

AM Law 1972, F5 Teacher of St Paul's Convent School

Every student is a unique life with endless potentials. To teach as well as to inspire – that's what Paulinian education does.

Scrolling through the photos in her phone, AM presented her masterpieces. The homemade dishes looked so professionally plated and thoughtfully decorated that they looked as good as those served in fine dining restaurants. It's safe to say that she is a "professional" amateur chef with a keen passion for food and home cooking. Or well, maybe not *just* in cooking.

With a keen interest and knowledge in both education and psychology, AM took up teaching which became almost an "ideal" job where she can meet lives, and more importantly, inspire lives. To her, the best part of teaching is to share life, and she sees every student as a life with unlimited possibilities.

Growing up as a Paulinian herself, what AM saw as the most special quality of SPCS education, from her time till today, is the freedom and opportunities offered to students who are supported and encouraged to explore personal interests and potentials. "The DIP (Diversified Interest Programme) lessons nowadays, for instance, allow our Paulinians to develop their interests and abilities so that they know about themselves better and earlier." After all, education is not merely about imparting knowledge and values, what is of equal importance is to instill the spirit of self-exploration to foster greater self-understanding.

As a Guider of Rangers, AM believed clubs and societies provided leadership training and equipped Paulinians with a set of skills and attitudes that distinguished them in the work field. Recalling remarks from alumni working in the Human Resources field, AM pointed out that Paulinians exhibit self-motivation and a strong sense of responsibility. "We have a drive and take the initiative to do things instead of waiting for instructions from employers."

What is perhaps most special about Paulinians, however, is that the competitiveness in the workplace has not turned them into someone aggressive, but ladies who retain a sense of simplicity and purity. "Paulinians have solid principles. We know what's right and wrong, and that has helped us stand the test of society."

This sincerity of Paulinians also explains their close bonding, which outlasts their time in school and continues for the rest of their lives. Up till today, AM maintains close ties with her classmates as well as her dear students (who are now her friends!) with whom she hangs out with from time to time in happy and noisy crowds.

When asked what is the one thing that she wants to share most with students, she replied, "Be prepared – for all kind of tests and mishaps. Life doesn't promise everything to be rosy and you never know what lies ahead for you." Her remark, while echoing the Scout Motto, reminds one to keep a thankful heart to embrace whatever life may hold in store for us, with a sweet broad smile like the one she is always wearing.

Written by Ivy Wong (2009, F5)