



BEDOK GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Empowered Learners, Persons of Strength & Character

BGPS/49/21

12 March 2021

Dear Parents/ Guardians

Term 2 Message from the Principal

The past 10 weeks of Term One have flown by in an instant! I am pleased to report that we have managed to start 2021 smoothly with well-established safe management measures in school. Our teachers have been able to focus on conducting engaging and innovative lessons while ensuring that the school and classroom environment is inviting and conducive for learning. With the experiences and lessons learned from 2020, we have found new ways and reformatted old ones to role-model for our students what it means to teach in the midst of COVID-19. Likewise, students need to build resilience and adaptability like their teachers, to discover new ways to learn and persevere in learning for life.

As announced in the media on 8 March, 150 000 education staff will be offered the COVID-19 vaccine from 10 March. I have since taken the first dosage on 11 March and am pleased to share that it was painless, fuss-free and smooth-sailing. Similarly, I have encouraged all my staff who are eligible for the vaccine to undergo the nationwide vaccination programme in the days to come, and hopefully, this will be another step forward in our collective fight against COVID-19 to protect ourselves and our loved ones, including the students whom we come into contact with on a daily basis. Likewise, I encourage all parents to do the same when the vaccine is eventually offered to you.



A few weeks ago, I received a phone call from our Deputy Prime Minister and Advisor for East Coast GRC, Mr Heng Swee Keat, regarding an enthusiastic Bedok South resident who is an avid butterfly lover and breeder. Very quickly, we managed to forge a partnership to breed Lime Butterflies for our school gardens and to complement the P4 Science and P2 EL curriculum. Despite the initial failures in breeding the Lime Butterflies, our Science teachers, together with the students, kept persisting in overcoming their disappointment and are now excited at the soon-to-be-birthed

butterflies. It is through these exciting lessons and experiences that learning becomes more meaningful and enriching, and I am grateful that your child is enthusiastic about school. Thank you for your support for your child's learning and ensuring your child's good attendance this term.

We have launched the school-wide Leader in Me programme with the explicit teaching of habits to empower learning. We will also continue to emphasise the importance of leadership, character and citizenship education. I hope you will continue to guide your child on living out the 7 habits at home and everywhere they go. In promoting our students' voice, we have introduced a Bubble Box initiative and encouraged students to contribute good ideas for school improvements and in enhancing student well-being. We are heartened to note that our students have posted good suggestions and we value them. One suggestion, contributed by Li Yue (P6 Resilience), was about switching back to 30-minute recesses as it will really support student well-being. Another suggestion, contributed by Jayden Wang (P6 Resilience), was about re-opening the school library for walk-ins during recess if recess is going to be extended to 30 minutes. I am pleased to announce that we have considered their suggestions very carefully and will be implementing these in Term 2. I have also explained to students that with every suggestion, there will be trade-offs, so it is important to think carefully about what will really work best and bring benefits for the larger good.

I am delighted to welcome the following teachers to our BGPS family – Mdm Siti Nur Akashah Bte Mustaffa, Ms Danielle Rachel Chong, Ms Jubilee Lim and Ms Nur 'Aliah Binte Dafir. Ms Chong, Ms Lim and Ms Nur 'Aliah have been on practicum with us since the beginning of 2021 and will bolster our ranks as full-fledged teachers with effect from 15 March 2021.

I seek your continued partnership with us, for together, we can make a difference for the positive learning experience for our students. Despite the travel restrictions, I hope you will plan for a restful March break with your family and look forward to welcoming your child to the new school term. Your feedback is always welcome, and I can be reached at bgps@moe.edu.sg.

Upcoming Events/ Activities

We wish to highlight the following information for your attention.

	Event	Date	Level Involved	Details
1	P4 Day Camp (non-residential)	30 to 31 March	P4	Your child will be given a letter with the information on P4 Camp.
2	Home-Based Learning	1 April	All	The HBL schedule and learning instructions will be provided by the week of 29 March. Parents will be updated via Parents Gateway.

3	Online Parent Child Teacher Conference (PCTC)	1 April	P2 to P6	<p>In light of the COVID-19 situation, PCTC 2021 will be adapted to avoid mass gathering and minimize inter-mingling.</p> <p>The Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC) for P2 to P6 students will be held online through video conferencing. Parents will need to book a 15-minute slot with the form teacher via Parents Gateway to be admitted for this session. More details on the conduct of the PCTC will be provided nearer to date.</p>
4	Good Friday	2 April		Public Holiday
5	P4 Chinese Cultural Camp (non-residential)	9 April	P4 CL Students	Held in conjunction with Mother Tongue Language Fortnight
6	Weighted Assessments	Term 2	P3 & P5	Your child will be given a letter with the details on Weighted Assessment in Term 2 Week 3.
7	Semestral Assessment 1	Term 2	P4 & P6	<p>Component Papers comprising Oral, Listening Comprehension and Composition will be conducted from 19 April to 29 April.</p> <p>Main Papers comprising English Paper 2, Mathematics, Science and Higher Mother Tongue will be conducted from 7 May to 18 May. Your child will be given a letter with details of SA1 in Term 2 Week 1.</p>
8	Labour Day (off-in-lieu)	3 May		School Holiday
9	Hari Raya Puasa	13 May		Public Holiday
10	Vesak Day	26 May		Public Holiday
11	Subject-Based Banding (SBB) Briefing	Term 2	P4	Information on P4 SBB, P5/6 DSA and PSLE matters on P6 will be posted on the school website.
12	Direct School Admission (DSA) Talk	Term 2	P5 & P6	For P5/6 DSA and PSLE matters, there will be a QnA session via zoom on 1 April. More information will be provided by Term 2 Week 1.
13	PSLE Briefing	Term 2	P6	
14	Open House	May 2021	Potential P1 2022 students	In view of the Covid-19 situation, publicity materials will be put up on the school website and school's Facebook page. Materials will also be distributed to kindergartens.

