



SBPS/24/070

25 Oct 2024

Open Letter from School Leaders 8/2024

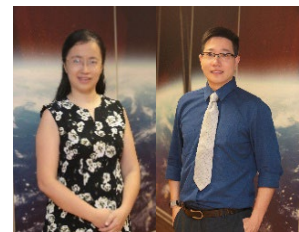
Dear Parents,

1. First and foremost, we would like to thank parents for your continued partnership in your child's educational and holistic development. We greatly value our collaboration with parents and teachers.
2. The completion of the PSLE marks a significant milestone for our P6 students as they prepare for secondary education. In the remaining weeks of Term 4, we will continue to support their development through various post-PSLE events, including learning journeys. We wish our P6 students a smooth transition to their respective secondary schools.

Important Information...

Student Matters

3. Integrating Metacognitive Strategies and ChatGPT Technology in Teaching Conversations. Our Mother Tongue Language department has implemented an innovative approach to enhance students' Chinese language proficiency and communication skills. This method combines metacognitive strategies with AI technology, specifically using ChatGPT to support self-regulation and error correction during conversations. The approach also incorporates online activities to boost students' metacognitive awareness and strategy application. This innovative pedagogy has been recognised at the MOE Innergy Awards 2024. We congratulate our teachers, Mdm Zheng Hongyu and Mr Xie Meng Hui, in receiving the Commendation Award for their impactful work in language learning.



4. School Admin Day. On Admin Day, 5 November, the school will be processing and generating academic results. Students are not required to attend school on this day.
5. Reporting in 2025. The school start dates for 2025 are as follows:
 - Primary 1¹ and Kindergarten 1: Thursday, 2 January 2025
 - Primary 2 to 6 and Kindergarten 2: Friday, 3 January 2025
6. An orientation programme will be held to help students transition back to school after the holiday break. This programme will allow teachers and students to know each other better and for students to bond with their classmates. All students should report to their respective venues before 7.30 am. Please refer to Table 1 for specific reporting details.

¹ Details of reporting for week 1 will be provided at the P1 Students (2025) Parent Engagement.



Table 1 – Details for Term 1, Week 1 2025

Level	Reporting Venue	Items to bring	Orientation Programme (Timetable will start from 7 Jan, Tue)
P1	Indoor Sports Hall (ISH), Level 2	1. Water bottle 2. Healthy snack for snack break	2 Jan (Thu) and 6 Jan (Mon)
P2 to P6	Multi-Purpose Hall (MPH), Level 4	3. Storybook 4. Pencil case	3 Jan (Fri) and 6 Jan (Mon)

7. **Book and Uniform Sale.** Students will receive their 2025 booklists in Term 4, Week 9. Soft copies of these lists will also be uploaded to our school website at the same time. Likewise, information about uniform sales will be sent to parents via Parents Gateway (PG). We strongly encourage parents to purchase books and uniforms early to avoid last-minute rushes.

Safety, Security and Well-Being

8. **Canteen Safety.** We have implemented safety measures in the canteen, including anti-slip mats/strips and ensuring vendors follow HPB guidelines for food preparation and packaging. However, we have received reports of safety concerns regarding canned drinks being severed or crushed (see [Figure 1](#)). To address this issue, we will discontinue the sale of canned drinks in the school canteen once the current stock is depleted. In the meantime, teachers and staff on canteen duty have been instructed to monitor students who purchase canned drinks.

Figure 1 – Safety hazards presented by severed cans



Celebration of Successes...

9. **Our Schools, Our Stories (OSOS).** What truly makes the school experience special are the treasured moments that shape our students' journeys. We are proud to share that our school's head prefect election has been featured in the OSOS Photo and Video Contest 2024, thanks to teacher Ms Carine Oh's submission. This event was highlighted as a treasured moment with a lasting impact on our students, capturing a priceless experience. To learn more about this and other inspiring stories, you can visit [this website](#) featuring the OSOS 2024: Priceless Moments MOE Staff category winners. Additionally, there are exhibitions showcasing these moments. The venue details are provided in [Figure 2](#).



Figure 2 – OSOS Exhibition Details

10. **Clean Plate Campaign.** The Clean Plate Campaign, held from 23 to 25 September, aimed to educate students about food sustainability and waste reduction. It featured an assembly programme on food sustainability and edible insects, along with insights shared by Green Leaders during Positive Minutes. Students actively participated by pledging support and returning empty plates to collection bins (see [Figure 3](#)). Although the campaign has ended,



we hope its impact will continue to foster mindful eating habits and greater awareness of food sustainability among our students. This initiative aligns with our ongoing efforts to promote environmental consciousness and responsible consumption within our school community.

