



SBPS/24/063

23 Sep 2024

Open Letter from School Leaders 7/2024

Dear Parents,

1. Term 4 is here! We hope you have enjoyed spending quality time with your child during the September school holidays.
2. This term features several important events for our school community. Our graduating students will sit for their national examinations, while P3 to P5 students will take their End-of-Year Examinations (EYE). We will also be engaging parents of incoming P1 students for 2025. A highlight of the term will be our school's 25th Anniversary Celebration, which will coincide with the Annual Prize-Giving and P6 Graduation Ceremony. For the full list of dates and events, please refer to the calendar of events in Parents Gateway (PG).

Important Information...

Student Matters

3. Embedding Technology. We continue to evolve in the leverage of technology to enhance teaching and learning. To complement Student Learning Space (SLS), we have introduced other EdTech tools such as ClassPoint, Padlet and Blooklet to promote active learning in the classroom.
4. In addition, we have engaged Apple specialists in piloting a 1-to-1 iPad programme with a P4 class. The ready access to devices has provided teachers with the bandwidth to design unique learning experiences to strengthen students' digital literacy, comprising Apple features such as AirDrop, Apple Classroom and Schoolwork. It has also enabled greater customisation of learning in the classroom, allowing teachers to provide scaffolding and support to cater to different student readiness levels. Students were observed to be more engaged in learning while teachers were able to provide immediate feedback to address students' misconceptions.
5. 2025 P1 Registration. The 2025 P1 Registration Exercise for the school was successfully completed on 16 Aug 2024 (Phase 2C), with all 200 P1 places filled. We thank parents for your support and trust in the school.
6. Learning Cove. To enhance and enrich our students' learning experiences, the school is committed to optimising spaces beyond the classroom. The school is confident that the transformation of the school foyer into the Learning Cove, a multifunctional area, will serve the following:
 - *Support learning*: Facilitate diverse educational activities and experiences.
 - *Foster collaboration*: Encourage teamwork and interactive engagement among students.



SEMBAWANG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Innovative Learners, Rooted in Values

- *Enhance communication:* Serve as a central hub for communication within the school community.
- *Promote engagement:* Provide opportunities for active participation and involvement from all members of the school (see [Figure 1](#)).

Figure 1 – Anti-Bullying Campaign* at the Learning Cove



**Held from 11 to 12 Sep, the campaign kicked off with an assembly programme that provided tips for students to overcome bullying situations as a victim as well as an upstander. This was followed by students participating in recess activities, where booths were set up for students to learn more about keeping themselves safe online and offline. Class teachers wrapped up the campaign activities by recapping key learning points with students.*

7. **Conduct of Students.** We aim to develop our students holistically by teaching them to strive for excellence in conduct. Students are expected to:

- Be polite and respectful.
- Exercise self-discipline and consideration towards others.
- Treat others with respect and care.
- Keep the school clean and respect school property.

8. For detailed school rules and expectations, please refer to pages 11-14 of the Student Handbook. Should a student be found to have committed an offence, the school will manage the situation according to the severity of the offence committed, ensuring appropriate and fair measures are taken. We thank parents for your ongoing support in your child's character development.

9. **Leave of Absence During Curriculum Time.** The school prioritises regular student attendance and punctuality. As we approach the year-end holidays, parents are strongly advised to refrain from taking your child out of school during term time. This helps to maintain protected curriculum time and ensures a consistent learning routine to support your child's education.

Safety, Security and Well-Being

10. **Road Safety.** MOE and Traffic Police jointly launched the Spot-the-Hazards Contest for Primary 4 to 6 students to promote road safety awareness. Congratulations to our winners Evelyn Rebecca Gunawan (4 Resilience), Wong Xin Yi (4 Integrity) and Mahendran



Maadhavan (5 Respect) who correctly identified the hazards. Parents are encouraged to review the road safety file sent via PG on 2 May 2024 with your child.

11. Managing Serious Communicable Diseases. On 14 Aug 2024, World Health Organization (WHO) declared mpox as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). Classified as a serious communicable disease, we should ensure that school does not become a cluster for mpox. To ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff, please continue to take the following appropriate preventive measures to keep all communicable diseases (*HFMD, tuberculosis, gastroenteritis, others such as COVID-19, mpox, rotavirus*) at bay:

- Unwell students are to stay away from school and to seek medical attention if necessary.
- Maintain good personal hygiene and improve hand hygiene, using hand sanitisers and soap solution.

