



CEDAR PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Ref No.: CPS/2024/02/001

07 March 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

TERM 2 COMMUNIQUÉ

As term 1 concludes, we take a moment to reflect; to think through what we have learnt so that we can apply them meaningfully in the months ahead. We started 2024 with a focus on values, the moral compass that guides our thoughts, words and actions. As part of our Character and Citizenship Education programme, we explicitly teach and reinforce our school values through lessons, stories, sharing by student leaders and student activities.

For January and February, the focused values were Kindness and Resilience respectively. In March, we focus on Effort, an essential value for learning and one that is important for developing a growth mindset. Putting in effort in what we do is our commitment to learning, improvement and growth for ourselves and those around us. Hence, we seek your partnership to reinforce these messages to your child: Learning Requires Humility and Effort Determines Success, our motto. Wherever he/she is on this learning journey currently, he/she can only improve by being conscientious and humbly learn from both successes and failure which is what a person with a growth mindset would do.

A person with a growth mindset is someone who believes that skills and intelligence can be grown and developed. He/she embraces challenges and sees them as opportunities to grow. He/she understands that effort is essential on the path towards mastery. He/she is receptive to feedback and sees mistakes as learning opportunities. You can contribute to your child's/ward's growth mindset development through the following:

- **Compliment effort, process and choices.** Don't praise ability or intelligence because doing that promotes a fixed mindset.
- **Tie good outcomes to effort.** Be happy when your child succeeds but attribute it to effort he/she has put in.
- **Respond positively to failure.** We all learn from mistakes. Your child needs to know that failure is not a bad thing and can be seen as a tool for learning.
- **Help your child set goals and explore different ways to help him/her learn better.** Do not just tell him/her to "try hard" because blind repetition does not work all the time.
- **Encourage growth mindset in all areas of life.** There is no area where one cannot improve with effort.
- **Role model growth mindset.** Talk to your child about your own growth mindset efforts. Practise it yourself and share your outcomes with your child.

I wish you every success in your parenting effort and in your child's/ward's education journey. Have a restful, reflective and rejuvenating March break!

Yours faithfully,

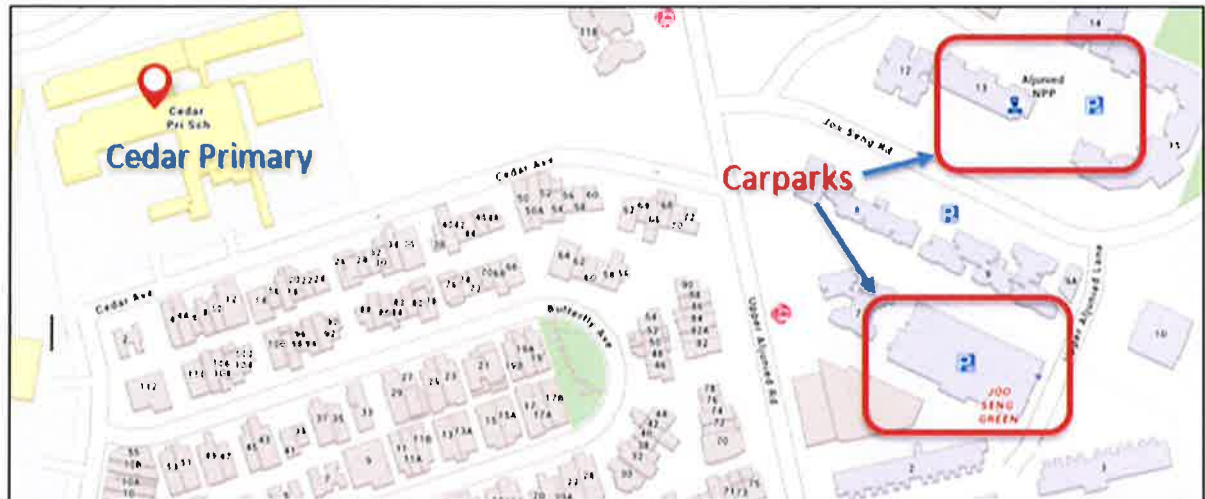
Mr Chua Choon Hock (Chris)
Principal

I. Administrative Matters

a. Traffic Condition along Cedar Avenue during Dismissal Time

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.

b. Traffic Condition along Alkaff Crescent in the Morning

We have observed an increasing number of parents parking along the bend at Alkaff Crescent to drop off their children during arrival time in the morning.

