



GREENRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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6 January 2017

Term 1 Notification Letter

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! As the academic year begins, we have been reminding students of our School Vision, Mission, and Values. We have also reiterated our school rules and regulations as well as safety procedures to the students. Please find time for your child to share them with you and to reinforce them as well. You may refer to the relevant pages in the Student Handbook for these information.

In the classrooms, teachers have been engaging the students in activities to strengthen the dynamics of the class and to reinforce our school values. They also involved the students in the setting of class rules and established routines so as to create a conducive and productive learning environment. At home, we recommend that you also involve your child to establish rules and study routines so that he or she develops good character and study habits over time. Soon, the students will also be setting targets for the year. Your support and guidance is deeply appreciated as your child reflects on these areas.

To better engage you in your child's learning and holistic development, we will be organising our Parent-Teacher Meeting on 10 Feb this year. At the meeting, we will update you on educational matters pertaining to syllabus and assessment, and share with you some ways to support your child's learning at home. We hope that doing this earlier in the year will provide you with useful information you can use to plan for your child's study activities at home to complement our school's efforts.

We look forward to another year of supportive partnership with you as we continue in this education endeavour to develop our students holistically.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Chua Choon Hock

Principal

Important Dates

3 Jan to 10 Mar
School Term 1

3 to 6 Jan
P1 Buddy
Programme

6 Jan
Temperature Taking
Exercise

16 Jan
Start of P2 to P5
Remedial & P6
Supplementary

19 Jan – 30 Mar
P5 & P6
Creative Writing
Programme (MT)

27 Jan
Chinese New Year
Celebrations
(School hours from
7.30am - 9.30am)

28 - 30 Jan
Chinese New Year
(CNY) Holidays

31 Jan
School holiday in
lieu of CNY

7 Feb – 11 Apr
P1&P2 Speech and
Drama (MT)

Staff Matters

❖ Staff Movement

We bid farewell to the following teachers who have left the school and thank them for their past contributions to the school. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours. They are:

- ❖ Ms Siva Kian Ling Cassandra – posted to MOE PESTA
- ❖ Mdm Ng Ing Mui Jacqueline – to be a homemaker

We welcome the following staff to our Greenridge family. They are:

- ❖ Mdm Kong Kit Ling – CL Teacher
- ❖ Mr Tan Kah Keong – Art Teacher
- ❖ Ms Isnani Norasiken – ML Teacher
- ❖ Ms Isabel Teo Hui Jin – AED (LBS)

School Events and Celebrations

❖ Chinese New Year Celebrations

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year on Friday, 27 January from 7.30am to 9.30am. We seek parents' assistance to make the necessary dismissal arrangements.

❖ Chinese New Year Holidays

As Chinese New Year is on Saturday, 28 January and Sunday, 29 January this year, 30 January will be a public holiday and 31 January will be a school holiday. School will resume on Wednesday, 1 February 2017. On behalf of the school, I wish you and your family a Happy and Prosperous Chinese New Year.

❖ Total Defence Day

On 15 February each year, schools in Singapore commemorate Total Defence Day (TDD) to mark the anniversary of the fall of Singapore to the Japanese in 1942. This year's TDD theme is 'Together We Keep Singapore Strong'. The different activities that will be organised on that day serve to remind our students that Singapore is defensible and is worth defending, and we ourselves must defend Singapore.

Administrative Matters

❖ 2017 School Hours

The following table shows the school hours in 2017.

Levels / Days	School Hours		Reporting Time
	Monday to Thursday	Friday	Monday to Friday
P1 to P6	7.30am – 1.30pm	7.30am – 12.30pm	7.25am

❖ Arrival and Dismissal Arrangement

We seek parents' cooperation in ensuring that your children report punctually by 7.25am for the Flag-Raising and Pledge-Taking ceremony. For the safety of the students, they are not allowed to leave school once they are within the school compound.

10 Feb

Parent-Teacher Meeting

13 Feb – 7 Mar

P1 – P2 FA1

15 Feb

Total Defence Day

27 Feb – 3 Mar

P3 – P6 CA1

6 to 8 Mar

Food Drive

6 to 9 Mar

P4 FbL

6 to 10 Mar

P3 FbL

8 Mar

P6 VIA - Recycle @ Bt Panjang

11 to 19 Mar

Term 1 School Holidays

13 to 14 Mar

P5 Malacca Cultural Immersion Trip (selected students)

26 May

Parent-Teacher Conference

During students' arrival in the morning, Gates 1A, 1C, 2, 3 and 7 will be manned by the school staff and security guards. As part of the school's efforts to nurture independent students, parents are not to enter the school except during wet weather.

