



# CANTONMENT TIMES 2023

## (SEMESTER 2)



## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

I express my sincere appreciation to all staff who have contributed to our Cantonment Times, which is a delightful platform to share all the wonderful learning experiences of our students with parents.

Semester 2 also saw the students engaged in a plethora of interesting and purposeful activities through which they were able to live out the school values and sharpen the 7 Habits they have learned in their 'Leader In Me' lessons.

Time and again we count our parents to make possible the activities planned by our teachers. We are truly happy to be able to work in partnership with the members of the PSG to create memorable moments for our students while they are in CPS. Thanks to parents who have acceded to school's requests to share with our graduating students about the demands and joys of the careers they were pursuing. It has broadened our students' perspectives about careers and created the awareness of the availability of multiple pathways to achieve their dreams.

Our teachers who are instrumental in nurturing and guiding our students have also proven themselves to be great role models in promoting the joy of learning and serving. We are proud to share that 13 Teachers received the MOE Service Excellence Awards, 5 Teams of 15 Teachers shared their professional expertise with the teaching fraternity at the Teachers' Conference and Ms Cassie Siua was the recipient of the OPETA. 4 of our Middle Managers also received Covid 19 Resilience Medals.

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to staff who have left us in 2023. Vice-Principal Mrs Chin who joined CPS in Dec 2017 has left many wonderful memories. Through her love and care, she has impacted many students and staff. She has since 23 October 2023 joined Junyun Primary School as VP. On the behalf of all staff and students, we wish her the very best as she continues in her leadership journey.

We also wish the following colleagues: Ms Siasat, Mdm Wong, Mr Sim, Mr Kumar, Mdm Mumbina, and Mr Caleb, all the best for serving the children with commitment and dedication.

The Cantonment Times is a showcase of the fun and meaningful learning that the students have been enjoying. We strongly believe that with the many opportunities and varied learning experiences that our students go through in CPS, they will indeed become Concerned Citizens Innovative Thinkers and Passionate Learners.

## Mother Tongue Fortnight

The Mother Tongue Language Fortnight is a yearly event for our students. This year, our annual MTL Fortnight was held in Term 3, 4 July 2023 to 14 July 2023 during MTL periods.

The objectives of this programme are to

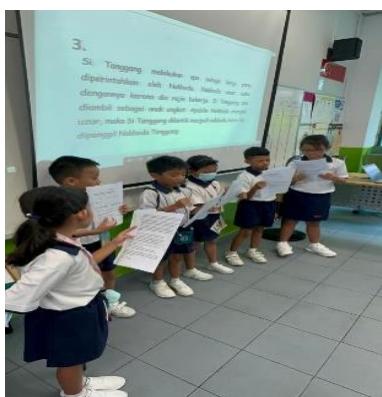
- Promote Active learning in the use of MTL and experience the associated culture
- Create an immersion environment that is fun and conducive for learning, exploration and appreciation of mother tongue language and culture.

Thus, an array of cultural activities of the respective Mother Tongue languages were specially arranged for students over a fortnight.

The Primary 1 students took part in sing-a-long activities. They got the chance to learn and appreciate their own Mother Tongue Language traditional folk songs, understand the lyrics and sing confidently in their own Mother Tongue Language.



The Primary 2 students had the opportunity to listen to stories from their own culture. After understanding the content of the stories, they explored creative ways of retelling the stories and with better articulation in their own mother tongue language.



The Primary 3 theme was on traditional food. Students had great fun using Playdough to create traditional food and got to bring them home upon completion.



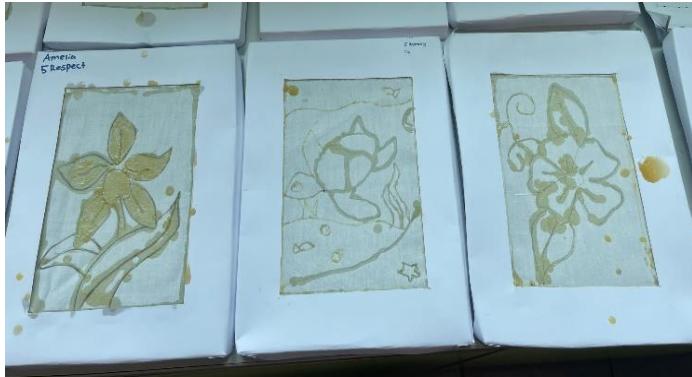
Apart from the classroom activities, the Primary 3 students also took part in a Mother Tongue Language Cultural Camp. The photographs below depict some of the activities that the students participated in during the camp.



