

23 January 2017

Dear Parents

We hope your child has settled well to the new school routine and he/she has made some new friends in his/her new class. Please take note of the following:

### Calendar of School Events/Public Holidays in Term 1

The following are the scheduled events and public/school holidays for Term 1.

Week	Date	Programmes/ Events	Remarks
Week 4	Fri, 27 Jan 17	Chinese New Year Celebration	<i>School Hours is from 7.30 am to 10 am.</i>
Week 5	Mon & Tue, 30 & 31 Jan 17	Chinese New Year School Holiday	<i>All students need not report to school.</i>
	Fri, 3 Feb 17	Start of in-curriculum Enrichment Programme for P1 & P2 students	<i>Please note these programmes are conducted within curriculum time.</i>
Week 6	Thu, 9 Feb 17	Start of after-school Enrichment Programmes for P3 & P4 students	<i>Those who had signed up &amp; paid up would have received confirmation of their registration.</i>
	Sat, 11 Feb 17	Parents' Seminar 1 (Sharing on English Language & Mother Tongue Languages)	<i>Session is held from 8 am to 11.30 am. More details are shared in the next Letter to Parents.</i>
Week 7	Sat, 18 Feb 17	Parents' Seminar 2 (Sharing on Mathematics & Science)	
Week 9	Fri, 3 Mar 17	Teacher-Parent Conference 1	<i>All students need not report to school. More details will be shared nearer the date.</i>

The school holidays for Term 1 is from 11 Mar 17 to 19 Mar 17. Students will report back to school for Term 2 on **Mon, 20 Mar 17**.

### Chinese New Year Holidays

Please note that the school will be celebrating Chinese New Year on **Fri, 27 Jan 17**. Hence, students only need to report to school from **7.30 am to 10 am**. As such, there will be no recess for the students and both the canteen and the school bookshop will not be opened. Please make the necessary transport arrangement. Kindly ensure that your child comes to school in school uniform or PE attire.

Please note that all students **need not report to school on Mon & Tue, 30 & 31 Jan 17** as it is the Chinese New Year holidays. **Students will report back to school on Wed, 1 Feb 17**. Should you have further queries, please feel free to call or email your child's Form Teacher.

### **Class Photograph**

The school is organising a class photo-taking session on Tue, 7 Feb 17 & Thu, 9 Feb 17 for all classes. The students will be scheduled according to classes to take their class photographs and the Form Teacher would inform your child the day the class is rostered. Kindly assist to ensure that your child comes to school in **school uniform (no PE attire) on the day of photo-taking**. Should there be PE periods on that day, the students will stay in the classroom for Health Education lesson.

Please refer to the Student Handbook on the expected attire which is in compliance to school rules. In the event that your child is absent from school for the class photo-taking, there will not be a re-taking of photograph for your child.

### **President's Award for Teachers (PAT) 2017**

The President's Award for Teachers (PAT) gives national recognition to the critical role teachers play in moulding the future of our nation. It pays tribute to excellent teachers who are dedicated to leading, caring and inspiring their students to believe in themselves and be the best they can be.

The school would like to invite you to nominate teachers who are suitable candidates for the PAT for 2017. Nominations are now open and will close on **Fri, 17 Feb 17**. You may nominate these teachers online at <http://tinyurl.com/2017pat> or download a copy of the nomination form at <http://www.academyofsingaporeteachers.moe.gov.sg>. Alternatively, you may request for a hardcopy of the nomination form from the Form Teacher or at the General Office.

If you wish to submit the hardcopy of the nomination form via the school, please pass it to your child or drop it off at the General Officer by **Fri, 10 Feb 17**.

Should you have any queries about the award, please do not hesitate to contact Mdm Betty Chan at 6315 7600 or email her at [chan\\_siew\\_sharn\\_betty@moe.edu.sg](mailto:chan_siew_sharn_betty@moe.edu.sg).

### **Library in Springdale Primary School**

As part of the school efforts to develop our students as avid readers, the teachers will be taking students to the library on a weekly basis to borrow books from the school library. Students may also visit the school library on their own during recess or after school to borrow books. The library operating hours is from 7.30 am to 3.30 pm.

Students can borrow up to 3 books (preferably 2 English Language books and 1 Mother Tongue book) for a duration of up to 7 days. Please help to remind your child to take good care of the school library books and return them before the due date. Students are reminded to return their books on time so that they will not have their borrowing privileges suspended.

### **National Library Board (NLB) for Primary 1 Students only**

If your child is not a member of the National Library Board (NLB), we strongly encourage you to register him/her so that he/she can take part in the various reading activities jointly organised by the school and NLB. To register your child as a member of NLB, please fill in the Library Membership Registration Consent Form and attach relevant documents as indicated in the form.

For Singapore citizens, registration is free. Your child can pass the completed registration form together with the relevant documents to the Form Teacher by Wed, 3 Feb 16. Upon registration, the school will notify you when NLB has completed the processing of membership.