We would like to reiterate that stopping at that stretch of road is against LTA regulations. It is dangerous for everyone, especially for your child/ward, because it is a blind spot and oncoming cars may travel at a high speed. You may also be faulted should LTA enforce the rules along the road. If you are driving your child/ward to school, please use the main gate and drop off your child/ward at the school foyer for his/her personal safety.

c. Travel Declaration

To ensure that schools continue to be a healthy and safe environment for all, we require parents/guardians to make a travel declaration for your child/ward if he/she is travelling for the holidays by 8 Mar 2024 (Friday).

We encourage you to do so via the Parents' Gateway app (<https://pg.moe.edu.sg>). If you do not have access to Parents' Gateway, you may also use the attached hardcopy form (refer to Annex A).

If your child/ward is travelling, please indicate clearly both the country and city of travel. Only one parent/guardian is required to make the declaration. If your child/ward is not travelling during the holidays, no action is required.

When planning your child/ward's travel, please refer to <https://www.ica.gov.sg/enter-transit-depart> for more information and updates. If there is a change in travel plan(s) after declaration, please inform the school as soon as possible.

Thank you for your partnership and support to keep our school safe.

d. Imbuing the Value of Responsibility in our Students

Teaching students to be responsible is important for their academic success, for building strong character, and for helping them be successful in life. One of the ways in which students demonstrate the value of Responsibility in Cedar Primary is by ensuring that they pack their bags every evening to get ready for school the next day. This includes bringing their schoolwork, wallet, and/or recess food every day.

If the students were to forget their schoolwork, they are to bring it back the next day. If they have forgotten their wallet or recess food, the school will provide them with biscuits and water if needed.

Parents/Guardians are to refrain from getting the General Office staff or Security Officers to pass any forgotten items to the students as it would disrupt the students' learning when these items are sent to the classrooms. Together, we can nurture responsibility in our children and help them develop the habit of always ensuring they have everything that they need for school.

e. Cyberwellness at Home: Balance between Online and Offline Activities

Maintaining a healthy balance between online and offline activities is essential for the holistic development of children. It supports physical health, mental well-being, social skills, cognitive development, and a range of other factors critical for a child's overall growth and success.

As parents and guardians, you can play a vital role in guiding and encouraging this balance in your child's life. Here are some tips that you can try at home:

Set Clear Boundaries: Clearly define time limits for both online and offline activities. Establish specific rules about when and where technology can be used.

Lead by Example: Demonstrate a healthy balance in your own screen time. Children often mimic their parents, so modelling a balanced approach is essential.

Create Tech-Free Zones: Designate certain areas or times in the house as tech-free zones, such as during family meals or in the bedroom before bedtime.

Establish a Routine: Create a daily schedule that includes a variety of activities, including homework, chores, outdoor play, and screen time. Consistent routines help children understand expectations.

Communicate Openly: Foster open communication about the positive and negative aspects of online activities. Be approachable so your child feels comfortable discussing their online experiences.

Encourage Hobbies: Support your child in developing offline hobbies and interests. Whether it is reading, drawing, playing a musical instrument, or other creative pursuits, these activities can provide a healthy balance.

Stay Informed: Stay informed of the apps, games, and ways of online communication your child uses.

Promote Social Interaction: Encourage face-to-face social interactions with friends and family. Plan playdates, outings, or family gatherings to foster real-world connections. In a nutshell, parents play a pivotal role in guiding children towards a balanced lifestyle.

By setting boundaries, modelling healthy behaviour, encouraging diverse interests, and prioritising social interaction, children can thrive both online and offline.

f. **Parent Support Group**

The PSG (Parent Support Group) in Cedar Primary comprises a group of committed parents who have volunteered their time and service to partner the school in its efforts to provide a holistic education for our students. The members have been actively supporting the teachers by carrying out recess activities during cultural and NE events as well as those promoting Cyberwellness amongst the students. Their presence and involvement in school, allows for the establishment of a strong home-school partnership. The PSG also serves as role-models of volunteerism as well as active contributors, for our students.

