



CEDAR PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Vision: Joyful Learners, Responsible Citizens, Creative Leaders in a Connected Community

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14 January 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

TERM 1 COMMUNIQUÉ

Happy New Year! As 2022 begins, we have been reminding students of our School Vision, Mission, Values and Motto. We have also reiterated our school rules and regulations, as well as safety procedures to the students. Please find time for your child/ward to share them with you. You may refer to the relevant pages in the Student Handbook for the information.

In my first virtual talk with the students, I shared with them a children's book on **Kindness** to help them to reflect on '**What does it mean to be kind?**'. Kindness is our first school value and an important value in creating a caring and enabling environment for our children in school and at home. I invite you to reinforce this school value by sharing stories and examples (from books, news articles, personal experiences, historical events and movies) that highlight *kindness* with your child/ward. When selected well, stories and examples will evoke emotions in your child/ward to do what is right, provide good role models to teach values and help your child/ward to understand and internalise acceptable and appropriate behaviours.

In the classrooms, teachers have engaged the students in activities to strengthen the dynamics of the class. They have also involved the students in the setting of class rules and establishing routines to create a conducive learning environment. At home, we recommend that you also involve your child/ward to establish rules and study routines so that he or she develops good study habits over time. Your support and guidance are deeply appreciated as your child/ward reflects on these areas.

Finally, as Singapore transits towards a Covid-19 resilient nation, let's continue to be vigilant and adhere to the Safe Management Measures implemented in school and public places. Please also help us to reinforce good personal hygiene and social responsibility practices with your child/ward.

We look forward to another year of good partnership with you as we continue in this education endeavour to develop your child/ward holistically while keeping them safe.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Chua Choon Hock (Chris)

I. Safe Management Measures (SMM) in School for 2022

Cedar Primary School will continue to ensure that SMMs are put in place to keep our students safe.

Mask Policy

Students should put on their masks at all times except when eating and drinking. They should wear masks with good filtration capability such as surgical masks or reusable masks of equivalent effectiveness that are made of at least two layers of fabric. When not masked, students should refrain from talking. Students are to keep their masks in a hygienic manner when not in use, for example, in a Ziplock bag or mask container with name labels.

Screening

Students are advised to bring along a working thermometer every day for the daily temperature-taking exercise. Daily visual screening will be conducted by school staff at Gates A, E and H, as well as the vehicle drop-off area to ensure students who report to school are well. Students who are unwell are required to stay away from school. They should seek medical attention immediately and be tested for COVID-19 if required.

Seating Arrangements

All P3 – P6 classrooms will be arranged in fixed exam-style seating, 1 metre apart. For P1 and P2 classed, they may be seated in clusters. In the canteen, students will also be seated according to fixed single seating, 1 metre apart. During PE lessons, students will be assigned a fixed play area with safe distancing of at least 2 metres between groups.

TraceTogether Tokens

Students are required to bring their TraceTogether tokens to school every day to facilitate accurate and automatic contact tracing. Parents/Guardians should periodically check that your child's/ward's Token is working by looking out for a green light that blinks about once every minute. If the Token is blinking red, or if there is no light at all, you should visit any Token vending machine at selected malls or CC for a free replacement. You may visit <https://token.gowhere.gov.sg/> for more information.

Wipe-Down Routine

Students should continue to wipe down surfaces of common areas like the canteen tables after they use them, as well as their desks and all shared equipment after every lesson.

Social Responsibility

Students are reminded to be socially responsible. Those who are unwell should stay at home and seek medical treatment as soon as possible. Students who are on Health Risk Warning (HRW) are to test ART negative each day before entering the school. Students are also reminded to comply with Isolation Orders and Stay Home Notices (SHN).

II. Administrative Matters

a. MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS)

MOE provides financial assistance to Singaporean students in need. Families with a gross monthly household income of \$2,750 and below or per capita household income of \$690 or below are eligible for MOE FAS.

If your child/ward qualifies for MOE FAS, please obtain an application form from the school office.

b. EZLink School Smart Card Photo-Taking Exercise for P1 & P6 Students

P1 and P6 students will be involved in the individual photo-taking exercise to be held on 7 Feb 2022 (Monday). Students are allowed to be in their PE attire if they have PE lessons on that day.

c. Reporting and Dismissal Times

Please be informed that the reporting time for all students is 7.30am. If your child is unwell, do keep him/her at home and take him/her to a doctor to ascertain his/her fitness to attend school. A medical certificate should be handed in to your child's form teacher when he/she returns to school.

As part of Safe Management Measures, the school dismissal will be staggered. We seek the cooperation of all parents/guardians to maintain safe distancing while waiting for your child/ward at the school gate.

