



001/2018

MERIDIAN Times

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It has been a great start in Semester 1.
We focused on building relationships and building a culture of care.

In this issue of our newsletter,
we bring you an overview of the students' school adventure in the past months.

Vision

Future Learners Future Citizens Future Leaders

Mission

To provide a quality educational experience that maximises the potential of all pupils through delivery of a holistic student-centric curriculum anchored on values, safety, health, continuous improvement and collaborative partnership with all stakeholders

Motto

To Learn, To Love, To Lead

Values

Passion
Responsibility

Care
Respect

Integrity
Teamwork

Message from the Principal



Dear Parents,

Time has gone by quickly and we've had a good first semester for this academic year. This year, we had a new initiative, our *Start Right Start Bright* Programme. For the first three days of school, my team of teachers with the support staff organised various level and class-based activities which focussed on building strong relationship among the students, as well as with their teachers. The Year Heads and Assistant Year Heads also shared their expectations for the respective levels while the form and subject teachers got to know their students better through these interactions.

I too, had the opportunity to speak to the students and shared three things that I wanted for us to do better in 2018. Being part of the Meridian family, I believe that we can **care** and **empathise** better for each other. I asked the students to think of how they can be a good friend – one who is encouraging, takes time to care and uses words that heal, not hurt. I reminded the students that they needed to be **responsible** for their own thoughts and actions and not be quick to blame others. Lastly, I urged the students to always uphold their **integrity** and do what is right, even when no one is watching. As my teachers continue to teach and encourage our students to uphold these values, I seek your support in helping to emphasise these values with your children at home too. Through these interactions and conversations with our students, we will be able to strengthen the culture of care that we have in Meridian Primary!

I hope that you will enjoy looking through our publication, Meridian Times. We started with the online version last year and this year, we are providing each student with their own copy. This publication captures the different activities and achievement we have accomplished in this semester. As we move on to the next semester, we will continue in our efforts to engage our students in *Joyful Learning Joyful Hearts* as well as *nurture Strong Bodies Strong Minds*.

Yours sincerely,
Liza Rahmat

JOYful Learning Joyful Hearts



The Start Right Start Bright - First Three Days of School Programme was a time for the students to set their expectations for the academic year, and the whole school came together to foster greater friendship bonds and build teacher-student relationships.



“ I enjoyed the games very much and felt happy that ‘school’ didn’t start immediately. ”

- Amirah Zafirah, 5RB





▲ The many colourful ethnic clothes liven up the festive mood.



Chinese New Year Celebrations and Annual Food Donation Drive

The school celebrated Chinese New Year (CNY) on 15 February. Several performances were put up by the various CCA groups, such as the Chinese dance and Guzheng. The P1 students also showcased their musical talents at the concert through the playing of the Chinese drums. The lion dance performance truly heightened the celebrative atmosphere that day.

Throughout that week, several festive-related activities were organised at the MTL Secret Garden during recess. Some of these activities were - the making of various handicrafts using red packets, Chinese Calligraphy and the Chinese New Year greeting board. The Chinese New Year celebrations was truly a great opportunity for students to appreciate the Chinese culture.

The annual CNY Food Donation Drive was organised as part of the school's effort to contribute to the community. Members from Cub Scouts CCA, student leaders and parent volunteers helped to collect and pack food items and distributed them to families living in the Pasir Ris neighbourhood. It was indeed a meaningful and enriching activity for all teachers and students.



▲ Our P1 students displayed their musical skills in Chinese drums.

“ The Food Donation Drive is very meaningful because I get to help the needy families.

”

- Natalie Tan, 5RT



P4 and P5 Traffic Games

The Traffic Games at the Road Safety Park was a fun-filled experience that reinforced our P4 and P5 students' understanding of road safety rules.

“ It was a fun learning experience! I am so thankful to have been given a chance to be a cyclist!

”

- Isabella Leow, 5CA



Meridian Eco-bazaar

The much anticipated annual Meridian Eco-bazaar was held in February. Enviro-Science Club students had the opportunity to engage the whole school in reducing waste by encouraging everyone to donate unwanted books, toys and stationeries that were still in good condition and to put them up for sale at the bazaar. By advocating to reuse items which would otherwise have been thrown away, students applied the 3Rs in a fun way.

“ Every year, I look forward to buy re-usable items at the Eco-bazaar because I know that by doing so, I can help to save the environment.

”

- Tan Shi Yu, 4CA



◀ Kids and Recycling: They Can Help!



