



SBPS/23/063

15 Sep 2023

Open Letter from School Leaders 7/2023

Dear Parents,

1. Term 4 is here! We hope you have enjoyed spending quality time with your child during the September school holidays. This term will be filled with major activities such as national examinations for our graduating cohort, End-of-Year Examinations (EYE) for our P3 to P5 students, Orientation for 2024 P1 students, and the Annual Prize-Giving cum P6 Graduation Ceremony.

Important Information...

Student Matters

2. Term 4 Calendar of Events (COE). To apprise parents of upcoming school events in Term 4, we would like to direct your attention to the COE in Enclosure 1.

3. Education Technology (EdTech). The school has leveraged and integrated the use of EdTech to empower students' self-directed learning and enhance personalisation of their learning experience. Besides the Student Learning Space (SLS), several other EdTech resources such as Nearpod, Padlet and Wordwall were used to engage students in active learning, a key focus of the school. These tools also empower our students to continue learning beyond the classroom. The school will continue to work on curriculum planning and designing lessons using existing and new EdTech resources for teaching and learning. We seek your involvement to support and guide your child on the use of EdTech in his/her learning journey.

4. Mural Art Painting. Students from the P4 level collaborated with local artist Ms Joycelyn Wong to co-design and paint a large wall mural spanning 25 metres at the school Level 4 central staircase. Exploring the topic of the six National Education messages, students first designed wall motifs with Ms Wong to express their thoughts and ideas, before painting them onto the wall over four weeks of learning (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 – Wall murals



Safety and Well-Being

5. Healthier Choice Canteen Food. Since December 2022, the school and the canteen vendors have been working closely with the National Healthcare Group (NHG) on the implementation of age-appropriate food proportions as well as the preparation of nutritious, tasty, and affordable set meals in the school canteen. Age-appropriate proportions ensure that students receive the right amount of nutrients they need for their age and development which



can contribute to better overall health and growth. This collaboration is a fantastic way to promote healthier eating behaviour among the students in the school canteen.

6. Vector Control. As part of our continuous effort in vector control, the school has removed four tree stumps at the rainforest plot situated within the teaching blocks to eradicate potential insect breeding sites (see Figure 2). Moving forward, we will introduce mosquito and insect repellent plants at the rainforest plot to ward off mosquitoes and insects which are possibly seeking hideouts to breed. For parents' information, our regular vector control efforts include pest control experts combing the school premises two times per week, misting twice per month and quarterly fogging.

Figure 2 – Tree stumps removed.



Celebration of Successes...

7. Science and Green Club. During the recent June holidays, members from the Science & Green Club participated in the 2nd Annual Biodiversity Race 2023 organised by Nature Society Singapore. Participants from over 15 schools competed in teams to photograph and upload fauna species residing in our nature areas to an iNaturalist portal, resulting in the documentation of more than 100 species from over 800 observations. We are pleased to announce that our students achieved the following awards (see Figure 3):

- 2nd place for 'Most Unique Observation' Award
- 3rd place for 'Best Photographed Observation' Award
- 3rd place for 'Highest Number of Species' Award

Figure 3 – Winners of 2nd Annual Biodiversity Race 2023





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8. A team of students from the Science & Green Club also participated in the 21st Elementz Science Project Competition hosted by Anderson Secondary School. A total of 26 teams from 15 schools competed in the P5/P6 category to carry out and present scientific studies through investigative-type projects. Our team's project title was "Can You Keep The Volume Down?" where team members investigated the effectiveness of common household materials at soundproofing. Congratulations to our students (Figure 4) for achieving a Bronze Award!



Figure 4 – Elementz winners: Lucas Zhao (5RT), Boon Jun Kai (5RY), Murali Raksha (5RY), Tarushi (5RY)

9. 2nd Camp with Dad. On 26 and 27 August, our Parent Support Group (PSG) organised the 2nd Camp with Dad in school. A total of 94 P1 to P3 students and their fathers participated in the two-day camp. We are very certain that father and child bonding was enhanced through activities like rice cooking, tent pitching, tele-matches and team flag designing (see Figure 5). Well done to the organising committee for yet another successful Camp with Dad!

