A Note from the Principal

March 2015

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) and Student-Parent-Teacher Conference (SPTC)

I am pleased to share that the PTM and SPTC held over two days, Wednesday, 11 February and Saturday, 14 February 2015 have been well attended. Many of you made the effort to give us constructive feedback. For those who have been with us for the past 3 years, you have noticed that we are doing better every year! Thank you for the encouragement. A hallmark of the school is really how well the teachers know your child and how much we care, in line with the school’s core belief – loving each child as our own.

SPTC has been practised for the primary 1 and 2 levels for the past few years. This is the first time that we are embarking on SPTC for the primary 5 and 6. I am glad to report that parents have given it the ‘thumbs-up’ so we may explore changing the PTM to SPTC for all levels in 2016. This year’s online booking system has led to better time management for the English medium teachers. However, two issues continue to pose challenges – long waiting time for the Mother Tongue language teachers and parents who use more than the allocated 15 minutes per parent. We will try to tackle these issues in the next PTM/SPTC.

Academic Workshop for Parents

We are stepping up efforts to engage you in the instructional programmes in the school. I would like to put on record, my appreciation to the teachers and heads of departments, who have gone beyond the call of duty to hold these parent workshops for you: Science workshops on Friday evenings and Mathematics workshops on Saturday mornings in the months of January and February. I am sure that as parents, you appreciate these efforts as well and will work with us, to improve your children’s performance in school. Look out for more engagement sessions on English and Mother Tongue languages, in view of the change of syllabus this year.

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Traffic Safety Management & Pupil Safety Procedures

Traffic Safety Management (A REMINDER)

After School Hours

For pupil safety and the ease of traffic in the school during the afternoon dismissal, the school has taken the following measures to segregate the cars from the buses:

• All pupils taking the school bus home will be led by their respective drivers to the buses parked at the bus bay. Those taking private vehicles will be ushered to the foyer by the teachers to await their parents’ or guardians’ arrival. Hence, all parents who drive will be allowed to drive up to the school porch to pick up their children.

• In order for the traffic plan to succeed and for the safety and well-being of all pupils, we seek the cooperation of all parents concerned to adhere to the system put in place by the school and to follow the directions of the security guards on traffic duty. Please do not over-take (especially during the morning peak hour), jump-queue or take short cuts across the school compound.

• Parents are reminded not to park their vehicles at the bus bay, especially during school dismissal times at 1.30pm and 3.30pm. This is to ensure that the school buses are parked nearest to the school building for our students to walk to the buses safely.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Mr Tan Soon Hock
Operations Manager

School-wide Programmes/ Activities

Review of Examination Policies:

The school continues to review its policies to ensure the best for each child.

The following policies will be implemented to ensure that students are recognized and rewarded for their hard work.

Criteria to Qualify for Academic Prizes at school level - Reap the Laurel

1. Students must sit for all components of the paper throughout the school year.
2. Students who are absent with valid reason, will be considered on a case by case basis to determine their eligibility to receive a prize during Reap the Laurel.
3. Students who are absent with valid reason will continue to be eligible for the MOE Edusave Awards.

Existing Examination Policies

1. Students who are unwell with a temperature at or more than 37.6 degrees will be advised to seek medical attention.
2. All absences must be supported by a valid medical certificate (MC), otherwise the student will be allocated zero marks for the component/paper that he has missed.
3. There will not be any retake of the written examinations.
4. Students who are late for not more than 30 minutes will be allowed to take their examination but no extra time will be given.

Suspension of Supplementary / Remedial / Enrichment / Co-curricular Activities (CCA)

In view of the Continual Assessment (CA1), all supplementary / remedial / enrichment lessons and co-curricular activities (CCAs) will be suspended from Monday, 2 March to Friday, 6 March 2015.

Supplementary / remedial / enrichment lessons and co-curricular activities (CCAs) will resume on Monday, 9 March 2015.

