



30 Aug 2024

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Principal's note

The Gifted Education Programme (GEP) has been a part of Singapore's education landscape for 40 years, and our school has been proud to offer it since 1997. Over the years, around 800 of our students have benefited from the GEP, each with their unique strengths and achievements. The recent MOE announcement on changes to the GEP aligns with Singapore's goal to redefine success, recognizing diverse talents and abilities beyond traditional notions of higher ability.

The changes will take effect from 2027, with no impact on our existing GEP students. As we embrace this change, we are reviewing our processes and structures to ensure that we continue to support our students' diverse needs and abilities. We are committed to providing opportunities for all students to reach their full potential.

Our recent Makers Day event showcased our commitment to holistic learning, with students showcasing innovative projects that blended integrated concepts of science, language, art and hands-on learning. The exhibits demonstrated our students' ability to think critically, solve problems, and express themselves creatively. This event, which is part of our signature INOVAT programme, embodies our dedication to nurturing different abilities and providing opportunities for all students to shine.

As we celebrate Teachers' Day, we honour the dedication and hard work of all our teachers, who inspire and nurture our students' growth. We also extend our appreciation to our administrative, operations, and support staff, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment. Together, they form a cohesive team that makes a positive impact on our students' educational journey.

We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to you, our parents and guardians, for partnering with us to ensure every child can reach their full potential. Your support and collaboration are invaluable to us, and we look forward to continuing our journey together.

*Honesty in Performance
Pride in Service*

Charles Chan
Principal

1 Term 4 SHINE Day

On 9 September 2024, we will be celebrating our final SHINE Day of the year! Get ready for a day filled with activities focused on students' well-being, strengthening connections with classmates, and, most importantly, having fun in an engaging way. During the one-hour recess, students will have the opportunity to dive into a world of discovery through hands-on Mathematics and Science activities that will ignite their curiosity.

For our upper primary students, the spotlight will be on our highly anticipated annual Career Fair. This event will be a game-changer, offering students a rare opportunity to meet and mingle with alumni from a wide range of industries. They will walk away inspired and informed about the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.

Let's make Term 4 unforgettable and SHINE brighter than ever!

2 Annual Health Screening by Health Promotion Board (HPB)

As informed via Parents Gateway (PG) earlier, the Health Promotion Board has scheduled the annual Health Screening for our P1–P6 students from 10–24 September 2024. The exact dates for the various classes will be provided via PG before the end of the September school holidays.

On the day of the health check, your child may come dressed in PE attire. If your child wears spectacles, please ensure they bring them along as well.

Immunizations will be administered for P1 and P5 students only. These students are required to submit their health booklets (complete with immunization records) to the school.

Parents who do not wish for their child to undergo HPB's health screening in school may write to Contact_YPS@hpb.gov.sg.

3 Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) for Primary 1 - Primary 5 Parents

For our second PTM of the year, we will continue with the approach introduced last year by inviting only selected parents. This allows us to better address the specific needs of these students. Primary 1 to Primary 5 students are not required to attend school on the PTM day. However, Primary 6 students should report to school as usual for their lessons and will be dismissed at 1.30pm.

Please refer to the following information for the PTM details:

Date	20 September 2024, Friday	Teachers involved
Time	7:30 am – 1:30 pm	Primary 1 to Primary 5 Form Teachers
Mode of Meeting	Face-to-face	

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to your child's form/subject teacher.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in making this PTM a valuable experience for everyone involved. We look forward to strengthening the bond between parents, teachers, and students to ensure the best possible educational support for each child.

Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) Timeslot Booking via Parents Gateway (PG)

Parents selected to attend the upcoming PTM can book their timeslots through the Parents Gateway (PG) app. Through PG, you can conveniently book your preferred timeslot. For detailed instructions on how to book and amend a scheduled timeslot, please refer to [Annex A](#), which contains comprehensive guide.

Kindly note that the timeslots will be allocated on a first-come-first-serve basis once the booking system opens. To ensure you secure your preferred timeslot, we encourage you to make your bookings promptly. The online booking system will be accessible during the following dates and times:

	Booking System Opens	Booking System Closes
Date	9 September 2024, Monday	13 September 2024, Friday
Time	9:00 am	5:00 pm

4 Children's Day Celebration

Children's Day is a special occasion dedicated to celebrating children. This year, Children's Day will be observed on 4 October 2024, Friday. It will be a school holiday, and students will return to school on 7 October 2024, Monday.