An additional gate, Gate 1B, will be opened to accommodate the larger numbers of parents and students leaving the school during dismissal. Only parents of Primary 1 are to wait at the *Parents Waiting Area* at the school foyer. Primary 1 students will be brought there by classes to be dismissed.

For all other levels (P2-P6), parents are to arrange with their children to pick them up from the designated gates. Please refer to the table below for the opening hours for the respective gates.

	Gate 2, 3 & 7	Gate 1B	Gate 1C
Mon – Thurs	6.45 – 7.25am 1.25 – 1.55pm	1.25 – 1.55pm	6.45 – 7.25am
Friday	6.45 – 7.25am 12.25 – 12.55pm	12.25 – 12.55pm	6.45 – 7.25am

❖ **Recess**

We believe in developing your children to be independent. During their recess, parents are not to go to the school canteen to buy food for their children. As the school canteen sells healthy set meals, parents are also discouraged from passing any food or asking their children to come out to the Parents' Waiting Area / Foyer during their recess.

❖ **Snack Breaks in Schools**

In line with MOE's recommendation, there will be an additional snack break to ensure that children are allowed to eat regularly. This additional snack break will take place during curriculum time between 12.00pm – 12.30pm. Lessons will go on as usual and students will be given about 5-10 minutes to consume the snack during the designated timing. Parents may pack dry finger food such as buns or biscuits.

❖ **Payment for School and Miscellaneous Fees**

The school will only be accepting payment on the following days and time:

Day	Time
Tuesday and Wednesday	9.00am to 2.00pm

Students' Programme

❖ **P1 Buddy Programme**

From 3 to 6 January, the Primary 4 students will be involved in the 'P1 Buddy Programme' to enable the new cohort of Primary 1 students to be accustomed to their new surroundings. The programme will be conducted during curriculum time.

❖ **P1 and P2 Speech and Drama Programme in Mother Tongue Languages**

The Primary 1 and 2 Speech and Drama Programme in MT languages will commence from 7 Feb to 11 Apr. This programme will be carried out during MT lessons for 1.5 hours per session. During the workshop, students will be introduced to simple drama techniques that will help them to speak confidently. There will also be a mini performance at the end of the 8 sessions to showcase the students' abilities and talents. Details will be provided to the parents at a later date.

❖ **P5 and P6 Creative Writing Programme in Mother Languages**

The Primary 5 and 6 Creative Writing Programme in MT languages will commence from 19 Jan – 30 Mar. This programme will be carried out on Thursdays during MT Supplementary sessions. During the workshop, the students will be introduced to creative writing techniques that will help enhance their writing skills. Subsequently, the MT department will also be organising an essay writing competition. Details will be provided to the parents at a later date.

❖ **P6 Values-in-Action**

As part of our school's Values-In-Action programme, our P6 students will be involved in the 'Recycle @ Bt Panjang' VIA programme on Wednesday, 8 March from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. They will be collecting recyclables and food items that will be donated to the needy. The students will be accompanied by teachers and parent volunteers.

❖ **Pre-Assembly Silent Reading**

Students are to bring an English Language storybook on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays for silent reading. On Thursdays and Fridays, students should have with them a Mother Tongue Language storybook. The school library is well-stocked with new and interesting books and students are strongly encouraged to borrow these books from the library.

❖ **PE Attire**

Please ensure that your child is dressed in proper PE attire on days when he/she has PE lessons. Students are allowed to remain in their PE attire throughout the day.

❖ **P3 Swim Safer Programme**

In line with MOE's focus on Holistic Education, the PE Department will be organising a swimming programme for **all** Primary 3 students. This programme is an excellent opportunity for your child to build water confidence and acquire basic/advanced proficiency. The programme will start in Term 1. More details of the programme will be informed at a later date.

❖ **CCA for P3 to P6**

As CCA allows students to develop their talents and provides opportunities for social integration with all races, all Primary 3 to 6 students are strongly encouraged to take up a CCA to provide a balance to his/her academic life. CCA recruitment has been conducted for **students with NO CCA**.

❖ **Field-based Learning**

As part of the Social Studies curriculum, the school will be organising field-based learning activities for P3 and P4 students in Term 1. These activities aim to allow students to contextualize their learning experiences in an authentic real-world setting, enabling them to have a deeper understanding of what they have learnt in the Social Studies lessons in class. The venues and dates of the field-based learning activities for the two levels are as follows:

Level	Venue	Dates
P3	HDB Gallery	6, 7 and 10 March
P4	Singapore History Gallery	6, 7 and 9 March

❖ **Commencement of Supplementary / Remedial (16 January) Lessons**

The school conducts supplementary, remedial and enrichment lessons to enable students to explore curriculum in depth and/or to level up their skills and competencies in a particular subject.

