

BLANGAH RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians

It is certainly a joy to welcome our students back, even though it is a cautious phased return for the new term.

Towards the end of term 2, it wasn't so clear what was coming ahead as all schools had to shift to Full Home-Based Learning (FHBL) for the last 2 weeks. In fact, our former Minister of Education Mr Lawrence Wong had said that Singapore was on a knife-edge and that the country's Covid-19 community case numbers could go either way over the next few weeks. There was uncertainty and some anxiety as we started a new phase of Heightened Alert, which felt much like the difficult Circuit Breaker we all went through at about the same period last year.

During our FHBL, we invited Mr Clarence Chew, Singapore's first local-born male athlete to qualify for Table-Tennis in the Olympics, to share in an online assembly session with our students. Clarence spoke about his ups and downs in pursuing his Olympic dream, and what he shared not only inspired our students to pursue their own dreams but also give us food for thought in the midst of the uncertain times we are in.

Clarence shared about the sacrifices he had to make to improve himself so that he could qualify for the Olympics. Sacrifice is a loss or something you give up, usually for the sake of a better cause. It is important for children to always have "better causes" in mind because that will motivate the sometimes difficult choices or effort they have to make. If nothing else, the pandemic has taught us the need for sacrifices for both personal and the common good. This is true also in other aspects of life. Through the sacrifices, like Clarence, we will also learn to grow our skills and improve ourselves.

In closing the sharing session, Clarence encouraged our students to "always have a little faith and belief. When you are facing defeat and tough times, always believe in yourself. Only with that belief can you work harder and turn defeat into success." To believe that you always have something more to give can be a game changer. The impact of that "little faith and belief" may not usually be immediate, but little by little it will change you first before changing your situation.

We will undoubtedly confront new challenges and uncertainties ahead, but if we are prepared to sacrifice for a better cause and have a little faith in ourselves, we put ourselves at a better starting point for success.

1. Precautionary Measures in Term 3

To ease into full resumption of physical schooling in Term 3 Week 2, Kindergarten and Primary school students will return according to the following schedule:

	Term 3 Week 1		Term 3 Week 2
	From Monday (28 June 2021)	From Thursday (1 July 2021)	From Tuesday (6 July 2021)*
MOE Kindergarten	K1, K2		
Primary School	P4, P5, P6		P1, P2, P3

^{*5} July (Mon) is a school holiday (Youth Day).

P1 – P3 students will be on Home-based Learning in the first week of Term 3.

We seek your assistance and support in the following important social responsibility:

- Students should not go to school:
 - o If students or individuals (6 years old and above) in their household are unwell with flu-like symptoms.
 - If students or their household members are required to undergo mandatory testing due to a COVID-19 cluster.
 - o If students are placed on AA, LOA, Stay Home Notice, or under a Quarantine Order. Please alert us if your child/ward belongs to any of the above categories.
- If your child/ward is down with flu-like symptoms, he/she should stay away from school and seek medical attention immediately and undergo a COVID-19 swab test;
- Students should continue to adhere to cleaning routines and personal hygiene habits (e.g. handwashing, wipe down of personal space)

2. Upcoming Events in Term 3

DATE	EVENT	REMARKS
30 Jun - 1 Jul	P1 Phase 1 Registration	
Mon 5 Jul	School Holiday - Youth Day	
6 – 16 Jul	Mother Tongue Fortnight	During Mother Tongue Language lessons
7 – 14 Jul	Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) Week for P1 to P5 students	
12, 19 Jul, 2, 30 Aug	Chinese Junior Reporter Programme	
16 Jul – 6 Aug	ALP - P1 Robotics	During PAL lessons
Tue 20 Jul	Public Holiday - Hari Raya Haji	
22 - 23 Jul	P6 Prelim Oral	After school
Mon 9 Aug	Public Holiday - National Day	
Tue 10 Aug	School Holiday - National Day	
12 – 13 Aug	PSLE Oral Exam	P1 - P5 students are not
		required to come to school.
		They will complete tasks
		assigned by teachers at home.
16 – 27 Aug	ALP - P1 and P3	During curriculum hours
18 Aug	P3 GEP Screening Test	
19 Aug	P6 Prelim Listening Comprehension	After school
23 - 27 Aug	P6 Prelim Exams	
23 – 26 Aug	P3 Young Photographers	After school.
		Please refer to letter which will be given later via Parents Gateway.
2 Sep	Teachers' Day Celebration	
Fri 3 Sep	School Holiday – Teachers' Day	
6 - 7 Sep	P6 Supplementary Lessons	
6 - 12 Sep	Term 3 School Holiday Break	

