

2 October 2017

Dear Parents

Calendar of School Events/Public Holidays in Term 4

As we are in the midst of Term 4, the following is a reminder of the school schedule till the end of the term.

Week	Programmes/ Events/ Holidays	Remarks
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 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://springdalepri.moe.edu.sg/parents-infoweb/travel-declaration>.

To familiarise all parents of P1 students with this practice, we would like you to submit your travel plans for the coming November/December holidays. A Nil return is required.

Posting of New Vice-Principal

The school has a new Vice-Principal, Mr Kelvin Ho, who just joined us. Mr Ho, an experienced school leader, has just returned from his Leaders in Education Programme, a milestone leadership programme for school leaders. We look forward to his contribution to the school.

Singapore Mathematics Skills Check for Primary 2

Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB) has developed the Singapore Mathematics Skills Check for Primary 2 (MathsCheck-P2), an online assessment tool, designed to measure students' performance in foundational knowledge and skills in Mathematics at the end of Primary 2. The purpose of the tool is to empower teachers to identify students' strength and weaknesses in Mathematics so that they can improve their instruction and hence students' learning.

The Primary 2 students would be scheduled to take the MathsCheck-P2 assessment **between 30 Oct 17 and 1 Nov 17**. The assessment would take about 1 hour and the students would be assessed on the Primary 1 and 2 Mathematics topics. There is **no need** for students to prepare for this assessment and this **would not** be counted towards the weighted assessment in school.

Use of Calculators for Primary 5 & 6 Standard & Foundation Mathematics

The introduction of calculators at Primary 5 and 6 aims to enhance the teaching and learning of Mathematics at the primary level in two ways. Firstly, calculators facilitate the use of more exploratory approaches in learning mathematical concepts, some of which may require repeated computations, or computations with large numbers or decimals. Secondly, the use of calculators enables teachers to use resources from everyday life, such as advertisements, to construct real-life problems with real-life numbers that may be difficult for students to work with without a calculator. Students would hence be better able to see the connection between Mathematics and the world around them.

Calculators would be used during the Primary 5 and 6 examinations and only models that are approved by the Singapore Examinations & Assessment Board (SEAB) will be allowed. The list of approved calculators is available on the following SEAB website - <http://www.seab.gov.sg/content/calculator/GuidelinesCalculators.pdf>. The school has adopted the model, **CASIO fx-96SG PLUS**, and this would be included in the 2018 Primary 5 & 6 Book List.

Use of Dictionaries for Primary 5 & 6 Standard Mother Tongue

For P5 & P6 students sitting for MT & HMT Paper 1 (Composition), SEAB-approved Dictionaries or e-Dictionaries which are endorsed by the school can be brought into the examination room. The list of approved dictionaries is also available on the following SEAB website - http://www.seab.gov.sg/pages/dictionary_list.asp.

Do note that there should not be any form of annotation, e.g. tagging pages with stickers, highlighted text and written text in the dictionary. In the event that annotation is found, the students will proceed with the composition assessment without the dictionary.

MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) for 2018

The MOE FAS leaflet, which is written in 4 languages and given via your child, shows the criteria, benefits and application procedure for Singaporean students who are in need of financial assistance. Eligible applicants can apply using the attached application form and submit it together with supporting documents to the General Office by **Fri, 27 Oct 17**.

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Traffic Advisory

We would like to again remind and urge parent drivers to observe traffic regulations in and around the school. Please always allow your child to board/alight safely only at designated pick-up and drop-off points. The school, Land Transport Authority (LTA) and the Traffic Police (TP) have received numerous feedback from nearby residents that our parent drivers are seen dropping and picking up their child unsafely along Sengkang East Way and also Anchorvale Link (before and after the School Main Gate). This practice is dangerous and obstructs the flow of traffic along these two roads.

Sheltered Walkway

The construction of the sheltered walkway linking the Side Gate to the Foyer is completed. The school is now waiting for the various checks to be completed by relevant authorities before the sheltered walkway can be used. The school is expecting the final clearance to be given in Nov 17.

As safety continues to take priority for our children, in the interim, we seek your support to comply with all safety instructions and advisory put up by the school and relevant authorities at various affected areas till the sheltered walkway is officially commissioned.

The school had also earlier advised parents that the Land Transport Authority (LTA) would also be constructing a high covered linkway across the pedestrian crossing in front of the school Main Gate. We have been informed that construction would begin in late Nov 17. We will keep all parents informed of the progress, particularly if there is further traffic advisory for parents to note.

Punctuality & Attendance

Punctuality is a virtue which we would like to inculcate in our students. We have observed quite a number of students are habitually coming in late and rushing up to class for lessons. We would like to appeal to all parents to inculcate in your child from young the good habits of coming in early to settle down before lesson starts. We would also like to remind parents that curriculum time is precious and students should not be taken out of school during school terms without valid reasons. The school does not support cases of parents bringing students for holidays during term time.

As always, we are deeply appreciative of your support and look forward to your continued partnership in encouraging and motivating your child especially for this last lap. If you have further queries, please feel free to contact your child's Form Teacher or Mother Tongue Teacher.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and your family and stay healthy.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Lee-Koh SC
Principal

