



## SEMBAWANG PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Every Child, A Winner*

SBPS/18/001

2 January 2018

### Open Letter from School Leaders

Dear Parents/Guardian

1. Wishing you a blessed new year and extending a special welcome to the parents of our 2018 Primary 1 cohort and those who are new to the Sembawang family. We trust that you will experience the warmth of the Sembawang family as we work in partnership to bring out the best in your child and to help every child realise his/her potential and talents.

2. 2017 has been a fulfilling year. The students and teachers have all worked hard to achieve the many accolades and results. This would not have been possible without your support and the teachers' dedication and commitment! We look forward to another exciting and meaningful year ahead.

3. We would like to take this opportunity to show our heartfelt appreciation to the following staff who will not be with the school in 2018:

- Miss Janice Beh, Vice-Principal (who will be joining the Special Education Branch)
- Miss Ho Huan Xin, CL Teacher (who has joined another school)

#### ***New Staff Members and New Appointment...***

4. New additions to the Sembawang family. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following staff who have joined our school:

- Mrs Cindy Tay (Vice-Principal)
- Mr Oh Ming Yie (HOD ICT)
- Miss Jane Tan (Art Teacher)
- Mrs Vivian Seah (EL Teacher)
- Miss Carine Oh (CL Teacher)

5. New appointments. Leadership appointment is the key to ensuring that we continue to develop a conducive learning environment and instructional approaches that will enthuse and engage our students in their learning. Assuming new appointments with effect from 1 January are:

- Mr Yang Binglin (Year Head, Upper Primary)
- Ms Vernice Soh (Year Head, Mid Primary)
- Ms Shanthini (Level Head/Mathematics)
- Mrs Korine Kong (Subject Head/Pastoral Care)
- Mrs Pearlyn Seow (Assistant Year Head, P5)

6. We would also like to introduce our Year Heads and Level Managers. They will be coordinating the programmes for the level and overseeing the well-being of the students. They are:

| Level     | Year Head               | Level Manager         |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Primary 1 | Ms Ratna<br>(Lower Pri) | Miss Noorhuda Amalina |
| Primary 2 |                         | Mrs Dinah Chia        |
| Primary 3 | Ms Vernice Soh          | Mr Zhao Zhiyang       |

| Level     | Year Head       | Level Manager |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------|
| Primary 4 | (Mid Pri)       | Miss Khalisah |
| Primary 5 | Mr Yang Binglin | Mdm Nooraihan |
| Primary 6 | (Upper Pri)     | Mrs Hazel Boo |

### ***School Routines***

7. Attendance and Punctuality. We expect our students to attend school regularly and be punctual for school. All students are expected to be seated in the school hall by 7.25 am to get ready for the flag-raising ceremony. Punctuality is a virtue that we would like to advocate in our students and we encourage our parents to partner the school to inculcate the importance of being punctual for school. Any absence from school must be accompanied by a medical certificate or letter from parents (no more than 5 letters per semester). Please avoid taking your child out of school for extended family vacation during the school term as we would like to honour the protected curriculum time for the year.

8. Safety and Security. Student safety is our priority. To ensure the safety of our students as they travel along the roads leading to and from school, please follow the procedures that the school has put in place:

- In the morning, please drive in and drop off your children at the designated drop-off points and drive off.
- Private vehicles are **not allowed** to enter the school 15 minutes before and after school dismissal time at 1.30 pm. The school gates will be closed between 1.15 pm and 1.45 pm, except to authorised vehicles such as school buses. Please use the public car park which is adjacent to the school and make arrangement to pick up your child at Side Gate 2 (near the canteen).
- We appeal to all drivers to slow down when travelling in the vicinity of the school and to follow the directional signs and instructions from our security personnel.
- When fetching your child from school during dismissal, please wait at the designated area and do not walk around the school. Please report to the security post to register before entering the school premises.
- If you need to speak to any staff or your child, please report to the General Office. **Do not move up to the classroom on your own.** We trust you will support us and help ensure that the school is safe for our children.

9. Insurance Coverage for Students. As part of our dedication to student well-being, the school has taken an annual insurance policy to cover all our students in the event of any injury incurred during school activities. The period of the policy is between 2 January and 31 December 2018. Your child will receive the brochure with details on:

- How to make a claim and what are the required documents for submission;
- Different methods of submitting claims;
- The value of the reimbursements related to expenditures incurred.