The Total Defence Day theme this year, "Together We Keep Singapore Strong" – focusses in the many ways how we can put Total Defence into actions in our everyday lives.

To commemorate Total Defence Day, class activities were conducted across the 6 levels. The activities include quizzes, interactive discussions, writing appreciative messages and, colouring and word puzzle contests.

Through "Our Ready Bag" display in the school library, students learnt about the important items required during an emergency.

A team of Meridian Student Leaders, led by Quzandria Qistina Binti Rommie (6RB), Adam Hariz Bin Mohammed Ansari (6RT), Sobhirala Sreenivasa Sri Ganapati Karthikeyan (6RT) and Sharifah Romana Binte Wan Raihan (6RB), participated in the SCDF Junior Lionhearter Challenge 2018. The competition was held at Singapore Discovery Centre where 21 schools were involved in the competition.

The team had to design and prepare their own "Ready Bag" and each participating team was required to overcome different obstacles related to Emergency Preparedness and Basic First Aid. With determination and teamwork, the team emerged as the 2nd runner up in the competition.

The P5 student leaders who were present at the competition were wonderful supporters as they spurred the team on with their words of encouragement.

Through the guided tour and activities at Singapore Discovery Centre, students were able to deepen their understanding of Total Defence Day and Emergency Preparedness.



“It is important to know about Total Defence because it is part of our history.”

- Adam Hariz, 6RT



Meridian Cub Scout Camp

The annual Cub Scout camp was held in school in March. As part of the camp activities, the Cub Scouts went on a learning journey to Gardens by the Bay where they learnt scouting skills such as knotting and pioneering, gardening tips and made use of recycled materials to make terrariums and paper boxes. The highlight of the camp was the campfire! Through their enthusiastic participation of all camp activities, the Cub Scouts were able to attain the Naturalist Proficiency badge.

“ I enjoyed being the emcee for the campfire. I have the opportunity to lead my friends in the scout cheers and songs. The camp was fun and it inspires me to be a better scout! ”

- Vijayasekar Hermasree, 5PA



◀ Learning to balance time spent online by engaging in other activities!



▲
Tips to aid in guiding your child to navigate the cyberspace, e.g. tip sheet on managing cyber bullying.

2018 Cyber Wellness Week

Cyber Wellness Week was held in May with school-wide activities that aims to promote greater awareness about cyber safety and being a positive influence online. During assembly, the Cyber Wellness Student Ambassadors (CWSA) shared tips on managing excessive internet usage as well as the various ways to help students differentiate fake news when communicating with their peers.

Students also had a great time participating in a variety of Cyber Wellness activities during their recesses. These activities were designed to reinforce safety and responsibility online!

“ I enjoyed the recess activities and I learnt more about how to be safe online. ”

- Theo Aprile Silva,
1CA

Strong Bodies Strong Minds



Opening of School Library

The newly renovated Meridian Library opened its doors on 12 January. Since its opening, various reading activities such as movie screening, story-telling sessions, book talks and book quizzes have been conducted. Everyone is welcome to the new library which provides a wider and newer range of books and magazines. iPads have also been installed so that students can do self-directed learning in the library.



“ The newly renovated library is really inviting. With a wider selection of books, it makes me want to stay there and read all day.

”

- Ally Lam Tung, 5CA



► NLB DiscoverReads

1. Encourage your child to participate in National Library events during leisure.
2. Stay updated on the latest reading trends.
3. Inspire your child by being a good reading role model.



The Secret Garden – Learning the Mother Tongue Languages

▲ P2 students getting ready for the dragon dance performance.

An opening ceremony was held at the MTL Secret Garden on 9 February. This room has been specially designed to promote and enhance the learning, and greater appreciation of the different Mother Tongue Languages and cultures. Some of these design features include docking stations for iPads, designated wall areas to display students' artefacts and a mini stage for student presentations.

The P2 students performed the kompong and dragon dance during the opening ceremony. After the opening ceremony, they also played different traditional games such as pazhanguli, batu seremban and did paper cutting. The experience provided students with the exposure to the different cultures through play.

The day's activities were the start of a series of activities which have been planned for the year to excite students in learning their Mother Tongue Languages and more importantly, provide the opportunity for students to appreciate one another's traditional culture.

“This is an exciting moment because it's the first time that we have a beautifully decorated room designated for Mother Tongue Language activities. We look forward to the activities in the room as they promote the joy of learning for the different languages.