To mark the occasion, the school will celebrate Children's Day on 3 October 2024, Thursday. Here are the details of the celebration:

Date:	3 October 2024, Thursday
Reporting Time:	By 7.25 a.m.
Dismissal Time:	Primary 1 to Primary 3 students – 10:45 am Primary 4 to Primary 6 students – 11:00 am
Things to bring:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water bottle • Snack for snack break
Note:	<p>Participation in the carnival booths is free for the students. However, students will need to pay for any food or drink items they purchase from the canteen. Only two stalls, the drinks stall (Avalanche) and the snacks stall (Tummy Soothers), will be operational on this day.</p> <p>Due to the early dismissal, there will be no recess break. Instead, students will be provided with a snack break.</p>

The school is co-organising the Children's Day Carnival with HPPA to ensure a fun and safe environment for our students. We aim to reinforce our school values of **Respect, Integrity, Care and Excellence (RICE)** as students navigate the various booths with their friends.

We would like to extend our gratitude to HPPA for their partnership in making this Children's Day Carnival possible.

5 Class-Based Awards

We are excited to continue presenting class-based awards, which were introduced last year, to celebrate our students' unique strengths and qualities throughout their six years at HPPS. These awards recognize the attributes that make our students special.

Award recipients will be selected based on input from both their classmates and teachers, ensuring that those who stand out for their unique qualities are acknowledged. Please note that these awards are informal and will not be included in the students' official report books.

Certificates for the Primary 1 to Primary 5 awardees will be distributed on 3 October 2024, during the Children's Day celebration. Primary 6 awardees will receive their certificates on 12 November 2024 at their Graduation Party.

Our Primary 1 students embarked on an exciting Hi-lite educational learning journey this term, titled “Walking through the Garden.” Their visit to the Jacob Ballas Children’s Garden provided them with a unique opportunity to connect with nature in a safe and stimulating environment. Working in groups, the students explored various locations in the garden including the farm, potting garden, pond, waterfall cave, and suspension bridge. In the process, the students completed different learning tasks using the Nearpod application.

As they walked through the garden, they observed the rich diversity of plants and animals in the environment. Students also had the chance to engage their senses by touching *Mimosa pudica* (the sensitive plant) and smelling various plants like curry leaves, lemongrass, and pandan leaves.

This educational adventure not only broadened our Primary 1 students' knowledge and understanding of nature but also helped them develop essential skills such as teamwork, communication, and critical thinking—all while having fun exploring the great outdoors together!



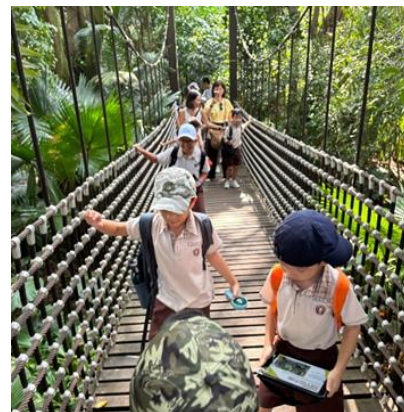
Using Nearpod app to learn how various plants and spices are used in daily life and included in Asian cuisine.



Hunting for edible fruits and plants at the farm.



Observing what happens to the leaves of the mimosa plant as we touch them gently.



Making our way across the suspension bridge.

In Term 3, our Primary 2 students embraced the theme “Food for the Body” through a series of hands-on baking workshops. For the first time, the P2 classes participated in a collective voting process, selecting their preferred baking workshops from a range of exciting options. Students had the opportunity to craft delicious treats such as brownies, cupcakes, cookies, and pizzas, while integrating math concepts like mass and volume, along with related topics from other subjects.

These workshops expanded the students' vocabulary related to ingredients and kitchen equipment, while also emphasizing essential aspects of kitchen safety and hygiene. Through activities such as mixing, stirring, and decorating, the students not only developed their independence, creativity, and patience, but also applied their skills in practical, real-world contexts. This engaging journey made learning both enjoyable and meaningful, as students savored the results of their efforts.



