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*From the Principal's Desk...*

## **IN TOUCH 04/2016**

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Dear Parents,

In this month's issue, I am pleased to share with you on the achievements made by our students. These would not have been made possible without the support and partnership of the parents, dedication of the staff and most importantly, the resilience and teamwork of our students. On behalf of the school, I would like to congratulate them for their hard work. We are confident that our students will continue to emulate the theme of the school "Yes, We can!"

We have also made some improvements to the school facilities. To provide good lighting for our students to engage in reading during the morning assembly, we have installed nine units of flood lights at the parade square area. We have also installed more water coolers around the school compound so as to ensure that students stay hydrated especially after doing physical activities as well as to promote drinking water rather than soft drinks.

### **Achievements**

#### **Basketball**

We are pleased to announce that our Basketball players participated in the SPSSC West Zone Primary Schools Basketball Championship 2016 and achieved the following:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Position</b>
Junior Girls	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Senior Girls	4 <sup>th</sup>
Senior Boys	6 <sup>th</sup>

Our Junior Girls and Senior Girls teams having secured their places in the National Championship will continue to strive in the coming competition.

Students who participated in the competition are as follows:

#### **Junior Boys**

#### **Junior Girls**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>
Dharshand N	4E	Amanda Halim	4A
Nazhan Bin Nahab	4E	Tan Xuan Rong	4A



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Ahdanial Akid Bin Abdul Aziz	4G	Tan Zhi Xuan	4C
Chui Jun Ling Elroy	4G	Teo Yu Xuan Shernise	4C
Tan Jun Yuan	4G	Yong Xin Ying Karyn	4F
Chong Xue Xun	5A	Tan Yong Wen	4G
Lee Wai Jiunn	5C	Low Jia Xin	5A
Leow Kang Ren	5E	Phoebe Teo Kai Xin	5A
Reuben Desh Gabriel	5E	Maeva Loo Jia Xuan	5C
Lim Wei Chiat, Shawn	5F	Huang Xinhui Katherine	5E
Malcolm Sng Wei Heng	5G	Ng Sin Yee	5E
Zechariah Chng Jia Heng	5H	Ella Chew Xin Yi	5H

**Senior Boys**

**Senior Girls**

Name	Class	Name	Class
Akinfiresoye Oluakin Solomon	6A	Liang Minying	5F
Tan Yi Cong Kingsper	6A	Tan Siew Rong Eunice	6A
Muhammad Nur Hafiz Bin Mohd Zamari	6C	Felicia Toh Sook Ying	6B
Javier Chan You Ming	6E	Ho Min Hui, Michelle	6C
Joachim Teoh Jia Yew	6E	Ng Si Qi Izabelle	6C
Archith Balamurugan	6F	Tan Jia Hui	6C
Chin Weng Hong	6F	Teo Wen Qi Sherrill	6C
Chin Weng Kin	6F	Chua Jacyn	6D
Arshul Garg	6G	Ong Christell Pancho	6D
Balaven S/O Muthiyah	6G	Tan Xuan En	6E
Reyes Tan Horng Yun	6H	Lim See Teng, Erin	6F
Yew Jun	6H	Lim Yu Xin Joy	6G

**Wushu**

Our Wushu Team has done well in this year's SPSSC Wushu Championship. The team has won a total of 5 medals, comprising one 1<sup>st</sup>, one 2<sup>nd</sup> and three 4<sup>th</sup> positions. We hope to continue to build on this success for greater achievements in the future.

