



HPPS Monthly Newsletter

Feb 2024

1 Feb 2024

Principal's note

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Welcoming the Year of the Dragon: Empowering Our Students

As we prepare to usher in the Year of the Dragon and celebrate Chinese New Year, I am filled with anticipation for the fresh start it represents. This festive season is a time for growth and renewal, mirroring the symbolism of the dragon in Chinese culture.

In Chinese culture, the dragon is revered for its power, strength, and bravery in overcoming challenges. Much like the dragon, we aim to nurture these qualities in our students. We encourage them to resolve conflicts independently while providing support from teachers, parents, and fellow students. By fostering open communication and peaceful resolutions, we empower them to develop essential life skills and learn from their experiences.

It's important to remember that if we intervene every time students face a problem, they might not learn how to solve problems on their own. Therefore, we strive to strike a balance. While we offer guidance, we also give them the space to navigate through their challenges independently. This approach helps them become more resilient and self-reliant.

As we welcome the Year of the Dragon, I urge each of you to continue supporting our efforts in nurturing these qualities in your children. Your partnership with us is vital in reinforcing these values at home, contributing significantly to their personal growth and development.

Wishing you and your family a joyous and prosperous Chinese New Year filled with happiness, good health, and success!

*Honesty in Performance
Pride in Service*

Charles Chan
Principal

1 Character Value for Term 1 - Respect

In line with our school's focus on character education, all students will embark on a structured character education programme. It is founded on the school values of Respect, Integrity, Care and Excellence (RICE). One value will be introduced each term.

The school value for Term 1 is Respect. Please find below a brief outline of the outcomes for the character value for Respect

- P1 – P2 Respect for self and being courteous and polite in manners, actions and speech
- P3 – P4 Demonstrating respect for the school, family and society and learning to accept differences in others
- P5 – P6 Recognising the value of people, property and demonstrating respect for the environment

We would like to emphasise the critical role that parents play to instil good values in their children from a young age and reinforce these as they grow up. A child will pass through many classrooms and learn from different teachers through his/her formative years. Parents remain constant throughout a child's life, and there are many and important lessons to be taught at home as there are in schools. We appreciate the efforts of parents who reinforce these values at home.

2 Encouraging students to be independent

We would like to seek the assistance of parents to help our student to develop good self-management skills and be more independent. Students should learn take personal responsibility (For example, doing their homework, packing the school bag and personal belongings) to ensure that they are ready for school the next day. This includes learning materials and devices such as calculators, mathematical sets, and dictionaries (including print or e-dictionaries) when needed for students' learning during classroom teaching and examinations.

Parents and caregivers should refrain from delivering these items. Exceptions will be made when medication has to be delivered to the student.

If your child has forgotten his/her pocket money, he/she may approach the General Office for assistance. Our officers will contact you to confirm the amount that you would like the school to lend your child. Please ensure that the money is returned to the General Office on the next school day.

During examinations, the working condition of the calculator and e-dictionaries is the responsibility of the student and a fault in a calculator cannot be used as a reason for seeking special consideration for the user. Calculators, dictionaries, mathematical sets or stationeries should not be borrowed from other students in the course of the examination for any reason.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter as well as your partnership and support by reinforcing this with your child to learn responsibility and independence.

3 Punctuality

The school believes in working with the parents to develop positive habits and attitude in our students and that includes being punctual for school. We also believe that punctuality is a virtue and a mark of respect for learning and the teachers. We want to inculcate this habit of being punctual every morning so that our students are better prepared for a day of learning in school. We want our students to immerse in a conducive learning environment the moment they step into our school so as to ensure a great start.

Every morning, the school gathers for assembly by 7.25 am in the classrooms/Hall to sing the national anthem and take the pledge. Announcements, reminders and current affairs presentations are sometimes made to all students at assembly and we do not wish for your child to miss them. Hence, we appeal to all parents in partnering the school to instil in our children the importance of punctuality at a young age. Please ensure that there is sufficient travel time in the morning in view of the traffic condition outside the school.

4 Chinese New Year Celebration 2024

The school will celebrate Chinese New Year with our students on 9 February 2024.

The celebration will begin with a concert in the hall. Students will get to usher in the Year of the Dragon with an exciting line-up of performances which include the highly anticipated Lion Dance. After the concert, students will be engaged in interactive activities in their classrooms to help them gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of Chinese New Year celebrations.

