
LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

27 June 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

1. Welcome to a brand new semester! We certainly look forward to a time of exciting and effective learning during the upcoming terms.
2. We take this opportunity to especially welcome our new Teck Whyean students and staff members, Miss Keng Gek Yong and Miss Khairunnisa bte Khairudin. We bid farewell to students who have left us and Allied Educator (Learning and Behavioural Support) Mdm Madhavan Vidhya. We also wish Mr Duane Chan Xin Jie the best in his future endeavours as he continues his education at the National Institute of Education (NIE) in July.

Strategic Thrusts 2015-2017

3. Since the start of this year, I have been sharing with you our school's strategic thrusts. It is my sincere hope that by doing so, you can play your part for each of the Strategic Thrusts. With your fullest support as an integral part of the school, we can then make better progress for the children.
4. I have covered two strategic thrusts so far:
 - i. Providing a **balanced curriculum** that emphasises **strong fundamentals** and **future learning**
 - ii. Creating a **learner-centred school** conducive for teaching and learning
5. In this letter, I will elaborate on thrusts 3 and 4
 - i. Growing a **quality and committed staff**
 - ii. Engaging **community and key stakeholders**
6. Strategic Thrust 3 – In growing a quality and committed staff, the school is looking at three main ideas (i) developing **strong leadership and management** at all levels; (ii) ensuring **staff are competent and reflective learners**; and (iii) encouraging **staff to be engaged and committed**.
7. While the focus of thrust 3 is very staff centric, you can **play your part** in the following ways:
 - i. in interactions with staff, **seek to understand their perspective** just as they seek to understand yours
 - ii. **engage** one another **with respect** and have **regular communication** but also give **due regard to teachers' time** (e.g. avoiding communication during weekends or after 6pm)
 - iii. if there are slips in service, **give feedback** so that we can improve, but also **be gracious to provide opportunities for improvement**
 - iv. **be empathetic** about the difficulties teachers could face in handling many students with a wide range of needs
 - v. send the staff **notes of appreciation** to encourage and support them
8. Strategic Thrust 4 – Educating our children requires the **contributions and efforts of the entire community**. That is why we place importance on working with partners and key stakeholders. We also want to make a positive contribution as a member of the community. There are, therefore, two key aspects to this thrust (i) **leveraging partnerships with parents, the School Advisory Committee, community partners and alumni**; and (ii) for Teck Whye Primary to be **recognised as a contributing member of the community**.
9. What is your role here? You could
 - i. read school communication letters and newsletters, and 'like' the school Facebook page to know what is going on and encourage our students
 - ii. get involved in school activities, events or dialogue sessions. For example, make an effort to meet teachers during the Student-Parent-Teacher Conference or join the Family Matters@School programmes
 - iii. highlight possible community or organisational resources that the school could use to support student learning
 - iv. volunteer your time and/or expertise or join the Parent Support Group
 - v. support your children when they participate in community-based programmes and events

10. The points I have highlighted above are not intended to be exhaustive but it is to put forward **concrete ideas that you could practise** as well as to emphasise the **critical role you play in our school's success**.

Accolades

11. We are proud of the achievements of the following students and teams:

Event	Achievement
National Track and Field Championships 2016	'A' Division Boys – Champions 'A' Division Girls – Runners-up
Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation 2016	Malay Dance – Certificate of Distinction Chinese Dance – Certificate of Accomplishment Choir – Certificate of Commendation
National Spelling Championship 2016	Ashley Soh Xiao Ting of Class 5/4 – Top 12 in the zonal round
Frank Cooper Sands Award (Scouts)	Silver Award
Wits and Words 2016	Top 5 of the Division 2 teams in the West Zone

12. We acknowledge our students' efforts and thank all staff, student supporters, parents and everyone else who played a part in their success.

PERI Upgrading and General Repairs and Painting

13. The PERI upgrading works are proceeding well. I attach a picture showing the progress of construction works for our new building which will house the Indoor Sports Hall and other new facilities such as CCA rooms and a Student Care Centre. We should complete the upgrading works on time.



14. Over the next few months, we will also be having some repair and repainting works in the school and we are taking the opportunity to complete renovations for the school library (Phase 1) and develop the Teck Whye Primary School Heritage Corridor. For the library, we want a conducive space for the students to read and engage in a variety of learning activities. We certainly want more students to cultivate a love for reading. The Heritage Corridor will help our students to better appreciate the past and aspire for a better future.

Student Care Centre

15. Our **Student Care Centre** run by Big Heart Student Care Centre (Self-help Groups) **has begun operations**. If you would like a place for your child/ward, please contact the General Office. All applications will be reviewed before acceptance.