Figure 3 – Clean Plate Campaign



11. **Children’s Day Celebration.** Our school community embraced the kampung spirit to create a memorable celebration for our students. This special day exemplified the power of collaboration and community engagement, bringing together students, staff, and parents in a joyful celebration of childhood and learning.

Figure 4 – One of the many Lower Primary game stations



Lower Primary students enjoyed a variety of carnival games run by our dedicated Parent Support Group (PSG) members and enthusiastic student helpers (Figure 4). P3 and P4 students channelled their energy into learning street tennis, guided by coaches from SportSG. Our P5 and P6 students demonstrated resilience as they overcame the Mini Spartan Challenge, spurred on by the encouraging cheers of their peers and teachers.

The school hall came alive during our concert, featuring an array of dazzling performances. Our multi-talented teachers, School Leaders, and committed PSG members took to the stage, showcasing energetic dance routines and melodious singing (Figure 5). The audience responded with continuous cheers and applause, filling the hall with excitement.

Figure 5 – The “Perfect 10” Band



12. Students also embraced the spirit of giving, fostering essential values of care, compassion and empathy through the Children's Day Appeal (CDA) donation drive organised by Community Chest. The fundraising efforts, advocating for children's involvement, also encouraged parents to join their child in contributing to communities in need.



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13. MOE Service Excellence Award (MSEA) 2024. The MSEA recognises staff who demonstrate service excellence, passion in service delivery, and consistency in serving customers with C.A.R.E. (Collaborate, Anticipate, Reach Out and Empathise). We are proud to announce that four of our staff members have been awarded the MSEA for 2024 (R to L):

- Ms Jenny Chu, Administrative Executive
- Ms Helen Ong, Administrative Executive
- Mr Zairee Bin Sallai, ICT Manager
- Mdm Munira Binte Mohammad Rawi, Student Welfare Officer (embedded photo)

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to these exemplary staff members.



14. 2024 Discover Singapore Drawing Competition. 10 of our students have been awarded certificates of participation for their involvement in an art competition organised by Civica, our library service provider. We commend these young aspiring artists for their efforts and creativity. For details of the participants, please refer to Table 2.

Table 2 – Recipients of Certificate of Participation

Name (Class)	
Alyssa Hor Qian Yi (3 Integrity)	Lee Xiao Ming Andre (2 Gratitude)
Ang Woon Teng (4 Resilience)	Nina Chua (1 Responsibility)
Anya Ang En Ya (2 Empathy)	Ooi Yi Xuan Megan (3 Integrity)
Ily Haney Bte Mohammad Helmi (3 Integrity)	Puteri Shah Aqilah Bte Mohammad Surfian (3 Integrity)
Kong Yuet Qi (1 Integrity)	Umayal Jayabal (2 Respect)

Up-coming School Events....

15. Deepavali Celebration. Our school will celebrate Deepavali, the Festival of Lights, with a special assembly programme on 30 October, ahead of the official date on 31 October. The celebration will feature a drama performance by P6 students on the Deepavali story, presenting an opportunity for students of all backgrounds to learn about Hindu customs and traditions. We encourage you to check our school's social media channels after the event for highlights and photos. On 30 October, all Hindu staff and students will also be dismissed at 10.30 am. Parents, please arrange to pick up your child at the main gate at this time. If you prefer your child not to be dismissed early, kindly inform their Form Teachers.

16. P1 Students (2025) Parent Engagement. We will be hosting an online session on 8 November at 2.30 pm for parents of incoming Primary 1 students (2025 cohort). In this session, we will cover operational, administrative, and safety matters, helping you prepare your child for P1 education starting January 2025. This session also offers an opportunity to address any questions or concerns you may have. We encourage all parents of P1 students (2025) to attend this briefing to ensure a smooth transition into primary school life.