### **Springdale Primary School**

71 Anchorvale Link Singapore 544799

63157600 (O) 63153351 (F)

[www.springdalepri.moe.edu.sg](http://www.springdalepri.moe.edu.sg)

[springdale\\_ps@moe.edu.sg](mailto:springdale_ps@moe.edu.sg)



For Permanent Residents & International Students, please note the documents required and charges indicated on the Library Membership Registration Consent Form. As payment is required, parents need to go directly to any public library to register your child. The Form Teacher will not be able to collect money on behalf of NLB.

### **Read @ Springdale Primary School**

Besides borrowing books from the Library, the school has arranged for the subscription of the following magazines:

- +venture in Maths! (\$52 for 18 issues for P1 to P3 & 17 issues for P4 to P6)
- Young Scientist (\$55 for 10 issues)
- Ranger Rick Junior (\$75 for 10 issues for P1 & P2)
- Discovery Box (\$65 for 6 issues or \$108 for 10 issues for P3 to P5)

Upon ordering, these magazines will be mailed to your home directly. This is to ensure that your child would always get the most updated issue of the magazines.

The subscription forms would be passed to your child, together with the sample magazines for Mathematics for your consideration. Browsing copies of the Science magazines are made available in the class. Do mail the subscription form, with cheque payment or bank transfer, to the vendors directly. The school **will not be** collecting the subscription fees on behalf of the vendors, so please **do not** hand the form and money to your child's Form Teacher.

Should you have further queries, please feel free to email Mr Low at [low\\_yew\\_fai@moe.edu.sg](mailto:low_yew_fai@moe.edu.sg) or Ms Betty Chan at [chan\\_siew\\_sharn\\_betty@moe.edu.sg](mailto:chan_siew_sharn_betty@moe.edu.sg).

### **Birthday Gifts & Goodies**

Birthdays of our children are happy occasions and we understand some parents would like to celebrate the joy of such occasions with your child's classmates. However, we have been getting feedback from parents who have concerns with the items given to their children.

Hence, we seek your cooperation to **refrain from giving birthday goodie bags to the students or sharing any food items with your child's classmates**. This is out of consideration for students who may not be able to consume selected food products or have food allergies. It is also to ensure that our young students are not pressurised to reciprocate by giving gifts or goodie bags in turn, making unnecessary demands on their parents. Henceforth, **the school and teachers would not be able to receive any of these gifts or goodies to be passed to the class**. We sincerely seek your understanding in this matter.

### **Snack Break @ 12 noon**

A snack break is given to students daily to have a small bite to tide them over the school day. It is not a must for students to eat during this break as some do not require it. Students may snack on simple food items. Kindly refrain from packing wet food items for their consumption in class as it will be difficult for them to eat them and the food items may also not last well over a few hours. Simple yet easy to eat snacks such as biscuits, bread or sandwiches will serve the students' needs well. Please also refrain from bringing food for your students during recess or during the snack break as such food should have been packed for them before they come to school. Alternatively, students could purchase food from the canteen during their recess break.

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### **Meals for after school lessons**

As you are aware, our school is on the Healthy School Meal Programme and serves canteen food in accordance with the guidelines set by the Health Promotion Board. Sufficient canteen food is catered for all students on days they have after school lessons. If there is a need for you to send packed food, we strongly discourage commercially bought food and encourage only home cooked food. We thank you for your support in the school's efforts to promote healthy eating habits in our students.

### **Informing School of Child's Travel Plans**

As part of school practice, we request that you provide the school with travel details if your child is travelling overseas at any time. You can visit the school website at <http://www.springdalepri.moe.edu.sg/> for instructions to enter the travel details using our online form.

***To familiarise all parents of Primary 1 students with this practice, we would like you to submit your travel plans for the coming Chinese New Year holidays. A nil return is required.***

### **School SMS Alert Testing**

As part of the school's effort to ensure all parents remain contactable during a school emergency, the school conducts a SMS Alert Testing exercise on a termly basis. The most recent exercise was conducted on Fri, 20 Jan 17 and during such an exercise, the school would send a SMS to your mobile number registered with the school, requesting you to reply with the child's name and class.

By replying to the SMS, the school would be assured that your mobile number is valid and more importantly, you can be readily contacted during an emergency. We urge all parents to understand **the importance of responding to any SMS Alert Testing exercise conducted by the school in preparation of any emergency** and to also update the Form Teacher of your child immediately in the event of a change of your mobile number. Hence it would be greatly appreciated if you could respond with your child's name and class in the next exercise if you have not done so this time.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish all Chinese students and their families a Happy & Healthy Lunar New Year. To our non-Chinese students and their families, here's wishing you a meaningful time of bonding during this short break.

Yours sincerely  
Mrs Lee-Koh SC  
Principal

