't do that on your own because you are also helped by the other members of the school community," she said, recognizing the collective effort of the school community that keeps the school running smoothly towards its mission.

Q: Have you faced challenges in fulfilling your responsibilities? What are these challenges?

A: When it comes to challenges, she admitted that financial concerns remain the most pressing. "The number one challenge is finance," she stated, explaining how the COVID-19 pandemic affected the school's operations. Another difficulty is rebuilding the school's population. "How to promote or increase the population of the school—it's a big challenge," she said, highlighting the ongoing effort to strengthen MDPS both financially and in the growth of the student body.

Q: What are your plans for the future of MDPS?

A: Looking ahead, Sr. Ruby shared that MDPS has a clear development plan in place. "In that plan, detailed are the goals and how to attain the goals," she explained, emphasizing the school's structured and systematic approach to growth. One of the immediate priorities this year is the upcoming PAASCU visit. "The number one goal is for us to have a reaccreditation," she said, adding that the school aims not only to retain or level up its status of Level II but also to elevate the quality of education it provides. Upgrading facilities is also part of the plan, as these improvements support both the academic program and the community. She highlighted the role of teachers and staff as key implementors of this academic program, with the goal of producing graduates "who are persons of character" and well-prepared to succeed in their next educational endeavors.

Talking to Sr. Ruby opened my eyes to how much effort and care go into running our school which we, as students, often take for granted. Through her talk about challenges she faces as the Directress, I hope we can do our part of contributing to the school's growth and recognizing our role as students of this institution whose name we carry. May her dedication also inspire us to strive not just to become smart individuals, but to become people of character who dream of succeeding and making an impact to our country and the world.

Sr. Ruby's return as the Directress of MDPS demonstrate the school's commitment to growth and innovation, as she balances maintaining past initiatives and introducing new ones for the institution that will benefit not only the students but also every person involved in its operation. Her vision serves as a guiding light which ensures that MDPS remains a place of academic excellence and character formation.

MDPS Holds SBO Campaign

By Pure Rose P. Trinidad, 9-Fortezza



On July 8 and 9, 2025 the Mother of Divine Providence School hosted a Student Body Organization campaign, providing an inquiry for those students who find the candidates unfamiliar, while providing a stable advertisement for candidates who sought positions within the student Organization. During the event, candidates addressed questions from the audience and sought to earn the support of their fellow school mates in a dynamic, school-wide setting. The candidates had introduced themselves alongside their respective parties with a mix of nervousness and determination, highlighting their commitment to represent the decisions of every single student. The event encouraged a vibrant and engaging atmosphere for the students, providing an opportunity to interact with the candidates and make informed decisions about who would best represent their interests and voices within the school community.

Moving Up, Recognition and Graduation Ceremonies Bring Hope To The Students

By Estelle Felicity T. Borbolla, Grade 10 — Misericordia

The 2024–2025 school year was full of moments that tested patience, strength, and hope. There were long days and times when giving up felt easier. But there were also smiles, laughter, and small wins that made everything worth it. Looking back, it was a year that changed people in ways they didn't always notice.

On April 11, 2025, the school held the Moving Up and Undergraduate Recognition ceremony. Shayne Jenica Clare Ordoña opened the program with a warm Word of Welcome, setting a tone of thankfulness. Jessie Samantha Nebab shared the Word of Gratitude, expressing appreciation for the teachers, parents, classmates, and friends who helped make the year meaningful.

The program featured heartfelt performances. Grade 10 Misericordia performed "On Our Way," written by Jannah Cathleen Havana and Jace Zachary Badillo. The song spoke about moving forward while remembering the moments that shaped everyone. Then came "Moments to Memories," a song that reminded the audience how quickly time passes and how every ordinary day can turn into something unforgettable.

Also, the Preschool Culminating and Recognition Day took place in the morning. The first part of the program was the Culminating Day when the preschoolers showcased their wit and talents. They sang and danced to different music. They also recited some poems. After a short break, the Recognition followed when

the preschoolers were given distinctions for their hardwork in school academically.