Continual Assessment 2 (CA2)

16. As highlighted earlier in the year, the school will **remove CA2 from its formal assessment structure**. The school has carefully analysed the implications and believe that it will have a **positive impact on the students' learning**. The removal of CA2 will **increase the curricular time available for teaching and learning and reduce the focus on test preparation**. It will also allow students to engage in a broader range of learning activities. Teachers will **continue to closely monitor students' learning progress** and will contact parents/guardians where necessary.

Adjustment to School Calendar

17. We will be hosting an alumni homecoming on Thursday, 1 Sept 2016 from 11.50am – 1pm in view of Teachers' Day. This will be an opportunity for alumni to return to the school to keep in touch and engage their former teachers. Due to this, please take note of the following **change in the school calendar in relation to curtailed school hours**:

- i. **Thursday, 1 Sept – School Hours from 7.20am-11.30am for all levels**

Later School Start Time

18. Earlier this year, we conducted a survey on starting school later from 2017. Of the close to 500 respondents, 50% preferred to start later with most preferring a 7.30am start instead of the current 7.20am. However, 89% of parents wanted school programmes to end no later than 5.15pm as per current practice. When asked about concerns, if any, about starting school later, 44% had no concerns while 28% of respondents were concerned about school ending later. We note that a number of parents find the current timing suitable. Therefore, any adjustments made to school times will be slight but still comparable to those of other primary schools. **One option we are considering is reflected in the table below:**

Proposed Plan from 2017 (to be confirmed)

Level	Silent Reading	School Start Time	School End Time	School End Time	School End Time	Main CCA Day (Thur) Optional CCA Day (Mon)
			Mon-Wed	Thur	Fri	
P1-2	7.20-7.30am	7.30am	1.40pm	1.40pm	12.40pm	Not Applicable
P3-6	7.20-7.30am	7.30am	1.40pm*	2.45pm	12.40pm	CCA Thurs: Start 3pm - End 5pm CCA Mon: (for optional training/competition preparation) Start 3.15pm – End 5.15pm

* does not include remedial/supplementary lessons

19. If you have any feedback on the above plan, do contact us. Later this term, we will be communicating more on the possible changes in 2017.

Health and Safety

20. Haze The haze situation may return and **students who require medication should bring it along** with them. In school, we will monitor the situation closely. For example, the school will cease outdoor activities as guided by daily health advisories. In addition, all classrooms are now equipped with air purifiers and air-conditioned rooms are prepared for those who have heart or respiratory problems and/or are not feeling well. There are also processes to get the necessary medical help from nearby clinics. We encourage all children and their family members to take the necessary precautions. **For important updates**, for example, in the event of any announced school closure by MOE, **please refer to the school website or Facebook page.**

Administrative Matters

21. Please retain the coloured section of this letter as it contains important information. Read through the section carefully especially on school closure, and curtailment of school hours.

22. If you have enquiries, feedback, suggestions or matters to discuss with the school, please contact us at 67691025 or email us at twps@moe.edu.sg.

23. I wish all of you a very meaningful semester ahead.

Yours sincerely

Suraj Nair

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REMINDERS

2016 School Closure, Holidays and Hours Curtailment

Parents will be informed via a letter and the school website if there are changes. Please make the necessary care arrangements.

School Closure	Dates	Levels affected	Remarks
Youth Day	4 July	All	School Holiday
Hari Raya Puasa	6 July	All	On the eve of Hari Raya Puasa (Tue, 5 Jul), Muslim students may leave at 10.30am. All other students will be dismissed at 1.30pm
National Day	9 – 10 Aug	All	Wed, 10 Aug, is a school holiday
PSLE Oral Examinations	18 – 19 Aug	P1-P5	P6 students to report for examinations
Teachers' Day	2 Sep	All	
September Holidays	3 – 11 Sep	All	
Curtailment of School Hours	Dates	Levels affected	Remarks
National Day Celebrations	8 Aug	All	Celebrations will be conducted from 7.30-10.00am. School dismissal will be from 10.00am. The school general office will be closed at 5pm.
Teachers' Day Celebrations cum ACES Day	1 Sep	All	School dismissal will be from 11.30am

Important Dates for Parents

Parents, we are informing you of these dates early and hope that it will facilitate your attendance where necessary.

Title of Event	Dates	Times	Remarks
Family Matters @ School (FMS) Programme			Registration forms will be made available through your child.
Helping My Child/Teenager Peak Right for Exams	26 July	11.00am - 1.00pm	For parents of all levels.
Exam Stress! Break it before you break down	30 Aug	11.00am - 1.00pm	For parents of all levels.
Parent Engagement on PSLE changes 2021	1 Aug	6.00pm - 7.30pm	For parents of all levels
P4 Ukulele performance	26 Aug	12.15pm -1.00pm	For parents of P4 pupils
Parent Teacher Conference for all P6 students only	31 Aug	12.00pm – 5.00pm	For parents of P6 pupils
Alumni Homecoming	1 Sep	Ex-Teck Whyeans	We welcome our former Teck Whyeans to visit us from 11.50am – 12.50pm

School Student Activities for Term 3

Please note that students will be issued with consent forms by the teachers-in-charge for all after school activities.

