



## SEMBAWANG PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Every Child, A Winner*

SBPS/18/052

20 March 2018

### Open Letter from School Leaders

Dear Parents/Guardian

1. Warm greetings from Sembawang Primary School! Welcome to a new and exciting term!
2. We would like to welcome Mrs Indira Ananthan and Mrs Priscilla Wijayaratra Reteesh to the Sembawang family.

### ***Important Information...***

#### Outreach through Social Media

3. To reach out to both parents and the public, Sembawang Primary School has embarked on a new journey on the social media platform. Our Instagram account (@sembawangprimaryschool) will showcase the events and programmes that have taken place in school. Do follow us to stay updated with your child's experiences in school.

#### Security and Safety Reminders

4. For the safety of our students, all parents/guardians are required to enter the school via the main gate and report to the security guard post to exchange for a visitor pass. All visitors must then report to the General Office to seek assistance before going to the other parts of the school. No visitors are allowed to proceed beyond the General Office without an accompanying school staff. All visitors must display their visitor pass prominently at all times.
5. The school seeks parents/guardians' assistance to remind your child/ward on the need to exercise care and caution when crossing the road at the traffic light junction in front of the school. Parents/guardians should remind your child/ward not to jaywalk but to use the pedestrian crossings and obey traffic signals. To make themselves more visible to motorists, students are also advised to raise their right hand when crossing the road. We seek your cooperation to reiterate the importance of using the pedestrian crossings or overhead bridges when crossing the road.

#### Enhancement to Ministry of education Financial Assistance Scheme

6. We are pleased to inform you that the Ministry of Education has enhanced the MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS).
7. Starting from 1 April 2018, Singapore Citizen students from households with gross monthly household income (GHI) of \$2,750 and below, or per capita income<sup>1</sup> (PCI) of \$690 and below, will be eligible for the MOE FAS.

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<sup>1</sup> PCI =  $\frac{\text{Monthly GHI}}{\text{No.of members in the household}}$

8. MOE FAS recipients are not required to pay school fees and standard miscellaneous fees. They are also eligible for free textbooks, school attire and transport subsidy<sup>2</sup>. All students can opt to pay their 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier miscellaneous fees from their Edusave account.

9. If you are eligible and wish to apply for the MOE FAS, please obtain a copy of the application form from the General Office and return the completed form to the school for processing. If you have any enquiries, please contact the school General Office at 67567330.

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

#### **Long Service Award**

10. It gives us great pleasure to share with you a group of staff who will be receiving their Long Service Award from the Ministry of Education. They have given excellent service to the nation through their dedication and commitment to moulding the future of our nation. Congratulations to all the recipients!

<b>No</b>	<b>Name of Staff</b>	<b>Award Title (No of Years)</b>
1	Miss Heow Tsuey Yan	5
2	Miss Khalisah Bte Kamisan	5
3	Mdm Maizatul Husna	5
4	Mr Muhammed Yusry	5
5	Mdm Nuremiliyana Suhaidi	5
6	Miss Pearlyn Seow	5
7	Mr Zhao Zhiyang	5
8	Ms Jennifer Fong	10
9	Mr Mike Tay	10
10	Mdm Sharmila Singh	15
11	Ms Joey Tan	15
12	Mrs Rena Phang	15
13	Dr Caroline Chan	25
14	Mr Mohd Saidali B Ali	25
15	Mdm Saliza	25
16	Mdm Suraya Bte Mohamed Iqbal	25

#### **Outstanding 2017 GCE 'O' Level Results**

11. We are pleased to announce that our ex-student, Ong Xin Yi, who attended Nan Hua High School, has achieved excellent results in the 2017 GCE 'O' level examinations. She obtained 8A1 in the examination. The school principal wrote in to affirm the efforts of our school for having laid a foundation which helped to nurture her to such success. We wish Xin Yi all the best as she continues her post-secondary education.

#### **Outstanding 2017 GCE 'N' Level Results**

12. Another of our ex-student, Mohd Khabir B Suhaidi, from Mayflower Secondary School has performed very well in the 2017 GCE 'N' level examinations, making it to the top 10% of the school's 2017 cohort! Congratulations to Mohd Khabir and we wish him success in his next educational pursuit.

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<sup>2</sup> 50% of school bus fares for primary school students taking school bus or \$10 transport credit per month for primary, secondary, and pre-university students in Government and Government-aided schools from the month after your application, is approved for students taking public transport to school

### NUS High School Award

13. Parvathy Varma who attends NUS High School has been awarded the Best in Art (Year 1) and she is also on the Principal's List (Year 1). We would like to congratulate Parvathy on her achievement and wish her success as she continues her education journey at NUS High.

### Exclusive in Malay Paper, *Berita Harian*, on 2 March 2018

14. One of our students, Muhammad Arshad Eshak Ali (6 Care), was featured in the Daily Malay Paper, *Berita Harian*, on his achievement in Coding Programming. Arshad was introduced to Coding in Sembawang Primary School 3 years ago. He was intrigued by the programme and signed up for the *Code in the Community Programme* by Google last year. This programme is a joint-effort by CDAC, EA (Eurasian Association), Sinda and MENDAKI to help students gain interest and develop the skills to create computer software and eventually, go on to take up a career in Computer Technology. Through this project, Arshad was able to create an animated game, 'Dragon', which was listed as one of the best 10 games in the programme.

