



NORTHSHORE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Semester 1 | 2023

PRINCIPAL'S FOREWORD

DEAR PARENTS, STUDENTS AND STAFF,

I am delighted to share our first newsletter of 2023 as Northshore Primary School celebrates its third year with you. I would like to think of 2023 as a year of hope as the world re-opens, and we learn to live with COVID-19 daily.

Young children, at the core, are happy and curious people. They are often open to learning new things, making new friends, explore new horizons, and they are not afraid to share what they know with their peers. Above all, they do not judge. These are values that make our world a beautiful place to live in.

Thus, our school's vision for our students to have the Courage to Explore, the Passion to Learn, and the Heart to Serve is more relevant than ever as we strive to provide our students with the best possible learning experiences and nurture them as responsible members that society can count on.

Our students should learn not just from books or digital-based lessons. Our teachers put in much effort in designing and implementing an experience-centric curriculum that provides students with ample opportunities to acquire and sharpen their critical thinking skills and develop essential 21st-century competencies to help them become active learners and problem solvers in an increasingly uncertain world. I am happy to share two of such initiatives with you here:

DEVELOPING IMPORTANT LIFE SKILLS

This year, we launched our Learn for Life Programme (LLP) - OCE@N (Outdoor Education and Caring for our Environment @ Northshore). Our teachers have designed the programme to help our students acquire and demonstrate essential life skills. They are guided by solid values and social-emotional competencies to apply daily. Hence, they know how to handle social interactions with the right attitude and serve the community well with the right skills. Our SMART Beginning Green Trail, World Water Week activities and Earth Day programme are just some of the activities the LLP committee planned to instil the right attitude and teach the concepts to our students.

BECOMING EFFECTIVE PROBLEM SOLVERS WHO ARE ALWAYS CURIOUS AND UNAFRAID TO EXPLORE

Having a keen awareness of our surroundings to spot problems and a creative mind to design solutions for them is a critical asset as our children prepare to face an unpredictable world plagued with challenges across different dimensions. Starting them young, we strive to provide our students with opportunities to observe their world, ask questions (inquire) about it, frame problems, design solutions and convince their stakeholders to adopt their proposals. Thus, I am delighted that our teachers are developing a programme to allow our students to tinker and design, promoting innovation and creativity. We started this programme with our staff and our Primary Twos, who had an opportunity to tinker with simple materials, making useful tools and devices to solve daily problems. We plan to involve more students in this programme soon.

All these initiatives stem from the passionate endeavor of our teachers, supported by many of our parents, who were actively involved in the planning and implementing some engaging recess activities for our students as Parent Support Group (PSG) members.

We appreciate and are thankful for your support and dedication to making our school a vibrant and engaging learning environment for our students.

We hope you enjoy reading about all the exciting developments in our school, and we remain committed to providing our students with the best possible learning experiences.

Best regards,
Christine Lam (Mrs)
Principal



Ending the Year (2022) with Joy



We Love Northshore



Lion Dance

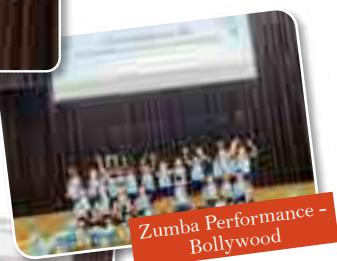


Tambourine Dance -
Burung Kakak Tua

Mrs Lam giving her opening speech



Tambourine Dance -
Disini Senang



Zumba Performance -
Bollywood



Appreciating our canteen vendor



Crossing the Finishing Line Together!



Forming our collage of appreciation notes



2022 Prize Recipients

Northshoreans ended the school year with a series of activities that celebrated their achievements and honoured their contributions to the school.

The last day of the academic year of 2022 began with the annual Prize-Giving Ceremony in the school hall. Staff and students cheered as 70 students received the "Holistic Award" and another 14 students received the "Good Conduct Award" from our School Leaders and members of the School Advisory Council (SAC). The audience was treated to lively performances from students of different classes who showcased what they had learnt during their music and PAL (Programme for Active Learning) lessons. Following the ceremony, all students, staff and invited SAC guests gathered in the parade square to form a heart-shaped formation, signifying "We Love Northshore".

