



TERMLY LETTER

Vision

Self-Directed Learner, Serving Leader, Concerned Citizen

Mission

To nurture and empower achievers who strive, lead and serve, anchored on values

Website Address: <http://www.dazhongpri.moe.edu.sg>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/dzpsofficial>

06 January 2023

Ref: DZPS/2023/0002

Dear Parents/Guardians

Dazhong Dare to Shine!

1. We welcome your child/ward back to school and we hope he/she will have a fulfilling time of learning in 2023. Our theme for the year is **Dare to Shine!** As the school enters its 85th year, it is an opportune time to reflect on how far we have progressed as a school and the rich learning experiences we have provided for our students over the years. In 2023 and beyond, it is our vision that all Dazhong students will be **self-directed learners, serving leaders and concerned citizens**. Through their words, actions and lives, we hope our students will shine their light and become a strength for their peers, school, family, school and the larger community. We seek your continued support and partnership in this journey.
2. We look forward to 2023, where Dazhong staff and students will Dare to Shine and be the light of our school, home and community. Dazhong will also be celebrating our upcoming 85th school anniversary! Parents/guardians who are alumni of Dazhong, we would like to encourage you to volunteer to serve in the upcoming celebrations. Simply scan this QR code to join:



Parental Consent (Use of Photographs and Video Images)

3. As we begin the new school year, please be informed that photographs and video images of students and their parents/guardians may be captured during school activities and events such as classroom lessons, CCA, school camps, and school concerts.
4. The school may use and publish such photographs and video recordings in school publications, premises, website, social media channels, and other communication channels. If for any reason you are not comfortable with the school's use of the said materials, please write in officially to the school at dazhong_ps@moe.edu.sg. Please indicate in your email the source of the photograph / image (e.g. where you saw it, and when it was published).

Safe Management Measures

5. With the easing of Safe Management Measures, mask-wearing is optional for indoor and outdoor settings. If your child chooses to wear a mask, please ensure that your child/ward:
 - wears a mask with good filtration capability (e.g. surgical masks or reusable masks of equivalent effectiveness that are made of at least two layers of fabric) to school
 - keeps a spare mask in his/her schoolbag at all times

In the event that your child/ward is unwell, the parent / caregiver should seek medical attention for him/her and avoid sending them to school.

Termly School Calendar

6. Please refer to the Term 1 School Calendar attached to the school letter for details on termly activities. **Kindly take note of the following public holidays in Term 1.**

Event/Activity	Date	Remarks
Chinese New Year	23 Jan (Mon)	Public Holiday
Chinese New Year	24 Jan (Tue)	Public Holiday

Dazhong Dare to Shine!

School Awards

Green Awards: Sustainable South West Award

7. In line with our Green Makers @ Dazhong movement towards environmental sustainability, we have been making consistent efforts to educate our students and giving them opportunities to take environmental actions, at home, in school, and in the community. The school was recognised for these efforts and was presented with the **Sustainable South West Award** on **31 December 2022** from Mr Gan Kim Yong (Minister for Trade and Industry and Adviser to Chua Chu Kang GROs) and Ms Low Yen Ling (Mayor of South West District). Thank you for supporting our green efforts!

Co-Curricular Achievement (CCA)

8. Congratulations to our student for achieving excellence in his CCA!

No.	Event	Achievement
1	Chief Commissioner 's Well-Done Badge for Youth members (Scouts)	Elias Margarito (6I)

ST 1 Holistic Development of a Dazhong Student

Peer Support & Relationships - We Care @ DZPS

9. The start of a school year is a wonderful time for our students to display strong peer support for one another. This year, we will be having a series of programmes to strengthen the Dazhong Culture of Care through Peer Support & Relationships.
10. Our Peer Support Leaders (PSLs) modelled the way as serving leaders by welcoming our students back to school in the mornings! They will also provide peer support to our P1 students as they experience school life for the first time. Selected students wrote welcome notes to encourage our P1 students, assuring them that Dazhong is a fun and awesome place to learn and grow! Our Prefects EXCO led the way as peer supporters, recording a very special welcome message for our P1 students! Watch it here: <https://go.gov.sg/p12023welcomevid>
11. The P2 to P6 students also took part in a range of peer bonding activities with their classmates as part of the Start of School programming. This builds up school pride and class spirit, strengthening peer support among our students.
12. Finally, our P4 students are leading as recess buddies to their P1 juniors in their P4 C.A.R.E. (*C*haracter. *A*dvocacy. *R*elationship. *E*mpathy) Values-in-Action (VIA) project! This is a good opportunity for our P4 students to practise peer support skills, and they have truly stepped up to take on this important responsibility.



