THE HILARIAN

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SJHS-DLSB represents Bagac in provincial Food Vlog competition, wins second place



by Julian Rain Gomez
Photos courtesy of SJHS-DLSB Food Vlog Entry

Representing the municipality of Bagac, St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) secured second place in the "Food Trip Vlog Competition" organized by the Provincial Tourism Office of Bataan, coming in just behind Abucay and finishing ahead of Orion.

With a theme of "*Filipino Food Month 2025: Food Trip— Featuring Authentic Filipino Dishes (Vlogging Contest)*, " the Food Trip Vlog Competition is a vlogging competition the Tourism office organized as part of the celebration of Filipino Food Month, which carried the national theme "*Food as Culture: The Role of Gastronomy in Filipino Identity*." It was held across various municipalities in the province of Bataan, with each locality contributing its own unique food story and entries.

SJHS-DLSB was the school chosen to represent the municipality of Bagac. With that, through the support of Br. Eugenio de Luna Jr. FSC, the output of the school was created by the following students: Reden Bantugan as the Host, Alysson Alonzo as the Scriptwriter, Zoie Escober as the videographer, and Von Ezekiel Mariano as the Team Head.

The vlog showcased a variety of local dishes and food products that highlight the culinary richness of Bagac. This includes "Daing na Burador", "Cashew Pasalubong Products from Bagakeno", "Choco Cashew Drink from Dantay", "Dishes from La Jolla Restaurant", and "Kare - kare with Cashew Sauce from Hideout Restaurant." Evident from the list, they emphasized the cashew-based products in Bagac, as the town is known as the largest producer of cashews in the province.

According to Alysson Alonzo, the scriptwriter behind the vlog, their goal is to show how food brings people together and how these can serve as a powerful tool for cultural promotion.

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The Hilarian claims victory in DSPC 2025 school paper competition

by Julian Rain Gomez
Photo by Ms. Kimberly Ignacio

The Hilarian clinched three awards under the school paper category in the Division Schools Press Conference 2025 on February 5 to 7 at San Ramon Elementary School, Pilar, Bataan, marking their biggest achievement for the said category.

Representing the school, the delegates brought home the following awards: Top 6 in the Best Feature section and Top 10 in both the Best Science and Technology Section and the Best Layout and Graphic Design.

Sixteen student journalists from the secondary level, both in English and Filipino, also represented the school in various individual categories during the competition. They participated in News Writing, Editorial Writing, Editorial Cartooning, Sports Writing, Feature Writing, Column Writing, Photojournalism, and Science and Technology...

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SJHS - DLSB hosts first school-initiated family congress

by Vhania Fionna Marcelino
Photos by Marie Josephine Mendoza

With a total of 39 participating families, the Grades 10 and 12 students of St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) held a Family Congress at Colegio Santa Catarina De Alexandria (CSCA) on April 06, 2025, aiming to strengthen the spiritual and familial relationships of local families.

The Family Congress, organized in partnership with the Diocesan Shrine and Parish of St. Catherine of Alexandria and CSCA, focused on promoting communication, love, unity, and faith-centered living. It also encouraged personal growth and responsible decision-making through discussions on parenting, ethics, and spirituality, reaching families in Bagac and nearby areas.

To achieve these objectives, Grade 10 students led age-appropriate talks from Kinder to College as part of their Christian Living performance task, while Grade 12 students organized interactive segments aligned with their subjects: Physical Education, Entrepreneurship, Organization and Management, and Disaster Readiness and Risk Reduction. Br. Zennel Sy FSC, Christian Living 10 and Entrepreneurship 12 teacher, also had his session dedicated to the parents and adults present in the event.

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Food Vlog from page 01

"*Through our vlog, we aimed to highlight the deep connection between food, culture, and identity in Bataan. We wanted viewers to experience not just the flavor of the dishes, but also the stories behind them —from local ingredients and traditions to the passionate people behind each food product*," she added.

The team was formally recognized on April 28, 2025, at the Bagac Municipal Hall, where they received certificates and a cash prize of ₱7,000. The award was presented by Sir Leonardo Herbon, Bagac Tourism Officer.

The winning entry is available for public viewing on the Behold Bataan Facebook Page, the official platform of the Provincial Tourism Office of Bataan.



JUANMISYON PROJECT: Volunteers hold medical and outreach activities at Bagac, Bataan

by Danielle Anne Arellano

De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute (DLSMHSI), De La Salle Brothers Inc. – Social Action Unit, conducted a medical mission and a book donation drive at St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB), as well as an environmental outreach program at Brgy. Pag-Asa, Bagac, Bataan, on March 28, 2025.

Lingkod Lasalyano Volunteers, along with doctors from the De La Salle University Medical Center (DLSUMC) and students of the College of Medicine from De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute (DLSMHSI) initiated three community-centered efforts for St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB).

The medical mission provided free consultations and services to 330 individuals, including students, faculty, staff, and Lasallian parents of SJHS-DLSB. The volunteer team was composed of doctors, nurses, and interns from DLSMHSI, which operated through multiple stations, including a Pediatrics/ Adults consultation area and a Medicine station.

Volunteers also sparked the imagination and nurtured a love for learning among the Grade 3 students...

Continue on page 03

Professionals inspire Lasallian students at career talk

by Alysson Heart Alonzo | Photos by Zoie Kaella Escober

Four guest speakers, Mr. Larry Bantugan, Mrs. Vera Lynn Bantugan, Mrs. Eloiza Serate, and Mr. Kenneth Alonzo, shared their occupational journey during a Career Seminar held on February 10, 2025, at the auditorium of St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB).

The seminar, attended by students from Grades 10 to 12, was organized by Ms. Cherry Sales, the school's Guidance Designate, and the Technology and Livelihood Education Department. It aimed to help students gain practical insights and guidance as they begin exploring future career paths.

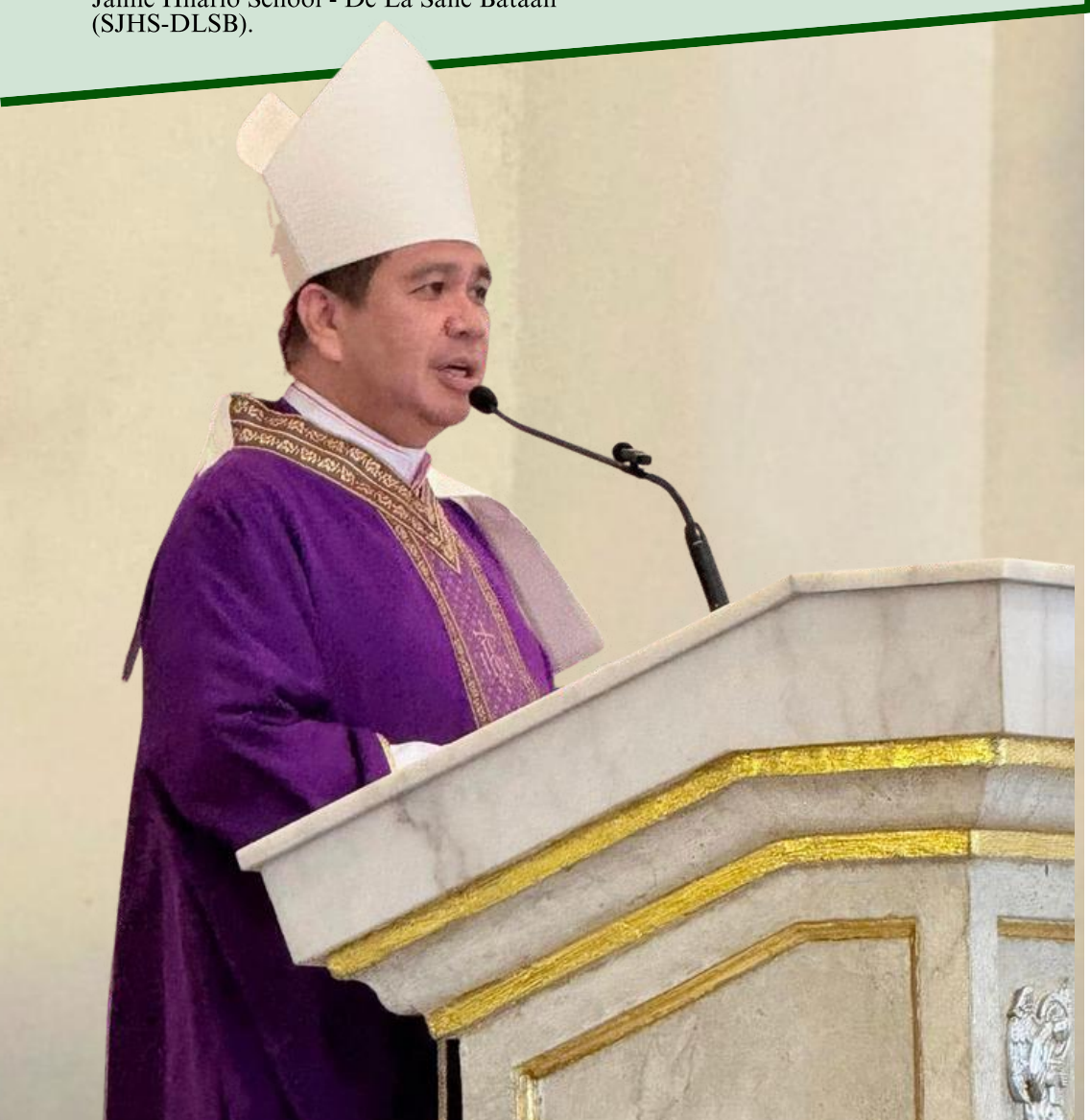
Mr. Larry Bantugan, a local councilor, and Mrs. Vera Lynn Bantugan, who works at the Bagac Municipal Hall, spoke about their paths in public service. They underscored the importance of commitment, integrity, and a genuine desire to serve the community.

Entrepreneur and freelancer Mrs. Eloiza Serate encouraged students to pursue their passions boldly. She emphasized the opportunities available in the digital economy and highlighted the value of resilience and adaptability in navigating freelance and entrepreneurial careers.

Meanwhile, Mr. Kenneth Alonzo shared his experience as a dedicated volunteer. He spoke about the rewards of giving back to the community and how volunteerism can lead to personal growth and open unexpected doors in one's career.

The Career Seminar is part of SJHS-DLSB's broader initiative to prepare students for life beyond school. Other programs include the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Workshop and a series of skills and self-assessment sessions designed to help students make informed choices about their future careers.





Bishop Sescon installed as Diocese of Balanga's new bishop, Bagac hosts local welcome ceremony

by Keisha Coyoca
Photo from St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan's Facebook Page

The Catholic faithful gathered at St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish to welcome their new shepherd, Bishop Rufino "Jun" C. Sescon Jr. Among the attendees were students, parents, catechists, and administrators from Catholic schools across the diocese, including participants from St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan.

The event began with a Eucharistic Celebration, followed by a brief forum where Bishop Sescon shared his reflections for the Lenten season. His presence was met with applause and reverent silence, reflecting both excitement and respect. During his homily, he reminded everyone that Lent is not only a time for sacrifice but also a time for spiritual renewal and returning to God.

Bishop Sescon's appointment as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Balanga marks the beginning of a new chapter for the diocese. He assured the faithful that he would build upon the work of his predecessors and emphasized that the unity within the Church is unique, rooted in God's grace and service to Him.

Bishop Sescon was ordained on February 25, 2025, during a ceremony at the Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception (Manila Cathedral), which coincided with the 39th anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution. He was officially welcomed to the Diocese of Balanga on March 1, 2025, in a solemn ceremony at the Cathedral Shrine and Parish of St. Joseph. During this ceremony, Bishop Sescon pledged to be an "instrument of unity" in service to the local Church.

The diocese eagerly anticipates Bishop Sescon's leadership and is hopeful for the positive changes his message will bring to the community.

