



SBPS/23/012

14 February 2023

Open Letter from School Leaders 2/2023

Dear Parents,

1. We are at Week 7! We are glad to report that our P1 students have adapted very well to the school, and we welcome the new batch of K1 students to our MK.
2. From 13 February 2023, Singapore has moved its Disease Outbreak Response System Condition (DORSCON) tier to Green, with further relaxation of Safe Management Measures (SMMs) nation-wide. Nonetheless, the school will continue to stay vigilant, emphasise on personal hygiene and the need to exercise social responsibility.

Important Information...

Safety and Security

3. Evacuation Drill. As part of emergency preparedness, the school has planned for an evacuation drill on 17 February (Friday), simulating a fire incident in the school. The aim of the drill is to raise our students' awareness of the procedure to follow during a fire emergency in the school.
4. Land Transport Authority (LTA) School Zone Programme. LTA initiated the School Zone Programme in 2019 with the objective of enhancing footpath safety for all users near schools. Under this programme, safety features have been implemented on footpaths outside schools. See Figure 1 for the safety features implemented at the immediate vicinity of our main gate. The safety features and signages will enhance the safety of our students and staff who are using the footpath at this location.

Figure 1 – LTA School Zone Programmes Safety Features





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5. P1 Road Safety Walk. To reinforce good road safety habits, our Primary 1 students went on a Road Safety Walk during their PAL lessons. Students familiarised themselves with the school's external environment as well as the different entry and exit points of the school. During the walk, teachers reinforced safety considerations when boarding the bus and the dangers of jay walking. Our students also had the opportunity to cross the overhead bridge and practiced the kerb drill while crossing the traffic light (see Figure 2). They enjoyed the walk with their classmates and learnt good road safety habits along the way.



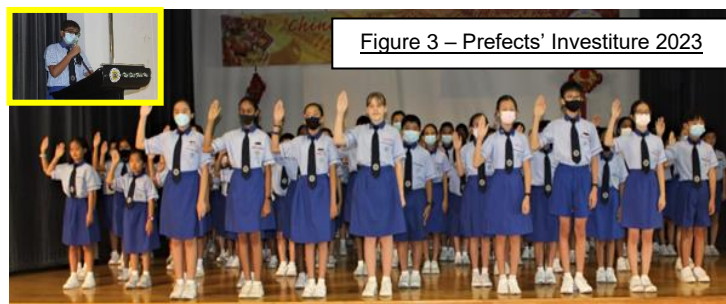
Student Matters

6. National School Games (NSG) 2023. Sports has been an integral component of our education system and an important platform for character development. The NSG is the largest inter-school competition organised by schools, for schools. The NSG has kicked off with competitions in the senior division in Semester 1, whereas the junior divisions will compete in Semester 2. Our Table Tennis senior team spear-headed the school's participation in the NSG in January. We know that our student athletes will cherish the journey and the experiences in the lead-up to and during the competitions. We wish our student athletes well in the competitions.

Celebration of Successes...

7. Prefects' Investiture. After a 2-year hiatus, the school conducted the 2023 Prefects' Investiture during assembly on 1 February. The event involved the appointment of the new P3, P4 and P5 prefects, and the renomination of current prefects. Our elected head prefect,

Dharsh Manoj, also took the opportunity to address the student body and reaffirmed the determination of his team of prefects to serve the school (see Figure 3). Congratulations to all appointed prefects and we look forward to their contributions to the school.



8. Chinese New Year Celebrations. The school celebrated CNY on 20 January with performances by a lion dance troupe, mask changing artiste and our very own Chinese Orchestra, MK students and Parent Support Group (PSG) members (see Figure 4). Students also learnt about the variety of Chinese cultures through classroom activities.



Figure 4 – Performances by MK students, Chinese Orchestra and PSG



9. Performance at Canberra CNY Celebrations. Our student Malay dancers performed at the Canberra Park as part of the Canberra Chinese New Year Dinner 2023 celebrations held on 4 February (see Figure 5 on photo opportunity with Guest-Of-Honour Dr Lim Wee Kiak). Our student dancers put up a dazzling performance entitled 'Terendak Ria', depicting the joy and camaraderie forged during the harvest season. Much like the joyous spirit surrounding Chinese New Year, we are heartened to be part of this festive celebration. Well done girls!



Figure 3 – Our Malay Dancers with Dr Lim

Up-coming School Events....

10. Total Defence Day (TDD). Our school will be commemorating TDD on 15 February, the same day that Singapore fell to the Japanese over 80 years ago during the Second World War. The theme for TDD 2023 is **“Together We Keep Singapore Strong”**, which focuses on the many ways we can put Total Defence into action in our everyday lives. TDD is a reminder to all Singaporeans that we have a collective responsibility to defend Singapore and ensure that Singapore continues to be safe and sovereign. On this day, our canteen stalls will serve wartime food such as porridge during the recesses. The objective is to help our students understand the type of food our forefathers and ancestors had during the wartime and to appreciate the sacrifices they had made.

11. MK@ Sembawang PSG Recruitment Drive. MK@Sembawang believes that a strong parent-kindergarten relationship provides a safe environment for children to develop and learn. As the kindergarten embarks on its journey to foster stronger engagement with parents, we would like to invite parents who wish to play an active role in the children's life by becoming a member of the PSG. The recruitment drive will run from 1 March to 3 March. Do look out for the notice to register your interest.



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12. Camp with Dad. Our 'Camp with Dad' for Upper Primary students will be held on 4 and 5 March. The objective of this camp is to enhance father-child bonding. During this time, father and child will be engaged in outdoor cooking, sleeping in the tent at the field as well as being involved in bonding activities. We hope to provide an enriching experience for the participants.

13. World Water Day 2023. World Water Day is held annually on 22 March. To celebrate this event, Sembawang Primary School and MK@Sembawang will be organising a series of activities to highlight the importance of water conservation. We hope your child will participate actively in these activities and bring home the message of making every drop count.

Miscellaneous...

14. Eat-With-Your-Family Day (EWYFD). The next EWYFD falls on 10 March (Friday). To support this initiative, the General Office will close at 5.00 p.m. to allow our staff to leave early and spend time with their family over a meal.

Concluding Remarks...

"Know the true value of time; snatch, seize, and enjoy every moment of it. No idleness, no laziness, no procrastination: never put off till tomorrow what you can do today"

~Philip Stanhope~

15. The journey at school could not have been smoother without your strong support and collaborations. Thank you parents!

16. Stay safe and healthy!

Warmest regards.

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