A video montage that captured the beautiful moments throughout 2022 brought about lots of cheers and warmth as our students witnessed how they have blossomed. Students also presented appreciation notes to different people in school such as their teachers, friends, office staff, school janitors and canteen vendors. One of the highlights was when the students received the secret letter penned by their parents. Many were touched and surprised by the words of encouragement shared by their parents.

To wrap up the year, Form Teachers led their class in a special activity - "Crossing the Finishing Line Together". It was a bittersweet moment for the students as they move on to visit their new classrooms. As they waved goodbye to their friends, the students left with joy in their hearts and hope for the following year!

SMART Beginning

Orientation Programme (3 – 5 January)

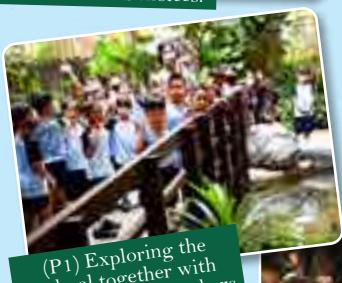


We kickstarted the year by welcoming a new cohort of Primary 1 students and their parents. Parents accompanied their children to school and bonded with them over a meal in the canteen. They were given a preview of the P1 curriculum and school programmes and activities presented by the School Leaders, Key Personnels and parent volunteers.

Through the different experiences and activities in the first three days of school, the Primary 1 students have had opportunities to experience many firsts – having a mass assembly in the school hall, exploring a new school, making friends with their new classmates, buying food on their own, taking care of their belongings and asking their teachers for help. Happy smiles and a sense of comfort were also seen on the students' faces as they spent their first recess with their parents and teachers.

Besides our new Primary 1 students, we welcomed our returning Primary 2 and 3 students. Our Northshoreans have certainly grown over the holidays! Many shared that they were excited and looking forward to learning with their teachers and friends in their new classes. Their first two days were spent getting to know their new teachers and friends, building relationships, and fostering a sense of belonging through class bonding activities and revisiting the school values and expectations.

Our Northshoreans will continue to strive and improve as they journey the coming year with their teachers and friends!





Chinese New Year Celebration 2023



School Leaders with the lions and scrolls



Lion Dance on stage



Upclose with the lions

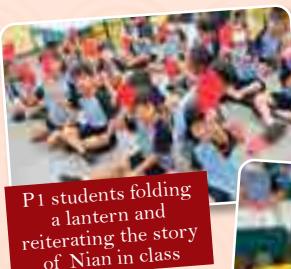


Students Emcees hosting the celebration



This is how I fold

Let me show you how it is done



P1 students folding a lantern and reiterating the story of Nian in class



P2 student writing the word 吉



Another P2 student writing the word 吉



P3 students spring-cleaning their classroom



P3 students trying their hand at paper-cutting



Poem recitation by P3 Higher Chinese students



P3 students decorating their classroom



P3 students tying the decorations together

After two years of celebrating Chinese New Year via Zoom due to the Covid-19 restrictions, Northshoreans could finally celebrate Chinese New Year as a whole school this year!

There were various exciting and meaningful classroom activities planned. Before the actual celebration, Primary 1 students learned to use simple crafts (lanterns) to reiterate the story of Nian to their parents. Primary 2 and 3 students had a hands-on experience with Chinese calligraphy. Primary 2 students were taught Chinese calligraphy techniques to write the word 吉(luck) while the Primary 3 students tried their hands at paper-cutting and worked on the word 春(spring).

On the day of the celebration, Northshoreans learned about the traditions, festivals and customs related to Chinese New Year. After this, students were engaged in various activities. Primary 1 and 2 students folded individual red packets in the shape of a rabbit. Primary 3 students spring-cleaned and hung decorations in their classrooms to welcome the Chinese New Year.

The students then proceeded to the School Hall to watch a Chinese New Year concert. They were indeed very excited to interact with the performers and the student emcees.

The lion dance performance was a highlight of the event, especially with the lively lions and their large heads, furry bodies and big blinking eyes. Coupled with the loud sound of beating drums and the clang of clashing cymbals, everyone was in high spirits as they welcomed the year of the Rabbit!