The PSG would like to invite more parents to join them. Parents who are interested in joining the PSG may register through <https://bitly.ws/39ZkP> or scan the following QR code.



II. **School-Wide Events and Programmes**

a. **2024 MTL Fortnight and P4 Cultural & Language Camp**

The annual MTL Fortnight will be held from 25 March (Monday) to 5 April (Friday). During this period, students will be given opportunities to learn and appreciate their own culture and traditions through hands-on activities. A separate letter containing more details on the programme will be issued to parents nearer the date.

b. **International Friendship Day Commemoration Week**

The commemoration of International Friendship Day (IFD) allows our students to reflect on the importance of mutual respect and understanding to maintain unity in our multicultural society. The theme for IFD this year is 'Singapore in Asia', which emphasises the importance for our students to recognise and appreciate the resilience we have demonstrated in building good relationships with our neighbouring countries.

Through the lessons and interactive activities carried out in class as well as during recess in that week, students will learn about the diverse and colourful culture and traditions of the region. At the same time, we hope to nurture the spirit of friendship and collaboration, as well

as mutual admiration and respect among our students who come from different backgrounds including different nationalities and cultures.

Lastly, we want to develop the civic, global and cross-cultural literacy in our students, so that they can contribute constructively to their community and nation, interact respectfully and empathically with others in diverse communities and act as responsible citizens of Singapore and the world.

c. Hari Raya Celebration

This year, Hari Raya Aidilfitri falls on 10 April (Wednesday). As 9 April (Tuesday) is the eve of Hari Raya, with parents' consent and transport arrangement, Muslim students may be dismissed at 10.30 am on that day. School will resume for all on 11 April (Thursday).

To celebrate the joy and the significance of the festive event, the school will be having a Hari Raya e-concert on 16 April (Tuesday) for P1 to P3 students and 18 April (Thursday) for P4 to P6 students.

d. Environmental Education and READ@CPS in Cedar Primary School

In Cedar Primary, a key Values-in-Action (VIA) learning experience is our Environmental Education programme. In Term 2, the students will learn about the importance of plastic and e-waste recycling. They will also be reminded of their roles in ensuring that the correct plastic items and e-waste are sent for recycling.

In addition, we will be commemorating Earth Day which falls on 22 April (Monday). Our students will be made more aware of the journey of a recyclable waste, challenges of the recycling processes and proper recycling behaviours. They will also learn how everyone can play our part to be active contributors in making our environment a better place for all who live in it.

In conjunction with Earth Day, READ@CPS will be taking on the theme 'Planet vs Plastics'. READ@CPS is an annual programme which aims to encourage reading by providing access to a variety of books and promoting reading throughout the week. Through the various activities, students will develop valuable skills in critical and adaptive thinking as well as in communication and collaboration, while gaining a deeper appreciation for the diverse forms of expression in the world around them.

e. Sports Day

This year, we will be organising a Sports Day on 21 May (Tuesday). Held at the Serangoon Sports Centre during curriculum time, this event seeks to promote ruggedness, mass participation and enjoyment in physical activities among students while creating opportunities for students to demonstrate resilience and other school values as they challenge themselves to strive for excellence. It also provides a natural platform for friendship and house spirit to be forged from the preparation leading to the actual event.

Students can look forward to an exciting day of athletic events, cheers, and bonding with classmates and house members as they apply the sports and movement skills they learned in Term 1.

There will be house practices for all P3 to P6 students. More details about the house practices will be provided to the students nearer to the date.

f. Parent-Teacher Conference (P1-P6)

On 24 May (Friday), we will be conducting the Parent-Teacher Conference, where parents can meet the Form Teachers (FTs) in person. This is so that the FTs can touch base with you and provide feedback on your child's/ward's progress in his/her holistic development.

All students need not report to school on the day.

We will share details on how you can make an appointment via the Parents Gateway to meet the FTs in Term 2.

III. Level Events and Programmes

a. P3 Field-based Learning (FBL) Journey to Sustainable Singapore Gallery

As part of the extended learning experience for the Primary 3 students, the school has organised a learning journey to Sustainable Singapore Gallery at the Marina Barrage. The focus of the learning experience is for students to develop an understanding of:

- Singapore's physical environment;
- land use in Singapore; and
- how Singapore manages its resources to meet the needs of the country.