The next day, April 12, 2025, was the Graduation Ceremony for Grades 6 and 12. The atmosphere was filled with excitement and emotion. Francesca Stacey Fajardo welcomed the crowd with confidence and warmth, while Maxene Kirsten Peralta shared a touching message of gratitude. Her words showed how much had been learned—not just from books, but from experience and support.

When the Grade 12 students performed their original graduation song written by Aaron Weil Pangilinan. It spoke about endings, beginnings, and the friendships that made the journey special. As "Long Live" by Taylor Swift played, everyone sang along, teachers smiling, parents recording the moment, and graduates holding back tears as they realized this was the last time they would stand there together.

When the ceremonies ended, the applause lasted long. The 2024–2025 school year had come to an end, but it left behind lessons that would stay for a lifetime. This year was not just about medals or certificates. It was about trying again after failing, showing up when it was hard, and finding joy in simple moments. It was about growing quietly and realizing how far everyone had come. And that made it a year worth remembering.





Sr. Ruby D. Diva, ASP Shares On Our Road To PAASCU Re-Accreditation: An Interview



By Jessie Samantha C. Nebab, 11-Onesta'

What does it really take for our school to be recognized as one of the best? This year's PAASCU reaccreditation is not just a certificate, but a journey of teamwork and dedication to continuous improvement. I sat down with Sr. Ruby Diva, ASP, our Directress, to get the behind-the-scenes look at the steps, challenges, and projects that keep MDPS moving forward. From new initiatives to the character development of students, her insights show how every student, teacher, and staff plays a role in shaping our school to reach the next level of excellence.



Q: What do you think are the improvements or projects that will push our reaccreditation to the next level?

A: Sr. Ruby emphasized that "Number one is the academics as the academic program is the core of the school." She highlighted initiatives such as the enhanced curriculum and coding programs like the ACE and Technokids. The school is also upgrading the library "so that the students would have more access to resources," while physical improvements to the campus remain minimal as of now.

She also stressed the importance of teachers, noting that although some are young and new, they are capable and can relate well to students: "They belong to Gen Z... more or less hindi malayo ang gap sa inyo." Regarding student development, she pointed out that character and moral integrity is the foundation of every student. "Look, there are so many bright people, but when they are given opportunities to be leaders and legislators, what happened to them? The formation of their moral integrity is probably very weak," she stressed. She admitted to the idealistic expectations of the school on MDPSians but stated that "there must be ideals to be met." Her aspiration for students is ambitious yet clear: "We hope this young generation will be the ones to take leadership in the future," equipped not only with knowledge but with integrity to make a meaningful change in society.

Talking to Sr. Ruby gave me a whole new perspective on what it really takes to make our school one of the best. The PAASCU reaccreditation is more than just inspections; it's a collective effort with so much thought and planning that go into ensuring that MDPS excels academically and nurturing students with integrity and character.

The journey toward reaccreditation reminds us that excellence is a continuous process of growth and collaboration. With shared responsibility and strong values, MDPS is shaping students to become future leaders of integrity who are ready to make an actual meaningful impact to our country.

Q: Do you think our school is fully ready for re-accreditation?

A: "We should be ready," Sr. Ruby confidently replied. She pointed out that the preparation for the reaccreditation follows a clear timetable. She also emphasized that readiness isn't just focused on the administration, but involves "the whole community including parents, all the stakeholders, especially you students," as the evaluation focuses heavily on classroom performance. According to her, "it's a big factor in your readiness in the classroom as students," stressing the crucial role students play in the school's success.

Q: What were the steps you took to get our school pushed for its reaccreditation?