The students who participated in this competition are as follows:

Name	Class	Division	Event	Position
Yeo Liaw Kang Sheng, Kenson	6H	Senior Boys	5-Duan Nanquan (Southern Fist)	1st
			4-Duan Cudgel	6th
Lee Chen Xi	6G	Senior Girls	42-Style Taijiquan	2nd
			42-Style Taijijian	5th
Cui Hao Xuan Aron	5F	Junior Boys	42-Style Taijijian	6th
Rachel Lau Li Ying	5H	Junior Girls	42-Style Taijijian	5th
Koh Le Bon	4F	Junior Boys	3-Duan Changquan	6th



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			4-Duan Cudgel	5th
Lim Tze Herng, Lucas	5F	Junior Boys	3-Duan Nanquan (Southern Fist)	5th
Goh Cheng En	6B	Senior Boys	4-Duan Broadsword	4th
Sim Shao Yang Ian	5E	Junior Boys	5-Duan Broadsword	4th
Wai Yi Xuan	4G	Junior Girls	Spear	6th
Cui Hao Xuan Aron	5F	Junior Boys	Group Weapon	4th
Elonzo Teo Sheng	5H	Junior Boys	Group Weapon	4th
Koh Le Bon	4F	Junior Boys	Group Weapon	4th
Lim Tze Herng, Lucas	5F	Junior Boys	Group Weapon	4th
Sim Shao Yang Ian	5E	Junior Boys	Group Weapon	4th
Yew Jia Ming, James	5D	Junior Boys	Group Weapon	4th

**P5 Adventure and Leadership Camp 2016**

The P5 students participated in the annual Adventure and Leadership Camp at MOE Labrador Outdoor Adventure Learning Centre from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The students enjoyed themselves thoroughly. More importantly, the experiences that they gained such as teamwork, resilience and independence certainly enriched their learning beyond the classroom.

**Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation (AP)**

The Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) is an annual kaleidoscopic showcase of talents. This year, the school take part in the Dance, Percussion Ensemble and Choir category.

We are pleased to share the achievements of our performing arts groups:

- Concert Band - Certificate of Accomplishment, the second highest achievement
- Indian Dance - Certificate of Accomplishment, the second highest achievement
- Malay Dance - Certificate of Distinction, the highest achievement

We would like to congratulate the following students on their performance:

<b>Concert Band</b>			
<b>Name of Student</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Name of Student</b>	<b>Class</b>
Aathithya Narayan	P4-B	Moo Sheng Yan	P5-F
Espaldon Joben Nazarene Rabano	P4-B	Cyrus Ang Yi Zhi	P5-G
Chloe Goh Jia Yi	P4-G	Zurfan Bin Rezal	P5-G
Ho Zi Jing	P5-A	Zechariah Chng Jia Heng	P5-H
Jaleb Soh Jun-En	P5-B	Adam Bin Sunari	P6-A
Tan Yi Xuan Marco	P5-B	Chang Qian Ni	P6-E
Ong Cheng Hong	P5-D	Kieran Wee Keane Ron	P6-E
Tan Jian Yan, Axel	P5-E		



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<b>Indian Dance</b>			
<b>Name of Student</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Name of Student</b>	<b>Class</b>
Anisha Zahra Mohamed Sulaiman	P3-B	Sivakumar Anisha Priyangaa	P4-A
Chang Min Xuan	P3-B	Samayra	P4-C
Thulasiraman Nikhita	P3-E	Manasvini Mendu	P4-D
Devendra Gujaanie	P3-F	G Kokila	P6-B
Koh Cui Lay Shirmaine	P3-F	Shivaanjani Suresh	P6-H
<b>Malay Dance</b>			
<b>Name of Student</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Name of Student</b>	<b>Class</b>
Rani Qurratul'aisyah Binte	P4-B	Adellia Binte S Manmain	P5-C
Muhammad Izwan	P4-B	Alwiyah Anwar Husen Khan	P5-C
Sheryn Ashiqqa Binte Mohamad	P4-C	Nurizzan Binte Mohd Rezal	P5-C
Hizuan	P4-D	Alya Qistina Binte Mohammed Ajet	P5-D
Hannah Insyirah Binte Jubri	P4-E	Nur Husna Bte Mazlan	P5-D
Nur Farah Farisha Binte Imam	P4-G	Nur Iman Binte Mohmmad Fadzell	P6-B
Mujtahid	P5-A	Nurul Azrina Binte Aziz	P6-B
Emilia Nur Halim Klaseboer	P5-A	Hanney Fariha Binti Marhalim	P6-C
Marissa Binte Mohamad Yusoff	P5-B	Siti Farlinah Binte Norman	P6-D
Nur Eltrisyah Aqila Binte Syed	P5-A	Nur Elfira Ayu Binte Syed Sula	P6-F
Nur Erika Isabella	P5-A		
Nur Ayuni Putri Mohammed Fazly	P5-B		
Nurul Aiesyah Binte Rosli	P5-B		

We would also like to thank all parents for the wonderful support to the students and the school in their pursuit of CCA experience.