10. Please feel free to contact the school for assistance or clarification.

### ***Celebration of Successes...***

11. PSLE Results. We would like to congratulate the batch of P6 students who have done well. 99.1% of our P6 students qualified for Secondary education. The following table shows the performance of our students:

| Description \ Year   | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
| Mean PSLE T-score for all students                             | 193.64 | 198.75 | 197.11 |
| Mean PSLE T-score for students taking 4-Standard subjects only | 200.44 | 207.86 | 203.56 |
| % with T-score $\geq$ 250                                      | 8.5%   | 13.0%  | 8.5%   |

12. The following are the breakdown of the Secondary posting results for students taking 4-Standard course:

| Course eligible for \ Year         | 2015   | 2016   | 2017   |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Express (without E/NA)             | 51.52% | 61.41% | 54.27% |
| Express (with E/NA)                | 65.45% | 71.20% | 68.34% |
| Normal (Academic) (with NA/NT)     | 24.24% | 20.11% | 24.62% |
| Normal (Technical) (without NA/NT) | 8.5%   | 8.7%   | 6.53%  |

13. We wish all our Primary 6 graduates all the best as they embark on their secondary school education. We hope that they will continue to experience the joy of learning.

14. World Memory Championships. We are proud to announce that Dhruv Manoj from 6 Care, set a new age group record in the “names and faces” category in the World Memory Championships which was held in Jakarta in December. He outperformed 20 other competitors in the age group of 12 and below to top the "names and faces" discipline! He also won in the "random words" category for his age group. Well done, Dhruv!

15. Get the Beat KL 2017 Competition. During the December holiday, our student, Ang Shi Qi from 5 Gratitude took part in a dance competition, “Get the Beat KL 2017”, and was awarded the 1<sup>st</sup> place. She and her friend performed a ballet duet and beat 5 other groups in the category for age group of 10 and below. Our congratulations to Shi Qi!

16. Community Garden Edible Competition 2017. We are pleased to inform that our Science & Green Club took part in the above competition and has won 8<sup>th</sup> Place for the Heaviest Winter Melon segment. The winter melon we submitted weighed 17 kg.

### ***Up-coming School Events...***

17. SwimSafer Programme for P3 students. As was mentioned in the last open letter, the Primary 3 students will participate in the SwimSafer programme starting 12 January 2018. The programme will be held during the CCA sessions, on Friday, from 2.15 pm to 4.15 pm. More details will be provided to all Primary 3 students in a separate letter.

18. CCA for all P3 – P6 Students. CCA will commence on Friday, 12 January, from 2.15 pm to 4.15 pm. Primary 3 students will be informed of their CCA by Friday, 26 January. For Sports CCA (Rugby, Softball and Track and Field), a letter of consent will be sent to students to inform of the CCA sessions.

19. Welcome Party for new P1 Parents. The school would like to cordially invite the new P1 parents to our Welcome Party which will be held on Friday, 12 January, from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. The Year Head (Lower Primary) will be sending out a separate letter to give you more information about the party. We hope that you will make time to join us for the party!

20. Briefing for Parents. Our first briefing for P2-6 parents will be held in the afternoon of Thursday, 25 January, from 2.30 to 4.30 pm. This session is organized for you to meet your child's/ward's Form and Co Form Teachers, who will share on the assessment requirements and expectations of your child/ward with regard to conduct and work attitude. More details will be shared in a separate letter. Lessons will carry on as usual on the morning of 25 January.

21. Lunar New Year Celebration. The school will be celebrating the Lunar New Year on Thursday, 15 February. As it is the eve of the Lunar New Year, the school will operate from 7.30 am to 10.00 am. There will be no formal lessons on that day. Students will enjoy a concert and have some activities in their classrooms. All students and staff are encouraged to come to school in their ethnic costumes on that day. However, students must put on their white shoes with white socks. Students without ethnic costumes can come to school in their school uniform.

22. The following Friday and Monday, 16 and 19 February, will be a school holiday. Students will return to school on Tuesday, 20 February.

23. Primary 4 Camp. The Primary 4 students will have their 3 day – 2 night camp at the Labrador Adventure Centre, from Thursday, 22 February to Saturday, 24 February. This camp is organized to provide our students the opportunity to experience the outdoor education and to hone their personal and inter-personal intelligences. A separate letter will be sent to you at a later date.

### **Concluding remarks...**

*“All of us do not have equal talent.  
Yet all of us have an equal opportunity to develop our talents.”  
~ Ratan Tata*

24. All our students are different with different abilities. We need them to believe in themselves that if they grab every opportunity to learn and develop, they will become someone capable of great things one day. Our students and staff have tasted success in 2017 and we hope to begin 2018 by encouraging our students to believe in themselves and to live their dreams!

25. With your strong support, we are confident that 2018 will be another exciting and meaningful year for your child and the school.

Warmest regards

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