



# Greenridge Heartbeat 2020

## A DAY IN GRPS

### Start of School

- Wash and sanitise hands upon entering the school
- Teachers check on students' well-being
- Wipe-down routine
- Taking of temperature



### Recess

- Staggered recesses
- P4 - P6 students have meals in the classroom
- Hand washing before and after meals
- Wipe-down routine after meals
- Fixed seating with safe-distancing
- No talking without a mask on



### Dismissal

- Staggered dismissal timings to avoid congestion at the school gates



### Positivity & Resilience in GRPS

COVID-19 has left an indelible impression in the year 2020. In GRPS, it has been a year fraught with challenges and difficulties. The students and staff have adjusted to the numerous changes, meeting the various demands in safe management measures and taking it all in our stride. It is heartening to see how both teachers and students of GRPS have grown in the face of this global crisis. This effort shall continue on till the final battle is won, and the experience will definitely make us all stronger.



### Greenridge Primary School

11 JELAPANG ROAD S(677744)

TEL: 67604265

FAX: 67620189

EMAIL: GRPS@MOE.EDU.SG

WEBSITE: WWW.GREENRIDGEPRI.MOE.EDU.SG



# PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

## A YEAR OF CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

2020 has been a challenging but special year. There were many changes and disruptions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In April, full home-based learning (FHBL) was carried out for all students in Singapore. The transition to FHBL was definitely a challenge for teachers, students and parents. All of us have risen to the occasion and adapted to the changes - a test of resilience with a steep learning curve. Overnight, we had to become experts in ICT to ensure teaching and learning continues.

## EMBRACING A NEW NORMAL

With the reopening of schools, we had to implement many new measures to ensure the safety and well-being of students and staff. Daily temperature taking, Safe Entry, safe distancing, wipe down and staggered dismissal are some of the Safe Management Measures put in place.

Numerous school programmes and activities planned for 2020 had to be cancelled or postponed to a later date. The school was challenged to be creative in implementing alternative programmes so that students' learning experiences are not compromised.

Weekly assembly programmes and celebration of events such as National Day now take place in the classrooms virtually. Staff meetings and training resumed and parents' briefings also took place online via Zoom. Gradually, we returned to normality.

I am pleased to see the strong partnership that has been formed between the parents and teachers who have been working together hand in hand to support the children. Appreciation must also be accorded to the parents who have been sending your children to school amidst the uncertainties arising from Covid-19. Thank you for having the confidence and trust in Greenridge Primary School that we have safety measures put in place to ensure a safe environment for everyone.

We have received positive affirmations, photos and praises from parents on the school's implementation of HBL and thank you notes to wish our staff Happy Teachers' Day!

## WORKING TOWARDS A COMMON VISION

Challenges can be reframed as new opportunities. New skills have emerged from amongst our staff and students. Our teachers have seized the chance to level up their ICT competency and explore creative ways of teaching. Working together as a team in creating innovative learning experiences has enhanced our collaborative culture. Students are empowered to take charge of their own learning and deepen their knowledge. We continue to leverage on positive education to support our learning and caring culture.

As we move into a new year, let us continue to spend quality time and have meaningful conversations with our loved ones. On behalf of everyone at GRPS, I would like to wish good health and a restful holiday to everyone!

**Mdm Flora Ong, Principal**



**"In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity."**

**Albert Einstein**

# Vice-Principals' Messages

I first stepped into Greenridge Primary School about 14 years ago when I participated in a Cluster Learning Journey to the school's NE Hub. The school left me with a deep impression of its strength in Character and Citizenship Education. Never did I expect that I will return 14 years later, this time with the school becoming my second home.

As I enter the school each morning, I'm greeted by the smiles of the teachers, the voices of the children and a positive vibe that the school brings. Then, soothing music plays at 7.00 a.m., followed by the positive quote of the day. This is what I really like about Greenridge Primary - an affirmative and encouraging start to a new day.

The school's approach in using Positive Education to enhance motivation and engagement resonates with me. Personally, I feel that it is important for us to develop positive emotions, build positive relationships and find meaning in what we do so that coming to school each day is joyful and purposeful. The school's emphasis on care and gratitude and the value of adopting a positive mindset is what we hope to develop in each of us in the school. As we begin each day, let us always be reminded of the following:

**"Start each day with a positive thought and a grateful heart."**

**"Be the reason someone smiles. Be the reason someone feels loved and believes in the goodness in people."**

— Roy T. Bennett, *The Light in the Heart*

I look forward to building more memories and enhancing the experiences of the staff and students of the Greenridge family.