Primary 4 Mother Tongue Language Fortnight theme was about traditional games where students got to learn about the history and significance of the traditional games and how play them. They had a fun experience playing these games with their peers as well.



Primary 5 Mother Tongue Language Fortnight theme was about traditional arts in their own culture. Students had hands-on experience of traditional art painting in class and got to keep their completed work as memento.



## P4 Swimsafer Programme

Our enthusiastic Primary 4 cohort embarked on an exciting aquatic journey for 10 weeks in Term 3. This Swimsafer programme initiative, designed to instil water safety skills and foster a love for swimming, proved to be an invaluable experience for our young learners. The programme kicked off with activities focussing on building water confidence. Students engaged in fun-filled games and exercises that gradually introduced them to the aquatic environment.



From water entry techniques to basic floating, the early weeks set a solid foundation for their swimming journey. As the weeks progressed, our students delved into stroke development. Under the guidance of skilled instructors, they honed their freestyle and backstroke techniques. Each lesson was carefully crafted to cater to various skill levels, ensuring that every child progressed at their own pace.



The Swimsafer programme for our Primary 4 cohort was not just about swimming skills; it was a holistic experience that nurtured confidence, instilled safety awareness and promoted a healthy, active lifestyle. As we bid farewell to this 10-weeks aquatic adventure, we are confident that these valuable skills acquired will stay with our students for a lifetime, reminding them to always make a splash in the pool of opportunities.



## PAM Fiesta

The PAM Fiesta is a highly anticipated yearly event dedicated to nurturing a passion for the arts and encouraging a wholesome lifestyle among our students.

Under the banner of "Healthy and Sustainable Existence," this year's event has taken on a meaningful theme. Our students were enthralled by the mesmerizing performances showcased by the Gems Jam competition winners during the assembly. Throughout the recess periods, our students wholeheartedly engaged in a diverse array of enriching activities, embracing the realms of art, music, and physical endeavors with enthusiasm.

As part of our collaboration with NParks in the Singapore Green Plan 2030, 700 over students and parents took part in the national gardening movement to strengthen our food resilience by bringing home a packet of seed packet to grow food plants!



## Celebrating Singapore, Our Multicultural Mosaic

This year, CPS commemorated Racial Harmony Day reiterating the importance of racial and religious harmony in Singapore's multicultural and multi-ethnic society. Over two days, our awesome Parent Volunteers donned different ethnic costumes and showcased our unique cultural diversity and heritage. They set up various booths to engage our students in meaningful activities ranging from craft work to ethnic costume try-outs.

Our celebrations were further led by our student National Education (NE) Ambassadors-Arjun, Bazan and Cynthia from Primary 3. They walked us through how unity in diversity characterises SG's approach to multiculturalism and social cohesion. We also watched an engaging skit that teaches us how diversity goes beyond race and to truly respect one another in spite of our differences.

What a truly unforgettable and impactful Racial Harmony Day!





## National Day Celebration

At Cantonment Primary School, the National Day Celebration is more than just a commemoration; it is a day filled with joy, unity, and a profound connection to our beloved Singapore.

The day kicked off with the school parade square draped with hand held Singapore flags, setting the stage for a memorable celebration. The air buzzed with anticipation as our students and staff, dressed in their spirited colours, gathered for the flag-raising ceremony.



A contingent of students, dressed in their proud green scout uniforms, marched in precision, carrying the school flag and national flag. The rhythmic drumming accompanied their proud strides, creating a visual and auditory spectacle that marked the beginning of a day filled with patriotic feeling.

The national anthem was sung by everyone respectfully followed by the recollections on Singapore's independence which were recited. The solemnity of the moment was not lost on our students, fostering a deep understanding and appreciation for the journey our nation has taken to reach its 58th year of independence.





Following the thoughtful recollections, the school grounds came alive with spirited renditions of our beloved NDP songs. From the infectious beats of 'Count on Me, Singapore' to the heart warming lyrics of 'Shine Your Light', our students and staff showcased their enthusiasm through vibrant voices.

Not only that, as the music resonated through the air and led by the PE teachers and students, the parade square became a vibrant dance floor as everyone's steps synchronised with the beat of the music.



Classrooms transformed into hubs of learning and celebration. Adorned with colourful displays, students engaged in interactive lessons that delved into Singapore's history, traditions, and the values that bind us together.

The National Day Celebration at Cantonment Primary School not only united us as a school community but also reinforced the values that form the bedrock of our nation. Happy 58th Birthday, Singapore! May our flag continue to fly high, and our hearts beat as one.