”

- **Mdm Tang Tsin Ray,**
Assistant Year Head



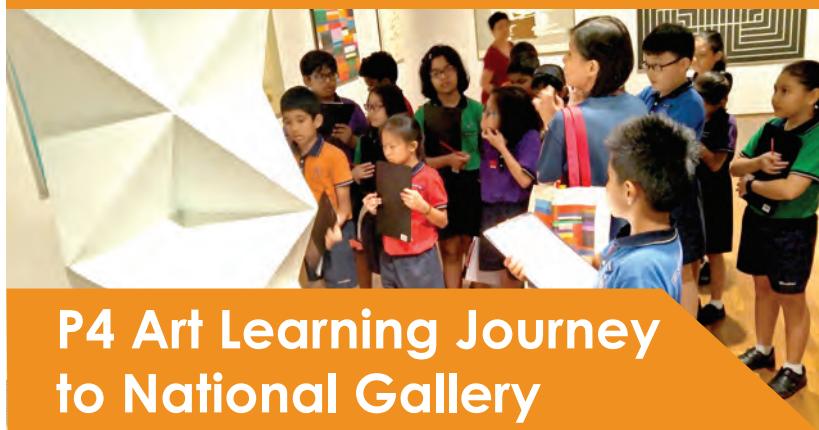


Pasir Ris West Lunar New Year Performance @ Pasir Ris Elias Community Centre

On 25 February, the school's Performing Arts CCA groups were invited to perform at the Pasir Ris Elias Community Centre during the Lunar New Year Dinner. It was an event graced by Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Teo Chee Hean. Through that experience, the students gained the confidence to perform in front of a large group of audience. Many were grateful to have the opportunity to be involved in community work by performing for the residents.

“I am thankful for this opportunity to perform in public as I could gain more stage experience through this performance.

- Judan Patricia Louise Delos Trinos, 5RT



P4 Art Learning Journey to National Gallery

The Aesthetics department organised a Learning Journey for 113 of our P4 students to the National Gallery. This learning journey forms part of our school's continuous strive to pique the interest of our students in Visual Arts as well as to introduce them to Singapore's pioneer artists and their Art works. Docents from the National Gallery guided students through different trails and engaged them with discussions and hands-on activities. Some of the exhibits that the students viewed were Tetrahedron by Ms Han Sai Por and Black and White by Mr Anthony Poon.

◀ One of the docents, Ms Wei Ling, engaging the students in a sculpture, Tetrahedron, by Han Sai Por



◀ One of the six groups of students who went on the Learning Journey

“This experience gave students the opportunity to engage in visual language, learn about local pioneer artists and observe museum etiquette in a fun way.”

- Mdm Siti Saleha,
Teacher



Aesthetics Week

On 22 and 23 May, P1 to P6 students had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the Arts during their recesses. They were given the creative freedom to express themselves through different art forms.

A variety of artworks using recycled materials such as the bottle print artwork and the paper bag trees were created by students who love craftwork.

To engage avid readers, there were stations where students created emoji origami bookmarks and superhero ice cream stick bookmarks. Students who had a flair for performing arts tried their hands on African drums. African drumming circles were set up and students explored the different sounds and timbres of the Conga and the Djembe. All students got to draw on a huge communal artwork, where they expressed their ideas and thoughts based on the theme of "What is Art?"



Singapore Rhapsodies @ National Museum

On 23 March, 6 Meridians performed at the National Museum of Singapore during the Singapore Rhapsodies. The Singapore Rhapsodies is a bi-weekly music series in which young musicians are invited to showcase their arts talents in performing arts to the public at the National Museum. The performers were mainly finalists of Meridian's Got Talent 2017 and selected students from the weekly Music Express programme. The 30-minutes performance ended with a beatbox duet, which was well-liked by the audience.

" I felt proud performing at the National Museum and I look forward to participating in more of such fun-filled performances in future.

"
- Puli Smriti, 3CA



Check out Sing50 Facebook page for the 2016, 2017 and 2018 students' performances.



Singapore Youth Festival Showcase

Three Performing Arts CCAs (Chinese Dance, Malay Dance and Guzheng) participated in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation this year. The biennial event offers opportunities for continuous learning and improvement through feedback from industry professionals. After many months of preparations, the students' efforts finally paid off. The Guzheng CCA was awarded Certificate of Distinction while the Chinese Dance and Malay Dance CCAs were awarded Certificate of Accomplishment.

“ Congratulations to all our students who have participated in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts presentation. Their efforts have paid off. Most importantly, they are able to develop their self-confidence through this experience.