National Assessment Matters—2023 PSLE Calendar (Tentative)

13. The tentative dates for the PSLE Calendar are reflected in the table below. There will be Home-Based Learning (HBL) for P1 to P5 students on these dates—details will be provided nearer to the date.

Assessment	Date (Tentative)	Remarks
PSLE Oral Examination	15 to 16 August 2023	P1 to P5 HBL
PSLE Listening Comprehension	15 September 2023	P1 to P5 HBL
PSLE Written Examination	28 September to 4 October 2023	Possible P1 to P5 HBL
PSLE Marking Exercise	16 to 18 October 2023	P1 to P5 HBL

Chinese New Year 2023

14. The school's Chinese New Year (CNY) celebrations will be held on **19 January 2023**, during FTGP and Assembly periods. In view of the easing of COVID-19 measures, the celebration will be held in the school hall where students get to view the Chinese New Year concert and participate as a live audience. **Students are encouraged to wear a red t-shirt with school shorts or skirt on 19 January. Please also note that 19 and 20 January are full school days and lessons will continue as per normal on these days. All afternoon activities on 20 January will be suspended.**

15. One week prior to Chinese New Year, students will get to experience various cultural activities to learn more about the festival and do their part for the environment and the community. These include a SLS lesson for students to observe and document what they see, hear, smell, touch and taste during the festive season. Through this activity, they will practise self-directed learning by exploring, documenting and reflecting on what they have learnt about the festival. Students will also be engaged in cultural activities during their CCE lessons, such as the making of red packets using recyclable items. In addition, students are also encouraged to contribute recyclable items collected from spring cleaning for the Term 1 Green Challenge. Our school will also be supporting our partner, the Lions Clubs, in the annual fundraising activity, in line with the launch of 'Shine On – 85 Acts of Kindness' in Term 1.

School Library and Extensive Reading

16. Literacy is a crucial factor to success in school and beyond. As such, all students are encouraged to read widely to develop their literacy. They are required to bring a storybook every day for silent reading.

17. The school library, **D'Safari**, is accessible to students during recess. Students will be able to visit the library to read and borrow books every day. To encourage all students to pick up the habit of reading, **D'Safari** will continue to offer a wide range of programmes, including the **Avid Reader Card (ARC)**, a card comprising a series of self-directed activities designed for Lower and Upper Primary students. Parents can provide guidance, but students have to complete the activities themselves. The completed activities should be submitted to your child/ward's English teacher and each completed activity earns the student the number of stars indicated next to the task. Upon earning a minimum of 5 stars, your child/ward may choose to redeem reward(s) at **D'Safari**. He/she may accumulate stars to redeem more attractive rewards. Students may choose to hold off redemption and work towards completing the card in order to redeem a brand new story book of their choice. With the ARC, we hope to stimulate students' interest in reading.

18. To further encourage students to read widely, all students will have access to Epic, a digital reading platform. The fun and interactive reading app aims to fuel curiosity and reading confidence by letting children freely explore their interests, with instant, anytime access to a library of thousands of books, audiobooks, learning videos and more. Your child/ward's English Language teacher will be sharing the account details with you and your child/ward.

19. Lastly, the school would like to invite all parents to sign up for membership with the National Library Board (NLB). Signing up for a library membership is available online for your convenience. Alternatively, you may visit any of the public libraries to seek staff assistance. Besides borrowing and renewing library books, NLB members may download the NLB mobile app to access eBooks, audiobooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers anywhere, anytime.

CCA for Term 1

20. CCA is an important part of holistic education and a pivotal platform for character development. CCA will be conducted during curriculum time on **Tuesdays from 7.40am to 9.40am for P3 to P6 students**. Selected students (e.g. school teams) may be required to attend additional CCA sessions on **Thursdays** after school. Please refer to the school calendar (see attached) for the dates of the CCA sessions.

P3 CCA Experiential Day

21. The school will be inaugurating the P3 CCA Experiential Day on **Tuesday, 7 March** during CCA time from 7.40am to 8.40am. P3 students will have the opportunity to participate and learn about other CCAs on this day. Through this event, we hope to broaden the exposure and promote the joy of learning through CCAs. All P3 students are encouraged to participate in this event.

