



Official (Open) / Non-Sensitive

## SEMBAWANG PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Innovative Learners, Rooted in Values*

SBPS/21/035

09 Feb 2021

### Open Letter from School Leaders 2/2021

Dear Parents,

1. We started the academic year with more activities allowed under Phase 3 re-opening as announced by the COVID-19 Multi-Ministry Task Force, with appropriate Safe Management Measures (SMM). The school will continue to ensure a safe environment for your child's continuous learning.
2. To parents of P1 students, the school is glad to report that your child has settled well in the school routines and is enjoying the learning experiences in school.
3. To the parents of the other levels, we are very sure that your child had looked forward to coming back to school.

#### ***Safe Management Measures (SMM) COVID-19***

4. Safe-guarding the School. To reduce transmission risks as the school continues to operate, parents are reminded **not to** send your child to school under the following situations:

- Student is unwell or has flu-like symptoms, with or without subjecting to swab test.
- Staying with unwell adult (18 year-old and above) family members with flu-like symptoms and/or is scheduled for/undergone COVID swab test.

5. Observe Safe Distancing at Crowded Places. The school appreciates your effort and understanding on the need for safe distancing at the dismissal points of the school. Please continue to practise and brief your child on the need to observe safe distancing at crowded places such as bus stops and shopping centres.

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

##### ***Security and Safety***

6. Meals and Leaving School. For the safety and security of our students, we do not allow parents or any family members to enter the school to bring food for their children during meal or lunch breaks. If parents would like to deliver home-cooked food for your child, please make arrangement for him/her to collect the food from you at the gates. We also discourage parents from depositing food at the General Office


as this will disrupt learning in class when the child is paged to come down to the General Office to collect the food. We seek your kind understanding and cooperation.

7. Should you wish your child to return home (close proximity to the school) for lunch before re-joining school for after-school programmes, please write in to the Form Teachers via a letter or through the school's email ([sembawang\\_ps@moe.edu.sg](mailto:sembawang_ps@moe.edu.sg)).


8. **Personal Safety.** The safety of our students is our utmost concern. The school urges parents to remind your child on the need to observe personal safety, especially when they are outside of the school. Please brief your child on personal safety. You may wish to use the attached (Figure 1) as reference.

Figure 1 – Personal Safety


### Personal safety (Be wary of Strangers)




**Do not accept any rides from strangers**



**Do not take the lift with strangers  
Wait for the next lift**



**Do not accept any food, drinks or gifts from strangers**



**Do not go anywhere with strangers.  
Strangers may claim that they are instructed by parents**

**What should you do?**

- Inform parents or teachers immediately
- Shout for help if the strangers attempt to force you

9. We believe in continuous efforts to instil good road safety habits in our students. The school has briefed our students on road safety at the beginning of the year and is seeking parents' support to emphasise the following road safety tips to your child:

- a. Emphasise the importance of using proper pedestrian crossings
- b. Avoid using mobile devices while crossing the road
- c. Practice Kerb Drills before crossing the road –“look right, look left, look right again, ensure all vehicles have stopped and raise your right hand high up and cross the road briskly”.

10. **Change in School Set Meal Prices.** The school has embarked on the HPB Healthy Meals in Schools Programme since 2016, offering either the small or large portion noodles or rice sets for our students. See Table 1 below.

Table 1 – Current Set Meal Pricings

Type of Food	Small	Large
Noodles	\$1.20	\$1.50
Rice	\$1.50	\$1.80
Western	\$1.50	\$2.00

11. With the introduction of costlier food items (such as whole grain requirement for noodles) and risen operating cost such as utility charges and resources (e.g. cooking oil), the school has planned to increase the set meal prices to defray the higher operating costs and food items, retaining the small and large options. The new prices will commence from 1 March 2021. Please refer to Table 2 below for the details.

Table 2 – Set Meal Pricings with effect from 1 March 2021

Type of Food	Small	Large
Noodles	\$1.50	\$2.00
Rice	\$1.50	\$2.00
Western	\$1.50	\$2.00

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

12. WeCare @ North West – Service Weeks. As part of developing our students to be community leaders who affect positive changes, Sembawang Primary School participated in the WeCare @ North West Service Weeks for Canberra Division in January 2021. Comprising 36 students, teachers and volunteers, the Red Cross CCA packed 200 festive packs, which were then delivered by community volunteers to the needy families in Sembawang. Being involved in community work creates an authentic learning experience for our students, which allow them to contribute with a sense of social responsibility. The participation in the Service Weeks had allowed them to take on an active role to make a difference to others, developing their civic consciousness and nurturing them in their journey to become community leaders.



### ***Up-coming and ongoing School Events...***

13. Lunar New Year cum Total Defence Day Celebration. The school will be celebrating the Lunar New Year (LNY) and commemorating Total Defence Day<sup>1</sup> (TDD) on 11 February 2021. Students are to report as usual. There will be no formal lessons and dismissal will be scheduled at 10.00 am on that day. Post flag-raising, the students will commemorate TDD, followed by viewing of a virtual LNY Concert online and taking part in classroom activities. All students are encouraged to come to school in their ethnic costumes on that day. However, students must put on their white shoes with white socks. Students without ethnic costumes can come to school in their school uniform.

14. With the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the LNY falling on a Saturday (13 February), 15 February (Monday) is designated a school holiday. Hence, students will **return to school on Tuesday, 16 February 2021.**

15. Parents' Briefing. This year, the parents' briefing will go virtual, with all briefing materials made available via PG on 24 February 2021 (Wednesday). The briefing materials will cover key matters of specific levels, such as P3 CCA and Science, P5 & P6 PSLE and DSA matters. Parents should browse through the information and seek clarifications (if any) via a query reply form, which will be attached in the same PG message. To provide clarifications to all parents, the school will send out the consolidated queries & responses as soon as practicable.

16. Experiential Learning Week (ELW). The ELW will be held from 8 March 2021 (Mon) to 12 March 2021 (Fri). In place of classroom curriculum lessons, all students will get opportunities to enhance their learning in all domains of education. Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 situation, the school aims to develop students holistically by providing them with different learning programmes beyond the academic and curriculum focus, so that their joy in learning is enhanced through authentic learning experiences.

17. MK@Sembawang. The MOE Kindergarten at Sembawang Primary School is named as MK@Sembawang. The school is currently undergoing renovation work at level 2 of the teaching block for the MK@Sembawang, which will be operational from January 2022. The renovations, which are carried out after school hours and on weekends, is expected to complete by end September 2021.

### ***Concluding remarks...***

***"Innovation distinguishes between leader and followers."***

*~ Steve Jobs ~*

18. The school aims to nurture every student to be Innovators, and the journey would be easier with support from parents.

19. The school wishes all a Happy Lunar New Year. Celebrate safely!

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<sup>1</sup> Total Defence Day falls on 15 Feb 2021.

Warmest regards

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