Making the Pizza dough as a group.



Cupcake making in progress, it's quite exciting to do it together.



Look at my cupcakes, it's beautiful and I love it!



Cookie-making is never that fun!

7 Celebrating Singapore's 59th National Day: Together, As One United People

As Singapore's 59th National Day approached, our school buzzed with excitement as we rolled out a series of lively activities to mark the occasion. This year's theme, "Together, As One United People," captured our commitment to fostering unity and understanding among our students.

a. Mama Shop & Sand Art Assembly Performance

The celebration kicked off with an exciting dive into our cultural heritage, focusing on the disappearing trades that once defined our nation. The highlight was a vibrant 'Mama shop' art installation, where students got hands-on with fun activities blending Art and Math. Adding to the excitement, our assembly featured a mesmerizing Sand Art performance, bringing to life key moments in Singapore's growth. These experiences were a fun and powerful reminder of the importance of preserving our cultural roots.



Students exploring the space for their Math lesson



A close-up at the Mama shop



Students engaging in lessons to explore the disappearing trades



Teacher and student trying out sand art



Sand Art performance



Student displaying her art piece

b. National Day Concert

On 8th August 2024, the whole school came together in a spirited celebration of patriotism. The day started with a heartwarming dramatization by a teacher-student duo, where a grandpa and his grandson took us on a nostalgic trip through Singapore's early National Day parades. The energy soared with a dazzling modern twist on the traditional dragon dance by our Contemporary Dance group. The concert hit its peak with enchanting performances from our talented dancers and Choir, and the grand finale had everyone on their feet, singing along to National Day songs. A special video featuring our students dancing to the theme song 'Not Alone,' followed by a powerful rendition of 'Home,' filled the hall with joy and pride.



Students witnessing the grit displayed by our pioneers during the first national day parade



Choir's enchanting performance



Our award-winning grandpa-grandson duo



Observance ceremony with our Principal, Mr Chan



Eager students awaiting the start of the concert



Contemporary dancers' modern interpretation of dragon dance

The celebration did not end there! The festive spirit carried on into the classrooms, where students dived into discussions and activities that deepened their connection to the values that unite us as Singaporeans. We hope these activities brought not just joy but also a deep sense of pride in our students as they celebrated National Day within our school's lively and nurturing community.



Students learning about disappearing trades



Student writing their National Day pledge



P5 students sharing their NE Show montage in class

c. P1-P4 Games Day 2024

For the first time, in celebration of National Day, we also held the Games Day for Primary 1 to 4 students. The day was filled with energy and enthusiasm. Our Primary 1 and 2 students participated in relays that incorporated movement skills with some involving the use of implements. Students demonstrated great teamwork as they worked together to complete their respective races. The competitive nature of the relays added to the excitement. Students cheered loudly for their classmates and those who won beamed with pride as they received the medals.

The canteen, Lower ISH and both Kidzones were transformed to play areas for the Primary 3 and 4 Games Day. Primary 3 and 4 students collaborated with their classmates to complete tasks involving combination skills. The tasks were designed to allow for teamwork, and this strengthened

the friendship between classmates. Sportsmanship was evident as students cheered for friends from other classes. Students also had the opportunity to better their score as they could attempt the tasks repeatedly.

This event was a success due to the enthusiasm and effort of the HPPS staff and Primary 5 and 6 Sports CCA Leaders.



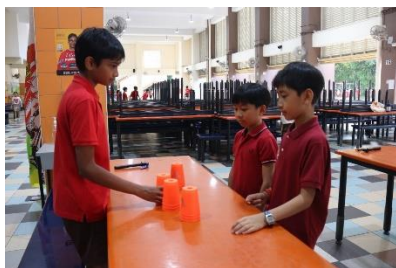
Our Primary 1 students giving their best in the relay race.



Primary 2 student dribbling around the cones in the relay race.



P3 and P4 students working together with their peers to complete the game station.



Our Sports CCA Leader explaining the task to the Primary 3 students.



The canteen was also transformed into one of the play areas for the Primary 3 and 4 students.



Primary 3 and 4 students racing against each other in a dribbling and shooting contest.