## **Lower Primary Games Day**

The annual Lower Primary Games Day was held on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> of August 2023 in conjunction with the school's National Day Celebrations. Students in Primary 1 and 2 played two relay games per level and scores were tabulated to determine the top 3 winning classes. As the games progressed, students were seen trying their best in the various games. The Primary 1 and 2 students were highly excited and enthusiastic about the games and displayed excellent discipline and sportsmanship.



The games concluded with the prize-giving ceremony for each level at the multi purpose hall. Mrs Mano, our principal, awarded medals and tokens of participation to the winning and participating classes. Students were applauded for their efforts and encouraged to continue striving for excellence both in sports and character building. The school also sincerely thanked the parent volunteers who graciously rendered their assistance to help make Lower Primary Games Day 2023 a successful and enjoyable experience for the Primary 1 and 2 students.



## Terra Village

Terra Village was held on the 4th of August 2023, Friday, from 3.00 to 5.30pm. It was held after school in two different sessions. The first session, which was from 3.00 to 4.15, was for the P1, P3, and P5 students. The second session, held from 4.15 to 5.30, was for the remaining P2, P4 and P6 students.

Terra Village is a special event to celebrate and learn more about recycling and that is exactly what the students at Cantonment Primary School did! This special event has been meticulously planned for a long time, and much effort has been put into it by many students and prefects. The students set up many different class booths, ranging from carnival game booths, to selling vegetables, worm tea and upcycled handmade products. The P4 students worked hard after school to create accessories and products from upcycled products.



Here are some of the responses of the parents and students we interviewed at the booths.

“My child and I bought some handmade bracelets from this stall, and they’re actually very good quality! I would recommend people to come to this stall!!”

“The quality of the products was quite good, and the service of the students was amazing. I rate this stall 9.5/10”

“The older students were very kind and taught me about why it's important to recycle. I love Terra Village!”

Many parents and students were very satisfied with the upcycled products booths that the P4’s set up. Well done P4’s!

As for the P5 students, they worked together and created fun and exciting carnival games from recycled materials! There were long queues in front of the game booths, telling us that the carnival game booths were a huge success. Here was what the parents and students had to say about these booths.

"I absolutely loved these games, as they were very fun and challenging. This is my third time going to this booth!"



There were also many other booths set up by the prefects, such as the Terrarium making booth, the fishing game, the shooting game and the DJ corner. The peer support leaders also helped with terra village by setting up an eco-garden tour for the parents and students.

Other than selling products and setting up game booths, there were also exhilarating performances on the stage to keep the students entertained. The many exciting performances such as the guitar performance, the angelic voices of the choir and the superb performances by the Gem Jems finalists and International Dance group kept the mood joyous and lively. Here are some of the responses of the parents we interviewed at the exit.



"I learned in Terra Village the importance of preventing climate change through simple actions such as saving water or not wasting food as climate change will affect our lives badly in the future."

"I found Terra Village very fun, and I liked spending time with my children here and learning more about climate change and carbon footprints with them."

"I love the idea of creating a carnival for students to have fun and teaching them about being eco-friendly, and using the money collected to donate for a good cause."

Overall, everyone loved Terra village and found it a meaningful and interesting experience for them. You should go again or come if you haven't next year! (make this line longer and make it sound more professional)

We would like to thank all the teachers, students and parent-support group members who participated in the event. This event would not be the same without you!

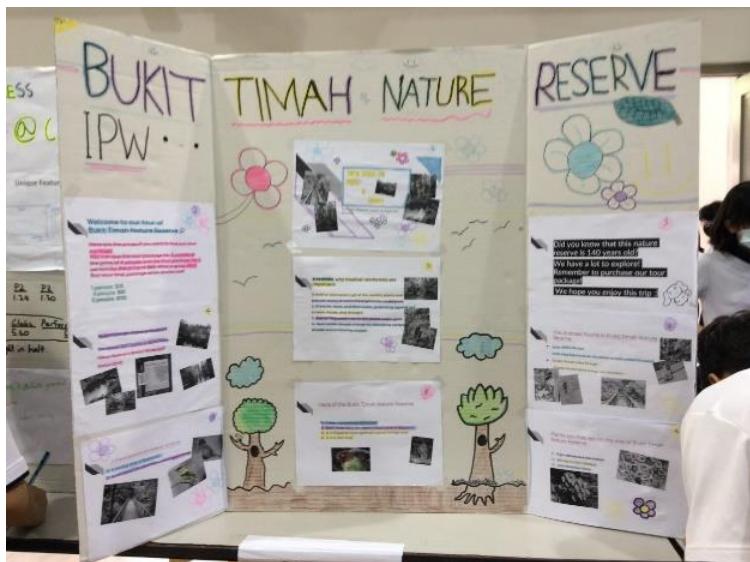
Reported by:

