



SBPS/23/076

25 Oct 2023

### **Open Letter from School Leaders 8/2023**

Dear Parents,

1. We want to kick off by expressing our heartfelt gratitude to the collective efforts of our students, dedicated staff, and our amazing Sembawang family for the incredible year we have had. We have the privilege of witnessing the remarkable growth of our students, not just academically but holistically as well. They have become more mature, never shying away from seeking answers even for the smallest of questions. A huge shoutout to all you parents for being an integral part of this journey. Your support means the world to us!

#### ***Change of School Leadership...***

2. Our current Principal, Mrs Grace Chua, will be relinquishing her appointment on 14 December 2023. We bid her a fond farewell and extend our deepest gratitude for her dedicated service. Stepping into the role of Principal, we warmly welcome Mr Ng Aik Boon, who will officially take the helm at Sembawang Primary School with effect from 15 December 2023.

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

##### **Student Matters**

3. e-Parent-Child-Teacher-Conference (e-PCTC). The e-PCTC, scheduled on 15 and 16 November, will be conducted via video conferencing. During the session, your child will take the lead in sharing his/her learning experiences as well as his/her academic aspirations and challenges through a portfolio presentation. As such, your child is required to be present and have the portfolio ready for the sharing. Please look out for the PG notification for more information on how you can book your 15-min slot for the e-PCTC. We have extended the time for e-PCTC to allow time for parent-teacher-conferencing too. Students are not required to attend lessons on both days.

4. Annual Speech Day cum P6 Graduation Ceremony. To the parents of our graduating classes, the Annual Speech Day cum P6 Graduation Ceremony will be held on the morning of 17 November. This event serves as a special platform to recognise and celebrate the effort of students who have performed well or have shown improvement in academic subjects. As the P6 Graduation Ceremony symbolises the conclusion of the P6 students' primary school journey, we eagerly anticipate the presence of as many parents as possible to share in this memorable occasion. Stay tuned for further details, which will be provided at a later date.

5. e-Orientation for P1 (2024) Students. The school has scheduled an e-orientation on 17 November at 2.30 pm for P1 (2024) students and parents. The programme will consist of briefings by School Leaders and Form Teachers. A separate notification with detailed information and instructions for the Zoom meeting will be shared with parents of P1 (2024)



## SEMBAWANG PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Innovative Learners, Rooted in Values*

students via PG in due course. All parents and P1 (2024) students are strongly encouraged to attend the session.

6. Girls' School Uniform. In an effort to enhance the comfort of our female students under warmer weather conditions, skirts for the girls' school uniform was introduced in January 2022. To facilitate a smooth transition for all levels, we extended the option for our girls to continue wearing the pinafore with blouse until the end of 2023. We kindly remind parents that, starting from January 2024, the current pinafore and old design of the blouse will not be accepted as part of the girls' school uniform.

7. School Bus Fares. MOE has allowed school bus operators to increase the pricing cap of school bus fares under existing contracts by up to 13%, with effect from January 2024. This adjustment will ensure the sustainability of school bus services in view of rising operating costs. Following the MOE press release in August 2023, the school has completed the review with the school bus operator L&W Transport Service Pte Ltd to adjust the school bus fares. Details on pricing and registration for school bus services for your child starting January 2024 will be disseminated via PG at the soonest.

8. School Fees Revision. MOE will be revising the school fees for Singapore Permanent Resident (PR) students and international students (IS) in Government and Government-Aided schools for 2024 to 2026, as part of MOE's regular review of school fees. The revised school fees will take effect from January each year. Please refer to Table 1 for the details of revision in primary school fees. The miscellaneous fees remained unchanged. MOE will merge the standard and second-tier miscellaneous fee into a single tier with effect from 2024.

Table 1 – Primary School Fees (per month)

<b>Year</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>
<b>Nationality</b>				
<b>PR</b>	\$255	\$280	\$305	\$330
<b>IS (ASEAN)</b>	\$520	\$545	\$570	\$595
<b>IS (Non-ASEAN)</b>	\$885	\$935	\$985	\$1035

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

9. Clean Plate Campaign. Our Clean Plate Campaign took place from 25 to 27 September, led by our dedicated Green Leaders who educated fellow students on the importance of reducing food waste and provided practical tips. Clean plate counting sessions were held during the recesses to encourage students to finish the food on their plates. The students also took part in fun recess activities and watched a skit performance on food security and local food produce. Beyond this event, we hope that the students will continue with these mindful eating habits in school, at home and beyond. See Figure 1.



**Figure 1 – Clean Plate Campaign**



10. **Children's Day Celebration and Donation Drive.** The school celebrated Children's Day on 5 October with a Games Carnival which was orchestrated by our staff and P5 students. We empowered our P5 students to design and plan the carnival alongside our teachers, followed by assisting, facilitating and supervising our P1 and P2 students during the games. Our P3, P4 and P6 students participated in games requiring psychomotor, affective and cognitive skills. The celebration concluded with a concert presented by our dedicated teachers and the Parent Support Group (PSG). See [Figure 2](#).

**Figure 2 – Snippets of Children's Day Celebration**



11. In addition, the school collaborated with the North West Community Development Council (CDC) for a donation drive. This initiative aimed to cultivate a sense of community and compassion in our students, making this Children's Day more than just a celebration but an opportunity for our students to give back. Students donated stationery items, both used or unused, in good condition. Through this event, they learnt valuable lessons in empathy and generosity, as well as how items could be reused to promote sustainable living. The donated items will be distributed to beneficiaries at the North West Sustainability Festival which will be held at Causeway Point from 31 October to 5 November.



**SEMBAWANG PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
*Innovative Learners, Rooted in Values*

12. MOE Service Excellence Award (MSEA) 2023. The MSEA is conferred to MOE staff who exemplify service excellence, are passionate in service delivery, and show consistency in serving customers with C.A.R.E. (Collaborate, Anticipate, Reach out and Empathise). Our heartfelt congratulations to our Administrative Executives, Ms Nurmasrifa Bte Shukor and Mdm Chu Poh Hoon Jenny, for achieving the MSEA Gold and Silver awards respectively! See Figure 3.

Figure 3 – MSEA Recipients



13. SBPS Star Award. Selected by Form Teachers, students who are role models to their peers and display exemplary character and outstanding personal qualities are awarded with the SBPS Star Award. Decentralised award ceremonies were held at the class level to recognise the winners who each received a certificate detailing their achievements and a collar pin. A total of 110 students received the award this year. Congratulations to all our recipients!

**Miscellaneous...**

14. Public Holiday. As Deepavali falls on 12 November (Sunday), the next day, 13 November (Monday), will be a public holiday. School will be closed on this day.

15. First Day of School in 2024. Please note that all P1 and K1 students will start school on 2 January 2024 (Tuesday), while K2 and P2 to P6 students will report to school the next day, 3 January 2024 (Wednesday).

**Concluding Remarks...**

*"Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead."*

*~Nora Ephron~*

16. To our P6 students, we wish you well and hope that you will carry with you the values and teachings from Sembawang Primary into your next phase of education.

17. We thank parents for your continual partnership and support throughout the year, and would like to take this opportunity to wish parents and children a wonderful bonding time during the year-end school holidays.

Warmest regards,

Mrs Grace Chua  
Principal  
Grace\_LEE@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