Activities	Dates	Time	Teacher I/C	Remarks
Mother Tongue Fortnight	27/6 - 1/7	Curriculum Time	Mdm Tan WF	
Temperature Taking Exercise	30/6	Curriculum Time	Mr Sua KW	
Speak Good English Movement (SGEM) cum EL Week	11/7 – 15/7	Curriculum Time	Mdm Intan	
Educational Visit to MEWR ENVision Gallery - Environment Building Scotts Road	21/7	CCA hours	Mdm Masnah	Brownies, Scouts, Green Officers & Saving Gaia Club
Racial Harmony Day Commemoration (book launch and assembly programme on 22/7)	18/7 - 22/7	Curriculum Time	Ms Gan YL, Mdm Sakinah	
Annual School Health Visit	1/8 - 12/8	Curriculum Time	Mr Sua KW	
Chua Chu Kang National Day Observance Ceremony	7/8, Sun	8.00am-12.00pm	Mr Morris Koh	Selected CCAs and Students
Teachers' Day Celebrations cum ACES Day	1/9	Curtailed Hours - school ends at 11.30am	Ms Kek, Mdm Liew	
P1 SEP Tennis	27/6 , 11/7 (P1-1, P1-6) 29/6, 13/7 (P1-2, P1-5) 30/6, 14/7 (P1-3, P1-4)	Curriculum Time	Mdm Joyce Liew	
P1 Learning Journey to National Museum of Singapore	12/7, 13/7, 14/7, 26/7, 27/7, 28/7	Curriculum Time	Ms Lee LM	One class per day
P1 Theatre Experience	16/8	Curriculum Time	Mdm Lynn Yeo	All P1 classes
P1 & 2 International Students Teacher-Parent-Student Interaction Activity	12/8	2.00pm -5.00pm	Ms. Qiu YY	Selected pupils
P1 & P2 KidsExcel Programme (Registered pupils)	Wed – 29/6, 13/7, 20/7, 27/7, 3/8, 17/8, 24/8, 31/8 Fri – 1/7, 8/7, 15/7, 22/7, 29/7, 5/8, 12/8, 26/8	2.00pm - 5.15pm 1.30pm - 4.45pm	Mdm Joyce Liew	Please note that any change in dates will be notified directly by KidsExcel
P1 & P2 Zonal LSM Games Day	22/7	2.00pm-4.15pm	Mrs Juliana Loke	

Activities	Dates	Time	Teacher I/C	Remarks
P2 SEP Archery	28/6, 12/7 (P2-1, P2-4, P2-5) 29/6, 13/7 (P2-2, P2-3)	Curriculum Time	Mdm Joyce Liew	
P3 Dyslexia Remediation (Selected students)	Mon 2-3pm 27/6, 22/8 Mon 2-4pm 11/7*, 18/7*, 25/7*, 1/8*, 15/8* Tue-28/6 Wed- 29/6, 13/7, 27/7, 3/8, 17/8, 24/8 Thurs- 30/6, 7/7, 14/7, 21/7, 28/7, 4/8, 11/8, 25/8	2.00pm - 3.00pm *Timing for some of the dates reflected 2.00pm- 4.00pm	Ms Zuraidah, Ms Michelle Lim, Mrs Elaine Lee	Please refer to consent forms issued
P3 Reading Remediation (Selected students)	Wed- 13/7, 27/7, 3/8, 17/8, 24/8 Thur- 14/7, 21/7, 28/7, 4/8, 11/8, 25/8	2.15pm – 3.00pm	Mdm Farhanah, Ms Chamayne Yang	Please refer to consent forms issued
P3 Swim Safer Programme (6 sessions)	12/7, 19/7, 26/7, 2/8, 16/8, 23/8	12pm - 4.15pm	Mr Morris Koh	
P3 Learning Journey to Little India	20/7	2.00pm - 5.30pm	Ms Lee LM	
P3 GEP Screening	26/8	Curriculum Time	Ms Chia SH	
P3 Science Learning Journey to Botanic Garden	30/8	1.00pm - 4.30pm	Ms Eileen Tan	
P4 E-journalism	11/7, 18/7, 25/7, 1/8 (P4-1, P4-2, P4-5 & P4-6) 12/7, 19/7, 26/7, 2/8 (P4-3 & P4-4)	2.15pm - 3.15pm	Mdm Lynn Yeo	
P4 Reading Remediation (Selected students) Group 1 – (P4-3 & P4-4) Group 2 – (P4-2)	30/6, 7/7, 11/7, 14/7, 18/7, 21/7, 25/7, 28/7, 1/8, 4/8, 15/8, 25/8 30/6, 7/7, 14/7, 19/7, 21/7, 28/7, 2/8, 4/8, 16/8, 23/8, 25/8, 30/8	2.00pm – 3.00pm	Mdm Chong SY	Please refer to consent forms issued
P4 -International Students "Travel with My Local Buddy" to Philatelic Museum	14/7	1.00pm - 5.00pm	Ms Qiu YY	Selected pupils
P4 CL Cultural Performance Exposure Scheme	22/7	1.30pm- 5pm	Mdm Tan WF	P4 CL pupils