Please find the information of the event as shown below:

Date & Day	9 February 2024 (Friday)
Time	0725-1000 (No recess that day) Students will be dismissed at staggered timings, starting from 0945.
Venue to assemble	Hall
Attire	Students are encouraged to wear Ethnic costumes or red-coloured T-shirts/ tops with students' school skirts or Bermuda shorts and school shoes
Things to bring	Small bag for pencil case, water bottle, healthy snacks (for snack break) and a storybook

Please inform your child and Form Teacher if there is a change in your usual dismissal point for that day. If your child is not taking the school bus on that day, please inform the bus driver to avoid holding up the bus as the driver tries to locate your child.

Please note that 12 February 2024 (Monday) is a public holiday and 13 February 2024 (Tuesday) is a school holiday. The students will return to school on 14 February 2024, Wednesday.

5 Total Defence Day 2024 – 40 Years of Total Defence

Total Defence Day (TDD) 2024 will mark 40 Years of Total Defence (TD40). The focus for Total Defence 2024 will be on Singaporean's readiness and resilience in the face of crises and disruptions. Total Defence underpins our ability to deal with the ever-evolving threats and challenges to Singapore. For students to experience the possible effects of such disruptions and consider how they can respond calmly and responsibly, our school will conduct a TD40 Exercise simulating disruption and we will be turning off electricity school-wide for half an hour on 14 February 2024 (Wednesday).

Similarly, in commemoration of Total Defence Day on 15 February 2024 (Thursday), we are excited to introduce a special parent-child home activity titled "Bringing Total Defence Outdoor." Details of this engaging activity have been shared with parents on the students' Student Learning Space (SLS). We warmly encourage you to participate in this meaningful endeavour with your child, film your joint efforts in action, and submit the video on SLS. For more information and to get involved, please refer to the SLS platform. The submission deadline is 7 February 2024 (Wednesday).

6 2024 Primary 5 Outdoor Adventure Residential Camp – 14 to 16 February 2024

“**Connect, Collaborate, Create**” - this is the theme for the 2024 Primary 5 Outdoor Adventure Residential Camp. **Connecting** with others fosters a sense of community and this is achieved when campers – students and teachers, share meaningful conversations and experiences with each other. Building connections with others cultivates empathy by understanding and sharing in the feelings of others. This empathy contributes to better interpersonal relationships and a more compassionate society. **Collaboration** requires effective communication and cooperation, which, in turn, strengthens interpersonal relationships. Building positive connections can lead to a more enjoyable classroom and school environment. **Creating** and sharing memories strengthen the bonds between students with their peers and teachers. Achieving goals and milestones creates memorable moments that contribute to a sense of accomplishment. Memories shape our identity and contribute to our overall well-being.

For some of our students, an overnight outdoor adventure camp may seem daunting due to the unknowns. Stepping out of their comfort zone is a powerful and transformative experience that can lead to personal growth, expanded opportunities, and increased resilience. Personal growth often occurs when one challenges oneself. By facing new situations and overcoming challenges, students gain valuable experiences that contribute to their development as an individual. Facing choices and decisions in the camp environment contributes to the development of critical decision-making skills.

7 SHINE Days Term 1 2024

The school year kicked off with a burst of positivity as students eagerly participated in two days of SHINE activities. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as friendships blossomed and everyone settled into the routine of the new academic year. The SHINE activities not only set the tone for a successful school year but also ignited a spirit of curiosity and exploration, ensuring that students were not only academically prepared but also emotionally connected and ready to face the meaningful adventures in 2024!



Don't topple this!



Old school game, anyone?



Everyone can solve a cube with some guidance.



A fun way to keep fit.



Let me show you a better move!



Let's get hands on with a INOVAT activity.

8 Parenting Article

They've fallen many times, and it's good for them, says Olympian mum of four

How former national swimmer Joscelin Yeo defines success out of the championship lanes for her children and what makes the great outdoors the perfect classroom. You can read more using the link below:

<https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/they-ve-fallen-many-times-and-it-s-good-for-them-says-olympian-mum-of-four>

Vision

Lead with Character, Serve with Talents

Mission

Nurturing concerned citizens with integrity and a spirit of excellence through holistic education

School Values

Respect, Integrity, Care, Excellence



School Distinction Award



Teaching and Learning



Student All-Round Development



Partnership



Character and Citizenship Education



SINGAPORE
QUALITY CLASS