

6 November 2017

Dear Parents

Term 4 will be coming to an end soon. We want to commend all our students for giving their best in both their learning and conduct in school. We hope school has been an enriching experience for them. As a round up for the year, I would like to remind you on the following important events and keep you posted of the 2018 school schedule.

### School Events

On the following dates, please note the school functioning hours:

Week	Programmes/ Events/ Holidays	Remarks
Week 9	<u>Wed, 8 Nov 17</u> School Marking & Administration Day	As all staff are involved in results processing for the overall assessment, <b>all students need <u>not report to school</u></b> .
	<u>Fri, 10 Nov 17</u> Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC) cum Home-Based Learning	<b>All students need <u>not report to school</u></b> .
Week 10	<u>Thu, 16 Nov 17</u> Promotion Day	This is the <b><u>last day of school</u></b> . Students to report to school as usual & will be taken to their new classes in 2018. The Book List & Packing List will be issued on that day.
	<u>Fri, 17 Nov 17</u> Achievement Day	<b><u>Only Prize Winners need to report to school from 7.30am to 10.30am</u></b> . Parents of these students would receive a separate letter with details of the event.

### Share-A-Textbook

As part of the school's efforts to encourage students to recycle and to put their values of care into action, we will be asking for donation of used textbooks from the students. If they do not need the used textbooks, we would like you to donate them to the school. Please ask your child to bring the used textbooks and drop them into the boxes at the canteen by **Mon, 13 Nov 17**. Their teachers will bring them to the boxes during recess times. The donated books will be brought over to NTUC as part of our contribution to their 'Share-A-Textbook' drive.

## Student Well-Being

As the school holidays provide opportunities for your child to develop in areas like the sports and the outdoors or to pick up a hobby or new skill, we would like to encourage your child to **learn something new and spend a meaningful holiday**. Here are some suggestions for the family to consider:

- ✓ Encourage your child to participate in moderate to vigorous physical activities for about 60 min a day as recommended by HPB.
- ✓ As the P3 students would have completed the SwimSafer Programme, do encourage your child to continue practising the skills that they have learnt earlier.
- ✓ Learn to cook or bake and eat healthily as a family.
- ✓ Visit the nearest community library weekly 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 revise on the areas for improvement which your child needs to work on for the respective subjects.
- ✓ Start your child reading on new topics to be taught in the new level.
- ✓ Ensure your child cultivates the habit of sleeping and waking up early even during the holidays.

## Cyber Wellness Message: Cyber Safety

Young children should not have free access to technological devices without any supervision. However, as they grow older, there is a need to gradually release the responsibility of keeping themselves safe online back to them. To help them, they need the knowledge of how to keep themselves safe and the key is to consciously put in effort to educate them on the most current threats that are prevalent and are still evolving.

Attached in **Annex A** is an infographic on “Helping Your Child Stay Safe Online”. The school has also placed a copy of the Infographic in the school website under [Parents Infoweb > Cyber Wellness Resources](#). You can also get your child to go through the Cyber Wellness message in the school website by going to [Students Infoweb > Cyber Wellness News](#).

## Nov/Dec School Vacation & Travel Plan

The school holidays will be from Sat, 18 Nov 17 to Mon, 1 Jan 18. You and your child may be travelling overseas for the holidays. All parents are to declare the travel plans of their child by **Fri, 10 Nov 17** via MC Online portal. If you have not confirmed your travel plan yet, we would still encourage you to key in your tentative plan first by the due date. You can make another declaration should there be a change in the plan. For instructions to enter your travel details using our online form, please visit the school website at:

<http://springdalepri.moe.edu.sg/parents-infoweb/travel-declaration>.

- ✓ **For P1**, regardless of your travel intent, you are required to update your travel details via the portal.
- ✓ For all other levels, we are requesting that you provide the school with your travel details if your child is travelling.

## Updates of Personal Particulars

To ensure our database is up-to-date, please inform the Form Teacher or staff in the General Office if there are updates to your **contact address, phone numbers and health status or medical record** of your child. Please note that all students should have a local address as all official correspondence will be sent to the local address given.