Tamil Mother Tongue Fortnight



Show and Tell



Pick and Tell



The Tamil Mother Tongue Fortnight was conducted in April 2023. Various meaningful and fun activities were conducted for the Primary 1 and Primary 2 Tamil Students.

Students enjoyed watching videos of some Indian Traditions followed by a rich conversation in class. Students also attended speech and drama programmes where they learnt acting techniques and skills and spoke Tamil fluently.

All Tamil students enjoyed the Dance programme conducted during this Mother Tongue Fortnight. The Primary 1 students learnt Kumi dance which involves clapping, footwork and rhythm coordination, and the P2 students learnt Oyilattam, which consists of the use of two handkerchiefs to perform rhythmic steps to the musical accompaniment. Through this dance programme, our students learnt to show appreciation for the diverse folk dance forms.

The Tamil Mother Tongue Fortnight event concluded with the students presenting their learning in class through a Show and Tell session.



Speech & Drama, Games and Dance Sessions



Northshoreans, We Defend!



Robbie Celebrates Total Defence Day

Northshoreans actively participated in various engaging activities designed for each level in commemoration of Total Defence Day on 15 February. Primary 1 students experienced what a lockdown drill looked like. As a result, they understood the importance of being prepared and knew everyone could do their part for Total Defence.

Our Primary 2 and 3 students also went through a station rotation carnival named 'Northshoreans, We Defend'. Through an obstacle course simulation, they experienced what their male relatives and friends would go through during reservist. Ask any of the students, and they will be able to share with you what to pack in an emergency bag! Our students were proud of Singapore as they learnt about Singapore's successes in the sports arena and water security.

The sweet potato tasting segment was the highlight for the Primary 3 students. This initiative, supported by our Parent Support Group volunteers, enabled students to appreciate the values of adaptability and resilience like our forefathers in Singapore during World War Two.

Overall, Total Defence Day is an essential event in Singapore that helps Northshoreans understand the importance of national defence and the role that they can play in keeping their country safe. We hope all Northshoreans have learnt valuable skills and knowledge that will help them become responsible and resilient citizens.



Getting ready to experience military defence



Learning about Hawker Cultures through the media station



Making decisions to use money wisely when buying stationery



Thank you parent volunteers for teaching us about World War II



Discussing actively about Singapore's success



Picking the right items for an emergency ready bag

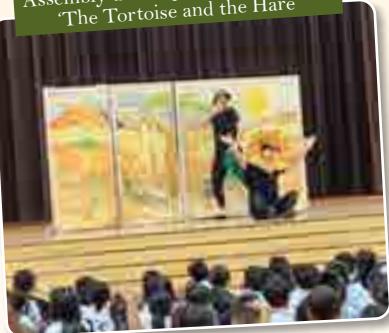


Psychological Defence Station



Staying Connected With the World

Assembly drama performance titled 'The Tortoise and the Hare'



Colouring the batik sticker intently

Learning more about the different types of Indonesian batik



Posing with their completed batik stickers



Exploring, learning and discovering Angklung



Having a ball of fun throwing the balls to answer the ASEAN Quiz questions.



IFD FTGP Classroom activity - learning more about National Flowers and landmarks of ASEAN

For 2023, International Friendship Day is about recognising the connectedness between our neighbouring countries. Northshoreans were privileged to be teleported to Indonesia, the land of a thousand islands, as they set foot into the school library during recess.

Batik and Angklung are the two predominant cultural traits of Indonesia. Our students learned more about the different types of batik and the story behind these batik designs from Indonesia. Northshoreans had a go at colouring their batik design. They also had the chance to feel and play a few notes on the Angklung.

During the Form Teacher Guidance Period, our students had fun playing class bonding games to learn more about the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). They learnt about the various national flowers of our ASEAN countries, their greetings and famous landmarks.

The event concluded with a play entitled 'The Tortoise and the Hare', which highlighted the importance of recognising one's strengths and tapping on them while working as a team.



Unleashing their inner musicians by trying out the various angklung notes.