Figure 5 – 2nd Camp with Dad



10. Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Symposium 2023. Our Tamil Language Unit took part in the MTL Symposium held at Suntec City on 26 August. In this annual event, seven of our students put up a skit on the effects of climate change and the need to reduce the use of plastics. Following the skit, two of our students recited a poem entitled 'Tree'. Their performances were enjoyed by members of the public who attended this event. Kudos to the teachers and students who worked hard for this performance! See Figure 6 below.

Figure 6 – Our student performers at the MTL Symposium 2023





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11. Essay Writing Competition. Our Tamil Language Unit also took part in the Inter-School Tamil Language Competition 2023 organised by Kolam Ayer Community Club on 15 July. We are pleased to announce that one of our students, Murali Raksha from 5 Responsibility, won the first place in the Letter/E-mail Writing Category. (Figure 7) Congratulations, Raksha!



Figure 7
Student
Raksha
receiving
her award.

12. Teachers' Day Celebration. We would like to thank our PSG and Student Leaders for organising this year's Teachers' Day Celebration. From concert preparations to collating words of appreciation from students and parents and designing customised bags for our teachers, the PSG and Student Leaders meticulously planned the celebration to honour our educators at SBPS. Our student performers also adapted well when we had to pivot to livestream at the last minute as our Multi-Purpose Hall was used for the Presidential Election. See Figure 8.

Figure 8 – Teachers' Day celebrations



Up-coming School Events....

13. Children's Day Celebration. The school has planned for Children's Day celebration on 5 Oct (Thursday). On this day, there will be no academic lessons and the canteen stalls will be closed. **All students will be dismissed at 10.30 am.** Details of the celebration will be disseminated at a later date.

Concluding Remarks...

"It will not happen cutting corners, taking shortcuts, or looking for the easy way! There's only hard work, practice, repetition, study, and discipline."
~nimo wehearit~

14. Thank you and wishing every student a fulfilling Term 4!

Warmest regards.

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Calendar of Events (Term 4)

Date	Event / Activity	Remarks
15 Sep	PSLE EL/MTL LC	P1 to P5 students do not need to report to school.
20 & 21 Sep (PM)	P3 and P4 EYE EL/MTL Oral Exam	Oral exams will be conducted after school. Students will be dismissed as soon as they complete their exams.
25 & 26 Sep (PM)	P5 EYE EL/MTL Oral Exam	Oral exams will be conducted after school. Students will be dismissed as soon as they complete their exams.
25 to 27 Sep	Pre-PSLE Study Break for P6 students	Lessons as usual for P1 to P5 students. P6 students (except for selected individuals) do not need to report to school. The selected students will be notified by P6 Form Teachers nearer to the date.
28 Sep to 4 Oct	PSLE Written Papers	Lessons as usual for P1 to P4 students. P5 students will have Home-Based Learning from 28 Sep to 3 Oct. Lessons will resume on 4 Oct for P5 students.
5 Oct	Children's Day Celebration	All students will be dismissed at 10.30 am.
6 Oct	Children's Day School Holiday	All students do not need to report to school.
10 & 11 Oct	P3 to P5 EYE EL/MTL Paper 1	
16 to 18 Oct	PSLE Marking Exercise	All students do not need to report to school. Teachers will assign e-learning tasks as well as offline tasks to your child.
20, 23 to 27 Oct	P3 to P5 EYE LC & Written Papers	The examination schedule will be shared with parents in a separate letter.
6 Nov	School Admin Day	All students do not need to report to school.
15 & 16 Nov	e-PCTC	All students do not need to report to school.
17 Nov	Annual Prize-Giving cum P6 Graduation	P1 to P5 students do not need to report to school. Prize winners will be notified nearer to the date.