Miss Palaniammal, Subject Head,
Mother Tongue & CCE/Curriculum
School-wide Programmes/ Activities

NAPFA 2015

NAPFA test will be conducted on the 13 March 2015 from 2pm to 3.30pm. Hence, CCAs scheduled during this time will be suspended.

CCAs that are scheduled on or after 3.30pm are not affected by the NAPFA test and will continue as usual.

National Sports Competitions

Students who are interested to participate in the Track and Field, Golf, Swimming and Tae-kwon-do National Competitions are to see Mr Raymond Koh with the supporting documents. Alternatively, please write to him at koh_choon_kiat_raymond@moe.edu.sg.

P5 Discovery and Leadership Camp

The P5 students will be going on a 3-day 2-night camp at Jalan Bahtera MOE Adventure Camp from 13 to 15 April 2015. More details will be given to the boys nearer the event.

Mr Raymond Koh
HOD PE, CCA and Health Education

Activities for Primary 5 & 6 (Year Head-Mrs Jamie Chaw)

March Holiday Supplementary Lessons for Primary 5 & 6 Students

In lieu of the Primary 5 Discovery and Leadership Camp to be held in April, there will be supplementary lessons for all Primary 5 students on 16 and 17 March from 8.00am to 12.30pm in their respective classrooms.

The Primary 6 students will also be having supplementary lessons on 16, 17 (No lessons for NTIL students) and 18 March from 8.00am to *12.30pm. As part of the Science Enrichment programme, the students will also be engaging in activities pertaining to “Vermiculture”.

*Some classes will be dismissed at 1.30pm due to the schedule of the Science enrichment programme. This will be reflected in the consent form for the respective classes.

The students will be given a consent form and informed of the schedule of lessons by their teachers. They are to be neatly attired in school uniform and will be given a half-hour break on all days. Please note that while the canteen will be opened for the students to eat their food during the break. There will not be any school bus transport during the holidays.

Mathematics Activities for Primary 6 High-Ability Students

To extend the high-ability students’ learning in Mathematics beyond the classroom, selected Primary 6 students will be participating in the Mathematics Exploration Day organised by the Gifted Education Branch during the holidays.

Student-Centric Curriculum (SCC) lessons for Primary 3, 4 and 5 in Term 2

We hope that the students have enjoyed themselves during the SCC EL lessons conducted in Term 1.

For Term 2, Primary 3 students will be embarking in SCC (Mathematics) lessons while Primary 4 and 5 students will be participating in SCC (Science) lessons. More details will be given to the students at the respective levels.

We hope that the activities planned will keep the flame of learning alive in the students.

Thank you.

Mrs Jamie Chaw
HOD Curriculum / Upper Primary Year Head
### Family Matters @ School

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<th>Colours of the Mind – by Health Promotion Board</th>
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<tr>
<td>11 March 2015, Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>(8.30am – 11.00am)</td>
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<td>The Colours of the Mind workshop aims to furnish parents and caregivers of 6 to 12 year old children with the relevant knowledge and skills to build and enhance the domains of mental well-being in their children. This is so that they can have a better head start in life. Parents will pick up practical tips and tools through sharing of case studies, discussion of commonly faced situations, especially in communicating with their children, and hands-on activities that they can practise at home with their children. This HPB endorsed and sponsored session is about one and half hours in duration and will be facilitated by a trained psychologist in an interactive setting.</td>
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<td>There is no fee for this event. Parents who have registered are requested to attend as scheduled.</td>
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<th>Breakfast with Dad</th>
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<tr>
<td>18 April 2015, Saturday</td>
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<td>(8.00am – 10.00am)</td>
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<td>This father &amp; son bonding workshop is for pupils from P1 &amp; P2 only.</td>
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<td>Father-child relationship is a significant factor in the emotional and cognitive development of a child. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. This workshop will have the father and child embark on a breakfast preparing session together. They will get to enjoy the breakfast that they have prepared. Centre of Fathering creates an experience that is fun and impactful for both father and child.</td>
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Please email to Elizabeth Tang at stgabriel.sfe.pri@gmail.com to register your slot for the above events.