Supplementary lessons for the P6 students and remedial lessons for P2 to P5 will commence in Term 1 Week 3, Monday 16 Jan 2017.

Respective subject teachers will issue consent forms to your child prior the commencement of the supplementary or remedial lessons if your child has been identified for the lessons.

❖ **National School Savings Campaign**

We would like our students to develop the value of thriftiness by encouraging them to start saving from young. The 'Smiley Savings Cards' and stamps will be available from our school bookshop from 17 Jan 2017. Each stamp cost 50 cents. Please refer to POSB website for more information. This is an optional savings programme.

Students' Safety

❖ **Road Safety**

Parents are reminded to use the designated pedestrian crossings at all times. As part of our road safety briefing to all students, we have reminded our students to be safe when crossing roads. We seek parents' support in helping the school to be positive role models to the children and reinforce the importance of road safety.

❖ **Procedures When Entering the School**

For security reasons, the school does not encourage anyone to come into the school premises unnecessarily. The school gates will remain closed during school hours. All visitors are requested to produce their identification cards (e.g. NRIC, driver's license etc.) at the security guard post.

Visitors will be required to state their reasons for their visits. The security guards will then issue official school passes to visitors. Visitors are to proceed to the General Office for further assistance. These passes are to be returned upon leaving the school.

❖ **Temperature-Taking Exercise**

The school will continue the current practice of conducting a temperature-taking exercise at the beginning of 1st and 3rd term to maintain its preparedness as well as educate our students to take personal responsibility for their own health and practice social responsibility. For 2017, a pre-exercise was carried out on Wednesday, 4 January and the actual exercise will take place on Friday, 6 January. We seek your assistance in ensuring that your child owns a working personal Oral Digital Thermometer. For Primary 1 and 2 students, their ODTs will be kept with their Form Teachers.

Partnership with Parents

❖ **Primary 1 Holistic Assessment Briefing on 10 February**

Primary 1 parents are invited to attend this briefing on 10 February which will provide more information on the P1 Curriculum and the Holistic Assessment Plans for the level. More details will be given closer to the date.

❖ **Parent-Teacher Meeting on 10 Feb and Parent-Teacher Conference on 26 May**

To better engage you in your child's learning and holistic development, the school will be holding a Parent-Teacher Meeting on 10 February 2017. We will also update you on educational matters pertaining to syllabus and assessment, and share with you some tips to support your child at home.

There will be no individual discussion on your child's progress. This will be carried out on 26 May 2017 after the First Semestral Assessment during our Parent-Teacher Conference. More details on both the meeting and conference will be given at a later date.

❖ **'Triple P' Programme (for P3 & P4 Parents)**

In collaboration with Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), the school will be organising the Positive Parenting Programme (Triple P) for selected P3 and P4 parents. This is an evidence-based programme that equips parents with techniques to promote their children's psychological, social and emotional competence. A survey form will be given to all P3 and P4 parents to complete and return to the school. We will then invite selected parents to attend workshops or one-on-one sessions, based on the collated survey results.

❖ **School Notification and Attendance App (Snaapp)**

Parents are reminded that our school has been using Snaapp as an additional communication tool to enhance our communication with parents since 2016. We would like to invite you to download the latest snaapp v3.8.10 app (Android and iOS). Snaapp is a 3G / 4G / Wifi enabled smartphone communication app that can be used to disseminate class or school-based information to parents. We will issue a separate letter to P1 parents with an instructional manual enclosed to provide more details. We look forward to your support in implementing this technology that will allow us to foster closer real-time communication with you.

❖ **Parents' Support Group**

Our school would like to support parents in the holistic development of their children and equip them with knowledge and skills to help in parent-child bonding and student well-being. We hope to achieve this through engaging our parents in parenting workshops and parent-child bonding sessions. Details of the activities will be shared via SMS or through the Snaapp messaging app.

Partnership with Community

❖ **Food Drive**

The school is collaborating with Food from the Heart to distribute food items to needy people. Students can donate food items to the school from 6 to 8 Mar. Food items donated should have 6 months to expiry date. Items that can be donated include rice, cooking oil, biscuits, condensed milk, canned sardines, baked beans, sugar, instant noodles and chocolate beverages such as Milo and Ovaltine.

Photography or Videography during School Events and Activities

Please be informed that when you or your child attend any school event or activity, your photographs or video images may be captured. We may use and publish such photographs and/ or video recordings in our school publications, website, banners and other official school communication channels.