Borrowing of books from the library

As part of the school's efforts to promote reading among students, we strongly encourage them to borrow books from the school library. Please note that your child is entitled to borrow two books (preferably one English Language and one Mother Tongue Language) for a period of 14 days. Every student should be responsible for the books they have borrowed. We seek your help in reminding your child to take good care of the school library books and return them before the due date. Should your child misplace the books, he/she would have to replace them. With the return to

30-minute recesses in Term 2, we have also received feedback from students to re-open the library during recesses for walk-ins, and will be making plans to do so while ensuring safe management measures.

National Library Board (NLB) Membership

If your child is not a member of the National Library Board (NLB), we strongly encourage you to register him/her so that he/she can take part in various reading activities organized jointly by the school and NLB. To register your child as a member, you can proceed directly to any public library or visit NLB's website to do an online registration at <https://account.nlb.gov.sg>.

Recess Timings and Dismissal Timings

With effect from Monday, 22 March, we will be acting on feedback received from parents and students to return to 30-minute recesses for all six levels to allow them to have sufficient time to interact with friends and to enjoy recess. For their well-being, we have also adjusted the snack timings and we hope you can ensure that your child brings healthy snacks to school. In ensuring that students do not intermingle across levels, we will need to adjust the recess timings of P1 students. Please guide your child to adapt to the new recess and dismissal timings. The following table shows the new timings for recess and dismissal.

Level	Recess Timing	Snack Timing	Dismissal Timing
P1	0830 to 0900 h	1100 h	1315 h
P2	0900 to 0930 h	1100 h	1320 h
P3	0930 to 1000 h	1100 h	1325 h
P4	1000 to 1030 h	0830 h	1330 h
P5	1030 to 1100 h	0900 h	1335 h
P6	1100 to 1130 h	0900 h	1340 h

We seek parents' cooperation to wait at the designated areas for P1 parents during dismissal at their respective areas at Gate 4 and Gate 5. **All P1 classes will also be dismissed at the same time at 1315 h** as they are now familiar with dismissal procedures after one term. In ensuring an orderly dismissal, P2 to P6 students are also dismissed from their assigned areas at Gate 4 and Gate 5.

Opening Hours of School Gates

Our new Security Post at Gate 1 will be in operation from 15 March 2021. Please note that from Term 2 onwards, Gate 4 will be closed by 0725 h every morning. All parents and students are to

use Gate 1 to enter the school after 0725 h. Below are the updated timings of the school gate opening hours on weekdays during the March holidays and in Term 2.

	March Holidays (15 March to 19 March) Opening Hours	Term 2 Onwards (from 22 March) Opening Hours
Gate 1	0600 to 1800 h	
Gate 2 (only for drive-in)	No entry except for authorised vehicles	0600 to 0725 h (After 0725 h, no entry except for authorised vehicles)
Gate 3 (vehicular exit)	Closed during March holidays	0600 to 0725 h (Entry for bicycles only)
Gate 4	Closed during March holidays	0630 to 0725 h 1245 to 1400 h
Gate 5	Closed during March holidays	0630 to 0725 h 1300 to 1400 h

Forgetting to Bring Items

We have informed students that they should not trouble their parents/caregivers to bring items that they have forgotten to bring, including pocket money, POSB Smart Watches, water bottles and their lunchboxes. Our security guards have been instructed to turn away any parent/caregiver who come to school for the purpose of delivering the forgotten items to the child. To cultivate the school values of responsibility and resilience, students need to learn to develop habits of remembering what they need to do, and to take responsibility by accepting consequences for their actions. The school has numerous water cooler points at the canteen and at the classroom blocks. For pocket money, they can approach their form teachers or the General Office to borrow money for their recess and return the money the next day.

Discipline in School and Outside of School

Our Student Development Team advocates a whole-school approach towards students' holistic development and well-being. As such, the school takes a serious view on discipline. Please communicate and reiterate the desired behaviours of your child in school and outside of school. Strict disciplinary measures and actions will be undertaken when students cross the line and flout the school rules. We look forward to your close monitoring and supervision of your child after school.

Please refer to our school website at <http://www.bedokgreenpri.moe.edu.sg> regularly for any updates.

We look forward to another term of good partnership with you and your child.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benjamin Yong', written in a cursive style.

Mr Benjamin Yong
Principal