**Mrs Esther Choo, Vice-Principal**



I fondly remember the day I met the school's staff for the first time during a workshop in November 2019 before I officially joined the school in December. I could feel the warmth of their smiles and see sparks of joy in their eyes as they welcomed me to the Greenridge family. Despite my short interaction with the staff, I could sense their energy and the value they place on nurturing positive relationships amongst colleagues. It was inspiring to know that the culture of care and support in the school extends beyond the staff room into the whole school community. This can be attributed to the Positive Education journey the school has embarked on since 2014. At that moment, I knew I was going to join a wonderful school.

As I browsed through the school magazines and newsletters from past years, I was excited to see that the school had organised many exciting programmes and learning activities. These programmes and activities provided a holistic education and authentic learning experiences for our students. They also helped to inculcate important values and develop the students into confident individuals who possess good character and have the right attitude. Unfortunately, many of our plans for 2020 had to be cancelled or postponed due to the disruptions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we navigate the challenges amidst the fluidity of the coronavirus situation, I witnessed the dedication and commitment of all staff in the school in overcoming the challenges in order to continue providing our students with the learning experiences they deserve. In fact, everyone has risen to the challenge and has leveraged on this crisis to build our resilience, become more innovative, as well as nurture a more collaborative culture.

It is my privilege and honour to be a member of the Greenridge family. I look forward to continue working alongside my dedicated colleagues to provide a memorable learning experience for all our students.

**Mr Andy Ang, Vice-Principal (Admin)**



## A NOTE FROM OUR LOWER PRIMARY YEAR HEAD AND ASSISTANT YEAR HEAD

**Mdm Pek Shu San and Ms Mariati Ngahtemin**

"Every Child a Gift". This is our school's philosophy which we firmly believe in. We strongly feel that every child is unique in his or her own way. Each and every student has his or her own individual strengths and talents. All our lower primary teachers are committed to nurturing each and every one of our young charges to maximise their potential and achieve our school's vision of 'Engaged Learners, Caring Leaders'.

As we move away from an overemphasis on assessment and grades, our little ones learn social-emotional skills through play and exploration. We want our students to develop holistically and excel in all areas, possessing strong character and leadership qualities.



## A NOTE FROM OUR MIDDLE PRIMARY YEAR HEAD AND ASSISTANT YEAR HEAD

**Mdm Nur Jannah Juri and Mr Poh Choon Wee**

A positive school culture is an integral part of education for students to feel accepted, valued and respected. Today, educators play an important role in developing a culture that fosters student well-being to help them become competent and compassionate individuals. Our school's Positive Education approach aims to create a culture of well-being at the heart of quality education.

In our school, we customise activities that are integrated into our Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) curriculum to build students' well-being - where they learn life skills beyond the classroom that help to increase their learning capacity and build happy and successful lives. Here, we share our experiences in implementing our Primary 3 and 4 level programmes. Being a character-focused school, it is our hope that our students will embrace these acts of positivity, resilience and optimism to face the challenges ahead in their future years.



### P3 Science

Primary 3 students learn about life cycles during Science lessons. To enhance their understanding, they were tasked to take care of mealworms until they metamorphosed into beetles. This activity deepened their scientific knowledge of the different stages of a life cycle and the importance of caring for a living organism.



▲ Students observing a mealworm

▲ Caleb Ho and his healthy plant

In partnership with NParks' 'Every Child a Seed' programme, Primary 3 students received a starter kit comprising a pot, potting mix and some seeds. It allowed the students to experience the challenges of growing a plant and enhanced their understanding of the life cycle of plants.

### P3 Social Studies

**Reuse, Reduce, Recycle: Making a tote bag from old t-shirts**

Students play a part to help conserve the environment by upcycling - the creative reuse of unwanted products. Through this activity, they gain a better understanding of how they can use resources wisely to protect the environment.



Giving our old t-shirts new lives

### P4 AMIS Music

Our Primary 4 students embarked on a 5-week programme and composed a song using the Garageband app on the iPad. They displayed perseverance and creativity throughout the music-making process.



▲ Creating my own music

### Leaders in the Making



▲ Our Primary 4 student with his buddy

### Buddy Programme

Our Primary 4 students welcomed their Primary 1 schoolmates and took on the role of big buddies during the first week of school. They displayed responsibility, graciousness and public-spiritedness and ensured the young ones are well-settled into the school.