A: Sr. Ruby explained that the process of PAASCU accreditation has been ongoing for years. "We started this in 2009, which we just continued," she said, noting that the major groundwork of preparing systems, policies, procedures, and practices to meet accepted standards was laid between '06 and '09. She added that in 2011, MDPS was at Level I, and by 2015, we achieved Level II accreditation. Looking ahead to the next visit this coming March 2026, she stressed that "It's a never-ending work in progress. It's a continuous process," as each visit brings new recommendations to implement.

Acknowledging the challenges, she said, "of course, it is stressful. Nothing in this world comes easy," but she mentioned that a "spirit of collaboration" and shared responsibilities toward the same goal make the work more manageable. She also noted the importance of unity despite differences in approach: "Each one has a different character. What is important is that we have the same mission, and everybody is working towards the same mission and philosophy."



MDPSIANS Give Honor to the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

By Jeffrey Khian Ordista, 9-Fortezza

A solemn Holy Mass took place at Mother of Divine Providence school in honor of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The school community gathers in prayer, offering flowers and hymns to celebrate the birth of Mary. The giving of the miraculous medal for the sodality of Mary Club and the Children of Mary Club was held through the blessing of Rev. Fr. Rafael Rodriguez, PACEM, as members received their medals with devotion and faith. The ceremony inspires Teachers, students, and parents join together as they reflect on Mary's humility, faith, and devotion to God.



We Pay Tribute on Personnel's Day

By Adriana Isabel C. Cajutay, Grade 8-Giustizia

On Oct 3, 2025 it was a time for our Teachers & Personnel to shine. This was the moment for us to thank them for their hard work. Because if we think about, a month isn't enough to thank them. So yes, this is a really important event. Where teachers get to have gifts, surprises, and especially rest. But out of everything, fun is one thing that will never get out of what we felt during this event.

This starts with the 'little teachers' preparing and being in company with the class they're assigned with. From preschoolers to seniors, they're still in company. But before the main event, there was a mass to bless and greet every Personnel in the school. This mass guided us along the program to make it stay enjoyable.



While break time, some students went rushing to prepare the surprises for each teacher. Like food, decorations, maybe even messages and letters written on the whiteboard. Some surprises we're funny, happy, and shocking and creative ones! They mostly used confetti, balloons, and even fairy lights.

After, the main program finally started. Each and every little was lined up by the side of the court, while the personnels were lined up at the entrance of the court. They all got gifts and greets from their little teacher. Then, the games finally started!

First game was guessing the teacher by their baby pictures, they we're all guessed. Some students we're confused but they still guessed it with the help of hints. This game was repeated 3 times, but in the middle of the three times there was a raffle for each teacher. The gifts of the teachers who won fits them so well, and got exactly what they like, need, or love.

The 'Head, shoulders, knees, and cup!' was the second game. This is a game to trick each person's mind and see who is faster! Then, the third game was a relay of a chopstick sticking out of their mouth and relaying a paper cup, the grade school teacher's team won this game! But not only games and raffles we're only in this program. There we're; flashmob, dances, and singing.

Flashmob- taught by the SBO volts and officers to each and every class secretly, avoiding that the teachers will know the surprise during the event.

Dances- were a part of the flashmob, all of the MDPSians danced it with the SBO officers & volts at the middle of the court.

Singing- By the glee club, it was a serenade to all the personnels. This touched each and everyone's heart. Then another song, sang by the SBO president to the moderator.

The program has then wrapped up, each class went to their classroom to continue to surprise their teachers. Some started with a joke, prank, and more humorous intro of their surprise. They all had fun with their teachers, some classrooms had extra minigames in the room, they gave letters away, and tons of gifts. We can never forget the salu-salo in the room. It was shared to the whole room; it made us all happy and full.

This was totally worth it, we can never forget the people who taught us lessons and doing what's right. We know, each and every one is entertaining and very much great at teaching. To all the teachers, Mabuhay!



