

21 February 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

- 1. As we celebrate the 136th Founder's Day on 1st March, we thank God for His blessings and faithfulness for the school from year to year. God has continued to bless us richly with strong academic and co-curricular endeavours, and a strong community spirit. We are reminded that God's love extends to all our boys and that ACS(J) is a family united in God's love. We thank and praise God for his continued goodness and favour upon the school.
- 2. We are pleased and honoured to have Mr Choe Peng Sum, Distinguished Old Boy and Chief Executive Officer of Pan Pacific Hotels Group, as our Guest-of-Honour (GOH) on this special occasion. Anchored on the theme, *Build to Last*, the school celebrates 136 years with a Thanksgiving Service and a series of class-based activities to encourage our boys to reflect on the rich history and heritage to which they belong. The GOH will officiate the opening of our newly renovated school library and give out the academic achievement awards to our boys on that day.

Farewell to our Vice-Principal, Mr Richard Chris Chia

3. Our Vice-Principal, Mr Chia, will be leaving ACS(J) to embark on the Leaders in Education Programme (LEP) at the National Institute of Education from 21 March 2022. In his 4 years with ACS(J), Mr Chia has played in key role in strengthening many of the school processes, particularly in the area of Teaching and Learning, and Staff Development. He led in the school's strategic planning and customised validation exercises and supported many of the professional learning teams to encourage collaboration among staff. He has made a positive impact on the boys and staff with his nurturing and mentoring approach. We wish him God's blessings as he begins a new chapter of his leadership journey.

Safe Management Measures

Vaccination Appointment Booking for Primary Schools

- 4. We would like to encourage parents/guardians who have yet to sign up for your child's/ward's vaccination to do so, if he is medically eligible, to protect yourselves and your family. A high vaccination rate will enable us to resume more activities that are important for our students' all-round development and a rich school life. We thank you for your support in keeping our children and school safe.
- 5. You can register your child/ward through the National Appointment System (NAS) via the unique booking link that was sent to you earlier. If you did not receive the booking link or encounter issues with the link, you can register your interest on the MOH National Appointment System (NAS) at child.vaccine.gov.sg. With effect from 25 January, your

child/ward will also be able to walk in with you to any paediatric vaccination centre to receive his first COVID-19 vaccination without the need for a prior appointment.

Reporting of Positive Cases

6. We seek your support to please inform the Form Teachers if your child/ward tests either PCR or ART positive.

TraceTogether (TT) Tokens

- 7. To facilitate contact tracing, students should bring their TT tokens to school daily. Students should carry their TT tokens to form the good habit of having their tokens with them at all times. Please ensure that your child's TT token is in working order and get a replacement if his token is faulty/out of battery.
- 8. Parents can collect TT tokens for their children from any Community Centre/Club. Singaporeans and Permanent Residents who are collecting their tokens for the first time can also request for the TT token to be delivered via post. Details can be found at token.gowhere.gov.sg.

Chinese New Year Celebration

9. The festive mood was definitely in the air as the teachers and students collaborated to decorate their classes creatively in the weeks leading up to Chinese New Year. Amid blazes and flashes of red, celebrations to usher in the Year of the Tiger filled the atmosphere of ACS(J) on 31 January, when students and staff were treated to a variety of online activities. Our student emcees, the Chinese Speech and Drama students and Prefect Council led the school in an engaging morning of celebrations. Our students also learnt about Chinese cultures and traditions beyond the classroom through the online ACS(J) Borderless Classroom programme where students from Wuxi, China interacted with our boys and shared how they celebrated the festive season. It was heart-warming to see the students displaying joy of learning in these activities enthusiastically.

MOE Innovation Programme

10. The school participated in the MOE Innovation Programme (IvP) organised by the Gifted Education Branch for the very first time in 2021. Our boys displayed curiosity, excellence and resilience during the eight months' of preparation, as they sought to identify real-life problems and generate creative solutions and prototypes for these problems. The Innovation-Mentors from Institutes of Higher Learning also gave positive feedback on the creative ideas and inventions from our teams. Two of the projects were featured at the Young Innovators Online Fair 2021. These projects are:

Name of Project	Team members	Link to view project	
Steprate Tracker	Caleb Ong Jia Le (6.4) Elijah Choo Zhong Yi (6.4) James William Friedman (6.4)	https://sites.googl e.com/view/ivp- fair-2021/project- galleries/primary- ivp- gallery/steprate- tracker?authuser= 0	
Anywhere Table	Jonathan Evan See (6.4) Lim You Kai (6.8) Lim Zhan Xu Hayden (6.8)	https://sites.googl e.com/view/ivp- fair-2021/project- galleries/primary- ivp- gallery/anywhere- table?authuser=0	

Digital Version of the ACS echo Publication

11. The ACS echo connects the ACS family of schools as One ACS. Students, parents and alumni may now enjoy free online access to the ACS echo, available at https://acsecho.com Copies of the echo magazine (Issue Feb to Mar 2022) will be distributed to our Primary 1 and Primary 2 boys. Primary 3 to Primary 6 boys may read the magazine in their class libraries or access the soft copy online.

