



The PEPS Newsletter ASPIRE

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AMBITION • SELF-DISCIPLINE • PERSEVERANCE • INTEGRITY • RESPECT • EMPATHY

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

May I extend a warm welcome to all as we embrace the new school term, which brings us new possibilities and an array of exciting programmes to engage our students!

It has been an eventful term 1 for us and I am glad to say that events around us have brought us closer. Our students, staff, cleaning team and CCA vendors displayed empathy, responsibility and resilience as we continually examined our processes to protect ourselves and the people around us amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

We ushered in our Primary One students on 2 January and watched as they spread their wings and adapted well to the school routines. As we celebrated Chinese New Year and commemorated Total Defence Day, we had to deal with the COVID-19 situation which unfolded and threatened to engulf us. Our vigilant staff stayed tune to the health and travel advisories, and as a school, everyone took steps to adopt daily temperature-taking measures, social distancing, wipe-down during recess and practised good personal hygiene. Periodic programmes were also rolled out to inculcate in students the need to be socially responsible and mindful to practise good personal hygiene.

However, it was not all doom and gloom. Students went about their daily lessons, CCAs resumed with careful planning and a sense of normalcy returned. In fact, many of our disciplined students are now busy with the SYF preparations under the watchful eyes of our CCA teachers and instructors, who are ever mindful of the students' well-being and kept abreast of the developments of the outbreak.

In appreciation of the efforts put in as a school, we showed our appreciation to our teachers, school staff, cleaners and students. Our teachers and school staff received delightful cupcakes while our hardworking cleaning team, which made the extra effort to maintain high standards of cleanliness, were presented with thoughtful gifts accompanied by 'Thank You' cards made by the students. For our students, they will be receiving specially-designed and prepared bookmarks recognising their resilience in undertaking the daily preventive measures during this period of outbreak.

We hope that long after the closure of this COVID-19 chapter, our students will take away with them these good lifelong habits and deep sense of gratitude, so that they will make a difference to the people around them.

In closing, I would like to quote excerpts from our Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong's recent speech, "We will remain in this high risk state, for some time to come. But if we keep up our guard, and take practical precautions to protect ourselves and our families, we will be able to keep our economy going, and carry on with our daily lives. In such a crisis, everyone has a part to play."

Indeed, let us all persevere and weather this crisis together. As a school, learning continues as we strive to take our students to greater heights! I wish all students joyous learning in the weeks to come as we stay vigilant and keep safe!

Mdm Moliah Bte Hashim
Principal



INSTILLING THE JOY OF LEARNING

EXCITEMENT GALORE FOR OUR PRIMARY 1 STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS

The turnout from supportive parents on Day 1 for our Primary 1 students was heartening. This year's carefully thought out programmes allowed for richer and more conductive sharing. Recess play and parent-child bonding activities at our newly opened Innospace left indelible memories in the hearts and minds of our students and parents. Our special thanks to the group of Parent Volunteers who assisted with the in-class activities, without which our little ones might not have settled in so comfortably!



Eager P1 students waiting to start their first school day



Recess play@basketball court where our young athletes flexed their muscles



A taste of Maker@Recess Challenge through our parent-child bonding activity@Innospace



P1 students taking a respite after a fun-filled recess



A fulfilling time for both parents and children as they discussed and co-created their craft pieces

AIM FOR THE STARS 2020

Our Aim For The Stars programme was conducted for all Primary 6 students on 13 March 2020 to bring about learning in a fun and interactive way. Students completed three Math activities - Bingo Game, Can You Math? and Quizizz. Manipulatives and iPads were used by students in the activities. All activities incorporated Maths concepts such as whole numbers, order of operations, fractions, decimals, areas and perimeters as well as measurements. For Science, the students worked in groups to build concept map on a given topic and had the opportunity to engage in peer evaluation and feedback as they did a gallery walk on the concept maps built by their classmates. Meanwhile, our creative English teachers tapped on the rich features of 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire?' to extend the learning of idioms.



Working collaboratively to scale greater heights



Students providing constructive feedback to their peers' concept map



Aiming for stars in their mathematical solutions



Students deep in discussion over their Science concept map



What a creative way to learn idioms!



Unpacking idioms for the students

DISCOVERING JOY@JURONG LAKE GARDEN

On 10 January 2020, PEPS teachers turned students as we soaked in the sights and sounds of what Jurong Lake Garden has to offer. We put on the caps of our young charges as we explored, discussed and created lesson packages to engage our students on appreciating nature, sustainability and protecting our heritage. Despite the long hours and uncertain weather, our teachers went about in groups, leaving no stone unturned, as we explored how the features of Jurong Lake Garden could bring about Joy of Learning for our students. Kudos to our teachers!