12. In school, we have maintained (a) sufficient hand sanitisers and soap solutions for our students and staff, and (b) cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces, including door handles, staircase railings and water coolers.

Celebration of Successes...

13. Care for Others. In line with our efforts to nurture our students to be caring individuals and responsible citizens, our Primary 1, 3 and 5 students participated in the “Lions Club of Singapore Nanyang” fundraising project, in aid of humanitarian causes and community service projects. Through this fundraising, our students learnt the values of showing care to the underprivileged through sharing their pocket money and the value of responsibility by taking ownership of their cards.

14. In addition, the school had the pleasure of hosting 20 seniors from the Lions Befrienders Seniors Activity Centre (SAC) for our National Day celebrations held on 8 August. Our Red Cross Society members and Parents Support Group welcomed the seniors warmly and assisted in the distribution of snacks, drinks and goody bags. Beautiful cards specially hand-made by our Red Cross members were also presented to the seniors. The seniors had a wonderful time celebrating National Day with us, and overall, it was a very meaningful and enriching experience for everyone involved.

15. Visit to SWAMI Home. MK@Sembawang recently collaborated with Sunshine Welfare Action Mission (SWAMI) through the Agency for Integrated Care for an intergenerational event on 13 August. The event combined National Day celebrations with August birthday festivities at SWAMI Home. The children and seniors participated in various activities, including games and crafts (see Figure 2). The collaboration also featured a donation drive for items appreciated by SWAMI's seniors. This event brought together the children's energy and the seniors' wisdom, emphasising inclusivity and mutual respect. It proved to be a meaningful experience for all participants.



Figure 2 – MK@Sembawang with Seniors at SWAMI Home



16. Commendation. A special mention goes to Eden Wee (3 Gratitude) for her commendable act of honesty. Eden found costume jewellery and a Merdeka Generation Card in the Canberra neighbourhood and promptly handed them over to Sembawang Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC). Her kind deed was praised and acknowledged by Sembawang NPC in a Facebook post (see Figure 3). Well done, Eden! We also extend our thanks to Mr Silas Wee for sharing this positive news with the school.

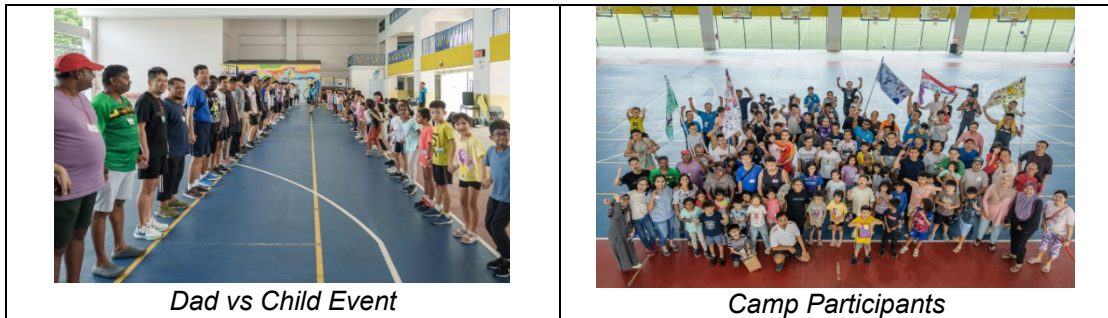
Figure 3 – Student Eden Wee's kind effort in the Sembawang NPC Facebook post



17. Dad's for Life Camp. The Dad's for Life Camp for P1 to P3 students was held from 24 to 25 August, bringing together 50 pairs of fathers and their children. This event provided a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the bonds between fathers and their children through a variety of collaborative activities. Participants enjoyed cooking together, engaging in tele-match and team games, pitching tents, and gathering around the campfire (see Figure 4). These shared experiences undoubtedly created lasting memories and deepened family connections. The success of this event was made possible through the combined efforts of the SBPS Partnership Committee and Parent Support Group. We eagerly anticipate the next Dad's for Life Camp in 2025.