Family Congress from page 01

Samantha Simone Valencia, one of the Grade 10 students, shared her experience teaching children whose Grades 4 to 6.

"*My experience in interacting with [our audience] was really fun and memorable, it was fun because I got to experience teaching children the things I was able to learn from our class and that's the main point of our [performance task]. I learned a lot from them, especially on how they behave and take things seriously by working and teaming up together.*" Valencia shared.

Alysson Heart Alonzo, a Grade 12 student and the head of the operations department for the Family Congress, also shared her experience about organizing the event, expressing her gratitude to those who supported her team throughout the process of the event.

"*Organizing a new and large-scale event was challenging since we had no prior model to follow. However, with the support of Br. Zennel, Fr. Norman De Leon [Parish Priest], and Sr. Joanire [School Directress of CSCA], we were able to make it a success. I'm truly grateful for their guidance and support. I'm also glad we were able to carry out this event in partnership with them, and we look forward to more collaborations in the future,*" Alonzo said.

SJHS-DLSB is considering making the Family Congress an annual event, as hinted by Br. Zennel Sy FSC, during the parents and adult session of the congress.

DLSZ and SJHS-DLSB join forces for "Abot Lasalyano" Outreach

by Vhania Fionna Marcelino

De La Salle Santiago Zobel School (DLSZ), in partnership with St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB), held its annual Abot Lasalyano (Make A Wish) outreach program on February 07 to 08, 2025 at the SJHS-DLSB campus. The event brought together students from Kindergarten to Grade 3 for a day filled with engaging activities, with the goal of promoting the Lasallian values of service, empathy, and communion.

This year's outreach centered on the theme of bullying awareness, aiming to create a safe space where young learners could explore the topic in a way that was both age-appropriate and meaningful.

Miss Diane Pineda, SJHS-DLSB's Grade 1 adviser, emphasized the importance of making the lesson accessible and relatable to young children. She shared that the program was designed not just to inform, but to help children understand the emotional impact of bullying and how to respond to it.

"Events like this are meant to build a supportive environment where children can openly talk about bullying," Miss Pineda said.

She explained that, by promoting empathy and understanding early on, the school hopes to cultivate a culture of kindness and mutual respect among its students.

Miss Pineda also reflected on the students' reactions during the activities, describing the experience as heartwarming. She observed how the children actively participated in the discussions and games, clearly absorbing the lessons being taught.

"Through fun and interactive sessions, they were able to identify what bullying is, how it affects others, and what they can do if they see it happening," she added.

The sessions, thoughtfully facilitated by the DLSZ team, featured roleplaying, storytelling, and cooperative games that encouraged the children to express their thoughts and feelings. Teachers noted how even the youngest students showed a strong grasp of the concepts, a sign that the message was well-received.

Both SJHS-DLSB and DLSZ hope for more outreach programs that educate, uplift, and bring communities together through shared values and experiences.



DSPC from page 01

... Writing. However, due to a lack of training and preparation, the journalists were not able to secure a spot among the Top 10 participants.

Despite this, Alysson Heart Alonzo, the Editor-in-Chief, remains optimistic about what The Hilarian has achieved in this year's DSPC.

"*The DSPC 2025 is a lesson learned and a meaningful win not just for me and the participants, but for the whole organization,*" said the Editor-In-Chief. "*Even though we were doubtful and felt unprepared due to the lack of training, we still managed to succeed in the school paper category. In short, DSPC 2025 served as a major stepping stone for our organization to strive for greater excellence, not just in solo categories but in team efforts as well.*"

The DSPC serves as a platform to empower student journalists to use their voices for truth, awareness, and positive change. For St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan, this year's participation marks not only a victory in numbers but also a milestone in its journey of journalistic excellence.

JuanMisyon from page 02

... of SJHS-DLSB. Numerous books were donated to support the students' reading development, and a storytelling session was also held to further inspire their creativity and passion for learning.

The efforts extended beyond the campus with as volunteers also continued with a visit to the Pag-Asa's Pawikan Protection and Conservation Center in Bagac, Bataan, as they learned about the local pawikan species and participated in the release of 150 hatchlings into the sea, contributing to the conservation of these endangered marine creatures.

On March 29, 2025, Br. Eugenio De Luna Jr. FSC, Vice President for Administration and Lasallian Mission, led a brief recollection session regarding readiness for service. He emphasized that this initiative and partnership allowed to support the mission of SJHS-DLSB and helped the town of Bagac, even in a small way. He also encouraged the volunteers to carry forward the spirit of service in their daily lives, making compassion and action part of their personal mission.

Photo from St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan's Facebook Page

House of Greg tops SJHS-DLSB house rankings

by Danielle Anne Arellano | Photo by Nichole Fajardo

The House of Greg clinched first place in St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan's (SJHS-DLSB) house system for school year 2024–2025, announced during the culminating event on April 11, 2025, at the school's covered court.

The House of Greg, known for its determination and passion, consistently performed throughout the year under the leadership of House Parent Ms. Aileen Cacayorin, with support from their Auxiliary Parents Ms. Allexisa Ramos, Br. Henry FSC, Ms. Cherry Sales, and Ms. Michelle Nojadera.

House of Greg led the house rankings early in the program with 275 points and ultimately sealed their victory with a total of 490 points, dominating their competition. This was followed by House of Roly with 477 points, House of Andrew with 434 points, House of Rafael with 424, and finally, House of Ceci with 419 points.

This school year also marks the first time SJHS-DLSB has held the house system since the pandemic, making the victory even more meaningful for the triumphant house.



NEWS BEATS

by Maja Dennise Nojadera

LSCA visits SJHS-DLSB, donates to support TIKAS Program

Accompanied with their mentors, kindergarten students from La Salle College of Antipolo (LSCA) visited St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) on January 31, 2025, for a special Day of Friendship, bringing with them a donation for SJHS-DLSB's TIKAS program, which promotes good nutrition among young learners.

The donation came from the Good Deed Jar, a project where LSCA students collect coins each time they do a kind act. Their gift supported SJHS-DLSB's efforts to help students build healthy habits and access nutritious food.

During the visit, LSCA and SJHS-DLSB students played games, joined in classroom activities, and enjoyed each other's company. The event helped build new friendships and taught the children the value of kindness and sharing.

Teachers from both schools also took the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas on improving their approaches to teaching and supporting young learners, focusing on enhancing both academic growth and overall well-being.

SJHS-DLSB students clinch 10th place in Bataan Science Quiz Bowl

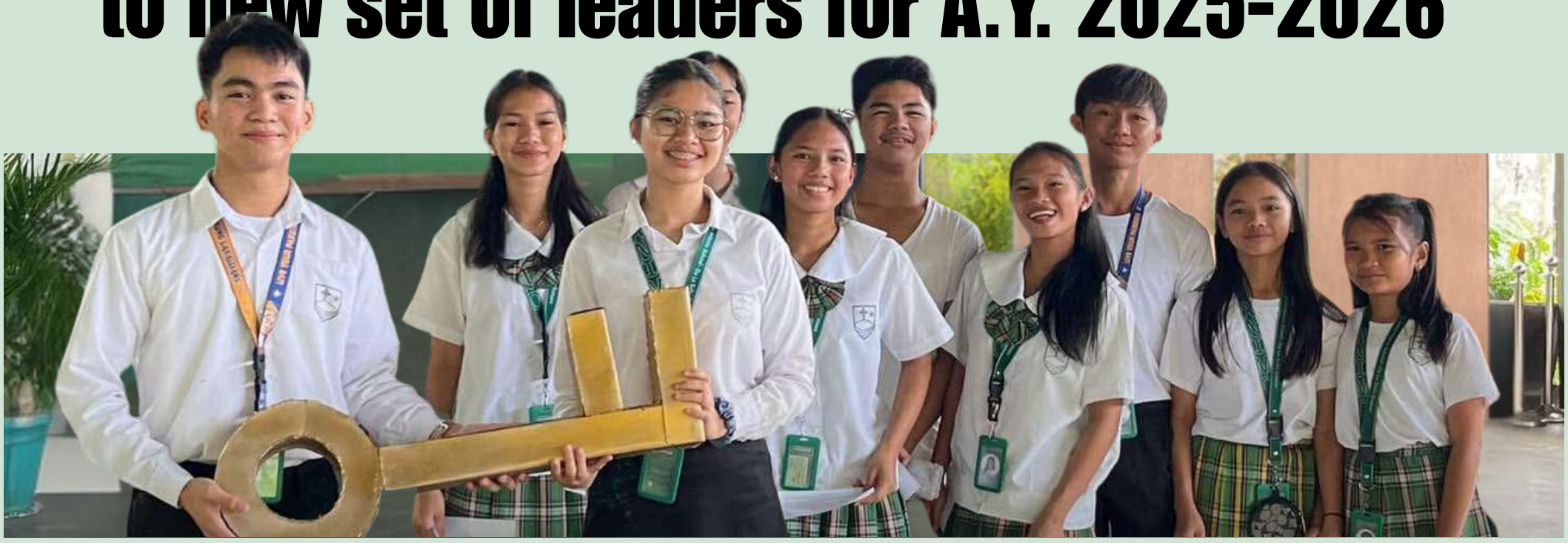
St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) secured a spot in the top 10 at the Bataan Peninsula Science and Engineering Congress Science Quiz Bowl, finishing 10th out of 33 participating schools in the province-wide competition held on March 15, 2025, at Bataan Peninsula Inc. in Limay, Bataan.

The Junior High School team, composed of Handre Mas, Lance Zenric Apuya, and Mary Angela Narciso, showcased strong collaboration and knowledge in the fields of science and mathematics. They were supported by Ryza Tano and Maja Nojadera as substitutes. The team's preparation was guided by Ms. Evangeline Narciso for science and Sir Romy Marzan for mathematics.

Their top 10 finish highlighted SJHS-DLSB's commitment to academic excellence and active participation in inter-school competitions. The event also aimed to promote interest in science and mathematics as well as inspire students to explore the STEM strand and related career paths.

04

Student Council turns over responsibilities to new set of leaders for A.Y. 2025-2026



by Jandy Patiño | Photo by Nathalie Malang

St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) recently held a formal turnover ceremony where outgoing Student Council (SC) President Von Ezekiel Mariano passed on the leadership to the newly elected SC President, Gillian Calima.

In an emotional and heartfelt speech, Mariano reflected on the journey of the 2024-2025 school year, recalling the challenges, triumphs, and valuable lessons his team encountered along the way. He expressed deep gratitude for the support of his fellow officers and the student body, acknowledging the hard work and dedication that led them to overcome various obstacles throughout the year.

"*This year, my team and I faced many challenges, but through our unity, dedication, and passion, we were able to push through. I have full confidence that the new student council will continue the work we've started and carry it forward with the same commitment*," Mariano shared, emphasizing the importance of perseverance and teamwork.

Calima, the incoming SC President for the upcoming school year, expressed her gratitude and commitment to lead with integrity.

"*It is an honor to be entrusted with this responsibility. My team and I are committed to serving the student body with respect*," Calima said.

The ceremony concluded with the symbolic handover of the key of responsibility and financial certificates, an important moment that officially marked the transition of power between Mariano and Calima. This gesture not only represented the formal change in leadership but also symbolized the shared values and goals that will guide the new council. As the ceremony came to an end, the energy in the room was filled with optimism, as both outgoing and incoming officers pledged to work together for the continued success of the student body.

The full list of newly elected officers includes: Gillian Calima as President, Maja Dennise Nojadera as Secretary, Kathleen Coyoca as Treasurer, and Meriah Yzebielle Agranum as Chairman of Faith. Ryza Tano takes the role of Chairman of Service, while Lance Zenric Apuya will serve as Chairman of Communion. Chelsea Alessandra Carreon, Matthew Gunio, and Jamille Puzon have been appointed as Co-chairmen of Faith, Service, and Communion, respectively.