3. Weighted Assessments

In view of the FHBL which took place during the last 2 weeks of Term 2 that disrupted the schedule for weighted assessments, there will be a revision to the schedule in Semester 2 for all Primary 3 to Primary 5 students. More details will be given later

4. Removal of Common Last Topics (CLTs) for 2021 PSLE Mathematics and Foundation Mathematics as well as Science and Foundation Science

To support the wellbeing of our P6 students, who also have to familiarise themselves with the new PSLE Achievement Level scoring system, MOE and SEAB will remove the Common Last Topics for Mathematics and Science for the 2021 PSLE.

The Common Last Topics to be removed are as follows:

Subjects	Common Last Topics (CLTs)
PSLE Mathematics	Speed, Volume, Pie Charts, Solid Figures and Nets (The Primary 6 content of these topics will not be examined in 2021 PSLE Mathematics.)
PSLE Foundation Mathematics	Geometry, Pie Charts, Volume (The Primary 6 content of these topics will not be examined in 2021 PSLE Foundation Mathematics.)
PSLE Science and Foundation Science	Interactions within the Environment comprising Living Together, Food Chains and Food Webs, Adaptations and Man's Impact on His Environment

The school will complete the necessary syllabus to ensure that our P6 students are well-prepared for the PSLE. We will cover the CLTs during the post exam period so that our students will also be prepared as they progress into secondary schools.

5. Inquiry Based Learning (IBL) Week for Primary 1 to 5 students: 7 to 14 July

IBL is a teaching and learning approach which aims to provide students with the opportunity to be active learners by posing questions, problems or scenarios. In this learning process, there would be greater emphasis on students' questions, ideas and observations. Therefore, our students would be actively encouraged to engage in self-directed learning, share their thoughts, refine ideas and observations. Our students will also have the opportunity to leverage on technology for self-directed and collaborative learning such as learning about the topic/concepts through research, working on tasks or providing valuable feedback on their peers' works through Student Learning Space (SLS). We hope that the IBL activities would spark curiosity in our students, help them make new connections to their knowledge and understanding, and apply the learning to authentic situations.

6. LLP - Animals' Corner @BRPS

Look out for our Animals' Corner in Term 3. The setting up of the corner is part of the school's effort to equip students with socio-emotional skills and leadership qualities. We inculcate virtues such as care, respect and empathy to create a lasting impact on the students' personal and interpersonal growth through the school's Learning for Life Programme (LLP).

Research shows that interactions with animals can actually improve children's social interaction, reduce stress and anxiety and increase motivation and learning. Having pets like rabbits, fish, butterflies, bull frogs and insects like leaf insect and stick insect on the school's premises lifts the children's spirits, lessens tensions and fosters responsibility because the children are so keen to interact with the animals. It is also an invaluable resource in supporting and enriching children's learning. The opportunity to observe, interact and learn about animals not only enrich their learning about nature, ecology and relationships, it also inspires them on their learning and discovery journeys as children will be curious to find out more about the animals.

7. 2021 Primary One Registration Exercise (For Admission to Primary One in 2022)

The registration of children for admission to P1 classes in 2022 will open from **Wednesday**, **30 June 2021 to Friday**, **29 October 2021**. Parents are encouraged to prepare early and regularly check the P1 Registration Exercise website for the latest updates on the registration exercise and the documents required for registration, including registration for overseas Singaporeans.

For clarifications or assistance, please contact us at 62717387 or email us at brps@moe.edu.sg.

More information can be found in the links below:

https://www.moe.gov.sg/primary/p1-registration

https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/press-releases/20210520-2021-primary-one-registration-exercise-to-start-from-30-june-2021

Wishing you a good term ahead and do continue to keep safe.

Yours sincerely

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Francis Foo Principal