”

- Miss Tan Shi Ying
Subject Head, Aesthetics





P2 Learning Journey to Singapore Philatelic Museum

The P2 students visited the Singapore Philatelic Museum in April as part of the P2 Social Studies curriculum. They learnt about stamps and how stamps provided a window into the history of Singapore and the world.

The various stamp exhibits and guided tour provided students with a walk-through of Singapore's heritage, culture, vanishing trades and important historical milestones. At the end of the learning journey, students could appreciate the customs and traditions practised by the different communities in Singapore.

“ I had fun at the museum! I learnt that there are different types of stamps. I was surprised to know that there are stamps that glow in the dark and some are even scented! I hope to go to the stamp museum again.

- Alexis Chia, 2CA





P4 Learning Journey to Peranakan Museum

As part of the P4 Social Studies curriculum, a learning journey to the Peranakan Museum was organised for the P4 students. The visit provided the opportunity for students to trace the origins of the Peranakan culture, and learn about the diverse cultural heritage that our early settlers have left behind. Through the stories and displays at the museum, students were able to understand the way of life of the Peranakans.

“ I enjoyed learning about the early settlers in Singapore. I have learnt that the word ‘Peranakan’ means ‘locally born’. At the museum, I also learnt about the Peranakan culture - food and wedding. I was surprised that when the Peranakans got married, they will celebrate it for twelve days!

”

- Nurul Izzati Binti Jamalludin, 4RB



(CPES- Cultural Programme exposure scheme) Chinese Learning Journey 2018

In April, selected P3 to P6 students taking Mother Tongue Chinese Language watched the Chinese Musical, “三借八蕉扇” at Hokkien Huay Kwan Cultural Academy. The musical was an extract from “Journey to the West”, a classical novel in Chinese Literature. The themes of the musical were resilience, friendship and responsibility. The characters brought the production to life with their engaging and energetic performances.

“ I enjoyed the musical. The actors acted very well and there were occasions when the actors deliberately taught us the meaning of Chinese idioms. It was a fun and interesting way to learn the Chinese language.

”

- Chen Yi, 5PA



P4 Science Learning Journey to Science Centre

In February, the P4 students embarked on an adventure at the Science Centre. There, students had the opportunity to learn about the different states of matter. They were treated to a range of interesting science experiments conducted before their very eyes. The students were fascinated by the sight, sounds and colours of the science experiments. This experience has helped to enhance their interests in Science as they learnt more about the topic.

“ I was so excited as I had the chance to help out in the experiment. **”**

- Jayce Goh, 4RB

“ The experiments conducted were interesting and fascinating. **”**

- Aarush Dhamija, 4CA



Learning Journey to NEWater Plant

In March, the P5 students went on a Science learning journey to the NEWater plant to learn more about water conservation and the processes involved in recycling our used water into clean drinking water. Through this experience, students appreciated even more deeply that water is a precious resource and the importance of water conservation.

“ It was an enriching experience as students learn more about water conservation. **”**

- Mdm Heryanti,
Teacher



Debate Competition: Wits & Words 2018



Students from 5CA and 5PA - Aura Rida Zafira, Phoebe Loo Pei Qi, Matthew Budiman, Isabella Leow Yi Shan and Minal Bijumon participated in the Wits and Words 2018 debate competition. Team Meridian was able to put up a good fight and the team won two out of the three preliminary rounds. The students worked hard to prepare for each round and they displayed grit and confidence throughout the entire competition.

It is heartening to see the students in action, exercising their persuasive prowess and reasoning faculties, and showing strength in withstanding the pressures of the competition.

“ This competition really builds up my self-esteem. It is like a confidence booster for me.

”

- Matthew Budiman, 5CA



First Aid Training for P5 and P6 Football CCA

In April, the Football CCA boys learnt how to apply first aid to sprains, strains, wounds and fractures, using the acronym - R.I.C.E (rest, ice, compression bandage, elevate) as a guiding principle.

Some of the skills the students learnt were icing the injured limb, covering a bandage and slinging for immobility.

“ I learnt First Aid and I'm more confident in giving care and administering first aid to my friends when they are injured.

”

- K S Barath Rathna Varshan,
5CA



Coding and Computational Thinking Experience

Infocomm Media Development Authority's Lab on Wheels visited the school in April and provided the P3 students with coding and computational thinking experience. Through attending a workshop in which students used visual block-based programming, they had fun learning and coding their toy ball also known as - 'hackaball'. The workshop aimed to equip students with technological knowledge to be future ready digital citizens in Singapore – The Smart Nation.