With the new officers now in place, the Student Council is ready to continue its mission of serving the student body. Guided by a shared vision, the council looks forward to building on the efforts of the previous team while introducing new ideas and initiatives.

SJI - Singapore visits SJHS-DLSB, strengthens Lasallian ties

by Aiel Nicola Mendoza | Photo by Marie Josephine Mendoza

Students and teachers from St. Joseph Institute (SJI) – Singapore visited St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan (SJHS–DLSB) as part of a continuing exchange between the two Lasallian schools. The visit included room-to-room interactions and engaging activities with Grade 7 students at the school's multipurpose room.

The day began with a short welcome program where both schools introduced themselves and shared about their communities. The warm hospitality of SJHS–DLSB created an inviting atmosphere, making the SJI–Singapore group feel instantly at home.

After the program, students from both schools participated in group games designed to promote teamwork and interaction. The activities created an energetic and joyful atmosphere, helping students bond and build new friendships.

More than just a school visit, the event served as an opportunity for both schools to connect and reflect on their shared Lasallian identity. Participants highlighted the value of kindness, community, and collaboration.

This marks the second visit of SJI–Singapore to SJHS–DLSB in the current school year, with the first group visiting in December 2024.



De La Salle Zobel holds seminars on student well-being and growth

by Jasmine Garais
Photo by Zoie Kaella Escober

The De La Salle Zobel Counseling Office organized a series of informative seminars for Grades 1 to 11 students on February 19, 2025, focused on promoting awareness, personal growth, and well-being. Each session was tailored to the specific needs of different grade levels, covering important topics such as self-regulation, mental and physical health, anti-bullying, emotional resilience, and life skills.

The seminars provided students with practical strategies to manage stress, build strong relationships, and take care of their mental health. Emphasis was placed on creating a safe and inclusive environment, where students learned the value of empathy, respect, and support for one another. The seminars also encouraged self-reflection and highlighted the importance of emotional well-being, helping students build resilience and coping skills. Through these sessions, the Counseling Office aimed to ensure that every student is equipped with the tools needed for personal development and success, while encouraging a sense of community and belonging.



Senior high volunteers lead storytelling session at school library

by Anne Carylle Fernandez

Grades 1 to 3 students of St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB), along with their advisers, participated in a storytelling session at the school library on February 17–18, 2025. Led by Senior High School volunteers, Zhianne Alonzo and Meg De Leon, and the school librarian, Ms. Marikit Alonzo, the session encouraged young learners to imagine, learn, and enjoy through engaging stories. The volunteers brought each tale to life with expressive voices and gestures, helping the students discover the joy of reading.

SJHS-DLSB marks 39th EDSA anniversary with tribute to freedom

by Handre Mas

St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) commemorated the 39th anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution through a meaningful blend of prayer, reflection, and artistic expression held on February 24, 2025.

In a solemn ceremony at the school's covered court, students, faculty, and staff gathered to lit 39 candles, offered prayers, and presented flowers to Mama Mary. This tribute and prayer service highlighted the values of courage, unity, and peace that defined the 1986 revolution.

In addition to the commemoration of the revolution, students were invited to watch in the school's auditorium during their lunch time the student-made short-films from the first Hilario Film Festival



These short films focused on human dignity and rights that are connected with the EDSA revolution.

Through faith and creativity, SJHS-DLSB continues to keep the spirit of EDSA alive, empowering young Lasallians to become active advocates of democracy and human rights.



De La Salle Bataan's 19th year of service

by Mary Angela Narciso | Photos by Marie Josephine Mendoza

It was in 2006 when a small piece of land in Sitio Looc, Brgy. Banawang, Bagac, Bataan, became home to a dream —a vision shaped not by grandeur, but by grit and faith. From this humble ground rose St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan, an institution anchored in the Lasallian and Catholic mission of nurturing hearts and minds through quality education. For 19 years, it has stood tall—not just as a building, but as a community, a family, and a home to learners molded in excellence, compassion, and integrity.

And this 2025, that journey of nearly two decades was celebrated with a festival of joy, gratitude, and unmistakable Lasallian pride: GREENalingan: Isang Dekada at Siyam. Spearheaded by the Grade School Department and The Hilarian, the school's official student publication, the two-day foundation celebration was more than an event—it was a tribute to every student, teacher, staff, and family who walked the campus with purpose and passion.

Day One: "Slam the Doors Open!"

How do you start a celebration? With a bang, and an Animo spirit that could shake the earth.

As early as sunrise, excitement buzzed through the air. Leading the charge was House of Ceci, the reigning 2024–2025 Animo Cup Champion, electrifying the stage in bold orange with a dance number that kickstarted everything. Loud cheers erupted, and it was clear: this wasn't just any celebration. *This was our celebration.*

Hosts Rhianne Arellano and Ryza Tano welcomed the crowd with boundless energy, setting the tone for the day. Soon, little Lasallians from Kindergarten to Grade 2 shuffled onto the stage, their tiny feet dancing to familiar TikTok remixes. The audience melted as these pint-sized performers 'kembot-ed' their way into everyone's hearts.

Then came a surprise: Sir Angel-Bert Jornal, seasoned performer and dance club moderator, joined the stage with a swagger only years of groove can offer. His entrance? Clean, composed, and cool. With his Lasallian dancers behind him, they turned the high school grounds into a stage worthy of applause.

But the true start came with the ceremonial ribbon cutting by none other than Ms. Edelen Grace Del Rosario, the school principal, and Br. Eugenio De Luna Jr., FSC, Vice President for Administration and Lasallian Mission. The moment their scissors sliced the ribbon, confetti rained down, music blasted, and just like that, GREENalingan officially began.

Booths of every color and purpose opened to an eager crowd. Grade 12's "Huli Ka-Bal" booth was a hit—arresting students based on anonymous 'warrants' that sent everyone ducking or chasing their friends. Over at the Dating Booth run by Grade 8, tables were set for mock lunches and sweet moments, while the Grade 10's Marriage Booth took the hilarity up a notch with on-the-spot, pretend weddings.

There was something for everyone — face painting at Pintasya (Grade 9), giant inflatables managed by the faculty, food stalls, and games galore. Children screamed in delight; teens laughed until their sides hurt. And by day's end, they all went home—tired, smiling, and thrilled for Day Two.

Day Two: "Aight—Let's Play with Music… Mostly."

If Day One was about spectacle, Day Two was about soul.

The day opened with dance—teachers in coordinated brown, showing the kids that even educators know how to groove. Not long after, mothers dressed in green uniforms entered with flair, dancing to a TikTok remix that had students clapping and cheering louder than ever. These were parents and mentors, leading with joy and energy, proving that Lasallian excellence doesn't only show in academics, but in how we live and celebrate life.

Then came Banda Ritas—a high school music group that made the school grounds come alive. Kerwyn Escober, ever the hype man, rallied the crowd as their band played OPM hits and crowd favorites. From guitar solos by Nichole Fajardo and Xandriel Estares to vocals by Caizz Jersey Torres and Francement Minggoy, the campus turned into a live music haven.

And just when people thought things might quiet down for lunch—they were wrong.

A full community lunch turned into a Lasallian version of a dinner show. Students, teachers, and guests shared a meal while performers took turns onstage. Grade 12 duo Roge Klyne Dela Cruz and Wayne Yuri Arzadon serenaded everyone with acoustic hits, while dancers moved gracefully between the tables. Laughter and music filled the air—it was, quite literally, a feast for all senses.

A Stage for Young Stars

The final highlight of Day Two? A singing competition that proved talent knows no age.

Third and fourth graders lit up the stage with confidence far beyond their years. Hosted by Maja Denise and John Paul Capili, and judged by vocal veterans Vallery Mandokdok, Mark Anthony Cascasan, and Sir Romy Marzan, the event was packed with heart and talent.

It opened with a stunning rendition of A Whole New World by the school's CORO group, setting the tone for a night of impressive vocals. Soloists followed—Halley Bailey Capa charmed with Cupid by Fifty Fifty, Ciello Alexandria Bianes with You Belong With Me by Taylor Swift, and Terdy Borja with Okisihina by Dionela that brought the crowd to its feet.

But the surprises didn't end there. The judges took the spotlight with Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now, followed by a spontaneous encore—Die With a Smile—that left everyone cheering. A perfect ending to an unforgettable day.

More Than a Celebration

Exhausting? Sure. Two full days of music, dancing, games, singing, and nonstop activity can wear anyone down. But ask anyone who was there, and they'll tell you: it was all worth it. Because GREENalingan wasn't just a party—it was a memory. A living reminder of how far St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan has come, and how strong the Lasallian spirit continues to burn. Here's to nineteen years of forming minds, touching hearts, and transforming lives—and to many more.

06

Guiding lights: Celebrating the day of Lasallian mentors

by Maja Dennise Nojadera
Photos from St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan's Facebook Page

Behind every Lasallian journey is a guiding presence that nurtures not just the mind but also the heart. They are more than teachers, they are mentors and lifelong inspirations. In line with this, St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan celebrated Lasallian Mentors' Day on January 30, 2025, honoring the dedicated mentors who shape futures and instill the values of faith, service, and communion.

The celebration started with a bang as the grade school students wowed the crowd with their adorable presentation. It was then followed by a solemn Eucharistic mass celebrating the feast of St. Br. Mutien Marie that blessed the Lasallian teachers. Cheers erupted for Sir Romy Marzan and Miss Marikit Alonzo as they accepted their Service Awards for committing 10 years to SJHS-DLSB. Meanwhile, Ms. Michelle B. Diaz was honored with a 15-year Service Award, which she proudly accepted.

"For the past 15 years, I built a relationship with the community as well as with the Brothers. That became the reason why I stayed, I can't imagine myself in a different school. My co-teachers became my friends, and I never felt left out in this family," Ms. Michelle said.

To further show appreciation to them, the De La Salle University Tañada - Diokno School of Law students generously sponsored their Jollibee lunches, which they joyfully consumed, filling the room with smiles and satisfied chatter.

As they continue to nurture the faith, knowledge, and compassion of the students, their impact goes beyond the classroom. Their commitment to teaching extends beyond duty and becomes a life-long vocation. Following the steps of St. John Baptist De La Salle, may they persevere to teach minds, change hearts, and transform minds.







Seeing the bigger picture for a brighter future

by Mary Angela Narciso

No one can predict the future with 100% certainty, but high school is where students start seriously asking: "What do I want to do after I study?" Will they become a doctor, an engineer, a teacher—or maybe even their own boss?

To help guide students in making these important life decisions, the Campus Ministry Office of St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) organized a series of programs: the Vocations Symposium, ConBROsations, and the Brothers' Live-In Program. Rather than just showcasing events, these programs aimed to help students reflect on their calling and open their minds to the many ways they can live a life of purpose—whether religious or not.

Numerous paths, one call

The word vocation comes from the Latin word vocare, meaning "to call." High school is often the time when many young people begin to sense that inner call, whether it leads them toward a career, a craft, a cause, or a deeper sense of purpose. To support students in this stage of exploration, the school hosted the Vocations Symposium on February 12, 2025, at the covered court. Students from Grades 7 to 12 gathered for this event, which brought together Lasallian brothers, postulants, sisters, and a married couple to share how they discovered meaning and direction in their lives.

The speakers did more than just tell their stories. They offered students a glimpse into the different ways people can live with purpose and intention. Each guest represented a different path, showing that there are many valid and fulfilling ways to answer one's calling. They spoke honestly about their experiences and the questions they asked themselves along the way, helping students see that vocation is not a fixed decision but a journey that continues to unfold. Rather than promote a single way of life, the symposium encouraged thoughtful reflection. Students were invited to ask questions, to listen with an open heart, and to consider what values and passions guide their decisions. The speakers made it clear that it is completely natural to shift paths as one grows and gains new insights. Choosing a vocation is not about having everything figured out right away but about being open to growth and learning. By promoting self-awareness and curiosity, the Vocations Symposium aimed to help students lead more informed and intentional lives. It reminded them that the search for purpose is deeply personal and often ongoing. What truly matters is not rushing to find the answer but staying committed to the journey of discovering who they are and how they can contribute meaningfully to the world around them.