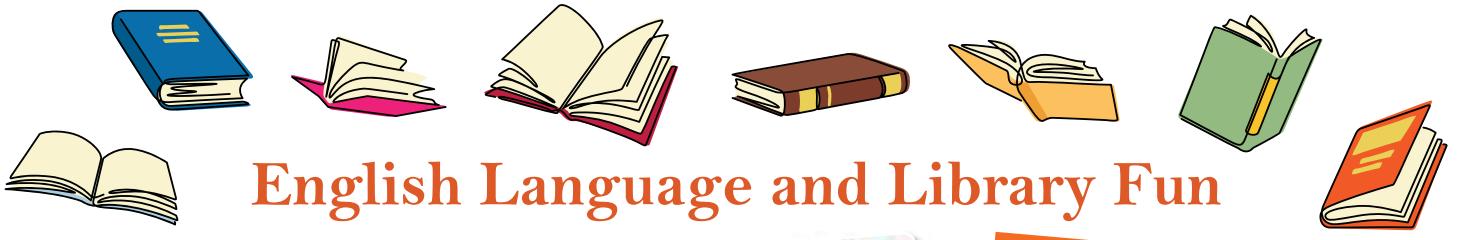
Posing with the batik stickers



Waiting patiently for their turn to participate in the quiz



Putting the tickets into the IFD box before joining the fun!



English Language and Library Fun

Meet-and-Greet Mrs Wishy-Washy

During recess on 8 February, the Primary 1 students had a special visitor in the canteen. It was none other than Mrs. Wishy-Washy herself! The students were overjoyed to meet the character they had read so much about during English lessons. The meet-and-greet session is one of Northshore Primary's unique learning experiences to engage the students in learning and enjoying English Language.

Mrs Wishy-Washy had come to look for some of her animals, including the cow, pig, and duck, that had gone missing. The students were thrilled to spot the missing animals around the school compound. They then asked Mrs Wishy-Washy many questions about her life on the farm and she also engaged the students in a discussion about the importance of keeping things clean and tidy for the animals and themselves. She also shared some of her experiences living on a farm and caring for her animals.

The event reached its climax with a special appearance made by Mrs Wishy-Washy's sister, Mrs Splishy-Splashy. Students were rewarded with custom-printed Mrs Wishy-Washy stickers after the session. The Primary 1 students had an eventful recess that day, seeing their big book character come alive!



Poetry Recitation and Tongue Twister Competition



Stellar-based Activities

Making Noodles



Life Cycle of A Butterfly





Science Explorer Week (20 – 24 February)

Northshoreans had the chance to understand more about the science of classification. They learned more about Carolus 'Carl' Linnaeus through our assembly programme. Through the examples of Pokemon, our students saw how the popular franchise is inspired by Science.

During the recess Science Explorer activity, all Northshoreans had the chance to meet our team of nine stick insects who put on a great show of camouflage and adaptation.

Primary 3 students took their Science learning further by researching the work of Carl Linnaeus and his contribution to Science as the 'Father of Taxonomy'. They also had fun creating their species of animals and got a chance to try out the binomial naming system.

We look forward to our next Science Explorer Week in Semester 2, where our Northshoreans experience Science and learn about how Science shapes our world!



Environment and Sustainability

World Water Day 2023

In March, Northshoreans commemorated Singapore World Water Day 2023 with various hands-on activities over two weeks. It is celebrated nationwide throughout the month of March! As active and concerned citizens, Northshoreans learned more about the history of our Four National Taps and how Singapore has progressed in her water conservation efforts. Water is a precious resource and our students now know the different ways to conserve water in school and at home.

The Primary One students had the opportunity to create their very own Water Wally collage using blue scrap paper that they brought from their homes. The teachers were heartened to see that they used paper from magazines, newspapers, brochures and even food packaging. Each class showed great enthusiasm in putting Water Wally together in the library and had lots of fun! The Primary Two students tried their hand at an origami craft activity in class where they folded their very own Water Wally. They did a fantastic job and were excited to decorate their classrooms with their creations! Lastly, the Primary Three students got creative and designed their own bookmarks using recyclable materials. They wrote wonderful messages on them as a meaningful reminder to save water.

Northshoreans, let's continue to treasure our water resources and strive to build a sustainable future for generations to come.



Earth Day 2023

In April, Northshoreans showed solidarity towards the conservation of Mother Earth. This year's Earth Day theme centred around taking concrete actions to reduce our carbon footprint, protect biodiversity, conserve natural resources, and promote sustainable practices.