We Mark the Nutrition Month

By Jeffrey Khian Ordista, 9-Fortezza

Students and teachers of Mother Divine Providence school celebrate Nutrition Month, culminating in a highlight of proper wellness and the importance of health. The celebration features creative presentations from nursery to senior high school, while the student body organization sets up a booth that sells healthy, nutritious snacks called Cocolicious, emphasize the value of fruits on our body. Students showcase their talents through live presentations, dances, and posters inspired by this year's theme. The event brings both fun and learning together, creating memorable moments for everyone and reminding the community that good health is the key to a brighter future. The students also cooked and prepared food.



Pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng Wika at Kasaysayan 2025

Ni Shanti Ellise P. Urbano, 12-Serenita



MDPS — Taun-taon, pinagdidiwang ang bansa ang Buwan ng Wika at Kasaysayan tuwing Agosto isang mahalagang pagdiriwang na naglalayong pagyamanin at bigyang-halaga ang ating pambansang wika, kultura, at kasaysayan. Bilang pagtugon sa tawag na ito masigasig na inihanda ng Filipino Department ang isang makulay at masiglang kalendaryo para sa Agosto puno ng mga aktibidad na sasalihan ng mga mag-aaral. Sa unang linggo pa lamang ng Agosto ay sinimulan na ang iskedyul at agad namang nagsimulang maghanda, magmemorisa at magpraktis ang mga estudyante.

Nagsimula ang paghahanda at pagdalo sa mga kaganapan sa unang linggo pa lamang ng Agosto. Kaagad namang nagsimula ang patimpalak para sa grade school ang panghihikayat laro na "Tanong Ko, Sagot Mo, Premyo Mo 3.0," kasama ang tradisyonal na spelling contest at poster-making contest. Para naman sa mas mataas na antas,

sari-saring kasanayan ang sinukat at hinas. Nagkaroon ng essay writing para sa Grade 5-6, Junior High School (JHS), at Senior High School (SHS), na nagbigay espasyo upang maipahayag ng mga mag-aaral ang kanilang mga saloobin at kaalaman. Bukod sa pagsusulat, umusbong din ang iba't ibang pagtatanghal. Mula sa Grade 4, ipinamalas ang husay sa declamation, interpretative dance naman sa Grade 5; speech delivery sa Grade 6. Ang mga nasa Grade 7 ay nagpakita ng talento sa song composition, spoken word poetry ang sa Grade 8; Flitop sa Grade 9 at pagtatalo sa Pakikipagtatlas sa Grade 10. Hindi rin nagpahuli ang JHS at SHS sa paggawa ng Digital Poster, na nagpapakita ng paggamit ng makabagong teknolohiya sa sining.

Dahil sa malakas na ulan at hangin ng bagyo, ang kaganapan ay inilipat sa buwan ng Setyembre, ngunit, hindi nito naging hadlangan sa pagdiriwang. At nagpatuloy ang programa, tampok ang TAGAWIKA at RAWIKA na

matagumpay na punong-abala nina Maqui Velasco at Mheg Legion, na nagbigay ng makabuluhang insights at balik-tanaw na pag-aaral para sa mga mag-aaral ng JHS at SHS. Susunod ang isa sa pinakahihintay at nakakaaliw na bahagi ay ang inihanda ng Filipino/AP Department na palarong pinoy, kung saan nagkaisa, nakilahok at naglaro ang lahat ng mag-aaral mula preschool hanggang SHS.

Pagkatapos makalahok ng mga mag-aaral sa matagumpay at nakapagapod na pagdiriwang. Isang masayang Salu-salo na ginanap noong tanghalian, na nagbigay-daan sa pagkakataong magbahagi ng pagkain at magkaroon ng usapan ang mga mag-aaral ukol sa palarong pinoy. Sa huli, ang okasyon na puno ng halakhak at palakpak, na nagpapatunay na ang diwa ng Buwan ng Wika ay hindi lamang nasa patatalastasan sa patimpalak kundi nasa pagkakaisa at masayang karanasan ng bawat mag-aaral.



