



16 October 2017

*From the Principal's Desk...*

## **IN TOUCH 10/2017**

Dear Parents,

The month of October sees our Primary 2 to 5 students sitting for their end of year examination. Please continue to walk with them in this journey and provide them with the love, support, patience and care. While it is important to set aside time for revision, having recreational activities and quality time with the family is also crucial for their well-being. Education is a life long journey and at every checkpoint it is important to take stock of what our students have achieved in the academic and non-academic domain and be proud of the efforts that they have put in thus far.

### **Student of the Term Award and Recognition (STaR)**

STaR was introduced to recognise students' exemplary behaviour in demonstrating the six school values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Integrity, Compassion and Gratitude. We are proud to share that the following students were presented with the STaR for Term 3:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>
Du Yizhuo	1A	Muhammad Akmal Bin Muhammed Tahir	2A
Priscilla Lim En Yi	1B	Davina Wong Kang Wen	2B
Janice Ang Geh Woon	1C	Koh Ka Sim	2C
Kwa Hao Ting Kayden	1D	Max Andre Yang Haoquan	2D
Ong Yi Kai	1E	Tan Yu Heng, Dylan	2E
Xiao Yaozi	1F	Isabelle Ooi Min Rui	2F
Irisa Yip Rui Lin	1G	Zyra Binte Rezal	2G
Yong Xin Ning Kayla	1H	Rakesh Jatin	2H
Tan Shi Qi Jovie (Chen Shiqi)	3A	Eunice Ang Geh Kar	4A
Leow Wen Ning	3B	Tan Yan En Glenda	4B
Yow Lok Mann (Qiu Lewen)	3C	Wong Xin Yi	4C
Neo Xin Ya	3D	Teoh Germaine	4D
Nikhil Manoj	3E	Ko Hui Ning	4E
Danish Ariel Bin Samsudin	3F	Thara Nur Shakira Binte Mohamed Khairuddin	4F
Nur Hasyifa Binte Noor Haizad	5A	Lee Shi Ting	6A
Thng Kai Xin Alicia	5B	Nurin Hazirah Binte Chahrul	6B
Samayra	5C	Muhammad Akid Bin Rezuan	6C
Sai Sahasra Ravoori	5D	Erra Nur Fathiah Binte Marsudi F	6D
S Akshaaye Nair	5E	Syairrah Binte Mohamad Rozali	6E
Tham Ming Cher	5F	Chiam Ting Ying, Winn	6F



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Gui Jia Xuan Joey	5G	Chia Jia Yuun	6G
		Adeena Ansari	6H

Photographs of the students mentioned above have also been put up on the STaR Board at the school foyer to give recognition to these deserving students.

**North West Student Wise Enrichment Programme (SWEP)**

Fourteen students completed the North West Student Wise Enrichment Programme (SWEP) organised by North West Community Development Council (CDC). The programme consists of three separate workshops (Public Speaking, Active Learner and Basic Etiquette). We would like to congratulate these fourteen students as they will be receiving their letter of completion at the "North West SWEP Graduation Ceremony" on 5 November 2017 (Sun).

Name	Class	Name	Class
Lim Jia Jun Eugene	3C	Lee Yong Xuan	4B
Irsa Ayra Binte Mohammed Sharazin	3D	Muhammad Mustafiq Bin Mohamadkhairudin	4D
Muhammad Nifail Bin Roslan	3E	Da'nii Mi'kail Bin Mohamad Ramdan	4D
Sofya Nur Dayana Binte Mohammadshuryan	3E	Lio Shi Wen Chalsea	4D
Nur Quraisyah Bte Mohd Fadhill Shuhairi	3F	Low Yi Xuan	4D
Kevan Chua (Cai Junyang)	3F	Joeelle Lim Yi Yi	4E
Da'nii Mustaqqim Bin Mohamadramdan	3F	Syakeel Bin Hirwandy	4F

**Post PSLE Activities**

With the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) 2017 over, we have planned a range of programmes for our Primary 6 students to keep them meaningfully engaged in school. We hope to use this post PSLE period to enrich our Primary 6 students with knowledge, skills and values.

More than 10 secondary schools came to the school to speak with our Primary 6 students. Some of our students will be visiting some secondary schools too. We have requested for the secondary schools to give our students a better understanding of secondary school life. They will also be sharing on the culture of the respective schools and the unique experiences which awaits our Primary 6 students.



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We have planned an exciting day trip to Johor Bahru. Through this experience, we hope that our students will understand and experience the rich, diverse cultures and practices in Johor Bahru through hands on cultural activities. The students will also go on a learning journey to Little India to find out more about the Indian culture and the significance of Little India in Singapore's history.

Kayaking at the Pandan Reservoir is on going. We hope to equip them with the basic skills and experience in maneuvering a kayak. Through this, we also hope to build up their confidence. The students will also have a short session on AED/CPR to give them knowledge on first aid.

The students will get an opportunity to watch a play at the Singapore Repertory Theatre. We hope to give them a chance to be inspired and show the creative side of them through STOMP (Percussion performance) training sessions. They will then perform during their graduation party as a finale. The Conversational Chinese/Malay programme hopes to teach our students some basic words in Chinese/Malay to enable them to carry out simple conversations.

Together with what has been mentioned, there are other events and programmes planned to engage the Primary 6s in the next few weeks, before the students start their year end holidays.