Inspiring Teacher of English Award

- 12. The Inspiring Teacher of English Award is a national award for English teachers in Singapore schools that acknowledges teachers who ignite a love for English language, and are effective in helping their students speak and write accurately. These teachers are passionate about making English interesting and relevant to their students, and are innovative in engaging their students to help them learn English better. The award salutes these teachers for their continual learning and constant efforts to upgrade themselves to benefit their students and schools.
- 13. If this sounds like a teacher you know in ACS(J), please nominate him/her for the Inspiring Teacher of English Award. Nomination forms for the Teaching Award can be downloaded from http://goodenglish.org.sg/inspiring-teacher-of-english-award/nomination-information. All students, their parents, and teachers are invited to send in nominations for the Teaching Award to Ms Lee May Po at lee may po@schools.gov.sg by 6pm on 28 March 2022. Alternatively, your son/ward can submit the nomination form at the ACS(J) school reception.

Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise 2022

14. The Ministry of Education will be carrying out the identification of students for the Gifted Education Programme in 2023. There are two stages – Screening and Selection – for this identification exercise. The tentative schedule is shown in the table below.

Stage	Date	Participants
GEP Screening Exercise	17 August 2022 (Wednesday)	Primary 3 students enrolled in the school
GEP Selection Exercise	18 & 19 October 2022 (Tuesday & Wednesday)	Primary 3 students shortlisted after the GEP Screening Exercise

15. For the Screening and Selection exercise, students will be required to work on questions based on what they have learnt from Primary 1 to Primary 3 in the English Language and Mathematics syllabuses. The school will ensure that the topics are adequately covered before the exercise.

Cyber Wellness - Being Respectful, Safe & Responsible Users of Technology

- 16. It is imperative that our students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to be safe and responsible users of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as we develop them to be future ready. As part of our Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) curriculum where various learning activities are conducted throughout the year, awareness of Cyber Wellness (CW) issues is core to the well-being of our students as they harness ICT while maintaining a positive presence in cyberspace.
- 17. In ACS(J), CW education is conducted through workshops, talks and class activities such as CCE lessons (Form Teacher Guidance Period and Mother Tongue Language). Students learn to be respectful, safe and responsible users of technology and be a positive peer influence advocating for the good of the community online. We believe that through our joint effort, we can guide our students to adopt the right values and attitude when using technology and better support their well-being as they navigate the cyber world. To find out more about the CW Curriculum and resources, please visit the following website https://www.moe.gov.sg/programmes/cyber-wellness

CCA Matters

18. We would like to congratulate our boys who have put in a lot of effort to prepare and train for the following competition:

National Schools (Team) Online Chess Championship 2021

Under 8 category 1st

Under 10 category 9th

Under 12 category 9th

Track & Field and Swim Championship

19. As out-of-school activities remain suspended for primary schools, we will not be having the above school event in 2022. Instead, the boys will participate in inter-class competitions within the cohort during curriculum time later in the year. Instructions will be given to the boys during curriculum time and there is no additional action or registration required from parents.

Primary 5 Camp

20. The P5 Camp previously planned for 23 to 25 March will be postponed to 29 June, 30 June and 1 July in accordance with MOE guidelines on cohort camps for primary schools. In view of the postponement of the camp, the school curriculum will continue according to the P5 class timetable from 23 to 25 March. More details about the P5 Camp will be provided at a later date.

Travel Declaration for March Holidays

- 21. To ensure schools continue to be a healthy and safe environment for all, we require parents/guardians to make a travel declaration for your child/ward only if he intends to travel for the March holidays. A nil return is not required.
- 22. To make your travel declaration through Parents Gateway (PG), go to [SERVICE > DECLARE TRAVELS]. Please declare your child/ward's travel plan(s), indicating both the country and city of travel, and any city of transit, by 4 March 2022 (Friday). Only one parent is required to make the declaration.
- 23. If there is a change of travel plan(s) after declaration, please inform the school directly.
- 24. My staff and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our parents/guardians an enjoyable break in March. May you have a restful and wonderful time as a family. Take care, and stay safe!

Yours sincerely

Ms Cheryl Chee Principal