## Springdale Primary School

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### Testing of SMS Relay System for School Emergency

As part of our school emergency preparedness exercise, we will be sending out a message to all parents via our SMS Relay System on **Wed, 8 Nov 17**. The purpose of this SMS alert is to update our database in preparation for the upcoming long school vacation. **Please reply with your child's name and class for tracking purposes when you receive the alert from 8140 3312**, e.g. Vicky Poh, 6S. Parents who have changed their mobile contact numbers are required to update the school as soon as possible, prior to the exercise.

### Feedback from P2 & P4 Parents

Some of you have responded to the Parents Survey which was uploaded online from **Wed, 23 Aug 17 to Sun, 3 Sep 17**. We would like to thank those who have written compliments about the school programmes and your appreciation for the teachers who have taught your child. We will relay your messages to the relevant teachers. We would also like to thank those who have shared your concerns and have provided some suggestions for the school. For those pertaining to a specific teacher or class, as names have not been provided, kindly contact the teacher directly so that he/she can get back to you on your concern. For comments pertaining to school improvement, the school will review the feedback and implement viable solutions where possible.

Please refer to the school website at [Parents Infoweb > Feedback from Parents of P2 & P4 Students](#) for the school's response to some of the more common concerns.

### School Schedule in 2018

Please take note of the following school schedule for 2018:

Day	Start	Dismissal
Monday to Friday	7.30am	1.30pm

### Recesses<sup>#</sup> in 2018

Please note the recesses for the respective levels in 2018:

Mondays to Thursdays	First Recess 9am - 9.30am	Second Recess 9.30am - 10am	Third Recess 10am - 10.30am
	P5 & P6	P2 & P3	P1 & P4
Fridays	First Recess 8.30am - 9am	Second Recess 9am - 9.30am	Third Recess 9.30am - 10am
	P1 & P2	P5 & P6	P3 & P4

<sup>#</sup>The school has introduced snack break. Hence, students could pack light/dry snacks to be consumed in class at 12 noon.

### ACE Programme in 2018

Level	Tuesdays 2pm - 3pm	Thursdays 2pm - 3pm	Remarks
P2	EL & Math	MTL	<i>Selected students are identified to attend ACE Programme which will commence in Feb 18. More details will be shared next year.</i>
P3	EL, Math & Sc	MTL	
P4	EL, Math & Sc	MTL	
Level	Tuesdays 2pm - 3.30pm	Thursdays 2pm - 3pm	Remarks
P5	EL, Math & Sc	MTL or	<i>All students to attend ACE Programme which will commence in Feb 18. More details will be shared next year.</i>
P6		HMTL (2pm - 3.30pm)	

### ACE Programme for P6 Students during the Jun & Sep Holidays in 2018

In preparation for the national examination, we would like to give you early notice that P6 students would be required to attend lessons during the **first week of the Jun holidays** and the **last 3 days in the Sep holidays**. We hope to enlist your support to plan any family holidays or break outside that period.

### Enrichment Programmes for P2 in 2018

In 2018, all P2 students will continue to develop themselves in an array of skills spanning from critical thinking to communication and expression. These enrichment programmes, which will be conducted as **in-curriculum programmes**, have been carefully selected to ensure all students are developed in the various domains. Details of the enrichment programmes will be made known at the beginning of next year.

### Enrichment Programmes for P3 & P4 in 2018

The school will be organising a number of enrichment programmes after school on **Thursdays** for P3 and P4 students in 2018. Do note that all these enrichment programmes are **optional** & programme fees are to be fully paid by parents. These programmes will also have a quota and if the number of applicants exceeds the quota, a balloting system may be carried out. The quota helps to ensure better resource allocation, supervision and safety of students. Details of the registration for the enrichment programmes will be made known at the beginning of next year.

### CCA Experience Programme for P3 Students in 2018 (New)

In 2018, all P3 students will be embarking on the Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) Experience Programme whereby they will take **turns to attend various CCA throughout Semester 1**. This is different from the P3 Modular CCA approach that the school has carried out for the past few years. The new programme will enable students to gain first-hand knowledge and hands-on experience of each specific formal CCA and help them identify their interests and inclinations for registration of formal CCA by end May 2018. Students will then be **allocated the CCA in Semester 2**. Without compromising on the time in any subject area, this programme will be carried out on Fridays during curriculum hours in order for all P3 students to participate. Further details regarding CCA registration will be made known in mid-2018.