MDPSians Enjoy the Student's Night

By Ethan Blake De Peralta, 9-Fortezza

The JHS and SHS students came together to party for the anticipated Student's Night, held on August 1, 2025. Students and teachers dressed themselves accordingly to the theme: Rhythms and Blues. The event served as a joyful celebration for the school, giving the students a chance to relax and unwind.

The evening was filled with exciting games, dance performances, and entertainment that brought the students together for a night of enjoyment. The program was entirely prepared by the Student Body Organization (SBO). The most anticipated part of the night was the open dance floor, where everyone got the chance to dance with each other. Indeed, it wasn't just a celebration, but a night to remember.



MDPS Students Compete in International and National Competitions

By Marquise Zuleika J. Velasco, 12-Serenita

MDPS — In August 2025, a team of MDPS students represented the school at BETT Asia, an international competition that encourages innovative solutions among the youth. On September 3, 2025, Mother of Divine Providence School once again joined for the 8th National Phoenix Aralinks Quest, an annual competition created by Phoenix Aralinks that hones students' technological skills through a quiz bee and a project showcase.

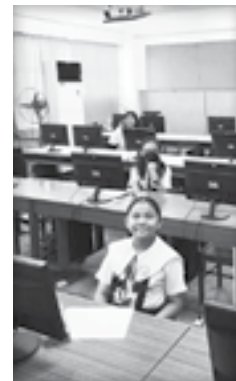
At BETT Asia 2025, students at MDPS high school created a game entitled Perpetuitas, a narrative video game that raises environmental awareness about the negative consequences of corporate greed. The purpose was for the players to learn more about environmental concerns and to be responsible for the impact of their decisions on the environment. In creating the game, the team used Google apps, laptops, and phones. The project was divided among team members based on their talents. The project brought several struggles, mainly entering the competition late, competing against limited time, and lacking experience in coding that affected the final project, but the team knew the competition was going to be difficult. Fortunately, the team was able to adapt and resolve their problems. Through the team's strengths they were able to complete the project.

The ShowACE category had three divisions: intermediate, junior high, and senior high. Each area was required to develop a software application based on the PISA theme. For the Intermediate Division, the theme was Visual Expression and they developed an adventure game using Scratch. They created a colourful world by drawing the backgrounds and characters themselves. For the Junior High Division, the theme was Written Expression. They developed a farming game simulator for mobile devices using MIT App Inventor.

The simulator demonstrates how people's behaviour impacts the planet and future generations. Their main struggle was finding a writing style that captured the actual essence of the game and story and working around the limitations of MIT App Inventor but fortunately, they were able to solve this issue. For the Senior High Division, their theme was Scientific Problem Solving. They created an app using MIT App Inventor to help prepare for natural disasters. Features include an AI Chat Bot, emergency contacts, daily weather forecasts, and more. They experienced challenges with coding errors but solved these issues through excellent teamwork.

MDPS Quiz Bee participants' preparation for the competition was challenging, as one student struggled to balance academics, clubs, activities, and personal life. Despite the busy schedule, the experience became a fun way to improve time management and push beyond their limits. The early stages of preparation involved hours of reviewing notes, reading materials, and answering practice questions as they tried to stay motivated. The student also acknowledged the importance of coaches and teachers who helped in the reviewing of lessons, testing of knowledge, and mental preparation. Their support, direction, and advice on how to remain calm during the tough times increased the student's confidence and determination.

Across all competitions, MDPS students proved their dedication, efficiency, and perseverance. Whether dealing with coding challenges, writing struggles, scheduling difficulties, or technical limitations, they continued to work with purpose and teamwork. Their participation in the Phoenix Aralinks Quest and BETT Asia showcased not only their creativity and skill but also their willingness to learn, grow, and use technology meaningfully for the well-being of others.