Low Pei-Ynne

Primary 5 Care

## THINKFEST! - Thinking Out of the Box at CPS

On August 25<sup>th</sup> 2023, the multi-purpose hall at Cantonment Primary School buzzed with vibrant energy. The school hosted ThinkFest, an event where students from various classes unveiled their innovative ideas to enhance the school environment. Among the highlights of the day, Primary 5 students took center stage, presenting their interdisciplinary project work (IPW) focusing on the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. Throughout the event, eager judges moved from one booth to another, captivated by the students' presentations.





Amidst the excitement, students and teachers gathered around the booths, offering encouragement and support to the participating teams. I had the opportunity to converse with Emmy Mathew, a presenter from P5 Integrity. She enthusiastically shared her experience of collaborating with her friends to impress the judges. Emmy emphasized the importance of qualities such as kindness and patience when interacting with booth visitors and highlighted the importance of teamwork in ensuring the presentation's success.

The event showcased a flurry of innovative ideas, ranging from a homework robot to a shelter proposal for the basketball court and field. These innovative ideas were complemented by the IPW projects, which featured informative slides about the Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. The atmosphere was charged with creativity, and the spirit of imagination knew no limits at ThinkFest. It was a day of celebration for all participants and teachers, as their collective efforts transformed the event into a truly memorable experience.



As the curtains closed on ThinkFest, it was clear that the event had succeeded in fostering a culture of creativity and collaboration among the students. The dedication of the participants and the guidance of the teachers played a pivotal role in making this event a resounding success. Cheers to everyone involved in making ThinkFest an event to remember!



Reported by Tia Matthew 5HA

Edited by Mr Shah Ally



## Celebrating Cultural Bonding Day: Unleashing the Power of Diversity!

To commemorate the end of the semester, our school celebrated its inaugural Cultural Bonding Day for Primary 1 to Primary 5 students. This event aimed to foster cultural awareness and appreciation among our young learners through Art, Dance, Music, and Traditional Games.

Our Primary 1 students were transported to the vibrant worlds of Chinese, Malay, and Indian cultures through a series of engaging activities. In the Art workshop, they learned about the traditional art forms of each culture, such as Chinese calligraphy, Malay batik, and Indian Rangoli. They then had the opportunity to try out the different art techniques.



The Primary 2 Dance workshop was a lively and energetic affair, with students learning traditional dances from each culture. They swayed to the graceful rhythms of the Chinese dance, moved to 5 basic styles of traditional Malay dance – *Inang*, *Asli*, *Masri*, *Ronggeng* and *Zapin*, and twirled to the vibrant tunes of the Indian bhangra dance.

The Traditional Games workshop not only provided an engaging platform for Primary 3 and 4 students to delve into the rich cultural heritage of various communities but also fostered a sense of appreciation for the diversity of play. From the strategic maneuvers of five stone to the rhythmic clatter of the congkak beads, and the dizzying delight of Gyro, the students were not just playing games but experiencing a slice of history and tradition firsthand.



In the Music workshop, Primary 5 students learned about the traditional drums and musical styles of each culture. They discovered the art of wielding the Chinese Bian Gu, unleashing the soul-stirring power of the Malay kompong, and embracing the intricate magic of the Indian Dohl, Manjeera, and Dafti.

Cultural Bonding Day was a truly unforgettable experience for all involved!

## Children's Day 2023 – A Day of Joy and Unity

Cantonment Primary School had a spectacular Children's Day celebration, filled with a myriad of activities that left both students and teachers beaming with joy. The event was a testament to the school's commitment to creating memorable experiences for its students, fostering a sense of camaraderie and happiness.

The day kicked off with classroom activities to show appreciation for people around us. As the day progressed, the excitement reached new heights with the much-anticipated Games Day for P3 to P5. Places in school transformed into a hub of laughter and friendly competition as students participated in the games. The emphasis was not on winning, but on fostering sportsmanship and team spirit.

A highlight of the celebration was the concert that marked the culmination of the day's festivities. Teachers invested considerable time and effort into preparing interactive quiz and K-pop dance, eliciting cheers and applause from an engaged audience.