ConBROs that count

What does it truly mean to dedicate your life to service and spirituality? On February 13, 2025, students were given the chance to explore that question firsthand. The event, *ConBROsations*, created a relaxed and welcoming space where the Lasallian brothers engaged with students through games, laughter, and open conversation.

Instead of formal talks or lectures, the day focused on building real connections. One of the most memorable activities was a trivia game led by Br. Zennel FSC. Through lighthearted competition, students learned more about religious life and uncovered common misunderstandings. Questions explored the difference between a brother and a priest, what it means to leave behind a job for a life of teaching, and how religious vocations are lived out in everyday routines. The game helped to spark curiosity while breaking down the idea that religious life is distant or difficult to relate to.

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Shaping stars at SJHS - De La Salle Bataan

by Ryza Tano | Free Illustrations from Canva

St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) recently welcomed mentors from De La Salle - College of St. Benilde (DLS-CSB) for a one-of-a-kind arts and performance workshop that left a lasting impact on its students. Throughout the session, students were guided by experienced artists and performers who shared not only their expertise but also their personal journeys in the creative field. The workshop featured a variety of activities—from voice and movement exercises to acting techniques and creative expression— that encouraged participants to step out of their comfort zones and embrace their potential. More than just a showcase of talent, the event aimed to help students build confidence, uncover hidden skills, and appreciate the value of teamwork and self-expression. By the end of the workshop, many walked away not only with new knowledge but also with a renewed sense of inspiration to pursue the arts and continue exploring their creative passions with confidence, curiosity, and lasting enthusiasm.

Movement and expression through dance



In the hip-hop and contemporary dance sessions, students learned choreography that allowed them to express themselves through movement. They danced to upbeat music, worked as a team, and developed discipline and creativity—all while having fun.

Storytelling in shadows

One of the most exciting parts of the workshop was karilyo, or shadow play. Students used light, paper puppets, and their imagination to tell stories rooted in Filipino traditions. These stories captured the joy of fiestas and the warmth of family celebrations, helping students connect with culture while building creative storytelling skills.

Finding harmony in music



The chorale and music sessions taught students how to sing as a group. They learned the basics of rhythm, harmony, and listening. More importantly, they discovered how music can bring people together and build community through shared performance.

Building confidence through acting



Acting workshops opened new doors for students who learned how to take on different characters and express emotions on stage. These sessions helped students speak with confidence, show emotion, and overcome stage fright.

A grand finale to remember



The workshop ended with a heartfelt recital entitled "Patuloy ang Pangarap," where students performed for teachers, parents, and classmates. The audience saw just how much the students had learned and grown in just a few days. From shy beginnings to bold performances, the transformation was clear. Each act reflected not only talent but also the courage it took for students to step into the spotlight and express themselves. Emotions ran high as proud families applauded every note, every move, and every smile. This collaboration between DLS-CSB and SJHS-DLSB wasn't just about learning skills. It was about opening doors, building confidence, and showing students that with support and opportunity, they can shine. The success of this workshop proves that the next generation of artists is already on the rise—and their journey is just beginning.

Seeing the bigger picture from page 06

The most meaningful moments came during the Q&A sessions. Students asked personal questions such as how brothers start their day and how they know if their vocation is the right one. The answers were honest and heartfelt, showing the students that religious life is not about perfection or certainty but about commitment, reflection, and service. The brothers spoke not only of their duties but also of their doubts, joys, and personal growth. These conversations revealed the deeply human side of a spiritual calling.

ConBROsations offered more than just information. It gave students a living example of what it means to lead a life guided by purpose, faith, and service to others. By making space for genuine dialogue and curiosity, the event helped students become more open-minded and thoughtful as they reflect on their own paths. Whether or not they choose a religious vocation, students were reminded that a meaningful life begins with asking questions, seeking truth, and staying open to where their values and passions may lead them.

Living the life

Sometimes the best way to understand something is to live it. That is exactly what a few members of the Lasallian Youth Crew, Mark Magarro, Carl Quijano, Kerwyn Escober, and Lance Apuya, experienced through the Brothers' Live-In Program. For several days, they stayed at the Brothers' House on campus and fully joined in their daily routines, from early morning prayers to quiet evening reflections.

This was not simply an opportunity to observe from the outside. It was a chance to step into the rhythm of a life rooted in community, spirituality, and service. Through shared meals, moments of silence, and meaningful conversations, students were able to experience what it means to live with purpose and intention. They saw how faith shapes everyday choices and how service becomes a way of life, not just a one-time act.

For students who are still exploring who they want to be, this immersive experience offered a rare moment of clarity. It allowed them to ask themselves important questions. Could I live like this? What values matter most to me? How do I want to serve others? Whether the answer was yes, no, or maybe, the experience gave them space to reflect honestly and without pressure.

The Brothers' Live-In Program helped students move beyond abstract ideas about vocation and begin imagining what a meaningful life might look like in practice. By spending time in a setting guided by spiritual values and communal living, they gained a deeper understanding of how vocation is lived out day by day. This kind of reflection is essential for making thoughtful decisions about the future and for building a life guided by purpose, service, and inner conviction.

What's truly important

The future doesn't come with a map—but it does start with questions, reflection, and a willingness to explore. Through the Vocations Symposium, ConBROsations, and the Brothers' Live-In Program, students at SJHS-DLSB were given more than just information; they were offered insight, encouragement, and real-life examples of how to live with purpose.

So, whether you're called to be a teacher, an engineer, a business owner — or maybe even a brother or sister— what matters is that you're asking the right questions now— because every informed decision starts with curiosity and ends with courage.



Photo by Yvonne Salazar, Nichole Fajardo, and De La Salle Bataan - Brothers' Facebook Page

Legacy in action

by Ryza Tano | Art by Alexandria Antonio

When we hear the names "House of Andrew, Ceci, Greg, Rafael, and Roly," the first thing that comes to mind is competition. From the Animo Cup to the Rosary Month activities and other house events, these houses go head-to-head with full energy, all in the spirit of sportsmanship and unity, aiming to become the House Champion.

But as the school year 2024–2025 comes to an end, something special happened. Instead of competing, the five houses came together with one goal—to leave behind something good for the Lasallian community. They each created unique and meaningful house legacy projects that involved not only the teachers and staff, but the students as well. Their goal? To give back and make a lasting difference.

House of Andrew: "Shoot That Bottle!"

Trash is everywhere—and the House of Andrew decided it was time to do something about it. But instead of just creating a normal trash bin, they made recycling fun! They wanted to find a way to get more students involved in keeping the school clean. So, they thought of an idea that would make recycling exciting and different.

Their project, "Shoot That Bottle: A Fun Way to Recycle," was a creative way to encourage students to recycle their plastic bottles. They designed a bin with a basketball hoop on top, turning trash disposal into a mini game. It made students smile and laugh while doing something good for the environment. The simple act of recycling became something to look forward to.

Now, instead of just tossing bottles away, students aim and shoot them into the hoop. It's a simple idea, but one that brings excitement and responsibility together. It also helps teach students that even small actions can make a big difference. More bottles ended up in the right bin, and the school looked cleaner because of it.

Because of this fun and eco-friendly idea, House of Andrew won the award for Most Creative House Legacy Project! Their project showed that with a little creativity, we can all help the planet. They didn't just build a recycling bin—they built a fun way to care for the Earth.

House of Ceci: Hanging Plants for a Happier Meal

Sometimes, a simple touch of nature can change the way we feel, especially when we eat. That's what the House of Ceci focused on. They believed that the canteen should be more than just a place to eat—it should also be a space to rest and enjoy. So, they thought of a way to make it more peaceful and welcoming for everyone.

Their legacy project was all about making the school canteen a better place to eat and relax. By adding hanging plants, they brought color, life, and a calm atmosphere to a space where everyone gathers every day. The green plants made the space feel fresh and alive, turning a plain area into something beautiful. It made a big difference without needing a lot of changes.

Now, students and teachers enjoy their meals surrounded by greenery, which helps them feel more at ease and refreshed. The plants not only made the canteen look nicer but also helped people feel more relaxed during busy school days. House of Ceci showed that nature can have a powerful effect, even in small spaces. Their project proved that little things can bring joy and peace to our everyday lives.

House of Greg: Bougainvillea Blooms in the Marian Garden

If you've walked through the Marian Garden, you've probably felt how peaceful and beautiful it is. But the House of Greg thought it could still be better. They believed that even a small touch could bring more life to the space. So, they decided to add something colorful and natural to brighten it up.

Their project added bright bougainvillea plants in red and pink, placed neatly in pots along the garden pathway. These small additions made a big difference, giving the Marian Garden even more beauty and color. The flowers stood out and brought a cheerful feeling to everyone who passed by. It made the garden feel more alive and welcoming.

It's a reminder that nature can be simple and still make us feel something special. Even small changes can bring peace and happiness to a place. House of Greg showed that caring for our surroundings can create something truly meaningful. Their project helps everyone enjoy the Marian Garden in a new and more colorful way.

House of Rafael: Cleaning the Shore, Caring for the Sea

Our school is proudly known as "the school by the sea," sitting right beside the shores of Looc. With that in mind, the House of Rafael took the chance to protect what's closest to us—the ocean. They saw how important it is to take care of the sea that brings beauty, life, and peace to our community. So, they planned a project that would help both the environment and the people who enjoy it every day.

Their legacy project was a coastal cleanup, where students and members of the house gathered to clean the nearby beach. It wasn't just about picking up trash; it was about showing care for the environment and for future generations. Their act of service reminded everyone that being Lasallian also means being a good steward of nature.

House of Roly: A Mural That Speaks

Beauty can be more than plants; it can also be art. The House of Roly showed this through their legacy project: a wall mural filled with meaning and care.

Using paint, brushes, and creativity, they created a large mural showing St. John Baptist De La Salle guiding people up a staircase. The artwork was placed on Building A, near the stairway close to the head teachers' office. It reminds everyone passing by that our founder is always with us, leading us in our journey of faith and learning.

One Mission, One Heart

Each house left something behind, but not just objects or decorations. They left behind a legacy of teamwork, service, and care for others.

These projects may look different from one another, but they all shared one goal: to make the school a better place. Whether it was through recycling, planting, cleaning, or painting, each house showed that even small acts can have a big impact.

As Lasallians, we are called not just to learn, but to lead and to love. Let these legacy projects be a reminder that everyone can make a difference, and that the best way to end the school year is by leaving something behind that others can enjoy, learn from, and be inspired by. May these efforts and legacy continue to grow and inspire kindness in the years and next batches to come.



The Scorching Phenomenon

by Kharlle Laurence Rabalo
Art by Roge Klyne Dela Cruz



In recent weeks, the heat index, a measure that combines air temperature and humidity to determine how hot it truly feels, has reached alarmingly high levels across the country. According to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), several areas are now experiencing heat indices of 42°C and beyond, pushing communities to their physical and environmental limits.

This is due to a mix of natural and human-driven causes. The presence of the El Nino has drastically reduced rainfall and driven up land surface temperatures, making the dry season even more brutal and dangerous than usual. This is also worsened by Climate Change, amplifying the frequency and intensity of heatwaves and leaving vulnerable populations struggling to cope.

Certain regions have been hit harder than others. Dagupan City in Pangasinan and Pili in Camarines Sur have reported heat indices peaking at 43°C. Cities like Tuguegarao and Iloilo are not far behind. These conditions fall into PAGASA's "danger" category, meaning prolonged exposure can cause serious health problems, ranging from heat cramps and exhaustion to potentially fatal heatstroke.