Please refer to the following table for the staggered dismissal timings on fair weather days (including the new GATE H):

Level	Dismissal Time		Exit Gate/ Mode		
	Mondays - Thursdays	Fridays	Gate A	Gate C	Gate E
Primary 1	1.25 pm	12.55 pm	1KN, 1IT, 1CT	1RS, 1RP	1RT, 1CA, 1HM
Primary 2	1.30 pm	1 pm	2RP, 2CT, 2RT, 2CA	2KN, 2IT, 2RS	–
Primary 3	1.30 pm	1 pm	–	–	All
All School Bus Takers	1.30pm	1 pm	Designated Seats in School Bus		
Primary 4	1.35 pm	1 pm	4CT, 4RS, 4RP	4KN, 4IT	–
Primary 5	1.35 pm	1.05 pm	–	–	All
Primary 6	1.40 pm	1.10 pm	–	–	All

****P1 to P6 Gate H users to be dismissed according to their level dismissal time***

Dismissal during Wet Weather:

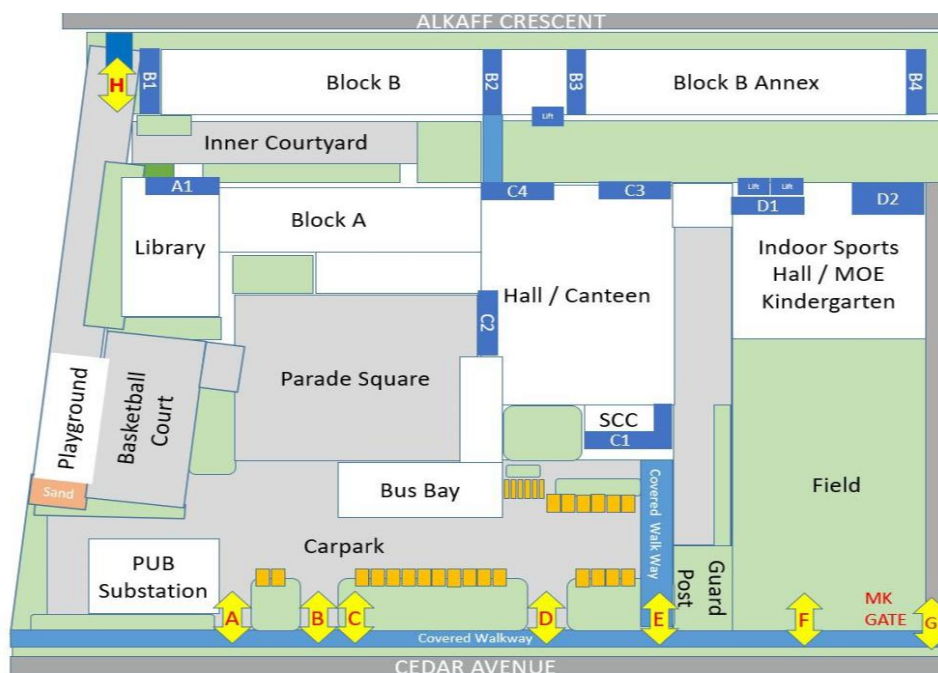
- Parents / Caregivers will wait outside the child's original dismissal gate to avoid overcrowding at Gate.
- P1 teachers will take the students out via Gate E and to Gate A, C or E.
- P2 - P6 teachers will direct students to exit via Gate E and walk to their original dismissal gate area to meet their parents

d. Gate H Opening Hours

We would like to inform you that Gate H was newly installed end of December last year along Alkaff Crescent road (refer to the map below for the location). Our students may use the Gate to enter and leave the school during the following opening hours:

Level	GATE H	
	Days	Opening Hours
Primary School	Mondays to Fridays	7.00am to 7.30am
	Mondays to Thursdays	1.30pm to 2.00pm
	Fridays	1.00pm to 1.30pm
MK & KCare	Mondays to Fridays	7.00am to 8.30am
	Mondays to Fridays	11.50am to 12.00pm
	Mondays to Fridays	4.50pm to 6.00pm

Do note that the area at Gate H is not sheltered, thus you may want to bring along an umbrella for yourself and your child/ward should you choose to use the gate to pick up child/ward at dismissal time.



