

The PEPS Newsletter



ASPIRE



July 2015

Ambition. Self-discipline. Perseverance. Integrity. Respect. Empathy

SG50 - Celebrating a Nation's Growth and Success



The Princess Story

The Princess story had its beginning in 1952 when our school was set up. However it was not until 2002, that The Princess Story began to take shape and for 13 years, has had the theme "From Caterpillar to Butterfly" - symbolising the growth and achievements of the school from its infancy to maturity.

Now, our school is ready to enter into the next era in providing a holistic education for her students and nurturing them to be the best that they can be. Hence the theme for this phase of the school's progress is named "Taking Flight To Greater Heights". The school's accomplishments over the years have set it up for higher aspirations and greater attainment of success. Success for the individual, family and the nation.

This year, in the musical drama of The Princess Story, "The Homecoming", we welcome back our pioneer generation of former principals and teachers, our senior and junior PEPS Alumni and the students will entertain you with a rendition of songs that brings everybody together as a PEPS family as we honour the past and celebrate the future of Singapore!

Homecoming – Launch of the PEPS Alumni Steering Committee

As we celebrate our nation's 50th birthday, it is also our pleasure to launch the PEPS Alumni Steering Committee. Established in 1952, Princess Elizabeth Primary School has a history of 63 years of achievement to her name. Thousands of aspiring young minds have been nurtured, and have become contributing citizens to nation building. It is now with great pride and joy that we welcome home our alumni in a homecoming event on 31 July 2015. Our dedicated teachers have left an indelible impression upon them, and they, in return, take pride in staying connected with their alma mater.

Their success is Singapore's success.

The inaugural launch of the PEPS Alumni Steering Committee is our way of bridging the illustrious past with the future which is full of hope and possibilities.

mySG Exhibition: The Butterfly Story

The Butterfly Story is a mobile exhibition on the school's 50 years' history, featuring the nurturing of successful Singaporeans who had graduated from the school.



The Butterfly Wall Mural

The coming together of the PEPS family – current students and alumni, teaching and non-teaching staff and our pioneer generation educators in conjunction with SG50 is indeed a special one. What better way to capture the spirit of this coming together than with a wall mural of beautiful butterflies at rest and in flight set against a background of a happy and vibrant school environment. Just as the butterfly has distinctive qualities of determination and tenacity in its struggle to transform itself from the chrysalis, our students and teachers too demonstrate determination and resilience in their teaching and learning endeavours. The beauty of the butterfly is synonymous with the colourful, active and varied personalities and talents of the students and staff of our school – all ready to take the next flight to greater heights.



You are welcome to visit the exhibition during the following periods:

1. 1&2 August 2015 (11am - 5pm)
@ Bukit Batok Public Library (NLB)
2. 15&16 August 2015 (10am - 4pm)
@ Bukit Batok Community Centre
3. 22&23 August 2015 (10am - 4pm)
@ Bukit Batok Bus Interchange

Every Staff - A Caring Advocate, A Competent Professional and A Change Agent

An Insightful Learning Journey

On 17 April, school staff made a trip to Internal Security Department Heritage Centre (ISDHC) as part of our school's NE Programme. This visit has helped our teachers to understand the role of the ISD in maintaining a stable and secure domestic environment, and be sensitive to the past, present and future security threats. Our teachers were facilitated to explore its six themed galleries. It was an eye-opening experience and they were enthralled by the stunning facts of the ISD operations. Practically all expressed their appreciation of the work done by the ISD and that they are now better equipped to play their role as change agents in engaging students to achieve the CCE outcomes.



Staff Learning Festival

The school held its Learning Festival on 17 November 2014 in conjunction with the Outstanding Contribution Award. The festival was a platform for the sharing of best innovative teaching practices incorporating the use of ICT among our staff. It was also a platform to give recognition to the staff's value-added contributions that made a significant impact on the school. The project met with very warm responses from our teachers and altogether there were 11 teams and 3 individual entries. After their presentations, the staff was given the opportunity to vote for the best team and the best individual project. The staff expressed their strong desire to meaningfully adapt the projects for implementation in the classroom to bring about even better learning outcomes in our students.