Activities	Dates	Time	Teacher I/C	Remarks
P4 Dyslexia Remediation (Selected pupils)	Mon- 27/6, 11/7, 18/7, 25/7, 1/8, 15/8, 22/8, 29/8 Tue-2-3pm 28/6, 19/7, 2/8, 23/8 Tue-2-4pm 12/7*, 26/7*, 16/8*, 30/8* Wed- 29/6, 13/7, 20/7, 27/7, 3/8, 17/8, 24/8, 31/8 Thu- 30/6, 7/7, 14/7, 21/7, 28/7, 4/8, 11/8, 25/8	2.00pm - 3.00pm **Timing for some of the dates reflected 2.00pm- 4.00pm **	Ms Sanly Poh, Mdm Nurwati, Mdm Azlina	Please refer to consent forms issued
Nanjing School Visit (P5)	7/7, 8/7	Curriculum Time	Mrs Ong	
P5 Learning Journey to Gardens by the Bay	12/7 (P5-4, P5-5) 19/7 (P5-1, P5-2) 26/7 (P5-3)	2.00pm - 4.30pm	Mr Andrew Koh	
P5 National Education Show	16/7, Sat	2.30pm -10.15pm	Ms Lee LM	
P5 Blood Pressure programme	26/7 - 29/7	Curriculum Time	Mdm Joyce Liew	
P3 - P6 Remedial/Supplementary	Mon- 27/6, 11/7, 18/7, 25/7, 1/8, 15/8, 22/8^ , 29/8 Tue- 28/6*, 12/7,19/7, 2/8, 16/8, 23/8^ Thurs- 30/6, 7/7, 14/7, 21/7, 28/7, 4/8, 25/8^	2.15pm - 4.15pm 2.15pm - 3.15pm (Session 1) 3.15pm – 4.15pm (Session 2) 2.15pm – 3.15pm	Respective subject HODs	Please refer to consent forms issued by the respective teachers *28/6 for P6 only ^22/8, 23/8, 25/8 excludes P6 classes
CCA (P3 – P5)				
Mondays: Selected CCAs	27/6, 11/7, 18/7, 25/7, 1/8, 15/8, 22/8, 29/8	3.15pm – 5.15pm	Mr Morris Koh	Please refer to consent forms issued by the respective teachers
Thursdays: Selected CCAs	30/6, 7/7, 14/7, 21/7, 28/7, 4/8,11/8, 25/8	3.15pm – 5.15pm	Mr Morris Koh	

Activities	Dates	Time	Teacher I/C	Remarks
Tests and Examinations				
P1 Holistic Assessment - English • LC • Mini Test - Mathematics - Mother Tongue • Show & Tell • Reading Aloud • Mini Test	12/8 15/8 29/7, 26/8 19/7, 20/7, 21/7 2/8, 3/8 17/8	Curriculum Time	Respective subject HODs	
P2 Holistic Assessment - English • LC • Mini Test - Mathematics - Mother Tongue • Show & Tell • Mini Test	12/8 23/8 3/8, 26/8 19/7, 20/7, 21/7 16/8	Curriculum Time	Respective subject HODs	
P6 Prelim Oral EL/FEL, MT/FMT	26/7, 27/7	2.00pm – 4.30pm	Respective subject HODs	
P6 Prelim LC EL/FEL, MT/FMT	17/8	Curriculum Time		
P6 PSLE Oral	18/8, 19/8	Curriculum Time		No School for P1-P5 pupils
P6 Prelim EL/FEL Paper 1 & 2	22/8	Curriculum Time		
P6 Prelim MA Paper 1 & 2 FSC	23/8	Curriculum Time		
P6 Prelim MT Paper 1 & 2 FMT	24/8	Curriculum Time		
P6 Prelim SC FMA Paper 1 & 2	25/8	Curriculum Time		
P6 Prelim HMT Paper 1 & 2	26/8	Curriculum Time		
P3 GEP Screening Test	26/8	Curriculum Time		Ms Chia SH
School Holidays				
September Holidays	3/9 – 11/9			
P6 Supplementary	6/9, 7/9	8.00am –12.00pm	Mdm Janice Leong	