### P4 Leadership Workshop

All Primary 4 students go through the Personal Leadership Training Workshop, which is held at the start of the year to inculcate values in personal effectiveness as well as leadership. Armed with the knowledge, it puts our students in good stead to be gracious, responsible and public-spirited Greenridgeans.



▲ Teambuilding activity

### P3 Math

Math lessons are made fun through games and collaborative learning. These games allow students to find joy in learning and explore Math concepts together.



### Buddy Programme

During the first 3 days of school, the Primary 1 students were paired up with our Primary 4 students. The Primary 1 students were taught how to buy food during recess. They were also shown around the school. This helped the Primary 1 students to transit and adjust to life in primary school.

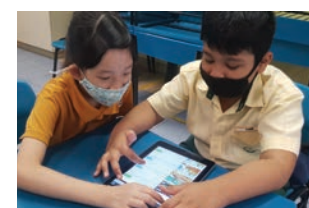


▲ A photo with my buddy ▲ Come meet our buddies

### Primary 2 Moo-O Immersive reading experience

As part of the EL curriculum to enhance reading aloud and speaking skills, the students use the Moo-O app on iPads. They enjoyed the interactive experience which allowed them to work collaboratively with their classmates.

◀ Reading and recording stories together



### Learning Together



▲ Using FAST-kits to show our responses

### Celebrating Together



▲ Happy Lunar New Year!

### Virtual Tours

Primary 2 students experienced virtual tours to Singapore Discovery Centre and Jurong Bird Park. During the virtual tour to the Singapore Discovery Centre, they learnt more about Singapore and its success story. The students also explored the world of birds during the virtual tour to Jurong Bird Park prior to an EL MLEA writing activity.



▲ A virtual journey to Singapore Discovery Centre

◀ Writing about our favourite birds in our groups



### VIA: Handwashing Programme

Our Primary 1 students learnt the steps for proper handwashing. This skill is especially important for personal hygiene.



### Learning to Code

One of the online activities that was introduced in Semester 1 was the 'Hour of Code'. This is a simple and engaging online activity about block programming. After the activity, many students continued to learn coding at home as they found it interesting and it stimulated their creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.



◀ A coding lesson in the classroom

## A Note from our Upper Primary Year Head and Assistant Year Head

**Mr See Kok Ching and Mdm Pardip Kaur**



The Upper Primary teachers continue our school's mission to nurture gracious, responsible and public-spirited lifelong learners who uphold integrity. The different school experiences, both academic and non-academic, are designed to encourage our students to become engaged learners with a growth mindset. With resilience and a growth mindset, we truly believe that our students will be ready to face any challenges in the future.

We would also like to bid farewell to our 2020 cohort of Primary 6 students. Despite the difficult situation due to Covid-19 this year, our Primary 6 students have adapted well and persevered in their learning and growth. We wish them success in every aspect of their educational journey in secondary school. Most importantly, we hope that they will treasure the memories of their Greenridge experience and will always demonstrate GRPS values.

### P5 Design Thinking



▲ A group presentation in class



▲ Identifying problems and proposing solutions

### P5 Leadership Training



▲ Learning team dynamics



▲ Leading collaboratively



▲ Achieving outcomes together

### Code for Fun Programme

Developed by the Ministry of Education and the Infocomm Media Development Authority, the 'Code for Fun' programme aims to develop an appreciation for computational thinking and coding concepts using tools such as simple visual-based programming and robotic kits. A 10-hour coding programme was piloted in our school last year which taught our students the skills needed to embrace new opportunities in the digital economy.



▲ Programming our robots

### P6 Graduation Tea (2019)

The Primary 6 students (2019) marked the end of their primary school years with a graduation party. They spent time bonding with their classmates and teachers through music, dance and games. It will certainly be an experience that the Primary 6 students will treasure in their hearts in years to come.



◀ Friends forever



## Chinese New Year

The students enjoyed the celebration because it was extra special. The concert featured a lion dance performance and an appearance by the God of Fortune.



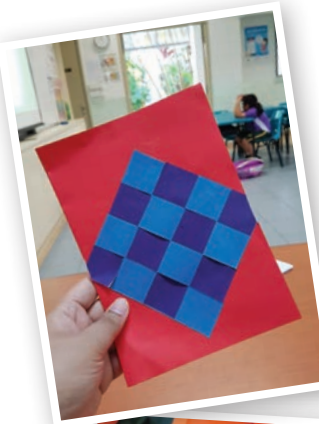
A picture with our school leaders



A lucky student receiving a red packet from the God of Fortune

## Hari Raya

We celebrated Hari Raya with an array of activities for the students when they returned to school after FHBL.