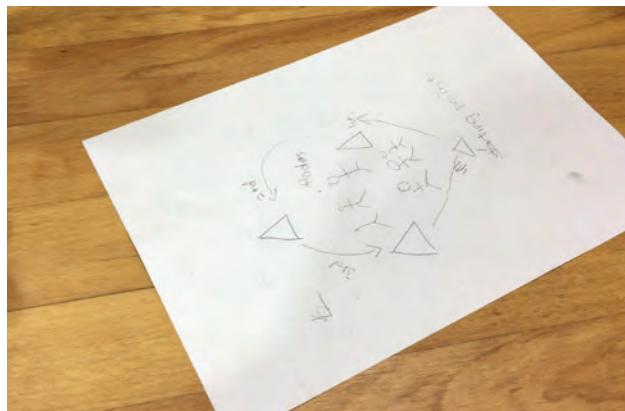
“ Through the enjoyable hands-on experience, I gained a better understanding of coding. **”**

- Peng Zimo, 3RB





P6 Game Creation Project



In March, all the P6 students embarked on a 2-week Game Creation Project during their Physical Education lessons. They were challenged to construct new games by modifying rules, equipment and space. Their learning was guided through concepts such as territorial/invasion, striking/fielding and net/wall games. The students worked in teams to generate and develop their ideas into creative products.

Through this learning process, the students were constantly engaged in lively group discussions and try-outs. The multiple experimenting, reinventing and tweaking of games proved to be challenging, but it was indeed, a fun and meaningful experience for all students.

“ Creating our own game was interesting! I experienced how game creators create new games like Tchoukball and Dodgeball. Working with my friends as a team was challenging at first as many of us had different ideas. However, we managed to work out our differences and could create an awesome product at the end!

- Puran Pajj Kuar, 6RT

our Family

We would like to warmly welcome the following teachers to the Meridian family...



Mr Jeremy
Ho Kwai Ming



Mr Ho Wei Sze
Philip



Miss Deborah
d/o Moses



Ms Emeelee
Lai Wen Qi



Miss How Bi Ee



Miss Chua Ee Lyn

We would like to welcome,
Mr Khairilanuar Bin Junid, our
new Operations Manager to
the Meridian Family.



Mr Khairilanuar Bin Junid
Operations Manager

Our Warm Wishes for their Retirement



Mr Tan Soon Whatt
Operations
Manager



Mdm Fauziah Binte Mohd Ali
Teacher

We would like to give our sincere thanks and well
wishes to the Mr Tan Soon Whatt and Mdm Fauziah
Binte Mohd Ali for their retirement.

OUR PARTNERS



Curriculum Forum Day

At the start of the year, parents had the chance to find out more about the school's curriculum through talks and the various teacher-conducted workshops pertaining to the different subjects. Together with other parents, they also had a chance to interact with the form teachers to hear about the class expectations on character and academic development.





Breakfast with Parents

Parents were invited to spend the morning with their child and form/subject teachers. The event provided a good platform for both parents and teachers to get to know one another better. There were lots of meaningful conversations as one and all interacted in such a light-hearted setting.



Father and Child Laser Tag Activity 2018

▲ The dads were no pushovers as they came out with their 'guns blazing'.

▲ The final briefing before the teams got down to some serious action.

The Partnership Committee organised a Laser Tag Activity for the P5 and P6 students and their fathers. It was held in the school hall on a 3 March. A total of 20 pairs of father and child signed up for the activity and they participated with enthusiasm and interest. They were divided into small groups and pitted their shooting skills against one another. Teamwork was the order for the day. All the fathers and their children had good fun as they bonded with each other.

“ Thank you father for making me smile and for participating in this activity with me. I love you.

**- Zahra Niesha Binte Muhammad Zahren,
6CA**

“ I had so much fun with you, Dad. I hope to do this again and experience such great moments with you.

**- Raif Muhamad Syariz Bin Muhamad Rizal,
5RT**



Visit by Zhong Xin Primary School from Dalian, China

▲ An exchange of minds and hearts. We learned from each other through lessons and play.

Students from Dalian made friends with the Meridians and got to experience life in a Singapore school. As the hosting school, Meridians demonstrated graciousness, respect and hospitality as they spent time with their friends from Dalian during CCA, lessons and recess.



Meet-The-Parent Session (Semester 1)

Meet-The-Parent session is organised twice a year for parents and teachers to have conversations about the students' learning progress. Parents were able to receive holistic observations on their child's character development, habits, strengths and areas of growth through the teachers. There were deep conversations as parents and teachers discuss how they can help the Meridians grow to be youths of good character and values. When home and school come together, we can do so much for the children!