e. Road Traffic Regulations and Road Safety at Cedar Avenue

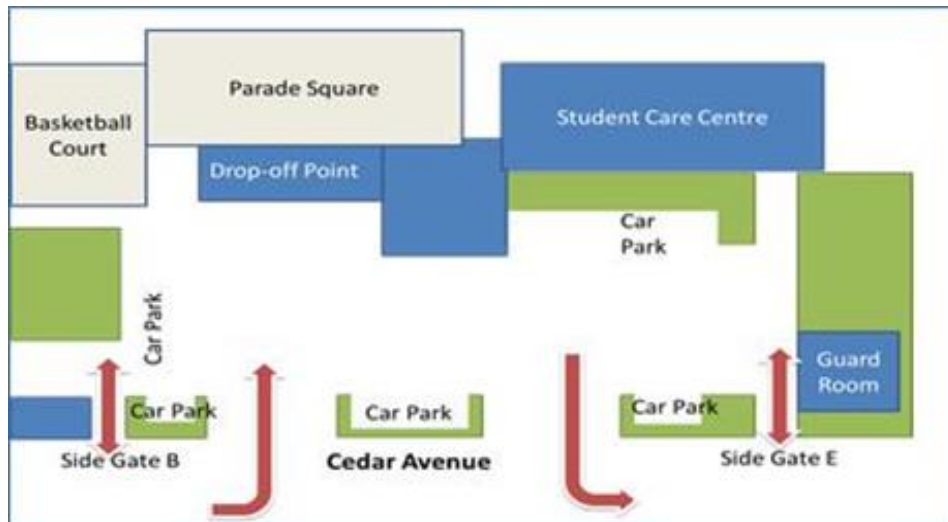
We would like to emphasise Road Safety when students are travelling on the road to and from school. Here are some pointers which we would like you to remind your child/ward about:

- Students are only to cross the road using the appropriate pedestrian crossings and to obey traffic signals at all times.
- Students are only to walk along the designated walkways provided outside the school.

- Students are to follow the school's advice and guidelines on Road Safety, which will be shared during assemblies and in class.

Parents/guardians who are driving in to drop off their children are to follow the traffic instructions from the Traffic Wardens for the safety of all students and staff. Drivers will have to observe the reduced speed limits in the carpark to minimise the risk of accidents.

Gates for Vehicular Traffic will be open from 7 am to 7.30 am, for parents/guardians to drop off their children/ward at the Drop-off Point, as shown below:



The school is committed to working with staff, students, parents and the community on raising safety awareness and exhibiting the desired road safety behaviours.

From our observations and feedback given by residents along Cedar Avenue, some parents' vehicles are parked indiscriminately along both sides of Cedar Avenue when parents fetch their children during dismissal. There had even been occasions when vehicles were parked in front of the gates of the houses along Cedar Avenue and left unattended.

We would like to take this opportunity to advise all parents who are driving not to park along the landed property side of Cedar Avenue as the practice is causing much inconvenience to the residents. We would like to reiterate that nearby carparks are available to park your vehicles while you go about fetching your child from the school gates. Please see map below:



Do note that when parked vehicles obstruct Cedar Avenue, the residents may call in the authorities to take action. Please show a good example to our children by being considerate road users and obeying the traffic rules. Please help the school to be a considerate neighbour to the residents nearby.

f. Revision of Canteen Meal Prices

To ensure that the quality of food sold at the school canteen meets the basic nutritional needs of our students, the canteen stallholders face challenges with the rising costs of goods and services, especially with costlier ingredients for healthy meals.

Hence, from the start of this year, prices for set meals in the school canteen have increased accordingly for the Chinese Rice Stall, Chinese Noodle Stall and the Malay Food Stall. Please see the new pricing below:

Set Meals	Price
Small Portion	\$1.50
Medium Portion	\$1.80
Large Portion	\$2.00

**Set Meals prices are capped at \$2.00. Additional optional items are charged separately.*

g. School Discipline

Discipline is an educational process of guiding students to develop self-management skills and good character. Disciplinary measures help them to learn the consequences of their inappropriate actions and poor choices, and take responsibility not to repeat their mistakes.

Our school makes use of Positive Discipline to help students learn responsible decision-making and how to make the **RIGHT** choice, guided by **The Mark of A Cedarian**. All students are expected to conduct himself/herself in a manner which upholds the good name of the school. Please refer to the School Rules and Regulations in *My Cedarian Handbook* 2021, pg. 11 – 25.

II. School-Wide Events and Programmes

a. Chinese New Year Eve Celebration and Holidays

We will be celebrating Chinese New Year on 31 January (Monday) at 7.30am with an online concert. Students will be dismissed early at 10.00 am. We seek parents'/guardians' assistance to make the necessary transport arrangements for the early dismissal. The school has arranged for the school buses to arrive at school at 10.00am for those who are taking the school bus.