In response, local governments and health authorities are stepping in to help citizens stay safe. Public advisories stress the importance of staying hydrated, wearing light clothing, and avoiding outdoor activity during the hottest hours of the day. Urban centers have even rolled out mobile hydration stations, and PAGASA now provides daily heat index updates to help Filipinos plan their days more safely.

But while these immediate efforts are crucial, they aren't enough in the long run. This heat crisis highlights a much larger issue, our warming planet–Climate Change. It's a wake-up call for long-term action. We need promote sustainable practices, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and strengthen climate education at the grassroots level. This has been an issue for years, and change will only r eally occur when communities, leaders, and individuals work together against climate change.

We must also invest in renewable energy sources to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. Governments should implement policies that prioritize environmental conservation and climate resilience. Most importantly, we need to empower younger generations to become climate advocates and innovators for a more sustainable future.

Teaching with AI: Eye for AI Seminar Insights

by Alysson Heart Alonzo

Technology is transforming the way we live, work, and learn— and at the heart of this change is artificial intelligence (AI). From helping write emails to solving math problems, AI is everywhere. However, in schools, it's more than just a tool— it's becoming a powerful learning partner.

Teachers and students are now part of a fast-moving world where digital tools can make lessons more interactive, learning more personalized, and classrooms more connected. However, with great power comes great responsibility. Knowing how to use AI responsibly, safely, and effectively is just as important as having access to the technology itself.

To help educators make the most of these technologies, the SPARKEd Center hosted a three-day seminar titled "*Eye for AI: Effective Technology Integration Through Safe and Ethical Use of AI*" from March 20 to 22, 2025, at De La Salle Santiago Zobel - Alabang Campus.

Five teachers from St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB), Sir Angel Bert Jornal, Ms. Ayla Rose Villegas, Ms. Jasmine Mendoza, Ms. Allexisa Marie Ramos, and Ms. Joyce Corrales, took part in the event, ready to gain insights that could shape the future of teaching in the school's community.

This seminar focused not only on the practical application of AI in education, but also on its ethical, safe, and effective integration into the classroom. Participants explored key principles and strategies that support responsible AI use in teaching and learning.

Understanding the foundations

Imagine a classroom where technology does not replace the teacher but works alongside them— adapting lessons, supporting individual learning paths, and opening new doors to curiosity and creativity. This is the kind of future that artificial intelligence can help shape in education.

To move toward that future, it is essential to begin with a clear understanding of what AI truly is. It is not just about smart tools or virtual assistants. At its core, AI is built on algorithms, machine learning, and neural networks. Through the UNESCO AI Competency Framework for Teachers, educators explored how to develop this foundational knowledge and apply it in a purposeful, ethical, and equitable way.

The framework emphasizes key skills such as AI literacy, algorithmic thinking, and digital pedagogy. With these competencies, teachers can go beyond simply using technology and begin to critically assess how different tools align with their instructional goals and the needs of their students.

This also signals a shift in the role of the teacher. AI is not meant to replace human interaction but to enhance it. It can support personalized learning, offer real-time feedback, and empower students to take ownership of their education. In this evolving landscape, the teacher becomes a designer of learning experiences — someone who creates the conditions for meaningful, student-centered learning to take place.

Ethics and data privacy

As AI becomes more common in education, it also brings some serious responsibilities— especially when it...

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Photo from St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan's Facebook Page

... to ethics and data privacy.

AI tools often collect a lot of student data, which raises important questions: How is that data being stored? Who has access to it? What is it being used for? Teachers were reminded to treat student data as carefully as they would any private academic record. It is important to understand how these platforms work behind the scenes.

A major learning point was the idea of algorithmic bias. AI systems are not always fair. If the data used to train them is biased, the results can be too. Teachers were encouraged to think critically and ask key questions: Who made this tool? What kind of data trained it? Does it work fairly for all students?

There was also a strong focus on digital ethics, emphasizing the importance of establishing clear, transparent guidelines for the responsible use of AI in educational settings. Teachers discussed the necessity of setting rules that not only protect students' privacy and data but also foster an environment of trust and safety. Part of this approach includes being upfront with students about the role AI plays in their learning and ensuring that they give informed consent before AI tools are used. This type of responsible, ethical approach aligns with standards set by leading educational and technology organizations, ensuring that AI technologies are used to enhance, rather than hinder, the learning experience. By prioritizing ethics in AI integration, schools can guarantee that these tools serve as a positive supplement to traditional education, providing students with meaningful, secure, and enriching learning opportunities.

Practical application

The seminar showed how AI tools can be used in real classrooms, helping both teachers and students. One key example was Khanmigo, an AI-powered teaching assistant from Khan Academy. This tool helps teachers by offering personalized support to students and easing administrative tasks, allowing teachers to focus more on teaching. The demonstration showed how AI can make learning more engaging and improve the classroom experience for everyone.

Teachers saw how tools like Khanmigo can support everyday teaching by helping with formative assessments, creating personalized learning paths, and taking over routine tasks like grading or giving basic feedback. This gives teachers more time to focus on deeper, more meaningful interactions with students.

One standout feature was Khanmigo's adaptive feedback. Using machine learning, it responds to students based on their individual answers, helping them reflect, try again, and build their understanding step by step. It encourages students to take ownership of their learning while giving them just the right level of support.

The tool also provides real-time learning analytics, giving teachers insights into student performance and areas where they may need extra support. However, it's important for teachers to interpret this data carefully, as numbers and charts alone don't capture the full context of a learner's experience. This session emphasized a key point: AI is not meant to replace teachers, but rather to support and enhance their work. When integrated thoughtfully into the classroom, with proper planning and a balanced approach, AI can be a valuable tool for educators. It can assist in managing tasks more efficiently, customize lessons to meet individual learning needs, and offer students more engaging and personalized learning opportunities. By leveraging AI, teachers can also free up more time to focus on creative and critical aspects of teaching. In doing so, AI complements, rather than replaces, the human connection and expertise that teachers bring to the classroom. Additionally, AI offers new opportunities for fostering collaboration between teachers and students, enhancing engagement and learning outcomes. With the right guidance and tools, AI can be a powerful ally in helping students reach their full potential.

AI should be seen as a partner that helps make teaching more effective and learning more engaging.

The future of education

The "Eye for AI" seminar was a reminder that AI, while powerful, is still just a tool. It cannot replace the role of teachers. With the right training and mindset, teachers can use AI to support learning while keeping human connection at the center of the classroom. As technology continues to evolve, the role of educators in guiding students through these changes becomes even more critical.

The five SJHS-DLSB teachers left the seminar with new ideas, a better understanding of AI, and strategies they can use in school. As more schools move toward blended learning and technology, it's important for teachers and students to learn to use AI wisely. Teachers should take the lead, using AI with care, strong ethics, and a mindset focused on growth.

The future of education is not only about technology— it is about people, too. By promoting this balance, educators can ensure that AI enhances learning while preserving the essential human aspects of education.

SciMath Week 2025 Ignites Innovation and Discovery Among Young Lasallians

by Handre Mas | Free Illustrations from Canva

Young minds from St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) celebrated SciMath Week 2025 from March 3 to 7, offering a dynamic set of learning experiences under the theme *"Empowering Young Minds and Exploring Innovations."* In partnership with De La Salle University Manila – College of Science, the week-long celebration highlighted the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) through engaging and age-appropriate hands-on activities.

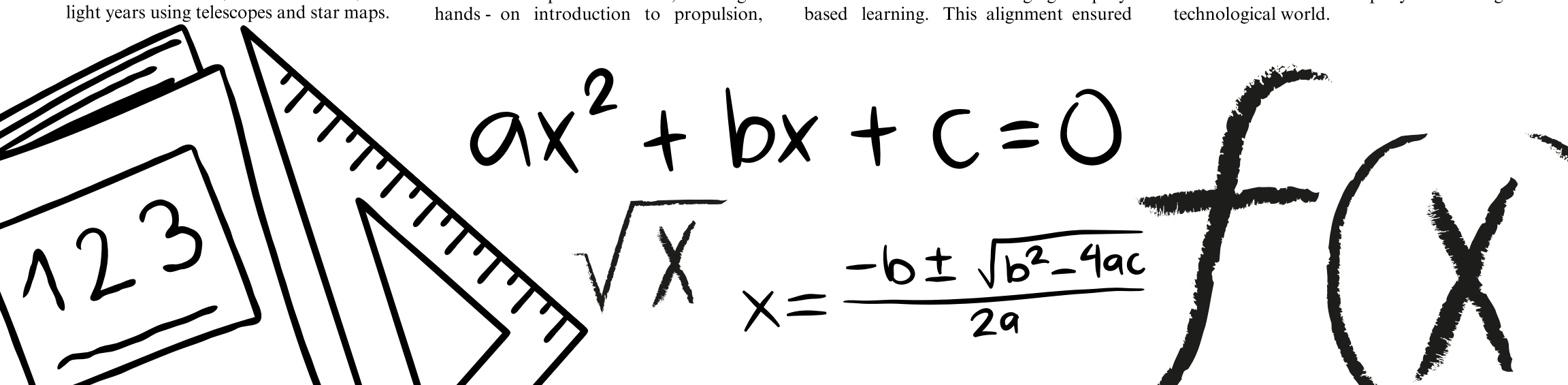
Throughout the week, students participated in workshops and interactive challenges that brought abstract scientific and mathematical concepts to life. Activities included **Stargazing**, where students explored astronomy, learning about constellations, celestial motion, and light years using telescopes and star maps. In the Arduino workshop, learners were introduced to basic electronics and coding, as they created simple programmable circuits—laying the groundwork for skills in automation and robotics. Electroplating taught students the chemical process of metal ion transfer, linking it to practical uses like jewelry-making and electronics.

The Chemistry of Breadmaking demonstrated the science behind fermentation, enzyme activity, and the Maillard reaction, blending biology and chemistry in a real-world context. Students also explored Perfume Making, learning how to extract essential oils and mix fragrant compounds while understanding volatility, solubility, and olfactory science. In Rocket Launching, Newton's Laws of Motion were put into action, offering a hands - on introduction to propulsion, aerodynamics, and engineering design.

Mathematics was made interactive through competitions like the Amazing Math Race, which combined arithmetic problem-solving with physical challenges to sharpen logical reasoning and teamwork. The Mini-Me SciMath Edition allowed younger students to explore scientific inquiry and measurement through guided mini-experiments. The Quiz Bee tested knowledge in both disciplines, encouraging mastery of core topics such as ratios, algebraic expressions, chemical elements, and energy transformation.

Each activity was tailored to suit the developmental level of the participants, reinforcing concepts aligned with the Department of Education's K–12 curriculum while encouraging inquiry-based learning. This alignment ensured that foundational principles such as the Scientific Method, data analysis, variables, and geometric reasoning were applied meaningfully.

At the week's end, student winners were recognized during the school's morning assembly, celebrating not just academic success, but also curiosity, creativity, and collaborative spirit. SciMath Week 2025 proved to be more than just a series of events, it was a celebration of critical thinking and innovation, giving learners opportunities to apply classroom knowledge in real-life situations. Through activities that fused scientific literacy and numeracy, students were empowered to think like scientists and solve problems like engineers, shaping a mindset ready for the demands of a rapidly advancing technological world.



Ctrl + Alt + Defend: Securing the Filipino Cyberspace

In today's interconnected world, security begins not at the physical borders of the nation, but at the entry point of digital connections. The Philippines, like many other nations, is undergoing an era of rapid digital integration, which has shifted threats from the tangible to the virtual. These digital threats, though invisible, pose serious risks to the nation, impacting critical systems and personal data. The increasing prominence of the online world over physical borders has made the need for a robust cybersecurity framework urgent.

As such, the National Cybersecurity Plan (NCSP) 2023–2028, recently adopted by the Philippine government, comes at a crucial moment. While it marks an important policy step, the real test lies in its execution.