### **P6 Educational Career Guidance (ECG)**

As part of the P6 Post PSLE activities, we will be inviting professional speakers to share with the students on their educational and career journey. Our speakers include a scientist from National University of Singapore who will be talking about her career as a scientist and her journey towards lifelong learning.

We will also be inviting a few parents of our P6 students to share about the work that they do so as to create awareness of the diverse career opportunities in Singapore.

Through these sharing sessions, we hope that we can inculcate an appreciation for the value of the different occupations and how they contribute to the functioning of society. We also hope that our students will be equipped with more knowledge that will enable them to make better choices in their educational pathways as they embark on the journey ahead.

### **Bukit Panjang Youth Olympic Carnival (BYOC)**

The annual Bukit Panjang Youth Olympic Carnival (BYOC) was carried out with much to the delight of the the Primary 1 and 2 students. The races allowed students to showcase their motor skills they have learnt in P.E such as running and jumping over obstacles. Also included in the race were the use of NERF blasters, speedstacking cups, sponge javelins and seated trolley.

The event was managed by our primary 6 sports leaders (SLs). Various roles were performed by the SLs such as stations IC, queue marshals and station demonstrators. A lot of effort was put in by the SLs to ensure that the event was a fun and enjoyable one for all their peers.



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### **Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration**

The Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) department organised the Mid-Autumn Festival Celebrations on 5 October 2017 (Thu). This year, the Primary 1 and 2 students and their parents were invited to our BPPS Mid-Autumn Festival Night Carnival. Many of the staff together with their families also joined us in the celebrations. In addition, we have also invited the alumni this year to join us in this joyous occasion.

A variety of games stalls (Lantern Riddles, Jigsaw Puzzle, Aim & Throw and Fish A Prize) were specially prepared by the Primary 5 students. Parents and students also got to have hands on experience in mooncake making. The carnival ended on a high note with the school leaders joining us in a lantern walk outside the school, basking in the moonlight.

### **Release of answer scripts for Semestral Assessment 2**

To provide parents with a better sense of the overall academic performance of their child, we will release the answer scripts for Semestral Assessment 2 for all subjects on 7 November 2017 (Tue)

### **PSLE Marking Days**

Please be reminded that the PSLE Marking Days will be on 19 October 2017 (Thu) to 24 Oct 2017 (Tue). Students need not report on these days unless they are told to do so. All the P1 to P5 students will be involved in Home-Based Learning (HBL) during these period. The HBL Plan will list the tasks for students to complete and this plan will be uploaded onto the school website. We seek your assistance to supervise the students on the completion of the HBL tasks.

### **Achievers' Day**

The annual Prize Giving Ceremony will be held on Thursday, 16 November 2017 from 8.30a.m. to 12.00p.m. All prize winners and their parents are invited to join us for the ceremony. A separate notification will be provided to award recipients and their parents on a later date. There will be no school for all students except for the award recipients.



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We look forward to a meaningful celebration and our congratulations to all award recipients and their families.

## **Sharing** **Stop Cramming, Start Learning**

*“Forget rote memorisation - for students, grasping concepts is the key to understanding. Our education researcher explains how parents can find out if their kids get the “big idea”.*  
*Taken from Schoolbag.sg, Ministry of Education*

Learning happens when a student has good retention – understanding concepts and principles taught – and good transfer skills – the ability to apply knowledge to solve different types of problems in different contexts.

Rote memorisation alone is not enough as it’s a short-term method of retaining information based on repetition. It’s not the best way to master a complex subject, especially at an advanced level. What’s more important is to understand the big idea behind a concept and practise applying it in various situations.

In Primary 3 Science class, for example, students learn about the diversity of materials. It’s no doubt important for the child to explore and learn (even memorise) the properties of different materials. But the big idea for the child to take away is that man makes useful things from these materials based on their properties. So, can the child relate the use of different everyday objects to the properties of the materials?

Many students start cramming when exams are around the corner. Instead of treating your brain like a filing cabinet where you store all the data you’ve memorised over the year, the smarter strategy is to learn through connecting ideas together by relating them to something you already understand. Use real-life situations to understand complex equations, create diagrams to show the relationship between ideas, visualise abstract concepts and simplify difficult ideas using language a five-year-old can understand.

Dr Poon Chew Leng, a veteran teacher who is currently MOE’s principal specialist for research and curriculum, has these simple tips for any parent eager to help their kids with revising for understanding.

### **Can your child solve the problem himself?**

Even if you have his tutor on speed dial or your first instinct is to help him with his homework – don’t. Have some patience and allow your child to try, and even make mistakes. Sit beside him, show an interest in his work and acknowledge his effort. You’re not helping your child by giving him all the answers, all the time.



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**Does he ask questions?**

If your child can come up with probing questions about a topic he's learning, he's on the way to understanding the concept. Don't worry if you don't have the answers he's looking for: tell him to write down his questions and follow up with his teacher the next day. You could also take him to the library to do some research.

**Can he explain what he's learned to the next kid?**

Ask your child to talk you through the steps he followed. Doing so deepens his learning and improves his reasoning skills. If he's able to explain his approach, chances are he's on his way to fully grasping the concept being studied or, just as importantly, realising where he went wrong with this work.

**Can your child apply his knowledge?**

Find out if your child understands a concept by giving him various problems to work on, especially when it comes to subjects like Math. Your child should be able to apply a single concept to various relevant situations if he has a firm grasp of the topic.

Thank you.

Bucktha Seelan  
Principal

*The expert in anything was once a beginner ~ Helen Hayes*