Figure 4 – Fun Activities During the Camp





18. Leading and Inspiring Families of Early Learners (LIFE)@MK. MK@Sembawang ended the term with the second run of the LIFE@MK. Held on 28 August, our MKEs shared on (a) supporting children’s language and literacy development, and (b) using digital devices meaningfully and appropriately with young children. Through the interactive sessions, parents gained insights on MK’s engagement and key takeaways on engaging their child in these two aspects. Parents also witnessed the children’s completed Weeks of Wonder (WoW) projects. See Figure 5 for snapshots of the day.

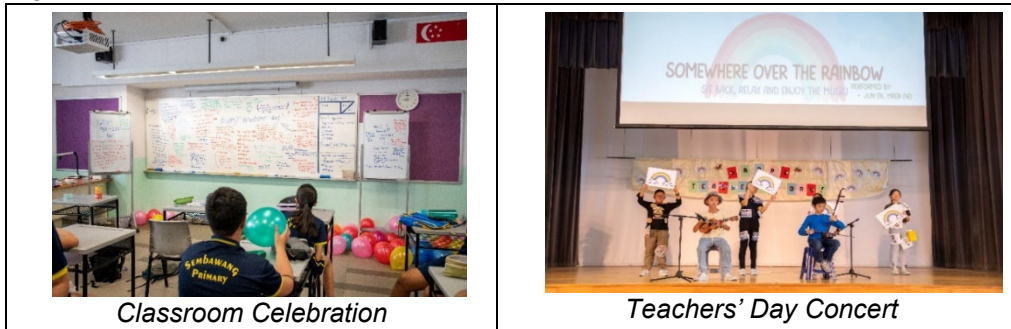
Figure 5 – LIFE@MK Day



19. Teachers’ Day and Staff Appreciation Day. On the last day of Term 3, our school celebrated Teachers' Day and Staff Appreciation Day 2024. Organised by Student Leaders, Parent Support Group and the Student Leadership Committee, the event featured classroom celebrations and a concert in the MPH (see Figure 6), preceded by a breakfast buffet and treat for all teaching and non-teaching staff. Students expressed gratitude to their teachers through various heartwarming gestures. Many former students returned to meet their teachers, highlighting the lasting impact of our educators. The day also marked the appreciation and recognition of non-teaching staff for their tireless efforts in their respective roles. This celebration showcased the strong bonds within our school community and the high regard for our educators and support staff.

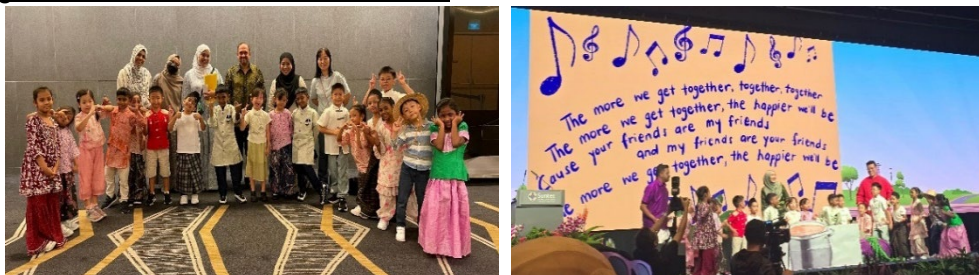


Figure 6 – Classroom Celebration and Concert



20. **Mother Tongue Language Symposium (MTLS).** 18 K2 students took part in the opening ceremony of the MTLS held at Suntec City Convention Centre on 14 September. Our children performed the opening act to demonstrate their love for their Mother Tongue Languages with emphasis on how togetherness can help them achieve better outcomes (see **Figure 7**). Kudos to the MK educators and students who worked hard for this performance!

Figure 7 – Our K2 Students at MTLS



Up-coming School Events....

21. **Primary School Children's Day Celebration.** Themed at "Fun for ALL", this year's celebration is scheduled on 3 October. On this day, there will be no academic lessons. All students will be dismissed at 10.30 am. Canteen stalls will also be closed. Details of the celebration will be disseminated at a later date.

Concluding Remarks...

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure".

~Colin Powell~

22. Thank you and wishing every student a fulfilling Term 4.

Warmest regards,

Mr Ng Aik Boon
Principal
ng_aik_boon@schools.gov.sg

Mr Zafilin Abdul Hamid
Vice-Principal
Zafilin_Abdul_Hamid@schools.gov.sg

Mr Shawn Tan
Vice-Principal (Admin)
TAN_Thiam_Siong@schools.gov.sg