Listening intently as our Principal, Mdm Moliyah, engaged teachers on the intent of the Jurong Lake Garden learning journey



Teachers having fun learning To Clap or Not to Clap, a Brain Break activity



Whoosh! On top of the world at Grassland



Let not the drizzle hold us back from The Great Expedition!



Quick, Mr Mahmud, we are waiting for you@Logs Trail



Appreciating all that nature has to offer at Rasau Walk

NURTURING THE SPIRIT OF THE NATION

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

We ushered in the Lunar New Year with a series of activities related to the Rat – the zodiac animal of the year. As an alternative to the usual ethnic costumes, students also had the option of donning their favourite rat character themed clothes / accessories. The professional lion dance troupe set the concert off on a high note with its engaging drum beat and cymbals. The audience were captivated by the adrenaline-pumping stunts. The celebrations concluded with a showcase of the upper primary students' talent and teamwork in creating their 'class dragon'.



Hooray! Our Primary 1 students holding up the fruits of their labour



Corner bookmarks in the shape of rats



Putting on the finishing touches to the 'class dragon'



An energetic number put up by our Chinese Dance CCA group



Our school leaders (Left to Right: Mr Eugene Lee, Mdm Moliah, Mr Gabriel Chua & Ms Ngiam) posing with the majestic lions at the end of the concert

PREPARATIONS FOR SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL@PEPS

Amid the COVID-19 outbreak, our CCA teachers, vendors and resilient students soldiered on with their rehearsals through careful planning and precautionary measures in place. Keep up the good work, everyone!



String Ensemble (left) and Harmonica CCA students practising at School Of The Arts



Contemporary Dance (left), Concert Band (middle) and Chinese Dance (right) CCA students rehearsing in school

COMMEMORATING TOTAL DEFENCE DAY@PEPS

The commemoration of Total Defence Day was extra special this year. The students learned the importance of keeping Singapore strong and safe amidst the outbreak of COVID-19. The various activities rolled out and precautionary measures in place taught our students valuable lessons to defend themselves against the spread of the disease.



Students learnt to discern news that could be misleading and 'fake' based on the reliability of sources as shared during the Assembly show by the Singapore Discovery Centre.

During the scheduled class visits, students queued up in an orderly manner to patiently wait for their turns to participate in the engaging activities prepared by the Singapore Police Force.



PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Total Defence Day this year saw the launch of The Soaper 5 to promote national resilience, social responsibility and personal hygiene



The 'Wipe-down' routine at the canteen is truly a values-in-action lesson for all. Students were educated about being socially responsible and cleaning after themselves after every meal. The routine is still ongoing and has become part of the school's culture.



Social distancing in place through seating arrangements and small-group meeting



Posters around the school and sanitisers in the lift to remind all of the need to keep safe

LEVERAGING HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

PARENTS ENGAGEMENT SESSION 2020

The Parents Engagement Session for parents of Primary 2 to Primary 6 students was conducted on Saturday, 18 January 2020. During the session, our School Leaders briefed parents of the latest announcement by the Ministry of Education and its impact on their children. In-class briefing by the form and co-form teachers provided the platform for more focused sharing on teaching and learning, and the holistic development of the students. Our parents left the session with encouraging feedback for the school and insights on how to support their children.



Appreciation cards written by parents on display in classrooms



Parents received notes of appreciation from their children and returned the affection by pinning their cards on the board of the Garden of Appreciation



Form teacher of Primary 2E, Mdm Ng, sharing engaging programmes the school had planned for our students.

THANK YOU FOR KEEPING THE SCHOOL CLEAN!

In appreciation of the tireless efforts put in by our dedicated team of CSOs and cleaners, our students presented them with specially-packed gifts accompanied by 'Thank You' cards made by our students. Our heartfelt appreciation for going the extra mile to maintain the high level of hygiene amid the outbreak.



PEPS EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VP, MR EUGENE LEE



Thank you for the warm welcome into the PEPS family. I am very happy to join this family as I too believe that every one can learn, love and lead. To do so, we must hold an inclusive view of how education can embrace all learners. There is a proverb that says: "If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." For the sake of our students, we must move together to help them cultivate the necessary skills, attitudes and knowledge to meet their future challenges. To be inclusive not only means embracing our learners, but to also include partners in our efforts. I am grateful for the sustained efforts of parents, alumni, SAC members and the community to support us in our work.

I look forward to working with you as together, we nurture and inspire an inclusive spirit.