Chinese New Year holidays will be on 1 February (Tuesday) and 2 February (Wednesday). School will resume on 3 February (Thursday).

b. Total Defence Commemoration Week

Total Defence Day (TDD) marks the fall of Singapore to the Japanese in 1942. In commemorating TDD, our students reflect on the importance of Total Defence in alignment with the theme, 'Together We Keep Singapore Strong'. Our students will also learn about the six pillars of Total Defence (Military, Civil, Social, Psychological, Economic and Digital) and how these pillars are relevant to their lived experiences. Through the CCE lessons and interactive

activities carried out in class, as well as online throughout the week, the students will be able to make meaningful connections with what they have learnt and apply it into their lives.

c. Values-In-Action

The Values-In-Action (VIA) experience nurtures in students a commitment to address concerns of the school, community and nation. As part of the CCE curriculum, the students will be embarking on level VIA projects which are spread out throughout the year. For the younger students, these projects will give the students the opportunity to take responsibility for their classrooms and the areas they occupy in school. For the older students, the VIA experience aims to help them exercise ownership of the community and initiate ways to contribute back.

In Cedar, a key VIA learning experience is our Environmental Education programme. The students will be learning about the importance of recycling and environmental conservation during CCE lessons. Our recycling efforts will begin mid Term 1 and more information will be given to the students at a later date.

d. Cyber Wellness Week

We will be having our cyber wellness week for the Primary 2 to Primary 6 students from 17 January to 21 January 2022. During this week-long event, students will learn more about the different topics of cyber wellness through CCE lessons in class as well as online activities and games uploaded on the Student Learning Space (SLS). We will also have activities that will require your participation as we strive to inculcate the right values in all Cedarians to be caring and responsible users in the Cyber World.

To start off the programme, here are some cyber wellness tips that you can practise at home:

- Ask your child/ward what he/she enjoys doing online. Through your conversations, you can decide together how much time he/she should spend online, and teach online etiquette.
- Remind your child/ward not to chat with strangers online or share information that can allow strangers to locate him/her.
- Guide your child/ward to set strong passwords, and ignore suspicious links or files sent by strangers or in pop-up boxes.
- Check with your child/ward about the conversations that go on in their chat groups or social media to assess if he/she is being bullied online.

d. P3 to P5 Class Tests and P6 Common Tests in Term 1

Integral to teaching and learning is assessment which provides feedback to students, teachers and parents on what students have learnt. We are committed to guiding our students to learn from mistakes and practise skills to improve themselves. As partners in education, we seek your support in motivating your child/ward to study diligently daily and achieve his/her personal best for class tests, for **Effort determines Success**.

Dates of tests in Term 1 are indicated in the Cedar Primary School Calendar of Events. More details will be provided via letters to parents, issued via students by Mon 24 Jan.

III. Level Events and Programmes

a. P4 E2K Math and P5 Math Olympiad Training for Selected Students

As part of the school's initiative to develop and stretch students' potential in mathematical problem solving, selected P4 and P5 students who demonstrate a flair for mathematical problem solving will participate in an after-school math enrichment programme.

Selected students will be informed via a letter to parents by Mon 24 Jan.

IV. Cedar Primary School Calendar of Events

2022 Term 1 Calendar of Events

Date/Day	Events	Remarks
4 Jan - 7 Jan	P1 Orientation	
5 Jan - 6 Jan	P2-P6 Orientation	
17 Jan – 21 Jan	Cyber Wellness Week	Refer to details above.
31 Jan	Chinese New Year Celebration	School will operate from 7.30am to 10am.
1 & 2 Feb	Chinese New Year Public Holidays	School is closed for these 2 days.
10 Feb	Start of P4 E2K Math and P5 Math Olympiad Training for Selected Students	Conducted after school.
24 Feb	- P3 to P5 EL/FEL Class Test One - P6 EL/FEL Common Test	
25 Feb	- P3 to P5 MA/FMA Class Test One - P6 MA/FMA Common Test	
28 Feb	- P3 to P5 MT/FMT Class Test One - P6 MT/FMT Common Test	
1 Mar	- P3 to P5 SC/FSC Class Test One - P6 SC/FSC Common Test	
2 Mar	- P3 HCL Class Test One - P4 HCL Class Test One - P5 HMT Class Test One - P6 HMT Common Test	
14 Mar - 20 Mar	Term 1 Holidays	

Policy on Photography and Videography at School Events

We would like to inform you that photograph(s) and video image(s) of you and/or your child/ward may be captured at our school activities and events. We may use and publish such photographs and/or video recordings in school publications, website, social media channels, and other official school communication channels.