8 P4 Learning Journey to Gardens by the Bay

During Week 5 of Term 3, the Primary 4 students embarked on an educational excursion to Gardens by the Bay. This trip was designed not only to enhance their understanding of plant systems beyond the classroom but also to integrate learning across various subjects. The experience also incorporated Mathematics, specifically the study of angles, and English, focusing on acrostic poems, creating a multidisciplinary approach to education within the vibrant setting of the bay area.

As part of their enrichment program, titled 'The Survivors,' the students explored the distinctive trees found in the Flower Dome and Cloud Forest. This hands-on experience provided a valuable opportunity for students to engage deeply with the material, making the learning journey both immersive and enriching. Overall, the excursion proved to be a highly beneficial and engaging educational experience for the students.



P4 students before the lesson at Gardens by the Bay



Learning from the expert about the Grass tree



Students were fascinated by the Baobab tree



It is 'wet' at the waterfall at the Cloud Forest

8 Calendar of Events

A copy of the Term 4 Calendar of Events will be provided to your child. Please refer to [Annex B](#).

9 Parenting Article

Are fewer exams a worry? 'Students actually learn more this way'

Removing mid-year exams for students has led some parents to wonder if their children will be adequately prepared for major national exams. Dr Karen Lam, MOE's Master Specialist of Assessment Policy and Practice, shares why the change is, in fact, better for learning.

You may read more from this [article](#).

Vision

Lead with Character, Serve with Talents

Mission

Nurturing concerned citizens with integrity and a spirit of excellence through holistic education

School Values

Respect, Integrity, Care, Excellence



HPPS 2024 Term 4 School Calendar (Mon 9 Sep to Fri 15 Nov)

Date/Day	Event	Remarks
13 Sep, Fri	PSLE Listening Comprehension	P1 – P5 students do not come to school on this day.
20 Sep, Fri	Parent-Teacher Meeting (P1 – P5)	For selected P1 – P5 parents only. HBL for P1 – P5 <i>*For P6 students are to come to school as lessons are as per normal timetable.</i>
26 Sep, Thur	PSLE English Language Paper 1 & 2	P1 - P5 students come to school
27 Sep, Fri	PSLE Mathematics	P1 - P5 students come to school
30 Sep, Mon	PSLE Mother Tongue Paper 1 & 2	P1 - P5 students come to school
1 Oct, Tue	PSLE Science	P1 - P5 students come to school
2 Oct, Wed	PSLE Higher Mother Tongue Paper 1 & 2	P1 - P5 students come to school
3 Oct, Thur	Children's Day Celebration	7.30am to 11.00 am
4 Oct, Fri	Children's Day	School Holiday
7 Oct, Mon	P4 SA2 / P3 & P5 EOY EL Paper 1	
8 Oct, Tue	P4 SA2 / P3 & P5 EOY MT Paper 1	
14 Oct, Mon – 16 Oct, Wed	PSLE Marking Exercise	P1 - P6 students do not come to school.
18 Oct, Fri	P5 EOY HMT Paper 1 & 2	
21 Oct, Mon	P4 SA2 / P3 & P5 EOY EL Paper 2 & Listening Comprehension	
22 Oct, Tue	P4 SA2 / P3 & P5 EOY Math	
23 Oct, Wed	P4 SA2 / P3 & P5 EOY Mother Tongue & Listening Comprehension	
24 Oct, Thur	P4 SA2 / P3 & P5 EOY Science	
31 Oct, Thur	Deepavali	Public Holiday
1 Nov, Fri	Admin Day	P1 to P6 students do not come to school.
11 Nov, Mon	Makers Day	
12 Nov, Tue	P6 Graduation Party	P1 – P5 students do not come to school.
13 Nov, Wed	HPPS Celebrates	<i>*Only prize winners come to school*</i> *P1 – P6 students do not come to school
14 Nov, Thur	P1 Orientation	P1 – P6 students do not come to school.
15 Nov, Fri	Admin Day	P1 to P6 students do not come to school.
16 Nov 20234, Sat – 31 Dec 2024, Tue	Year-End School Vacation	
1 Jan 2025, Wed	New Year's Day	Public Holiday

(For mainstream students only)