

THE IDEAL SCHOOL

The ideal school for the young people of the year 2000

Br. Maurice De Coen

- **A school**

where you can develop
where you can be trained
where you can become a competent person, a builder of a more fraternal and just world.

- **In this school**

you try
you observe
you think
you understand
you analyse
you do a lot of practice
you remember
you can cope

- **A school**
 - where you can meet God
 - which will give meaning to your life
 - which teaches you to live with others
 - which prepares you for the future

- **A school that is**

- *welcoming:* old or new, but clean, where you feel at home, where the walls are covered with pupils' work;
- *healthy:* bright, lots of air, calm, spacious, with a garden and trees with birds, where sport is practised;
- *happy:* where people play, laugh, sing;
- *human:* where people know one another, respect and help one another, where birthdays are remembered, where people know how to celebrate;
- *modern:* where, in a spirit of democracy, young people are given responsibilities, where they learn how to make sense of the media (press, T.V., advertising), where they are introduced to the arts (to appreciate them and practise them);
- *hardworking:* well equipped, well directed, well run, where people work hard, individually and in teams;
- *Christian:* where the kingdom of God is preached, "a Kingdom of justice, peace, freedom and love", where people pray.

- **A lively school:**
 - * because people are full of ideas
 - * because there is a lot of freedom
 - * because there is a zest for life
 - * because there is always a way to do better.

Is not a Lasallian school like that?

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SOME THOUGHTS

- A bustling school is a school that is alive.
- Happiness is contagious.
- Pray for your pupils and you will see them differently.
- The ugliest and the poorest are my favourites.
- "It's only the heart that sees clearly; what is essential cannot be seen by the eyes" (St Exupery).
- When you're firm, you're supporting them.
- A smile, a little humour, is a ray of sunshine in class.
- If the limitations of the pupils irritate you, it's because they come up against yours.
- Forgive, but don't forget.
- If life at home is happy and affectionate, you'll be happy in class.
- Be very close to them, but never be an accomplice.
- To stimulate curiosity is already to teach.
- Be demanding, but reasonable.
- A well-prepared lesson is (almost) always a successful lesson.
- A teacher by himself is ineffective; teams are successful.
- Success breeds success, failure breeds failure.
- "What makes your rose so important is the time you have wasted on it" (St Exupery).
- He was a "great teacher: he always listened to us".
- When I prayed: "Lord, help me to understand them, love them, help them and respect them..." there's still lots to do.
- Parents are our first partners.
- When you really work together you forget that there are people in charge, but responsibilities still remain.
- An educator is always being educated.
- To love means
 - wanting other people to be free
 - trusting them
 - leading them to God
- Be rather a "witness" than a "teacher".
- It is not a lucrative occupation, but it's the best profession in the world. ●