School Against the Weather

By Pure Rose P. Trinidad, 9-Fortezza

Several months had passed since the start of classes were held, yet a rising issue is currently manifesting, the unpredictable weather that had caused multiple class suspensions inside of Mother of Divine Providence School as well as other schools inside of the Philippines. This had affected the schedules for school curricular and extracurricular events negatively, resulting in either cancellation or being held back. This had happened to events like the Buwan ng Wika, Literacy Week, community outreach programs, face-to-face classes and even examination days. This domino effect has affected the assignments enough to accumulate, leaving both teachers and students under intense and unending stress as they struggle to meet deadlines inside of short timespans. Rather than offering a breath for the students, teachers, and admin, these suspensions have underscored the challenges of maintaining academic momentum during unforeseen interruptions, serving as a reminder that lost instructional days are not simply opportunities for rest but represent critical setbacks in the educational process.

Two questions are now being raised, would the students continue to rejoice in the suspension of classes after knowing fully well that they will either be forced to undergo make-up classes, and do a lot of assignments in their asynchronous classes? And would the rainy weather cause further postponements and lead to more delayed school activities, rushed lesson plans, and piled up assignments? Only time would truly unravel the answers to these questions.

I Did It! Or Did AI? The Blurred Lines Between Human Achievement and Artificial Intelligence

By Estelle Felicity T. Borbolla, Grade 10 — Misericordia

It used to be easy to tell what was made by a person and what wasn't. A painting came from an artist's hand. A poem reflected someone's heart. An essay was proof of a student's effort. But now, with artificial intelligence (AI) everywhere—from chatbots that write stories to apps that solve math problems in seconds, the line between what's "ours" and what's "AI's" is starting to blur.

When a student turns in a flawless essay, people can't help but wonder: "Was this written by them or by ChatGPT?" It's a strange time to live in. On one hand, AI feels like a helpful friend that saves time and gives ideas. On the other, it's like an invisible competitor that can do almost everything—faster, cleaner, and sometimes better.

But here's the thing: AI doesn't actually "know" anything. It doesn't feel, imagine, or dream. It just learns from patterns in data created by people. Every word it produces is built from human ideas, experiences, and creativity. So when you use AI to brainstorm or improve your writing, it's not replacing you—it's borrowing from you and millions of others.

Still, it raises tough questions. If AI helps me write an essay and it gets an A, did I earn it? Or did the algorithm? How much help is too much help? Schools, teachers, and students are still figuring out the boundaries. Some use AI responsibly, to check grammar, generate ideas, or organize thoughts. Others rely on it completely, turning learning into copying.

Maybe the answer isn't to ban AI or worship it, but to balance it. After all, calculators didn't destroy math—they changed how we learn it. AI could do the same for writing, art, and research. The challenge for our generation is to use it without losing what makes us human: curiosity, emotion, and the drive to create something truly our own.

So next time you finish a project and think, "I did it!"—pause for a second. Maybe you did. Maybe AI helped. But if the idea started with you, if it reflects your thoughts and growth, then yes, you did it. Because even in the age of machines, human effort still matters most.

Considering Risks: A Seminar on Preparedness and Awareness

By Justine Maia Santiago, 10-Misericordia

"Can we still trust the rescuers to ensure our safety?". Safety is a word we need to hear whenever a disaster takes place, affecting the lives of others, and sparking doubt in our minds about whether we can put our faith in reliable people to keep us away from harm. But what if they aren't there? What can we do to keep ourselves safe and help others in the face of a disaster? This seminar has come about with the topic of "Disaster Risk Reduction", which, by its name, had the purpose of educating the students, staff, and teachers who were present during the meeting. Of course, perhaps half the students there were half asleep—but the presenter, Mr. Roldan Buje who had done a great job in making the topic engaging and had opened our eyes and told the facts.