P5 Swimsafer Programme

22. As part of the Physical Education curriculum, the school is introducing the SwimSafer 2.0 Programme for our P5 students. The 8-session programme will be conducted in **Term 1 on Wednesdays (5I, 5R & 5E) and Fridays (5A, 5P, 5G)**. Please refer to the school calendar for the dates and prepare your child/ward for the sessions.

P5 Outdoor Adventure Camp

23. The P5 Outdoor Adventure Camp will be conducted from **Thursday, 16 March to Saturday, 18 March**. The camp is a highlight of the curriculum experience at DZPS and is part of the National Outdoor Adventure Education Masterplan which MOE has put in place to strengthen the holistic development of all our students. Through this camp, we seek to develop student's independence, responsibility, leadership and collaborative skills in an outdoor adventure setting. With the love for the outdoors, students will show care for nature and be aware of the importance of a more sustainable Singapore. The camp is a platform for fostering students' discipline and teamwork and enhancing their physical and mental robustness.

Student Well-Being—Healthy Meals in Schools Programme (HMSP) 2023

24. Our school promotes the Healthy Meals in Schools Programme (HMSP) to inculcate healthy living and good eating habits in our students. In line with Health Promotion Board (HPB)'s initiative, meals will be served in a set. The revised canteen food price will be effective from 3 January 2023. A small set meal is priced at \$1.60, a standard set meal is priced at \$1.80 and a large meal at \$2.00. In line with our green movement effort, **students are required to bring their own food containers to pack food items from the canteen**, if required. To learn more about HMSP and help your child cultivate healthy eating habits, please visit the HPB's website at: <https://www.hpb.gov.sg/schools/school-programmes/healthy-meals-in-schools-programme>.



ST 2 Empowering and Engaging Staff for Professional Excellence and Leadership



25. Staff Recognition—We congratulate the following teachers on their new appointments as leaders in the education fraternity:

No.	Name of Officer	New Appointment
1	Mr Herman bin Ponijo	Subject Head/Student Well-Being
2	Mr Syed Imran bin Jamaludin	Senior Teacher/Special Education Needs

26. We also congratulate the following staff for their recognition as Active Members of the Singapore Learning Designers Circle (SgLDC) in 2022 and appreciate their spirit of excellence and leadership in contributing to the school and fraternity:

No.	Name of Officer	Badge Awarded
1	Mr Choy Yu Wai	Curator
2	Mr Lim Wei Heng, Edwin	Designer
3	Miss Lim Ai Ying	Designer
4	Mr Muhammad Haziq Bin Zailani	Designer
5	Miss Grace Tan	Designer
6	Mdm Ng Boon Shuen	Designer, Virtual Meet Presenter Testimonial
7	Mdm Sun I-Feng	Designer, Virtual Meet Presenter Testimonial

Nomination for the President's Award for Teachers (PAT) and Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA)

Award	Intent of Award	Closing Date
OYEA 2023	To recognise excellent young teachers for their youthful idealism, energy, enthusiasm and active involvement in the development of our students.	11 January 2023 Please submit your nomination at: go.gov.sg/oyea2023 
PAT 2023	To give national recognition to experienced teachers for their dedication and hard work in developing our young. These teachers prepare students for life, as well as model commitment to continuous learning and enterprise. They inspire both their students and peers through their words and deeds.	11 January 2023 Please submit your nomination at: go.gov.sg/pat2023 

27. We welcome the following new staff members who have joined our Dazhong family:

1.	Mdm Siti Mariam (HOD/Mathematics)	2.	Mdm Tan Sing Ye (HOD/English Language)
3.	Mr Jonathan Goh (Assistant Year Head)	4.	Mr Tan Sei Hiong (Subject Head/PE)
5.	Mrs Charmaine Chia (EL and MA teacher)	6.	Mdm Evelyn Tan (EL and MA teacher)
7.	Miss Lin Huiyu Vanessa (EL and MA teacher)	8.	Ms Shereen Ong Pei Zi (EL and MA teacher)

9.	Mdm Lee Siew Teng (CL teacher)	10.	Mdm Nur Ain (ML teacher)
11.	Mr Muhammad Nasrul (Art teacher)		

28. We bid farewell to the following staff and thank them for their service to the school:

- i) Mrs Amelia Phua (Year Head)
- ii) Miss Edelia Tan Jiamin (Allied Educator)

Staff Appreciation @ Dazhong

29. We would like to invite you to share your appreciation for our staff who have demonstrated dedication and excellence. Please send compliments for our staff to <https://go.gov.sg/dzpsappreciates>. Also, look out for information on good work by our staff displayed on the noticeboards near the school gate.