In alignment with what is taught during the Social Studies lessons, the learning journey also seeks to help students experience and explore their national identity as Singaporeans and understand the challenges unique to our nation.

More details about the learning journey will be provided to the students nearer to the date.

b. 2024 P3 Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise

The Ministry of Education is carrying out the identification of students for the Gifted Education Programme 2024, which involves two stages: Screening and Selection. The identification exercise aims to identify students with high intellectual potential who will benefit from the enriched curriculum provided in the programme.

The tentative schedule and details for the two stages of the GEP Identification Exercise 2024 are outlined in the table below. Additionally, please note that the GEP Screening and Selection Exercises will be based on the P1 to P3 English Language and Mathematics syllabuses.

S/N	Description	Date	Participants	Papers
1	GEP Screening Exercise	15 August (Thursday)	Primary 3 students enrolled in government and government aided schools	English Language Mathematics
2	GEP Selection Exercise	15 October (Tuesday) 16 October (Wednesday)	Primary 3 pupils shortlisted after the GEP Screening Exercise	English Language Mathematics General Ability

More details will be made available in Term 3. Should you need clarification, please speak with the Form Teachers.

c. P6 Cohort Learning Journey to the Asian Civilisation Museum

Museum-based cohort learning journeys support students' learning in Social Studies and CCE by deepening their understanding of the heritage and culture of Singapore beyond the classroom context.

The Primary 6 students will be going for their cohort learning journey to the Asian Civilisation Museum. The focus of the learning experience is for students to:

- understand the cultural and historical ties that have influence on the countries in Southeast Asia; and
- explore how Singapore's cultural heritage has evolved over time, influenced by the diverse mix of cultures.

In alignment with what is taught during the Social Studies lessons, the learning journey also seeks to help students experience and explore their national identity as Singaporeans and foster a sense of hope and belonging to Singapore.

More details about the learning journey will be provided to the students nearer to the date.

d. P3 to P6 Class Tests Two

More details regarding the topics assessed for P3, P4, P5 and P6 Class Tests Two will be issued in a letter to parents on 22 March (Friday).

IV. Cedar Primary School Calendar of Events

2024 Term 2 Calendar of Events

Date/Day	Events	Remarks
25 Mar – 5 Apr (Mon – Fri)	MTL Fortnight	
29 Mar (Fri)	Good Friday	Public Holiday
10 Apr (Wed)	Hari Raya Puasa Observed	Public Holiday
5 Apr (Fri) 19 Apr (Fri) 26 Apr (Fri)	P3 Learning Journey to Sustainable Singapore Gallery (Marina Barrage)	More details will be given nearer to the date.
1 May (Wed)	Labour Day	Public Holiday
3 May (Fri) 17 May (Fri)	P6 Cohort Learning Journey to Asian Civilisations Museum	More details will be given nearer to the date.
9 May (Thu)	P3 - P6 Class Test 2 (EL/FEL)	
10 May (Fri)	P3 - P6 Class Test 2 (MA/FMA)	
13 May (Mon)	P3 - P6 Class Test 2 (MT) P6 Class Test 2 (FMT)	
14 May (Tue)	P3 - P6 Class Test 2 (SC/FSC)	
15 May (Wed)	P5 & P6 Class Test 2 (HMT) P5 Class Test 2 (FMT)	

Date/Day	Events	Remarks
21 May (Tue)	Sports Carnival	
22 May (Wed)	Vesak Day	Public Holiday
24 May (Fri)	Parent-Teacher Conference	Students do not report to school
Semester Holidays, 25 May to 23 Jun 2024		
Term 3 begins on 24 Jun 2024, Monday		

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.



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INFORMATION ON MY CHILD'S /WARD'S TRAVEL PLANS

Important Notes:

1. You do not need to fill in this form if you are submitting your travel plans using Parents' Gateway.
2. Where possible, please also provide details of the country/city and date of transit if your child/ward will be stopping over at any other country/city while travelling.

Name of Child/Ward: _____

Class: _____

Index No: _____

Please tick accordingly:

☐ My child/ward will be travelling to the following country/city during the March holiday.

The details are listed below:

Country and City of Intended Travel e.g. Malaysia / Penang, e.g. Thailand / Bangkok	Period of Travel	
	Trip Start Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Trip End Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

Name of Parent / Guardian: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____