

24 March 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings from ACS(J).

We welcome our boys back to school after the one-week break and are heartened to learn that many of them have made use of the holidays to rest, relax and recharge for the new school term. In Term 2, we will be focusing on our school values of **Integrity, Excellence and Collaboration**. We hope that our boys will continuously practise these values both in school and at home.

We are grateful for the strong support of our parents, parent volunteers and Parent Support Group as we resume all school activities and learning programmes this year. My staff and I look forward to another term of working closely with you to nurture our boys holistically.

### **Anchored in Purpose**

### 1. Anchored in Tradition - Founder's Day

Our school celebrated our 137<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day on 1 March 2023 with a Thanksgiving Service and Academic Awards Presentation. Our Guest-of-Honour was Dr Wong Heng Yu, Distinguished Old Boy and Member of ACS Board of Governors. This year, we are thankful to be able to hold our Founder's Day celebrations in person at the Tang Choon Keng Performing Arts Hall and witness the inspiring performances from our Choir, Concert Band and String Orchestra. As part of the celebrations, Dr Wong also officiated the opening of our ACSian Heritage Trail. The trail tells the ACS(J) story, set against the backdrop of our nation's history, and aims to foster in our boys a sense of pride and belonging to the school.

Through the programmes and activities lined up for both the Internal Founder's Day and Founder's Day celebrations, our students were given platforms to reflect on our school theme, **Anchored in Purpose**, and how the school values will keep them rooted whenever they face challenges.

We thank God for His faithfulness and love for each one of us in the ACS(J) family, and pray for His continued blessings and favour upon our school.

# 2. Anchored in Strong Friendships - Friendship Week@ACS(J) (27 - 31 March 2023) & International Friendship Day (3 - 6 April 2023)

To build a caring and enabling school environment where our students feel safe, accepted, empowered and competent, we have introduced many activities and touchpoints through our dynamic Peer Support Programme. Beginning with Orientation Week (in Term 1 Week 1) and throughout Term 1, our boys had many opportunities to interact and bond, and form positive relationships with one another. To further strengthen social networks in the classrooms, we will be celebrating **Friendship Week@ACS(J)** in Term 2 Week 2. The interactive activities planned for the week will allow our boys to learn how to be a better friend to others, help those in need and influence their peers to do right.

Beyond forging friendships within the school community, we also actively engage our boys to understand Singapore's need to forge friendships with its Asian neighbours, to facilitate closer economic, political, social, and cultural cooperation. Through this year's International

Friendship Day theme "Singapore in Asia", our boys will explore Singapore's role in facilitating cooperation within ASEAN and in Asia. As they learn about the cultures of other countries in the region, they will reflect on their roles in promoting the spirit of friendship and collaboration, and develop an appreciation for the contributions of foreigners in Singapore.

### Primary 6 National Education Quiz (27 - 31 March 2023)

3. Every year, all Primary 6 students are required to complete the National Education Quiz. The quiz focuses on the acquisition of basic knowledge of Singapore that students have learnt about throughout their primary school years. This year, the quiz will be conducted during Social Studies lessons. A make-up session will be arranged for students who are absent on the day of the quiz.

# Early Dismissal for Muslim Staff and Students (21 April 2023) and School Holiday-in-Lieu of Hari Raya Puasa (24 April 2023)

4. This year, Hari Raya Puasa falls on Saturday, 22 April 2023. **Monday, 24 April 2023 will be a school holiday**.

On Friday, 21 April 2023, all Muslim staff and students may leave school at 10.30am. If you would like to bring your son back at 10.30am in preparation for the festival, please inform your son's Form Teachers and pick him up at the school's General Office.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Muslim staff and students and their families **Selamat Hari Raya Aidifiltri**.

# **ACS (Independent) Outreach to Primary 6 Parents and Students**

5. To support all Primary 6 students and parents in making an informed choice on ACS (Independent)'s O-Level or Integrated Programme tracks, ACS(I) will be holding a Principal's Talk. Details of the talk are as follows:

Venue	Centre for Performing Arts 2 - ACS(I) 121 Dover Road, Singapore 139650		
Date	Wednesday, 5 April 2023		
Time	3.30pm		

There will also be an ACS(I) Open House on Saturday, 15 April 2023 from 8.30am to 12.30pm. Parents and students can look forward to a comprehensive tour of the school campus and detailed information on its academic programmes, co-curricular activities, and student services at the Open House.

## Digital Version of the ACS echo Publication

The ACS echo connects the ACS family of schools as One ACS. We are pleased to inform you
that the February - March 2023 issue of ACS echo is now available online at
<a href="https://acsecho.com">https://acsecho.com</a>.

# Meet-the-Parents (MTP) Session (Thursday & Friday, 25 & 26 May 2023)

7. The Mid-Year Meet-the-Parents (MTP) session will take place **on-site** on Thursday and Friday, 25 and 26 May 2023. The MTP session will take the form of a Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC) for all levels. Each student will share about his favourite moment(s) in school for this year, learning dispositions, personal strengths and goals for the rest of 2023. **Your child must be present with you at the session**.

- 8. All students <u>will not report</u> to school on the two days stated **except during their selected PCTC timeslot**. There will be SLS assignments for students to complete in their own time at home.
- 9. The Form Teachers will provide you with more details, including the booking of the PCTC sessions, via Parents Gateway in May 2023. We seek your understanding that there is **no make-up session** if you are unable to attend the PCTC sessions on these two designated days.

### **Staff Affirmation**

10. The 26<sup>th</sup> Distinguished Chinese Language Teachers Awards is open for nominations. This award seeks to recognise deserving Chinese Language Teachers who have inspired students to have an interest in Chinese language and culture and have used creative and engaging teaching methods and/or learning activities with their students. All winners will receive a trophy and cash prize of \$1500. If you would like to nominate your son's Chinese Language Teacher for this award, please refer to the instructions below.

Award	Organiser	Details of nomination	Closing Date
Distinguished Chinese	Lianhe Zaobao and ZBSchools, Singapore	Nominations can be done online at	30 April 2023
Language Teachers	Centre for Chinese Language, The Society	https://bit.ly/dclta2023	
Awards 2023	of Chinese Education Singapore, Singapore Middle School Chinese Teachers' Association and	Should you have any queries, you may contact yangjie@sph.com.sg	
	Singapore Chinese Tea chers' Union, with support from Ministry of Education.		

I wish you and all our boys a blessed Term 2. To God Be The Glory, The Best Is Yet To Be!

Yours faithfully

Miss Cheryl Chee Principal