15. Arshad aspires to be a computer programmer (coder) when he grows up. This year, he will continue to participate in the *Code in the Community Programme* and will learn a more challenging programme, *Python*. He hopes to create more exciting online games with the skills and knowledge gained from the advanced programme. We wish him all the best as he follows his passion and look forward to the online games that he will create.

### Red Cross Excellent Unit Award 2017

16. We are pleased to announce that our Red Cross CCA group has achieved Gold award in the Excellent Unit Award last year and is one of the 22 schools to achieve the Gold award. The unit was assessed on its overall performance in the attainment of subject proficiency and how each cadet unit has instilled values through service to humanity. Our appreciation to all the Red Cross members and the teachers in charge!

### Track and Field Team

17. Our track team performed very well in the 2nd Singapore Athletics Primary Schools Track and Field Championships 2018 on 26 and 27 January, the Singapore Athletics Primary Schools Relays Championships 2018 on 2 and 3 February and the 10<sup>th</sup> SSP-SAA Primary Schools Track and Field Invitation Meet on 24 February. To date, the athletes achieved a total of 5 Gold, 13 Silver and 10 Bronze medals. They showed tremendous fighting spirit and a never-say-die attitude during the competitions. Indeed, they live up to the school motto, "**THE BEST FROM ME!**"

18. We would like to place on record our appreciation to all teachers in charge of track and field for their hard work and dedication in training the team for the competitions.

### 9th Goodtalk Global Village Children & Youth Bilingual Speech Competition 2018

19. Our students participated in the above competition on Saturday, 10 February 2018. We are proud to announce that Sean Ang Shao Xuan (4 Care) and Ruben Du (5 Respect) have won the First and Third prize respectively. Sean Ang has qualified to participate in the Global Final in China, where he will compete with finalists from other countries. Our heartiest congratulations to Sean and Ruben!

## Camp with Dad 2018

20. Sembawang Primary School had its inaugural father and child camp from 10 to 11 March. 60 participants took part in the 2-day-1-night camp at Sembawang Primary School. This event was jointly organised by the school and a team of 3 fathers from our school. We would like to place on record our appreciation to Mr William Lim, Mr Toh Eng Keong and Mr Thinesh Rajan for their efforts in making this camp a success.

21. During the camp, students and their fathers were engaged in father-child bonding activities. They also got to experience outdoor cooking and sleeping in tents. All the participants found the camp meaningful and it would be an experience they will treasure in the years to come.

## Experiential Week

22. Our school successfully concluded the experiential learning week with lots of positive feedback from the students, teachers and parents. The students had lots of fun, learning outside the classroom, going on Learning Journeys and learning new skills. From the simple survey that was conducted, 100% of the students from P3 to P6 enjoyed the activities that were carried out during the experiential learning week and 95% of the students expressed that they would like to have the experiential learning week every year.

23. The school would also like to thank all the teachers for planning and conducting the activities, the students for their active participation and the parent volunteers who sacrificed their time to be chaperones and helping out in some of the activities. Together, we have made learning an adventure and made learning fun and meaningful.

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

### Breakfast Dialogue with Principal

24. A Dialogue session with the Principal for all interested parents has been scheduled for this term. The details are as follows:

**Date:** 28 March 2018  
**Time:** 7.45 am to 9.30 am  
**Venue:** PAL Room, Level 3

**To register:** Please scan the QR code using your phone OR scanner and fill in the information or through the URL Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y9e2oubt>.



25. The dialogue session is a good communication platform between the school and parents. We hope you can make the time to join us.

### Talent Development Programme (TDP)

26. Our school has invited Ms Joanne Soo, as the first special guest to our "Conversation with the Star" series, on **8 May from 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm**, to inspire our students under the Talent Development Programme. Ms Joanne Soo was honoured as one of the Great Women of Our Time by Women's Weekly. She was a member of a Singapore all women's team who

successfully scaled Mount Everest in 2004. We hope that her experiences and journey will inspire our students to aim for excellence in whatever they do and adopt a resilient mindset.

### Commemoration of International Friendship Day

27. Our school will be celebrating the International Friendship Day on Monday, 2 April. This year, the theme is *Celebrating the ASEAN Community*. With the chairmanship of ASEAN given to Singapore, we will lead the milestone celebration beyond ASEAN'S 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Students can look forward to exciting activities that will deepen their understanding of the relations that we share with other countries. To commemorate International Friendship Day, students are encouraged to wear their ethnic costumes with school shoes on that day. Students without ethnic costumes should come to school in their school uniform.

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

*“Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.” – Carl Bard*

28. Term 1 is behind us and now we look forward and focus on Term 2. Decide what you want to achieve in Term 2 and work hard towards your goals and targets. Nothing is too difficult if you put your mind to it.

29. Thank you parents for being there for your children, guiding them through a successful term. We hope we can continue to strengthen this partnership and together bring out the best in our children.

Warmest regards

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