He is a part of the Bureau of Fire Protection, establishing his role as the very same group that saves lives and brings citizens to safety. Not only did he inform us, the students, of valuable information regarding disasters and what to do when they happen—he also gave tips and advice on conducting Earthquake drills and the ideal way to handle a disastrous situation with a confident voice and an impactful presence. Alongside his coworker, who is a part of the seminar as a Lecturer, he gave a simple demonstration with student volunteers on First Aid and provided insights on things we can do to alleviate the suffering of someone hurt, offering assistance when waiting for help. Many, including myself, were left wondering why they had begun this seminar in the month of August. Though after the presentation—I had realized that it was for us, the unaware and carefree students, to be educated in these topics to prepare ourselves for future disasters to come. Typhoons appeared left and right and above us, affecting folks who live in an area where typhoons frequently happen. The Presenters put in the picture the findings of "The Big One" happening sooner than anticipated, with an estimated magnitude of 7.2—expecting heavy damage. This sparked gasps and worry over the unexpected news. Nevertheless, this has encouraged disaster preparedness that made this seminar possible.

I had always reminded myself of the quote I've kept in mind whenever stressful times struck me down and left me exhausted. "Ignorance is bliss", I told myself, believing that it would be better if I didn't learn about it. Even so, the seminar changed this perspective of mine to be more accepting of the truth that this world isn't always peaceful and safe, and that calamities and natural disasters will follow for many years to come. Life as a student is like an incomplete book, filled with empty pages and us filling it up with the things we picked up along the way, and reminding ourselves that "Ignorance isn't always bliss," but our awareness that takes care of us and the challenges we encounter. Now is the moment when we take action, even if it's racking up lessons that contribute to our knowledge—every problem has a solution, and the solution is us.

In Plain Sight: The Price of Corruption and the Call for Accountability

By Maxene Kirsten F. Peralta, Batch 2025 Alumna

Student's Voice
1

Corruption in the Philippines has evolved to the point where it is no longer hidden behind our backs, but thrives in plain sight. The countless failures of the government, in light of the recent anomalous flood control projects, serve as a direct mockery of integrity and democracy. The misuse of public funds and the growing distrust in government institutions have stirred public frustration. However, beyond the outrage lies an undeniable reality: the country urgently requires effective flood control measures. With the worsening impact of climate change bringing stronger typhoons and heavier rainfall, flood mitigation is not merely a development option but a national necessity. What the country needs are science-driven and well-coordinated flood management strategies grounded in integrated water resource planning. Still, the true measure of success will depend on how effectively these plans are implemented. If realized with integrity and transparency, they could represent a significant stride toward sustainable flood resilience.

It is no longer surprising that Filipinos once again find themselves under leaders who betray public trust. Yet the people refuse to remain silent—taking to the streets with renewed resolve for accountability and justice. This was evident on September 21, 2025, when thousands gathered along Epifanio de los Santos Avenue, Taft Avenue, and Luneta Park for the “Trillion Peso March,” a powerful display of unity and dissent in the heart of the capital. The fight against the abuse of power endures, alongside the battle to resist the manipulation of truth. It is now up to the present generation to carry on this struggle—to stand firm against the enduring forces of corruption and deceit that continue to plague the nation. In the end, the call remains clear: to uphold integrity, demand accountability, and ensure that truth and justice prevail for the generations yet to come.

When The Wolves Feast

By Daniela Cenita, 9-Fortezza

Student's Voice
2

Gloc 9's song “Upuan” reflects on the social inequality and struggles of the Philippines' poorest communities. Corruption, the abuse of entrusted power for private gain, such as money, has distorted public life long ago; its effects take us back to the time of the infamous “Ferdinand Marcos Sr.” who declared Martial Law back in 1972. This brought inconvenience to the people due to their lack of access to information, resources, and freedom. Today, the mechanisms have changed but the consequences remain: technology spreads news faster, yet it also exposes new forms of deception and corruption.