ST 3 Engaging partnership to prepare our learners to be future-ready, by promoting environmental stewardship and curriculum-innovation

Every Parent A Supportive Partner

Term 1 Parent Engagement Sessions

30. The Term 1 Parent Engagement Sessions will take place online on **Friday, 3 February 2023 (2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.)**. Details such as the Zoom links and programme will be sent via Parents Gateway. We look forward to meeting you then!



Communication with Parents/Guardians

31. Please note there are several channels that the school uses to communicate with parents and guardians. These include:

- a) Student Handbook
- b) Parent Engagement Sessions and Parent-Teacher Dialogue Sessions
- c) Parents Gateway—Termly Letters/Notification Letters/Consent Forms
- d) Principal's Messages
- e) Updates via School Website
- f) School telephone numbers
- g) Teachers' email addresses (on school website)
- h) Meetings/Visits (please make prior arrangements)

32. We welcome your supportive partnership to provide positive and holistic feedback to school leaders via our school email: dazhong_ps@moe.edu.sg or via the General Office.

33. Parents/Guardians who wish to consult any teachers regarding their child's/ward's progress in learning may call the school or teachers for an appointment before coming to school as teachers cannot leave the class unattended to attend to a parent/guardian. You may contact the General Office to make an appointment at Tel: 6565 8002.

Dads for Life @ Dazhong

34. Dads for Life @ Dazhong was set up with the following objectives in mind:

- a) Promote father-child bonding through sporting and outdoor activities
- b) Create platform and opportunities for fathers to contribute to their children's school experiences
- c) Help fathers to be a positive influence in the total development of their children

35. For 2023, the Dads for Life core team will continue to plan exciting events and opportunities for you to engage your child. Look out for our event announcements on Parents Gateway and our Telegram channel. Scan the QR code to join!
<https://go.gov.sg/dzdfi-telegram>



Parents Support Group (PSG)

36. We strongly believe in engaging our Parents-in-Education to support us in providing quality and holistic education to our students and positive learning experiences in their primary school years. As such, we would like to encourage parents to join our school's PSG. Interested parents can fill in the application form at the General Office or download the PSG application form at the School Website:
<https://go.gov.sg/dzpsg>



Request for Donation of Books

37. The school library is constantly in the process of updating our collection of library books. Parents who would like to contribute to the school may donate children's books that are recent and still in good condition. Please inform your child to drop the books off at the General Office.

Safety and Security / Other Administrative Matters

Digitalisation of Individual Student Details Report (ISDR)

38. The Ministry of Education (MOE) would like to request for an update of your information and your child's/ward's information via the Student Details Form (SDF) for the purpose of providing educational services to your child/ward in MOE schools. Please submit the information through the SDF portal which can be accessed via this URL: <https://pq.moe.edu.sg/forms/sdf> or the QR code. Parents/Legal Guardians may login to the SDF portal using your Singpass account to submit your information and information of your child/ward. Authorised Caregivers can only submit your own information.

39. The SDF portal can be accessed via desktop computers or mobile devices such as laptops and mobile phones. We seek your help to complete the submission by **31 January 2023**. You may also wish to know that the SDF portal will be accessible till the last day of Term 4 for you to provide timely updates of your information and/or your child's/ward's information. Please contact us at dazhong_ps@moe.edu.sg or at Tel: 65658002 if you encounter any problems in accessing the portal.



Student Group Personal Accident Insurance (GPA) 2023

40. MOE has procured a GPA for our students for the period of 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023. The contracted insurance service provider is NTUC Income. With effect from 2022, parents/guardians are required to submit all student accident insurance claims electronically via the online portal at <https://studentgpa.incomegroupins.com.sg/#/>. You will be able to check the claims status as well as submit new claims for the medical reviews of the same incident through this portal. If you require any assistance with regard to claim matters, please do not hesitate to contact our Administrative Staff at Tel: 65658002 or email to dazhong_ps@moe.edu.sg.