The Philippines has long neglected cybersecurity, allowing vulnerabilities to persist within government systems and private sector institutions. Sensitive data, from personal information to governmental records, remain exposed to cyberattacks, and the general public lacks sufficient knowledge on cybersecurity practices. This state of affairs is not sustainable, especially as digital threats become more sophisticated and pervasive. The adoption of the NCSP, as outlined in Executive Order No. 58, signals a significant shift in the country's approach to cyber defense. However, while this roadmap is a step in the right direction, its success depends on more than just policy statements; it requires real, actionable plans that address systemic challenges.

The NCSP is not merely a policy framework; it represents a formal declaration of intent to combat ongoing cyber threats that have already begun to impact critical sectors of society. The plan calls for a comprehensive approach, involving public agencies, commercial enterprises, and civil organizations working together to safeguard national and personal data. This collaborative effort could pave the way for greater cybersecurity resilience if properly implemented. However, policy alone is not sufficient. The government must invest significantly in resources— both financial and human— to ensure the plan's success.

One of the key challenges facing the Philippines is the lack of sufficient cybersecurity professionals. The shortage of skilled workers in this field presents a major obstacle to the implementation of the NCSP. According to a 2021 report by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the global shortage of cybersecurity professionals is expected to worsen, and the Philippines is not exempt from this trend. This gap in expertise leaves critical systems vulnerable to attack and hinders the country's ability to defend against increasingly sophisticated cyber threats. Furthermore, rural areas, which often face weak internet connectivity, are at an even greater disadvantage when it comes to cybersecurity preparedness. To address these issues, the government must prioritize the training and development of local talent, ensuring that a new generation of Filipino cybersecurity professionals is equipped to handle the demands of an ever-evolving digital landscape.

Moreover, cybersecurity education should no longer be seen as an optional subject or extracurricular activity in schools and universities. It must be integrated into the core curriculum, with all students receiving a basic understanding of digital literacy and cyber safety. Given the rapid pace of digital adoption, this knowledge is crucial for every Filipino citizen, as the absence of it leaves individuals vulnerable to phishing scams, identity theft, and other cybercrimes. Awareness campaigns that educate the public about the risks of the digital world and how to mitigate them should be a priority for both government and private sectors.

The success of the NCSP will depend on the government's ability to act decisively and avoid the pitfalls of bureaucracy and red tape. Corruption and inefficiency must be kept at bay if the country is to build the necessary infrastructure to safeguard its cyberspace. The failure to act now will not only leave the Philippines vulnerable to future attacks but will also compromise its standing as a growing digital economy in the region. Protecting the nation's cyberspace is, in essence, protecting the nation itself. The defense of data is as critical as the defense of territorial borders.

The National Cybersecurity Plan 2023–2028 must go beyond the pages of a policy document and become a living, breathing strategy for digital defense. This requires the commitment of all stakeholders— government, business, and civil society— toward a common goal: ensuring a safe and secure digital future for the Philippines. The country's future depends on the successful implementation of this plan. If executed properly, it can create a resilient and secure digital environment that benefits not only government institutions but also businesses, citizens, and the economy as a whole.

The time to act is now. The Philippines must prioritize the protection of its cyberspace before a massive security breach forces action. A proactive stance is essential, as waiting for a digital disaster to serve as a wake-up call is no longer an option. The success of the National Cybersecurity Plan depends not just on its formulation but on its prompt and effective execution. Strengthening coordination between government agencies and private sector stakeholders is also crucial to address vulnerabilities. This effort will ensure that the nation's cyber defenses are adaptive to emerging threats. Only then can a secure digital future be ensured.



Art by Roge Klyne Dela Cruz

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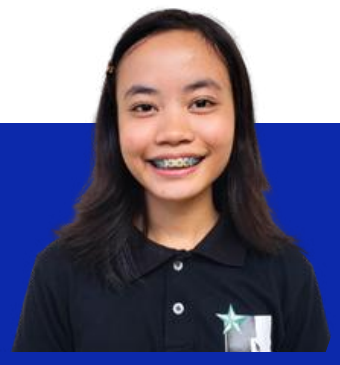
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COLUMN: When Teachers Are Overloaded, Students Pay the Price

Alysson Heart Alonzo

"Touch hearts, teach minds, and transform lives."

This is the mission of every teacher in a Lasallian school, including ours — St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan.

I have been a student here since Grade 5, and throughout the years, I have seen our teachers live out this mission every single day. They have taught us not only about academics and extracurricular activities, but also the values of faith, service, and communion. They have helped shape who we are — both inside and outside the classroom.

Our teachers have always been committed and dedicated. They joined training programs, led student activities, and continuously encouraged us to aim higher. Because of their support, many students discovered their talents, gained confidence, and even excelled in competitions or found their voices during class discussions.

However, I noticed that things started to change during my high school years.

Many of our teachers began to leave because some could no longer manage the increasing workload. Those who remained had to take on more responsibilities — often teaching multiple grade levels or handling subjects outside their specialization.

Initially, I thought this was a problem only the teachers had to face, but over time, I realized it affects us students as well, as it directly impacts the quality of education we receive. How, exactly?

One thing I have observed is that teachers are now more focused on finishing lesson plans than ensuring students fully understand the topics. Perhaps they feel the need to stick strictly to their plans because of the many grade levels and subjects they handle. While this may help them manage their time, it unfortunately leads to a decline in the quality of instruction. Lessons feel rushed. Students do not get enough time to ask questions or explore topics in depth.

I remember a time when a teacher, after coming straight from another class, had to prepare her presentation slides on the spot. Because of her packed schedule, she only had a few minutes left to discuss the lesson. We received the basics, but there was no opportunity to explore further. The activity felt more like a requirement than a meaningful learning experience.

Another issue is the inconsistency in teaching across subjects. I once had a mathematics teacher who was also assigned to teach a subject outside her major. She was honest with us about not feeling very confident, as it was her first time teaching that subject. She still gave her best effort, and we appreciated that. However, we could feel the gap. There were times when we felt unsure or confused, and we believed there was more we could have learned. When students are not certain whether the lessons are correct, it becomes harder to trust what we are learning, and that affects our confidence.

The classroom atmosphere has also changed. In the past, teachers were able to balance class discussions and interactive activities, meeting both the needs of the students and the requirements of the curriculum. Now, it feels more centered on what teachers need to complete or submit, which often makes classes feel rushed and less engaging. There have even been times when teachers were unable to teach at all. We can see that they are tired and under pressure.

One of my classmates once said, *"It feels like we are just being left alone during class."* The room has started to feel distant and disconnected. Fun activities that used to make learning enjoyable happen less frequently. That spark we once had in class? It is starting to fade.

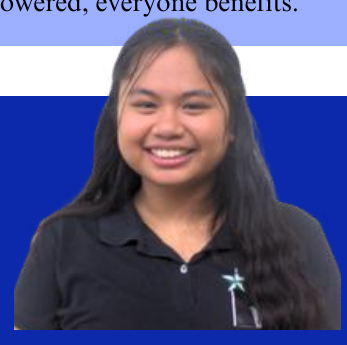
Another concern is the lack of individual attention. In Grade 5, I remember how my Mathematics and Science teacher used to approach students who were having difficulty. She would take time during class to explain the lesson again to those who needed extra help. But now, with so many students to manage and so much paperwork to complete, teachers do not have time to provide that same kind of support. There were instances when a paper submitted for teacher's feedback would take a week or longer to be returned to the students, hindering their learning progress.

Some students need extra guidance, especially as lessons become more complex. But today, many of us are left to figure things out on our own. By the time we take a quiz, it is often too late to catch up.

Despite everything, I have seen how hard our teachers continue to work. Even when they are overwhelmed, they still show up. Even when they are exhausted, they still smile and ask us how we are doing. Their dedication is admirable. But it is important to recognize that when teachers are overloaded, students are affected too — in how we learn, how we feel in class, and how confident we are in our abilities.

Action is needed to ensure teachers receive the support they deserve. Students can help by showing appreciation, while school leaders and decision-makers should foster a healthier environment through well-being programs and hiring more subject-specialized teachers. Supporting teachers isn't just about easing workloads— it's about protecting education quality and helping students reach their potential. When teachers are empowered, everyone benefits.

COLUMN: Sweet Talk is Not Enough



Danielle Anne Arellano

I once heard someone older say that voting is like choosing who to love — and honestly, they are right. Politicians will court you to get that "yes," that vote, but we cannot keep falling for sweet talkers who disappear when it is time to actually show up and act. They make promises, appear in flashy campaigns, and then vanish when it's time to be held accountable. It's a cycle we've seen too many times — and it's up to us to finally break it.

The election is just fast approaching. According to Villaruel (2025), the election is set for May 12, 2025. Over 18,000 elective positions are up for grabs, from the "Magic 12" Senate seats to Municipal councilors. That number alone tells us how important our participation is — the future of our communities, schools, healthcare systems, and local projects is literally on the line. Even as a first-time voter, I have already noticed a pattern. Every time these elections draw near, these politicians suddenly appear. Who would not notice? You hear early in the morning their loud campaign jingles blasting from passing cars and see their posters plastered from house to another. It becomes impossible to ignore — as if our streets turn into one big stage for their performances. But behind all the noise, we need to ask: *what do they really stand for?*

I do not blame the voters before us, but let us face it: we have fallen for the sweet talkers already. The charming, the famous, the one who dances on television? As a young, first-time voter, I — we have the chance to break the cycle.

As our national hero once said, "*Kabataan ang pag-asa ng bayan.*" And maybe it's not such a tired line after all. Maybe it's the reminder we need — that we hold power not just someday in the future, but right now, in this very moment.

Voting is a prestigious right that we must exercise. Despite how young we are, the leaders we elect today will determine the policies that will affect our future. From quality education to accessible healthcare, we are going to be affected as well. In short, we live with the consequences of the upcoming election. Catchy songs or slogans would not help increase good governance in our country. That is why our vote must be informed, not influenced. Popularity does not equal capability.

Charming people are not always the right leaders. Sure, it is quite tempting to vote for someone who entertains us, one who performs or says the sweetest words. Still, this does not prove that they are capable leaders. Let us stop romanticizing the idea of leaders as superstars. What we need are leaders who are transparent and accountable. We deserve those who lead not for applause, but for purpose. Leadership isn't a show — it's a responsibility. And we deserve leaders who treat it as such.

To my fellow first-time voters: We may be young, but we for sure are not blind. We know the difference between charm and character! The difference between people who are just excellent at sweet-talking and people who are actually capable of leading our country or even simply, our municipality. Let us ask them hard questions, challenge their words, and demand more than smiles, song numbers, or TikTok videos. We still have time to fact-check and assess their track records. We still have time to choose wisely, to think deeply, and to talk with each other about what really matters.

At the end of the day, sweet talk and empty promises are never enough — and silence, especially when we know we deserve better, is just as harmful. We must recognize our worth and act on our right to shape the future we want, as our future, voice, and power are at stake. It's important to take a stand, make informed choices, and actively participate in decisions that affect us. I urge you to vote in the upcoming election.

Let your voice be heard, not just through your ballot, but through the choices you make leading up to it.

Bumoto nang matalino, Bumoto ng matalino.

JAIME: Chained

It's just a dream in the window.

I watch people work with furrowed brows, with deep minds in thoughts, and with flaming passion to share, tell, and unfold stories. I know now! This is where I belong. There's a part of me that's always searching, always asking, always seeking— for truth, for answers, and for the stories that need to be told.

I hear the click of keys as they type, I see the rush of ideas flowing in their minds, and I sense the sudden urge of passion shining in their eyes. In this place, I feel it—the pull to do more, to be more. This isn't just about writing, but bigger. It's about truth, voice, and purpose. And I know, deep inside, that this is where I truly belong– and I cannot wait to be one of them.