**ARTs!Time**

As part of a holistic Arts experience, the school is organising ARTs!Time for students to showcase their Art and Music talents on wednesday during their recess time throughout the year. The categories are:

- Singing
- Dancing
- Instrumental (playing the piano, violin, etc)
- Unique talents (performing magic, rope skipping stunts, beatboxing, etc)
- Art (e.g. origami, comic drawing, painting skills, etc)

Students may sign up as an individual, in pairs or in groups, in one or more categories.

Students who are keen to participate can pick up the ARTs!Time flyer outside the canteen and drop the completed reply slip into the box labelled 'ARTs!Time 2016', also placed outside the canteen. They will be notified of their slot(s) in due course.



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For more information, please email the Art Coordinator, Mdm Rashidah, or the Music Coordinator, Ms Soh, at [rashidah\\_sotek@moe.edu.sg](mailto:rashidah_sotek@moe.edu.sg) and [soh\\_fang\\_ying@moe.edu.sg](mailto:soh_fang_ying@moe.edu.sg) respectively.

**Partnership with charitable organisation – Heartware Network Programme**

Heartware Network is a charitable organisation that promotes youth development, leadership, and entrepreneurship. Heartware Network's Programme was started in 2009 by student volunteers from Raffles Institution (Junior College). Since then, the Programme has expanded to reach out to students to motivate and ignite students' interests in learning. Our school is collaborating with Heartware Network to help a selected group of P6 students to provide learning support and motivate their interests in studies. The volunteers are selected from St Joseph International and Raffles Junior College to work with our selected P6 students on a regular basis.

**Observation of Solar Eclipse**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March, all students and teachers participated in the observation of solar eclipse organised by the Science Department. In order to build up to the day of the eclipse event, students were given bite-size information on how the solar eclipse occurs as well as how often we get to see it. All the students got a chance to view the solar eclipse through a pinhole camera comprising of an iPad tied in a box. This method of viewing ensured that the students' safety was not compromised. Overall, the event was a successful one as the students managed to catch the occurrence of the solar eclipse in school. We hope that such exposure will allow the students to appreciate the Earth and learn more about the universe. The following are some of the comments made by the students:

*I saw the solar eclipse and it was very beautiful. I was very excited to see it.*  
Raechal Sonje Gobiselvan of 1C

*I learnt that the moon can cover the sun completely. I enjoyed the activity.*  
Titus Ang of 2F

*It's a rare experience and I have not seen it in my past 10 years. I felt excited and puzzled as to how this happens.*  
Dylan Tan of 4D

**First Semestral Assessment (SA1)**

The SA1 will be conducted for P3 to P6 students from week 5 to 8. For the languages, other than the written paper, it will also include oral, listening and writing.

You might want to help your child/ward set out a timetable for his/her study. The timetable may take into consideration your child's/ward's strengths and weaknesses for a particular subject and the study time adjusted accordingly.



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Studies have shown that for long-term retention of knowledge, taking regular breaks helps. You might want to help your child/ward develop a study routine that works for him/her.

Let your child/ward know that you are interested in his/her work and will be proud if he/she does his best. When you are positively engaged in your child's/ward's education, they are more likely to perform better at school.

### **Environmental week and Earth Day 2016**

Earth Day is an annual event, celebrated on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, on which day events worldwide are held to demonstrate support for environmental protection. The theme for this year's Earth Day is "Trees for the Earth".

This year, we will embark on weeklong activities that involve both students and teachers in promoting environmental awareness in week 5, leading up to celebration of Earth Day which falls at the end of the week.