School Health and Dental Services

41. MOE partners with the Health Promotion Board (HPB) for the provision of health and dental services for our students. Dental services are available in school and the dental clinic operates on alternate weeks from 8.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (Mondays to Thursdays) and from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Fridays). In the event of a dental emergency such as trauma, facial/gum swelling, toothache

due to decay conditions, during dental clinic closure, please call the School Dental Centre, HPB at Tel: 64353782 for assistance.

42. You will be notified of any scheduled health screening, immunisation and dental check-ups for your child/ward during or after school hours. Your **consent** is needed to ensure that your child/ward receives these important health and dental services. You may access the child consent portal at <https://go.gov.sg/hpb-ccp> or via the QR code provided.



Issuance of Student Handbook 2023

43. A copy of the Student Handbook 2023 will be distributed to every Dazhong Student **by 13 January 2023**. Please note that a replacement copy of the handbook will cost \$2.60, if required.

Issuance of School T-Shirt 2023—Dare to Shine

44. Every Dazhong Student will be receiving the Dazhong Dare to Shine purple T-shirt by the end of January 2023. The T-shirt will be distributed to students through their form teachers. Please note that a replacement T-shirt will cost \$6.20, if required.

Photo-Taking for Primary 1 and Primary 6 Students for the School Smart Cards (2023)

45. MOE will be conducting the yearly photo-taking exercise for all students in Primary One (P1) and Primary Six (P6) for the purpose of generating the School Smart Card (SSC). The photo-taking will be conducted by Transit Link's appointed vendor on behalf of MOE. The SSC serves as the student's identification card and can be used for concessionary travel on public transport and to borrow library books from the National Library Board and the school's library, amongst other usage.
46. The photo-taking session for our school is scheduled on **22 and 23 February 2023**, during school hours. Following the photo-taking, P1 students will get their SSCs by end March 2023, while the photos for P6 students will be used for the printing of Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary One in 2024. For P1 students, while pending the receipt of the SSCs, they can continue to use the Child Concession Card for free travel on public transport until 30 April 2023.
47. Please be informed that all P1 and P6 students are required to be dressed in their school uniform for the photo-taking session. Please also ensure that your child's/ward's hair is neat and tidy. If your child/ward is unable to attend the photo-taking session, the school will either arrange for him/her to have his/her photo taken on another day or request the parent/guardian to submit a softcopy of their photo to the school. If you have any queries, please contact us at dazhong_ps@moe.edu.sg.

Safety & Security

48. For the safety and security of our students, visitors to the school compound are only allowed on official matters. **All visitors are to report to the Security Post first to obtain a visitor's pass.** There, they will be required to complete an online Visitors' Registration Form. Visitors without a valid visitor's pass issued by the school for the designated area of access will be stopped by our security guards/staff and requested to leave the school compound. We appeal for your cooperation in this matter as the safety of our students is of utmost concern.
49. We seek your partnership in inculcating in your child/ward the value of responsibility so your child/ward will be responsible for bringing the items that are required for his/her learning. As such, we will not be delivering items such as textbooks, uniform, T-shirts, homework to your child/ward.

Traffic Management & Road Safety

50. Parents/guardians who drive, please note this advisory to make our school zone safe for all:

- Drive carefully at all times, at a much reduced speed (15 km/h) within the school zone.
- Parents are advised not to alight from the vehicle to hand over the school bags, or bid their child/ward goodbye. This is to facilitate a smoother traffic flow especially during the peak periods where such actions will cause traffic obstructions and create a hazard to other drivers, including those who might try to overtake your vehicle.
- Children/Wards should be dropped-off only at the designated drop-off location (opposite the vehicular gate). Alternate location is at the HDB car parks serving Block 308 and 309. There is no parking charge for vehicles exiting within 10 minutes.
- It is dangerous and not advisable to drop off your children/wards along the driveway leading to the HDB carpark of Block 308 and 309 due to heavy traffic during morning peak hours.
- Do note that there is no right turn into Bukit Batok Street 31 from 7.00 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. This is to create a safer crossing for our students and staff.
- To ensure a smooth flow of traffic, all parents/guardians are to follow the instructions given by the security guards and staff on duty.
- Continue to exercise care at all times and look out for students while driving within the school zone and in the school compound.

51. Thank you once again for your supportive partnership and I look forward to working with you to bring out the best in every Dazhong student. ***Dare to Shine!***

Mdm Rina Yap Siu Lin
Principal