Malay teachers from the Mother Tongue Department in Baju Kurung

Weaving a ketupat design on a card

Making Hari Raya decorations for the classroom



Discussing how we can promote racial harmony



## Racial Harmony Day and National Day Celebrations

Our school commemorated Racial Harmony Day and National Day quite differently this year. Although the pandemic curtailed our usual celebrations, the spirit and national pride of our Greenridgeans rose on both the occasions. Racial Harmony Day kicked off with a pre-recorded assembly show that was scripted and performed by our very own teachers. Prior to that, CCE lessons that focused on racial harmony and integration were conducted by Mother Tongue Language teachers. Many children were dressed in colourful traditional costumes. The children also had a chance to taste traditional food from the different ethnic groups. The school was featured by Channel News Asia for our National Day celebrations.

### Racial Harmony Day

Watching a pre-recorded assembly show to help us to understand and embrace the diversity of our various ethnic cultures.



Students dressed in traditional costumes

## National Day

Greenridge Primary School  
55th National Day Celebrations  
7 August 2020

Mdm Ong reading the National Day message

Trooping in of the national flag



Our National Day march-in contingent



Class-based National Day lesson



Students dancing to community songs

Colouring Singapore's iconic buildings



## Teachers' Day

A concert was specially prepared for all the teachers to celebrate Teachers' Day. The School Leaders, together with the Parents' Support Group (PSG) and the School Alumni, gathered to convey their appreciation to all teachers through recorded performances.



The School Leaders and PSG sending their love and wishes for all teachers!



GRPS alumni sending their love through Zoom

## Children's Day

The teachers at GRPS put up mind blowing performances for Children's Day 2020! From handwritten drawings to K-pop performances, all the teachers hope that the students will have the most memorable and enjoyable Children's Day!



P4 teachers' hot debut on Children's Day! Let's welcome K-pop's latest idol group – GTS



Mdm Pardip Kaur's and Mr Ramdan's heartfelt messages on Children's Day 2020



## Mother Tongue Fortnight

Students were immersed in learning and appreciating their Mother Tongue language and culture through various hands-on activities and lessons.

► A Primary 1 student colouring her Wau Bulan – a kite that is traditionally flown in the Malaysian state of Kelantan



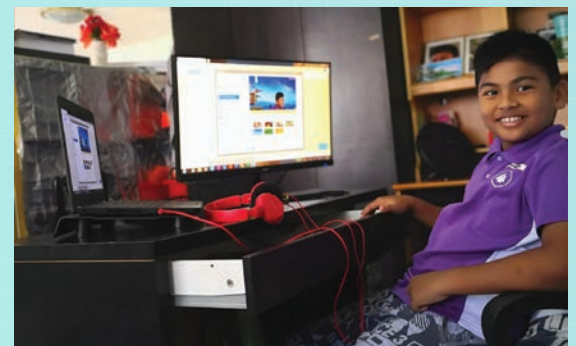
► Primary 2 students made Wayang Kulit puppets – a traditional form of shadow puppetry originating from Indonesia

## Full Home-Based Learning

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, all schools were closed and students attended lessons virtually. We adapted to the new way of learning and embraced the change positively! Together, Greenridgeans United!

▼ English lesson with Mrs Ruane via Zoom during FHBL

► Lesson time at home



▼ Self-directed learning on SLS



◀ A class photo before lesson starts

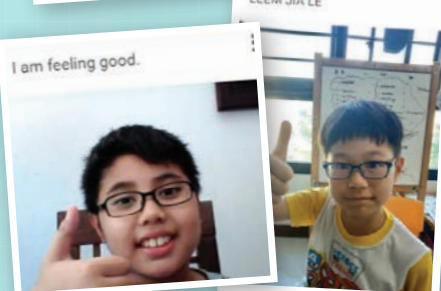


Ker Zhi Xuan

I am feeling happy and sad today. I am happy because my parents made delicious ham and cheese sandwiches for breakfast this morning. I am sad because I could not go to school



◀ Online reflection board for 4 Humility



I feel wonderful  
LEEM JIA LE

I am feeling good.

During FHBL, students from 3 Humility posted about their learning experience on the SLS platform. They were tasked to design and construct their own sailboats based on what they have learnt in their Science lessons. After several failed attempts, their boats finally floated on water. During their online Zoom lessons, they were given opportunities to showcase their masterpieces.



► Yi Xin is making the sailboat with care



► Sarah is deciding on the materials to use for her sailboat



► Aarya is testing out his sailboat.



► Hazwan's perseverance finally paid off!