I step forward, my heart racing, my excitement taking over my body. *Fearless, composed, prepared.* The door opens, and I walk in. The room hums with energy—the tap of keys, the rustle of papers, quiet conversations. It's not just a place for writing; it's a space for creating, for giving voices to the unheard, for shaping the world with words. I take a deep breath. *This is my moment.*

But as I sit down, the weight of responsibility settles in. The freedom I imagined begins to slip away. Stories need to be told, but the truth feels buried under layers of rules, expectations, and limits. The excitement I felt moments ago is now mixed with a creeping unease. I have ideas, but are they really mine? Can I write what I want, or will someone's hand pull me back, make me rewrite, reshape?

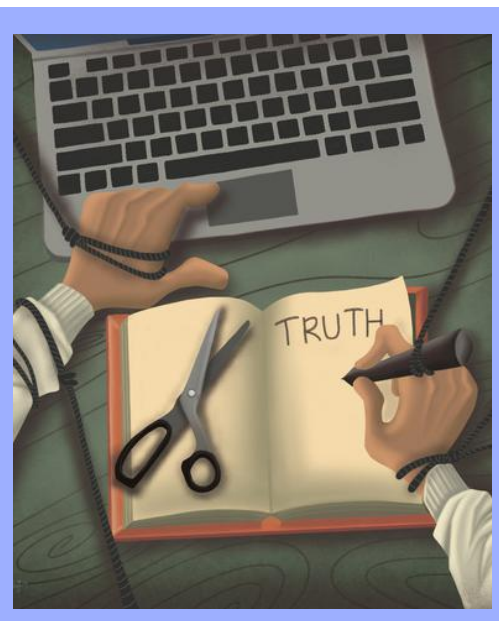
The others around me are focused, typing away, but their fingers don't seem as free as I thought. They, too, work under the same pressure—the unwritten rule of what can and cannot be said. The excitement is still there, but it's tempered by the reality that our voices aren't entirely our own.

Do I belong here?

"*Change this, not that*," Those words echo in my mind. It seems that I can't freely write– I am chained to write. I am controlled.

I try to push forward, to write my truth, but with every sentence, I feel a weight—a pressure to please, to follow the rules. This place, this space that I thought would be liberating, now feels like a cage. The chain that binds me isn't visible, but I can feel it, tightening with every keystroke, holding me back from being fully me.

I thought I'd found where I belong, but now, as I stare at the screen, I wonder: can I still find my voice here? *No, I don't belong here.*



Art by Jamaica Arellano

Because He Loved Me First

by Zhianne Rose Alonzo

I used to believe that in order to be loved, you had to be perfect.
You had to have a pure heart, be good at everything, and live without sin.
Because love, I thought, was something that couldn't simply be given — it had to be earned.

So I lived my life trying to please everyone… including Him.
I chased approval, followed rules, and did what I thought made me worthy of His love.
But I didn't realize that, somewhere along the way, I was slowly wearing myself out.

It wasn't long before I finally grew exhausted from proving myself deserving of it.
I felt like I had already given everything but why did it still feel like it wasn't enough?
That I was still not righteous enough to be loved, above all by Him.

With that, I began to question whether it was still possible, or even worth it, to gain His love,
Considering all the challenges and temptations I couldn't even seem to resist.
And so I gave up.
Slowly, I became a person I could hardly recognize.

When I had to choose between happiness or being proper, I chose happiness.
But in that decision, I slowly became selfish and harsh toward those I loved,
Justifying it as the freedom I never had.
And in the process, I drifted further from Him— ashamed of how I had treated others.



Art by Roge Klyne Dela Cruz

The connection I once had with Him changed badly...

And I couldn't seem to bring the good one back.

One evening, I could no longer bear the weight of my thoughts.
I cried alone, reflecting on the mess I had made, feeling lost in the chaos I have in my mind.
And then, the wind gently blew open the pages of my old journal in front of me,
Landing on a page I don't remember writing.

"Dear God, I have finally understood that You love me for who I am, and that You loved me even when I was just a baby, according to the verse I saw online. Thank you for making a command that anyone who loves you must also love others too. My family loves you. Now I know that they love me too. Thank you!"

And just below that, in faded ink, I saw the verse:

"We love because he first loved us. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister." — 1 John 4:19–21

At that moment, something inside me softened.
For once, it felt like a heavy bolder finally turned into a new wool in my soul,
Removing the chain of pressures I have in myself as I finally understood it.

Maybe I didn't have to work so hard to be loved.

Maybe I was never meant to earn it in the first place.

Because He already loved me even before I broke, strayed, and even knew what love truly was.
And from that love… I can learn to love again, and connect with Him, others, and even myself.

Not perfectly. Not flawlessly. But freely.

Because **He loved me first.** And His love has no requirements, for it is unconditional, especially for a lost lamb like me.

The Light They Seek

by Faith Hannah Bantugan

They walk where silence hides the light
The silence that darkens, that binds,
The light that speaks, yet no one hears.
Still they write, and silence fears.

They have always searched for answers,
Curious to understand, to see.
Beyond what others choose to ignore,
They seek the truth that lies before.

Not for glory, nor for praise,
But for the justice that truth can bring.
With steady hands they move ahead
Through darkened paths they won't stray

Journalists love seeking truth,
Always curious to understand the world.
For justice, stories are told,
That exposes the darkness long on hold.



Art by Roge Klyne Dela Cruz

Where Hope Grows

by Mihorine Shimoyama

Every summer, Carm would visit her Lola Helen in the province. Lola Helen had a small house surrounded by a beautiful garden, full of kalachuchi, gumamela, and a narra tree that stood tall like a gentle guardian.

Carm used to think summers there were boring. No internet, slow signal, far from malls, not much gadgets. But this summer, it was different for her. She was feeling lost. Her parents had been arguing a lot, and even though they wouldn't say it, she knew something was wrong.

Lola Helen noticed her silence. One morning, she handed Carm a small shovel and said, "Let's plant something today. When you take care of something, it teaches your heart to grow."

They planted sunflower seeds.

Each day, under the scorching sun, Carm watered the seeds. At night, Lola Helen also encouraged her to pray the rosary. After that, she will tell a couple of stories: about Carm's Lolo, who passed away years ago, when Carm was still a baby, and how faith and love kept her going through life's toughest seasons.

One evening, Carm finally opened up. "Lola, what if my family breaks apart?"

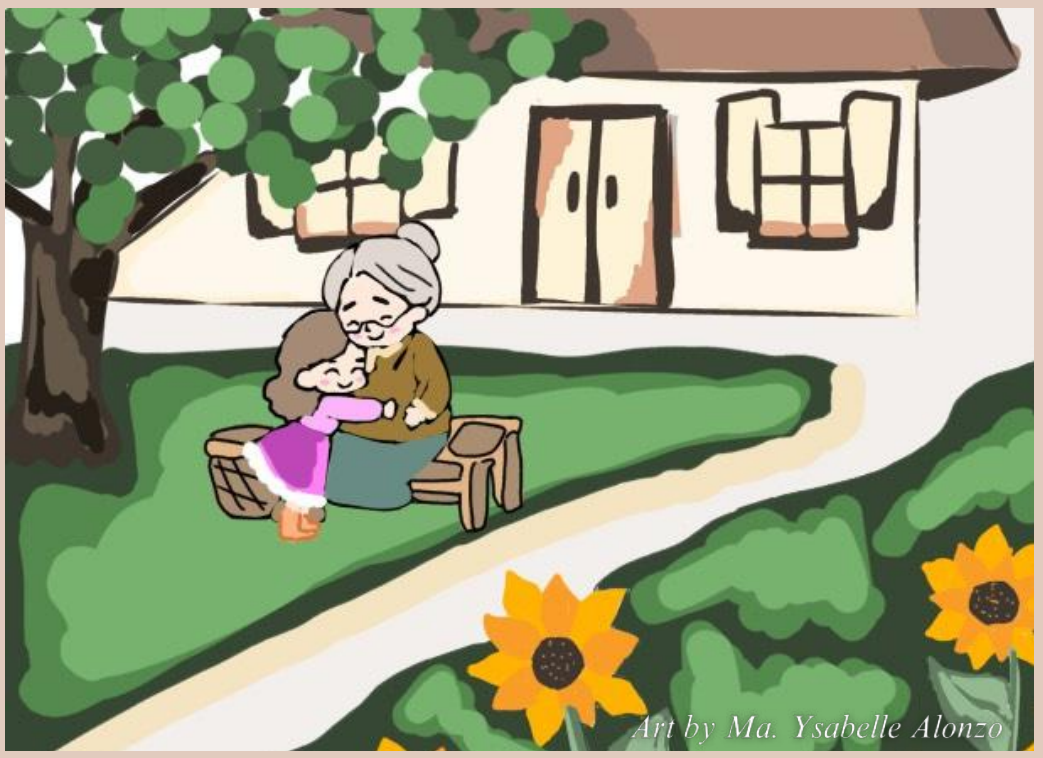
Lola Helen hugged her. "Then we pray harder. Family is God's first gift to us. Sometimes, even families need time to heal. But never stop loving them. Never stop praying and hoping."

Weeks passed. The sunflowers bloomed bright, golden, and tall.

Before Carm went back to the city, she left a note by the sunflowers. "Thank you for reminding me to have faith. I'll take care of my family, like we took care of these flowers— with love, patience, and prayer."

Back home, things weren't perfect. But Carm was different now. She smiled more, helped more, and reminded her parents to pray together, strengthening the bonds of their family as well as their faith.

And just like that garden in their province, little by little, their home began to bloom again.



Art by Ma. Ysabelle Alonzo

CUP OF JOE'S "MULTO": WHAT'S YOUR GHOST?

by Alysson Heart Alonzo

"*Multo*" (English: Ghost) is a synth-pop ballad by Filipino band Cup of Joe, released on September 14, 2024, as part of their debut album *Silakbo*. Written by co-lead vocalist Raphaell Ridao and his brother Redentor during the COVID-19 pandemic, the song explores grief and emotional haunting, marking a shift toward a more introspective sound. The track became a commercial hit, topping local charts and making history as the first Filipino song to debut on the Billboard Global 200.

"*Multo*" is a heartfelt and emotional song that speaks to the universal experience of longing and regret. At first listen, it sounds like a song about a past lover— someone who is no longer in your life, but whose memory still lingers in your mind, making your feelings for them haunt you. The lyrics, paired with a soft and melancholic melody, really capture the feeling of missing someone and the emotions that remain even after they are gone. However, as you dive deeper into the song, it becomes clear that "*Multo*" is about much more than just a past relationship. It can be about all the things in life that we regret or wish we had done differently. It speaks to the "*what ifs*"— those moments when you wonder how life might have turned out if you had made different choices. No matter how much time passes, these regrets can stick with you, like a ghost that you cannot shake.

It can also be about your past self — the version of you who once dreamed differently, who held hopes and plans that never came to be. Sometimes, the ghost that haunts you is not someone else; it is the shadow of your former self— carrying dreams you no longer chase, but still quietly miss.

For a student, their "*multo*" might be the dream program they turned down for something more secure, the potential they did not fully realize, or the friendships that took a backseat to their pursuit of excellence. For a creative soul, their "*multo*" could be the art they never created, the performances they never gave, or the opportunities they hesitated to embrace due to fear or self-doubt. For an adventurer at heart, their "*multo*" might be the journeys they never took, the countries they never explored, or the experiences they put on hold due to life's responsibilities or fear of the unknown. The beauty of "*Multo*" is that it speaks to every listener differently, yet it always evokes the same feeling of loss and what could have been.

Musically, the song is simple yet beautiful. It blends soft rock and indie pop in a way that creates a calm, reflective atmosphere. The steady guitar and light percussion make the song feel intimate, while the vocals carry a sense of emotion and vulnerability. The slow pace of the song builds as it goes on, pulling you deeper into its reflective mood.