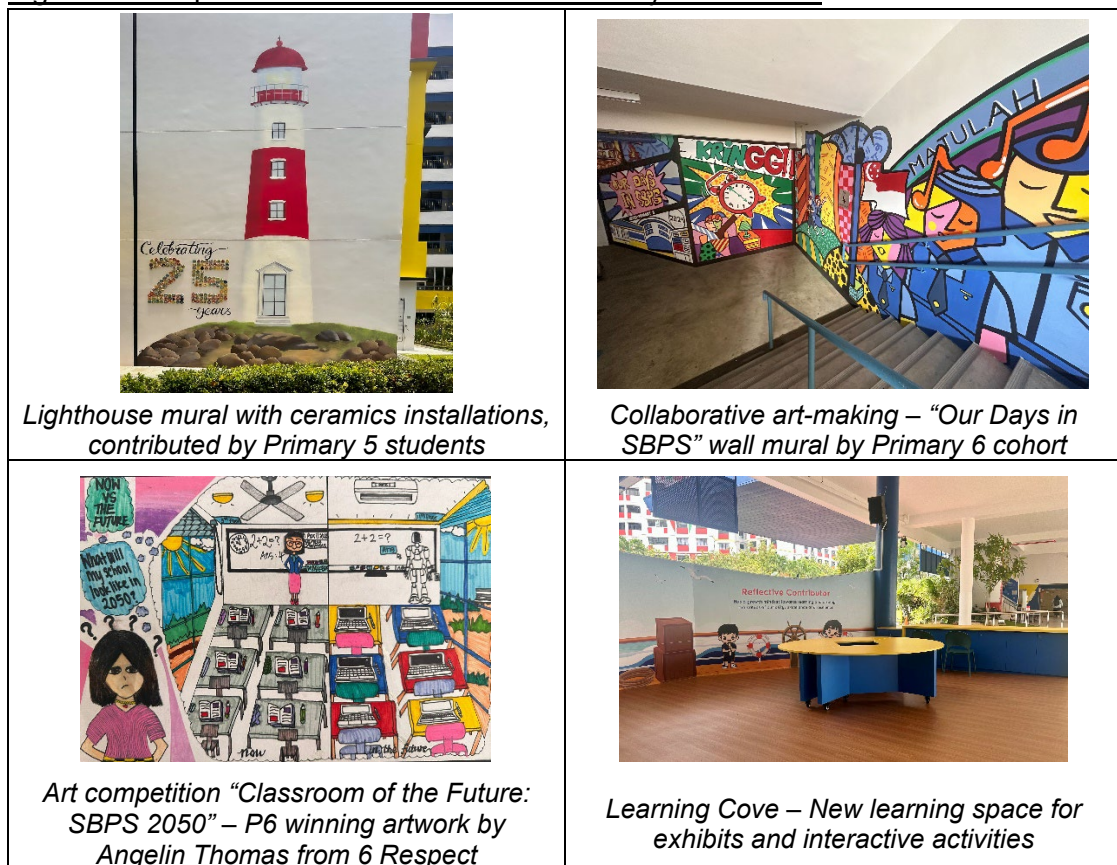
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17. Annual Speech Day and P6 Graduation Ceremony. Our Annual Speech Day and P6 Graduation Ceremony will take place on the morning of 15 November. This event celebrates our students' achievements and marks the completion of primary education for our P6 cohort. We look forward to welcoming all invited parents to share in this memorable occasion. Further details will be provided closer to the date.

18. SBPS 25th Anniversary Celebration. We are delighted to announce our school's 25th Anniversary Celebration on 15 November, coinciding with our Annual Speech Day and P6 Graduation Ceremony. To mark this milestone, we have organised various events including creative writing and art competitions. Our students have engaged in collaborative art projects, with P6 students creating a wall mural themed "Our Days in SBPS", and P5 students designing a lighthouse mural complemented by ceramic installations. The lighthouse, symbolising our guiding role for students, has been chosen as our anniversary emblem. We have also enhanced our learning spaces, such as the Learning Cove and Collaborative Cove (see [Figure 6](#)). A special 25th anniversary edition of Sembawang Buzz, our school newsletter, will be the final printed version before we transition to a digital format.

Figure 6 – Preparations for SBPS 25th Anniversary Celebration



19. Our 25th Anniversary Celebration will begin with a special time capsule sealing ceremony on the morning of 15 November. This event will be live-streamed, allowing all students, parents, and community members to participate. The time capsule will contain contributions from various segments of our Sembawang Primary family, including School Leaders, teaching staff (Primary and MOE Kindergarten), School Admin Team, School Advisory Committee, Parents Support Group, and both current and former students. The live-



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streaming link will be available on our school website and social media platforms on the week of 11 November. We warmly invite everyone to join us in commemorating this significant milestone in our school's history.

Miscellaneous...

20. Eat with your Family Day (EWYFD). The final EWYFD for this year is on 15 November. In support of this initiative, our General Office will close at 5.00 pm, allowing our staff to leave early and enjoy a meal with their families. We appreciate your understanding as we encourage work-life harmony and family bonding among our staff.

Concluding Remarks...

“Strive for Excellence, not Perfection”.
~Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister for Education~

21. As we conclude, let us reaffirm our commitment to strengthening School-Home partnership. Together, we can instil confidence in our students by encouraging responsibility and believing in each child's ability.

22. We wish all our students a fulfilling Term 4 and we hope you enjoy the family bonding during the year-end school holidays. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

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