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### **CCA for P4 to P6 Students in 2018**

The current P3 students who have completed the P3 Modular CCA programme will be **registering for their formal CCA**. We hope that through the CCA, students will acquire new skills and knowledge and develop their interests and talents. These CCA will continue to be carried out during curriculum time on Fridays to enable all students to participate in them. In addition, some selected students may be asked to attend additional practices on another weekday afternoon in 2018 to prepare them for competition or performances. More details will be provided once the allocation is completed. We hope that current students in formal CCA will continue to deepen their knowledge, skills, attitudes and foster stronger friendships in their CCA and continue to develop their passion through their active participation.

### **First Day of School in 2018**

All students will need to report back to school on **Tue, 2 Jan 18** when the new term starts. All students are reminded to bring along their **thermometers**. Please ensure your child's thermometer is in working order. The P1/2018 students will be given a thermometer each during the first week of school. Should your child be unwell, please inform the staff in the General Office and do not send him/her to school.

The **Packing List for the first 3 days of school** next year will be **issued to all students on Promotion Day on Thu, 16 Nov 17**. Kindly get your child to pack accordingly to ensure his/her school bag is not too heavy each day.

***In view of any unexpected haze and other health-related issues, please refer to the school's website for any important announcement the day before school re-opens.***

### **Punctuality**

***Punctuality is a virtue which we would like to inculcate in our students.*** Punctuality records are reflected in the students' Report Book. Students are encouraged to come earlier to allow them to get ready for first period lesson starting at 7.30am ***Students not present in class during attendance-taking at 7.30am will be considered late for school***, unless prior excuse has been granted. Students who arrive after 7.30am will have their names and classes noted by the security officers at the Foyer.

On behalf of the school, we would like to wish all our students and their families a '***Merry Christmas & Happy New Year***' in advance. May you and your family have a meaningful break this coming school holidays!

Yours sincerely  
Mrs Lee-Koh SC  
Principal

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## HELPING YOUR CHILD STAY SAFE ONLINE

### What are Cyberthreats?

Cyberthreats are malicious or criminal attempts to damage or disrupt a computer network or system. Examples of cyberthreats include malware, phishing, hacking and spamming.

### What are some dangers of Cyberthreats?

- ! Malware – A malicious software programme that is installed without your knowledge or permission. It can spread through email and instant messages, websites and through the use of unsafe storage devices. *(e.g. ransomware, Trojan horse, virus)*
- ! Phishing – Any attempt to steal your personal information, such as usernames, passwords, credit card details or identity card numbers. These often appear to come from a bank or another trusted source. *(e.g. deceptive phishing, spear phishing)*
- ! Hacking – Any attempt to gain unauthorised access to data, such as private information, passwords, bank account details, in a system or computer. *(e.g. password cracking, cookie theft)*
- ! Spam – Irrelevant or unsolicited messages sent over the Internet designed to advertise and/or make money for the sender. It can also be used to collect personal information or to spread viruses and other malware. *(e.g. chain mails, dream job spam, pop-up advertisements)*

### How to help your child avoid Cyberthreats?

Teach them to :

- ✓ Check privacy settings and do not reveal personal information on social media, e.g. location, phone number, full name, birthdate.
- ✓ Download software and apps only from official websites and trusted sources
- ✓ Ignore pop-up messages
- ✓ Lock devices and log off accounts after use
- ✓ Never open suspicious links or attachments
- ✓ Set appropriate privacy settings on social media
- ✓ Set strong passwords (using upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols)