Lyrically, "*Multo*" does an excellent job of conveying the theme of regret and lingering feelings. The words are simple but powerful, and the repetition of certain lines emphasizes the idea that these emotions stay with you over time. It's a song that feels personal yet speaks to everyone's shared experiences of longing and missed opportunities.

"*Multo*" is a beautiful and meaningful song. The melody and lyrics work perfectly together to capture the feeling of looking back at the past and feeling haunted by them. It is the kind of song that stays with you, making you reflect on your own "*multo*" long after it ends.



Art by Xandriel Ivanne Estares

COMICS #1 IN HIM, I FOUND PEACE

by Zhianne Rose Alonzo



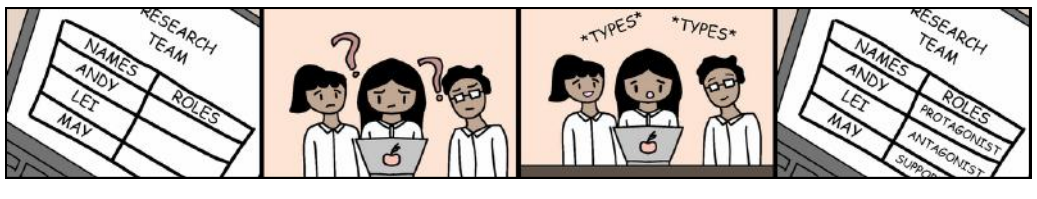
COMICS #2 LOLA

by Ma. Ysabelle Alonzo



COMICS #3 GROUP PROJECT

by Alysson Heart Alonzo

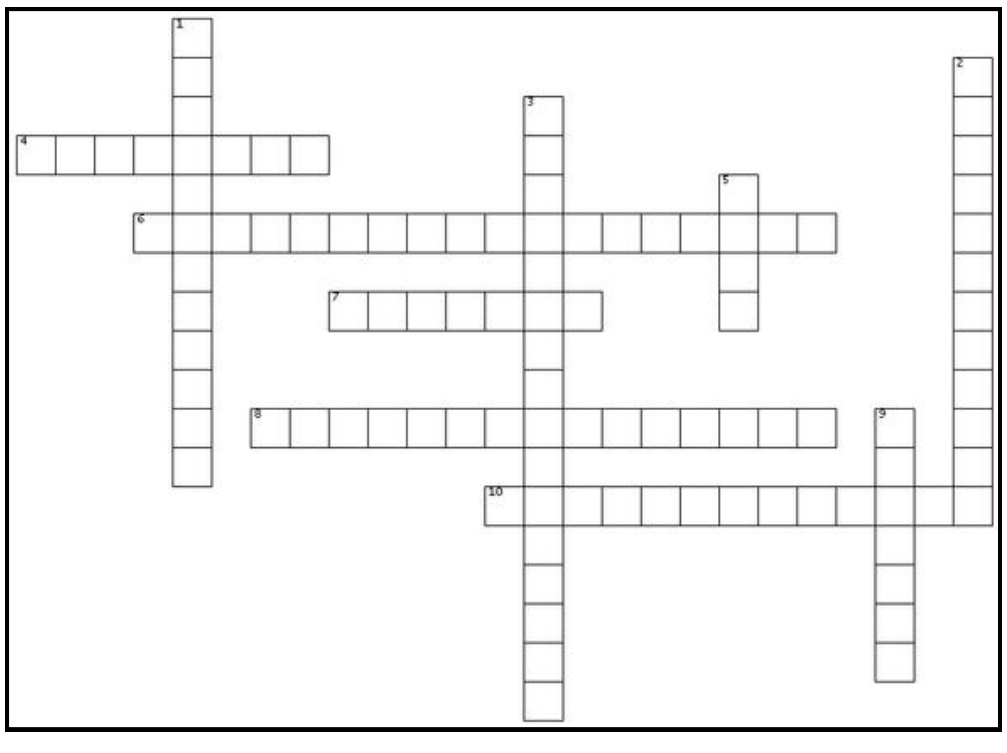


COMICS #4 ANGELUS

by Julian Rain Gomez



TRY THIS CROSSWORD PUZZLE!



ACROSS
4. The teacher recognized for 15 years of service during Lasallian Mentor's Day
6. Title of the recital by students in the STAR Workshop
7. Last name of the 2024-2025 Student Council President
8. A subject that teaches morals and faith
10. One of Ate Sovie's products during summer

DOWN
1. Key word of the Foundation Day's theme this year
2. Name of our patron saint
3. The award SJHS-DLSB won in Inter La Salle 2025
5. The house that topped the house rankings
9. Another name for the "learning center" building

Over 300 Participants Lace-Up for Animo Run 2025

by Alysson Heart Alonzo | Photo from Michael Bunag Photography



BAGAC TOWN PLAZA, BATAAN – The Animo Run 2025, organized by the Student Council, attracted over 300 participants to Bagac Town Plaza for a morning filled with competitive racing and community engagement. The event featured two main race categories: a three-kilometer route from the plaza to the Philippine - Japanese Friendship Tower and a five - kilometer course leading to Sitio Salapao in Barangay Banawang.

Runners of all ages gathered eagerly at the starting line, ready to tackle the challenge. Despite an unexpected rain shower, the atmosphere remained lively, and participants continued with enthusiasm, motivated by the unique experience.

"*I did manage to enjoy the race even more [when it rained]*," Roge Klyne Dela Cruz, a participant, shared. "*At first, I was so conscious of being too sweaty that I limited my movements. But when it started to rain, I began to feel lighter because I no longer had to worry about getting wet because I was already dripping from the rain. With that, I was able to finish the track as quickly as possible.*"

Alongside the races, the event also featured a Zumba session, where participants joined in a lively group workout to the beat of energetic music. The excitement continued with a raffle, and the day concluded with an awarding ceremony, where the top finishers and special awardees were recognized for their impressive performances.

This year's winners were awarded recognition, medals, and cash prizes. In the three-kilometer race, Mark Vincent Nombre took first place and won ₱2,000, followed by Rai Vinch Paguio in second place with ₱1,000. The third-place finisher, Christian Amaro, earned ₱500.

In the five-kilometer race, Yeshua Dataylo claimed the top spot with a prize of ₱3,000, while Andrew Bohlen finished second, receiving ₱2,000. Michael Macalinao completed the podium with a strong third-place finish and took home ₱1,000.

Special awards were also given out during the ceremony. Yas Ponestas and Trisha Santos were recognized as the early bird runners, Br. Henry FSC as the top teacher finisher, and the Torres Family as the Family Runner Award.

Considering the success of the event, Sophia Ericka Norcio, the Student Council Secretary, expressed her gratitude for the support of participants, school administrators, and facilitators, all of whom contributed to making the Animo Run a memorable experience.

"*The success of the Animo Run was a result of collective effort. I credit the Student Council, particularly the executive committee, for their dedication, and our moderator, Miss Jasmine, for her guidance. The school administration and the local government of Bagac were essential in ensuring smooth logistics*," the Student Council Secretary said.

On behalf of the Student Council, she also extended special thanks to the sponsors for their generous contributions: Jemlix, Aqua Modern, and Five Brother's Bake Shop; La Jolla Luxury Beach Resort, The Unfortunate Cookie, Una Café, Hideout; Virtual Champions PH; as well as the Arellano Family, Mr. John and Mrs. Chris Arellano, Mr. and Mrs. Salvacion, the Bantugan Family, and Vice Mayor Ron Del Rosario.

Inter La Salle 2025:

Green Warriors Showcase Resilience Across Four Sports

by Handre Mas | Photos from St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan and Inter La Salle 2025's Facebook Pages



The Green Warriors fought fiercely through the highly anticipated Inter La Salle 2025, a prestigious event held after a five-year hiatus, demonstrating their resilience and skill across four sports: basketball, volleyball, badminton, and chess. The competition, held at the University of St. La Salle in Bacolod on January 20 to 24, saw 28 Green Warriors stepping up to represent their school with pride.

Despite facing challenges, the Green Warriors were honored with the "*Hugpong Wala Punaw Award*" for their unwavering determination throughout the event. They also achieved notable victories across various sports, showcasing their resilience and teamwork while leaving a lasting impression.

Battle on the boards

Alysson Heart Alonzo and Jeraldine Rivera led the Green Warriors to a second-place finish in the Female Chess Team division at Inter-La Salle 2025, as St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) delivered a composed and strategic showing inside the Basic Education Unit Library in Bacolod.

The pair finished with a 6–4 record across ten rounds, just behind De La Salle Lipa and ahead of St. Joseph School – La Salle, after a series of tense, tactical matches that tested their nerves and preparation.

"*I think Jeraldine and I's ability to strategize, plan, and stay calm under pressure while taking our time helped us secure second place together*," said Alonzo. "*We were fortunate to turn the challenges we faced into opportunities.*"

Meanwhile, in the male division, Jaedieal Louise Bautista and Xandriel Ivanne Estares fought through six tough matchups in a stacked bracket. Though they finished with a 1–12 scoreline, the duo gained valuable tournament experience against top-tier Lasallian competitors.

Heights and spikes

St. Jaime Hilario School – De La Salle Bataan's volleyball squad ended their Inter-La Salle 2025 game on a high note, securing a hard-earned victory over De La Salle Araneta University (DLSAU) in Game 14 of the boys' division.

After a rocky start, dropping their first few matches, the Green Warriors showed resilience and growth throughout the tournament, which took place at the Upper Grades Covered Court in Bacolod. The 11-man team, under the guidance of Coach Ghello Vasquez, tightened their gameplay in the latter rounds and executed when it mattered most.

Against DLSAU, SJHS-DLSB found their rhythm, matching their opponents point for point in a back-and-forth affair

Strong net defense and crucial attacks in the closing rallies helped them seal their first and only win of the tournament.

Baskets and breaks

The Green Warriors basketball team, coached by Jomar Capili, competed fiercely at the University of St. La Salle (USLS) Coliseum and St. Joseph School La Salle (SJS-LS) during the 2025 Inter La Salle tournament. Facing formidable opponents from De La Salle Lipa, De La Salle University - Laguna Campus, and La Salle Green Hills, the Green Warriors fought hard but came up short with a 0-3 record.

The team faced a tough challenge, but their effort on the court remained unwavering. Despite falling behind early in each game, they continued to press on, showing determination and grit. Though victory eluded them, they gained valuable lessons from each match, learning to improve their teamwork and resilience under pressure.

Soaring shuttles

Competing in singles and doubles events, the Green Warriors badminton team, coached by Br. Henry FSC, gave their all at the 2025 Inter La Salle tournament. Reden Alfonso Bantugan, Jared Bantugan, and Jon Gerard Arellano showed incredible perseverance and skill, but despite their efforts, the team finished with a 0-3 record.

Throughout the competition, the team fought through each rally with intensity and determination, but the challenges proved too great against their opponents. Each match tested their abilities, and while victory was just out of reach, the Green Warriors' commitment never wavered.

Green Warriors

With this year's competition behind them, the athletes of St. Jaime Hilario School - De La Salle Bataan (SJHS-DLSB) left Bacolod with a deep sense of gratitude. Having been part of the prestigious Inter La Salle 2025, the Green Warriors return home not only with memories of thrilling competition but also with invaluable friendships and a strengthened sense of Lasallian pride. Representing their school and the Lasallian values, the student-athletes felt privileged to have had the opportunity to compete alongside peers from other La Salle schools. This experience will serve as a foundation for future growth and achievement, both on and off the court.

"*For me, being part of the Inter La Salle is about representing more than just the school. It's about embodying the values, the image, and the culture of our community*," said Roge Klyne Dela Cruz, a member of the basketball team. "*What stood out the most to me was the celebration on the last day, where we had the chance to socialize with athletes from other La Salle institutions and build meaningful connections.*"

This event marked the second participation for SJHS-DLSB in Inter La Salle, with their first appearance in 2020 involving just two athletes— one for chess and another for table tennis. This event also happened at University of St. La Salle, Bacolod.