For a whole week, our students learned more about taking public transport to reduce carbon footprint, recyclables and non-recyclables, the different types of electronic waste and the right bins to place these items in. They were also introduced to the National Environment Agency's new mascot, Bloobin, a blue recycling bin frustrated by the years of contamination! Northshoreans watched videos and engaged in rich discussion with their Form Teachers on how to recycle right. Some students even brought recyclable items from home and encouraged others to do the same!

"Be the change you wish to see in this world." These are the simple yet powerful words of the late Mahatma Ghandi. As a school, we have put these words to action through a collective effort to reduce electricity consumption. All the classes switched off their lights and fans for ten minutes during morning assembly. It was a memorable experience for our students as it was the first time they had sung the National Anthem and recited the pledge in the dark! To top it all off, both staff and students wore green clothing and gathered in the hall for the weekly assembly programme where they learned more about Earth Day and simple conservation efforts they can engage in. It was a sight to behold!

We are immensely proud of our Northshoreans for role-modelling one of the three tenets in our school vision - the heart to serve. They have shown the desire to play an active role in improving the world around them by taking concrete actions, empowered by the knowledge gleaned from rich learning experiences.

Co-Curricular Activities

"Which CCA should I join next year?" This question was in the mind of every Primary 2 student last year after attending the P2 CCA Experience. Eventually, every student was offered a CCA out of their 3 choices made.

This year, our Primary 3 students embarked on their CCA journey with much curiosity and excitement. Every Tuesday afternoon, they look forward to an hour and a half of fun-filled activities that build specific skills related to their CCA, as well as character development and friendships. It is definitely a time that the students can "let their hair down" as they play a game of basketball, plant a seedling, dance to their favourite piece of music or play group games with fellow Scouts. Many adventures and learning opportunities await them in the next semester!



Imagineers Workshop - Making and Tinkering



Programme for Active Learning (PAL) - Sports and Games



Primary Three @ SwimSafer

Our Primary 3 Northshoreans recently participated in the school's first-ever SwimSafer lesson. SwimSafer is an initiative in collaboration with Active SG to promote water safety and teach children basic swimming skills. The programme is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to stay safe in and around water.

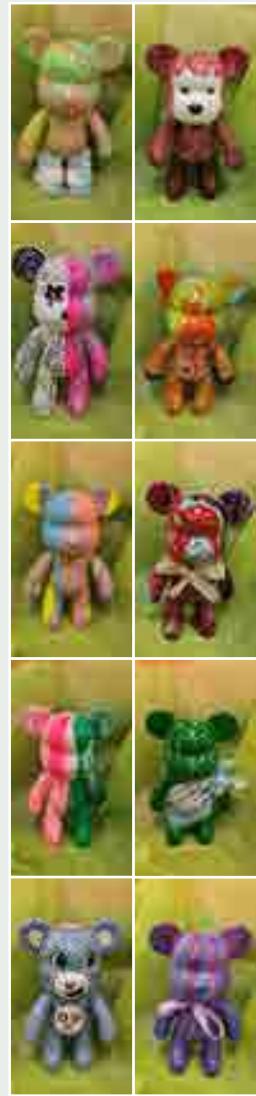
The SwimSafer lessons were led by qualified swimming instructors who provided hands-on training to the students in the swimming pool. They covered various topics, such as water safety and swimming strokes. The lessons conducted were fun and engaging, allowing the students to learn while enjoying themselves in the pool.

Throughout the weeks in Term 2, our Northshoreans were able to build their confidence in the water and develop a deeper understanding of water safety. The valuable skills our Northshoreans picked up during the course would definitely stay with them for years to come!



Bearbrick Collection

@ Northshore Primary School



Hello Northshoreans,

Did you know that the School Leaders and all the staff had homework to complete during the December school holidays? Yes, they did! Everyone was given a Bearbrick and tasked to decorate it.

I was so surprised to see the wonderful creations when they returned to school in January 2023. Did you see them on display in the library?

I was really proud to have more Bearbricks added to my family! Hope to see more soon!

Yours sincerely,



Papa and Mama Bearbrick

