

21 August 2017

Dear Parents of Primary 5 Students

Please be informed that the last day of school for Term 3 is **Wed, 30 Aug 17**. As we look forward to the school holidays and plan for Term 4, I would like to keep you informed of a few important matters.

Calendar of School Events/Public Holiday in Term 4

The following are the scheduled events and public holidays for Term 4. More details will be provided later for the respective events or programmes.

Week	Programmes/ Events/ Holidays	Remarks
Week 1	<u>Fri, 15 Sep 17</u> PSLE Listening Comprehension	As the school has only Primary 1 to 5 cohort, all students will report to school as usual.
Week 2	<u>Fri, 22 Sep 17</u> Commemoration of "No Straw Day"	Our Grassroots Advisor, Dr Lam Pin Min, will be visiting the school to promote the event.
Week 4	<u>Thu, 5 Oct 17</u> Children's Day Celebrations	Students to report to school from 7.30 am to 10 am .
	<u>Fri, 6 Oct 17</u> Children's Day Holiday	All students need not report to school.
Week 6	<u>Wed, 18 Oct 17</u> Deepavali holiday	All students need not report to school.
Week 6 & 7	<u>Thu to Tue, 19 to 24 Oct 17</u> PSLE Marking Days	As teachers are involved in the PSLE Marking Exercise, all students need not report to school for the 4 days.
Week 9	<u>Wed, 8 Nov 17</u> School Marking & Administration Day	As all staff are involved in results processing for the overall assessment, all students need not report to school.
	<u>Fri, 10 Nov 17</u> Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC) cum Home-Based Learning	All students need not report to school.

Week	Programmes/ Events/ Holidays	Remarks
Week 10	<u>Thu, 16 Nov 17</u> Promotion Day	Students to report to school as usual & they will be informed of their 2018 class.
	<u>Fri, 17 Nov 17</u> Achievement Day	Only Prize Winners, Performers and selected Prefects need to report to school from 7.30 am to 10.30 am. More details will be shared later.

Informing School of Child's Travel Plans

As practised earlier, we are requesting that you provide the school with travel details via MC Online portal if your child is travelling overseas at any time. For instructions to enter your travel details using our online form, please visit the school website at <http://www.springdalepri.moe.edu.sg/>.

Teachers' Day Celebrations

The school will be celebrating Teachers' Day on **Wed, 30 Aug 17**. Students would only need to report to school from **7.30 am to 10 am** on that day. ***The school General Office would also be closed at 11 am that day as all staff would be out for a Learning Journey.***

While we delight in celebrating this occasion with the students, the best reward and affirmation for a teacher come when our students show their appreciation by being and doing their best in school rather than showering us with gifts. Thus, we encourage our students to show their gratitude by penning a note of well-wishes for their teachers on this special day. I would also like to encourage parents to do likewise if you know your child has grown under the guidance of these teachers. Such notes of appreciation would go a long way to encourage them to continue to give their best for the children. My sincere gratitude to those who had in the past taken time to write notes of affirmation to the teachers. We truly appreciate such thoughtful gesture.

My Family Weekend from 31 Aug 17 to 3 Sep 17

MSF is supporting the Families for Life (FFL) Council to celebrate "My Family Weekend" from Thu, 31 Aug 17 to Sun, 3 Sep 17. Through this new initiative, families, including extended families, are encouraged to spend quality time together, reconnect and bond. During this period, there will be events and activities organised by FFL and its partner organisations. These include the following:

- ✓ Sat, 2 Sep 17: FFL "My Family Weekend" Picnic at Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park
- ✓ Sun, 3 Sep 17: My Family Fiesta at Punggol SAFRA
- ✓ Sun, 3 Sep 17: NAC-ExxonMobil Concert in the Park at Singapore Botanic Gardens

The list of events and activities are provided in our school website for your reference. Do consider participating in some of these to bond with your family over this exciting weekend.

“No Straw Day” Campaign in Sengkang West on Fri, 22 Sep 17

The Anchorvale Community Club Management Committee (CCMC) and Youth Executive Committee (YEC) are promoting a “No Straw Day” campaign to all primary and secondary schools within Sengkang West. The objective of this campaign is to educate the public on the threats of single use plastic accessories such as straws and its effects on our environment and marine ecosystem.

The “No Straw Day” campaign is slated to be launched on **Fri, 22 Sep 17** at all schools within Sengkang West. It seeks to encourage individuals to be more conscientious towards the environment and to say “No” to single use plastics. Dr Lam Pin Min, Senior Minister of State for Health & Transport, and Grassroots Adviser to Sengkang West GRO will be making his round to the school to launch this campaign. There will also be a mini-roadshow by National Environment Agency and environmental groups such as Plastic-Lite and ZeroWasteSG on Tue, 19 Sep 17. The school would like to support the event and had since discouraged the use of straws in the canteen since early this year to inculcate the values of caring for the Earth.

Healthy Habits & Activities for the coming holidays

For this short break, we would like to encourage your child to cultivate healthy habits and spend the holidays meaningfully. Here are some suggestions:

- ✓ Encourage your child to participate in moderate to vigorous physical activities for about **60 min** a day.
- ✓ Visit the nearest community library and borrow a range of books. For the school holidays, the quota of books that can be borrowed is usually doubled.
- ✓ If you are travelling, get your child to do a mini-research on the culture, places of interest, historical background, geographical structure, famous people, etc. of the place you are visiting.
- ✓ Do subject revisions (via MC Online) on areas which your child needs to work on in preparation for the year-end assessments.
- ✓ Ensure your child cultivates the habit of sleeping and waking up early even during the holidays.

E-Homework on McOnline Portal

As you are aware, the school has been assigning **e-homework twice a month via MC Online portal**. The teachers have noticed that not all students complete their assignments online, despite having a computing device and internet connection at home. The school would like to impress upon the children that online assignments reinforce the daily work that the teachers give in class. Thus we seek your support to ensure that **your child completes his/her MC Online assignments**. Do refer to the Online Assignment Schedule that was issued to the students at the beginning of the term. Besides completing assignments, students can also go to the portal to revise on the subjects taught when they are free.

Nurturing Responsible Users of ICT

To inculcate the importance of being a responsible user of ICT, it is advisable for parents to go through the ground rules with your child on accessing mobile devices (phones, tablets, and computers) and internet:

1. Set time limit and enforce it as this helps children to manage their time.
2. Set objectives for the hour (or depending on the time limit set by parents) as this helps children to stay focussed on the task.
3. Agree on the websites that they are allowed to access as this sets the boundary for children to stay within the safe sites that you approve of.

First Day of School in Term 4

The last day for this term is **Wed, 30 Aug 17**. Students will report back to school on **Mon, 11 Sep 17** after the Term 3 holiday. As a practice, the school conducts its temperature-taking exercise over the first 3 days of school after each long weekend or term break. ***Kindly ensure that your child's thermometer is in working condition and your child has the thermometer in his/her bag every day.*** Should you have any queries, please feel free to call or email your child's Form Teacher.

We wish you and your family a meaningful and restful September break.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Lee-Koh SC
Principal



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