Through it all, the nepo babies, those who are influenced by their parent or relative's success reveals how privilege shields some from accountability. While ordinary Filipinos wake up early in the morning just to earn a modest wage and secure an education, those in power treat the public funds as private resources, as if they didn't just take the money for the projects needed in order to improve the country and even called those Trillions of Philippine Peso as “utang.” Our roads were supposed to connect us together, our resources were produced in order to benefit consumers and producers—but it doesn't. Even the hardest of workers receive the smallest amount of salary inverse of the amount of work they had just done in order to feed millions of families, including those of the families of the thieves.

Public money demands public transparency, and accountability is not optional—it's rightfully owed. Exposing “ghost projects,” strengthening procurement oversight, and protecting independent media and whistleblowers will narrow the gap between just persuasion and reality. That's what we should focus on, rather than getting distracted by the illusions of progress and the sensational, paranormal ghosts that generate clout. Citizens must insist, through voting, investigative reporting and rightful judgements, that the

projects where our taxes are supposedly being invested to serve the many, not the few that benefit it. This is not inevitable. The expected transparency is affected by the betrayal as the government officials proceeded to break the trust of its subordinates. I, myself, couldn't help but to pause and wonder “Where is the freedom the heroes fought for?” We all know about the history of our country and the blood, sweat and tears that came with it. But given the question, it still seemed like we're still not free from that slavery; we're still held captive by the greed, bad leadership and avarice we get in return from paying our taxes.

We fought for freedom so the next generations will be able to live with dignity and opportunity. We deserve to see those roads, bridges, walls, and flood control projects built, for the good of our generation and for the good of the generations after us. To make our hopes possible, we must be reminded that we shouldn't be just all talk, and instill clear demands, persistent scrutiny and institutions that enforce the law without fear or favor.

Corruption and flood control in the Philippines

By Aeron James C. Cuntapay, 6-Generosita

Student's Voice
3

Corruption and flooding are two big problems that our country faces today. Many flood control projects are delayed or not done properly because of corruption. When government funds are stolen or wasted, people suffer from floods that could have been prevented. This shows how dishonesty affects not only the government but also the safety of the citizens. If public officials are honest, flood control projects can truly help protect communities.

We, as citizens, also have a role in solving these problems. We should be responsible by not throwing trash anywhere and by reporting wrongdoing when we see it. Simple acts of honesty and care for the environment can make a big difference. Everyone must work together to build a clean, safe, and fair society. When there is no corruption and people are disciplined, our country can become a better and safer place for all.

In the White Cloak

By Keane Jose A. Rodrigo, 11-Onesta

Student's Voice
4

Throughout history, our country has long endured negative social phenomena from outside and within. From foreign rule, to our independence, up to the modern era of Philippine society, social issues have always been a multi-faceted reality in the eyes of Filipinos. While most interpretations of these affairs raise valid points, some encompass a distorted or confused view that strays away, to some extent, from its objective truth. One event that best highlights this distasteful tension is the 1987 Mendiola Massacre. A protest led by farmers advocating for their genuine agenda of agrarian reforms was infiltrated by certain groups that have their own interests, evident in the unclear origin of gunfire as concluded in the investigation. What was initially a movement for a legitimate cause became a gross act of violence, killing at least 12 and injuring 51 protesters.

Unironically, a similar event occurred recently during the September 21 protests. Masked individuals in Mendiola Street and Recto Avenue who supposedly identify with the peaceful nationwide demonstrators vandalized and destroyed public infrastructure and private establishments. Police reported that rioters used improvised incendiary devices such as Molotov bombs which injured an estimate of 39 law enforcement officers. Again, a plea for justice descends to a savage discourse. We, the Filipino citizens, are the ones who receive the policy promulgated by politicians; significantly affecting our lives based on the promulgator's intentions and the policy's efficiency. And so, we must become unified in sharing a singular goal leading to righteous and excellent governance for the holistic growth of our nation. Though, one course of action is necessary for the fulfillment of such difficult task: spotting the wolves disguised in the white cloak of virtues.