We have put forth a number of activities to engage our students and staff in a fun and meaningful way. The programmes are listed below.

- Proper disposal of metal, plastic and tetra packs (led by environmental champions)
- Showcase of vermicomposting
- Bring-a-pet-today
- Art and Craft, Music and Recyclables
- Assembly Talk on Rainforests by staff from World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
- Pledge to care for the environment
- Plant-a-tree and Every Child a Seed
- Community clean-up for teachers and selected group of students

More details will be made known to our students nearer to the week. More information about Earth Day can be found at <http://www.earthday.org/earth-day/>

### **Community in Bloom (CIB) project**

We have partner with NParks to start a CIB project in the school compound. This is an initiative spearheaded by the National Parks Board (NParks) to promote and recognise gardening efforts by community gardening groups to create gardens within our community. Through this project, we hope to connect our students with the nature, educate them in horticulture skills and instil in them values such as teamwork and responsibility.





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### **Parent Teacher Dialogue (PTD) session**

The school held its PTD on 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr for parents of P3 to P6 students. This is an opportunity for parents to obtain face to face feedback from the teachers.

Due to the nature of the number of parents seeing the teachers, there may have been times where there is a need to wait for one's turn. Issues raised by teachers and parents about individual children vary and some may take a little more than others. Some of these conversations are also followed up later if the time taken is too long.

We beg your indulgence in waiting as we do not see the possibility of the need to wait going away. At the same time, we seek your cooperation to adhere to the time slots that you have booked through the Asknlearn system.

### **Sharing**

#### **Supporting your child during examinations**

*Taken from Schoolbag.sg, Ministry of Education.*

While preparing for exams, students and sometimes parents feel the strain and pressure. Janet Yong, mother of two boys who are in Primary Six and Primary Four, and Nuryejah, mother of three, shared with Schoolbag.sg their experiences and perspectives on how they overcome conventional societal perceptions, help their children rise above challenges and most importantly, ensure that their kids are growing healthy and happy.

1. **Set realistic goals with your child.** As parents, we know our children best. It is important to set realistic targets so that we do not overstress them. For example, Janet discusses with her son openly about his long-term and short-term goals. Both parent and child have to understand and come to a consensus on attainable goals so that they can plan specific steps to create achievable milestones.

2. Parents often ask, **how involved should I be in my child's education?** Although some parental guidance can be beneficial, a well-intentioned, yet over-involved parent can hurt the child. Doing your child's homework or guiding them through every question may appear to work

for a while, but it ultimately handicaps the child's learning. Janet can testify to that. 'I stopped working working when my younger boy was in Primary Two. Being a full-time homemaker, I was heavily involved in not just his homework, but also his school life. One day, my younger son started asking me which subject he should study first and I realised he has become overly reliant on me to plan his time. It would be a failure on my part if I did not allow him to build his resourcefulness and find ways of doing things at his own pace.'



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3. **Do not be narrowly focused on academics.** This world is huge so we have to remind not just our children, but ourselves as well that there are other opportunities for them to explore and find success in life. Remember that we should try not to be overly narrowly focused on pushing them to do well academically and neglect other aspects of their life.

4. **Our kids are depending on us!** Nuryejah feels that naturally as a mother, she has to be realistic, focused and strong so that she can be a pillar of support to her children. At this age, children depend a lot on parents and if we send the signal that they have failed as a person if they do not enter a good secondary school or achieve stellar grades, how can we expect them to overcome other obstacles later in life? 'As parents, we need to make good judgements and move on, if we don't, how can they?' Janet opined.

5. **Expand your focus, get to know your child.** What are their interests? What do they aspire to be when they grow up? Are they getting along well with their friends? Was there anything fun that happened in school today? Exams are important, but it is crucial to let your child know that their life and identity does not depend on their grades. 'When we are proud of the effort our children put in and inculcate traits such as trust, care, independence and perseverance in them, they can grow up to be happy kids and that to me, triumphs over all the distinctions,' shares Janet.

Thank you.

Bucktha Seelan  
Principal

*Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time. ~Thomas A. Edison*