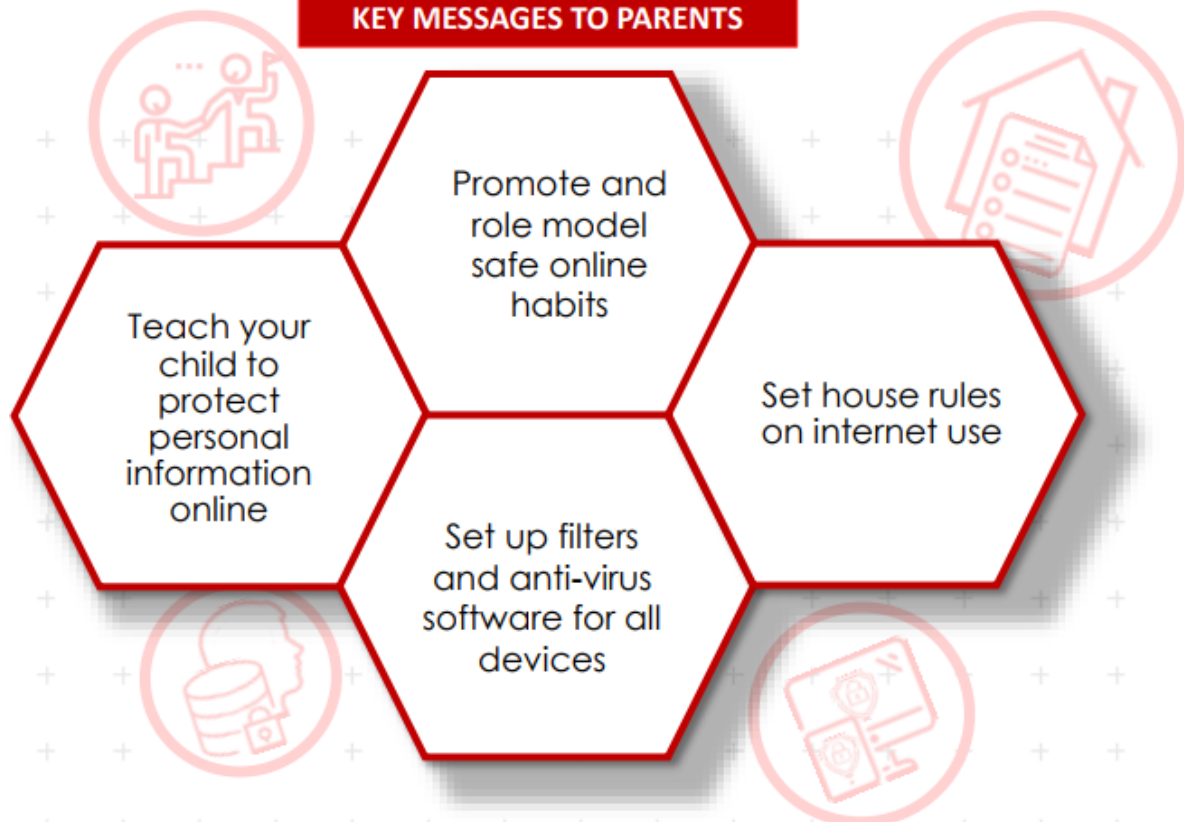
Ministry of Education  
SINGAPORE

**CYBER WELLNESS**  
Responsible Digital Learners

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## KEY MESSAGES TO PARENTS



## Where to find more information on how to stay safe online?



### Ministry of Education

Check out MOE's Cyber Wellness Portal for parents. You can also access it through "The ICT Connection" mobile app.

[ictconnection.moe.edu.sg/cyber-wellness/for-parents](http://ictconnection.moe.edu.sg/cyber-wellness/for-parents)



### Cyber Security Awareness Alliance

Check out information and tips provided by Cyber Security Awareness Alliance on cyberthreats.

[csa.gov.sg/gosafeonline/go-safe-for-me/for-parents](http://csa.gov.sg/gosafeonline/go-safe-for-me/for-parents)



### Government Technology Agency of Singapore

Check out tips provided by Govtech on cyber security.

[tech.gov.sg/technews/innovation/2016/10/stay-cyber-ready-to-be-cyber-safe](http://tech.gov.sg/technews/innovation/2016/10/stay-cyber-ready-to-be-cyber-safe)



### Media Literacy Council

Check out tips provided by Media Literacy Council on cyber security.

[medialiteracycouncil.sg/online-safety/Pages/cyber-security.aspx](http://medialiteracycouncil.sg/online-safety/Pages/cyber-security.aspx)



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