Healthy Mind, Healthy Body, Healthy Teachers

For teachers to be at their best, they need a healthy body and mind. To support them to stay healthy and happy, the school organised workshops that are relevant and useful. A workshop on the use of AED and CPR was organised on 10 April. This brought about a greater awareness among the staff, of the use of the emergency defibrillator and the application of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. The second workshop was a talk on breast cancer on 24 April. The talk was an enlightening experience for our staff members as they listened not only to the symptoms and possible cure of breast cancer but also the inspiring account of two breast cancer survivors, who as a result of early detection, have survived the ordeal.

PIES for Our Staff

The Staff Welfare Committee, working on caring for our staff's Physical, Intellectual, Emotional and Spiritual well-being, invited a professional advisor to the school to talk on financial literacy on 31 January 2015. The staff found the 2 hour talk most enlightening as it focussed on retirement planning, understanding CPF directions and the high cost of medical care in Singapore.

Congratulations to Our Colleagues : On their Promotion

Congratulations to Our Colleagues on : Being Awarded the Excellent Service award (Silver)

*In recognition of her Contributions and
Commitment to Excellent Service*
• Ms Ng Siew Hoon

Receiving the Valedictory Letter, The long Service Certificate and The National Day Commendation Medal (2014)

• Mrs Xenna Abdalla

Being Emplaced in the 1A3 grade

- Miss Brema Shanmugam (2014)
- Mr Mohd Adib Bin Suhait (2014)
- Mdm Siti Khamsiah Binte Sapuan (2015)



- Mr Han Xuanjun
- Mrs Poongkodi Muthu
- Mdm Ngan Kwan Siang
- Mrs Marselyn Jonatan
- Miss Tan Si Hui, Phoebe
- Miss Lee Hui Ling, Felicia
- Miss Yang Shu Han
- Mrs Rebecca Hoh
- Mdm Rozanita Binte Mohd Mokhtar
- Mdm Nur Aina Binte Mohamed Ishak
- Mrs Sharon Grace Tiew
- Mdm Koh Hwee Chen, Regina
- Mdm Tan Chew Heng

Congratulations to Our Colleagues on :

Being Awarded the Certificate of Appreciation for their Long Service

- Mrs Susan Kwan
- Mrs Elizabeth Ting
- Mr Cheak Hai Joon
- Mrs Chua Chwee Tin
- Mdm Dalvinder Kaur
- Mr Wong Chee Kuen
- Mdm Chew Tuck Wah
- Mr Loh Yuen Fong, Eric
- Mrs Lynette Tan, Su-Shien
- Mr Mohd Adib Bin Suhait
- Ms Ng Loh Yeong (Jasmine)
- Mdm Siti Khamsiah Bte Sapuan
- Mdm Haji Noor Jainab Begum
- Mdm Nuraishikin Binte Jasmani
- Mdm Rozanita Binte Mohd Mokhtar
- Mdm Damaria Sri Aminy Tumbuck



Princess Elizabeth's Big Book Story

A Contribution to CCE and SEL

Our school's latest initiative in promoting CCE (Character and Citizenship Education) and SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) is in creating and publishing a big book, entitled Bee Attack. This is our contribution to the cluster and zone in developing more creative and innovative ways of implementing an effective character development programme in schools. This resource incorporates CCE and SEL objectives through a story that can be used as a pre or post writing activity, thus infusing CCE and SEL into another discipline. This comprehensive lesson package also comprises a lesson outline to guide teachers in facilitating activities and discussions with students to imbue in them CCE values effectively and meaningfully.



Kudos to Our Students who took part in Various Competitions

12th ScholasTic Environment Fund (SEF) Oratory Competition on the Environment

The school's effective EL programme in honing the 4 language skills, coupled with our students' gift of the gab, poise, confidence and painstaking research efforts, won 3 of our student participants their much-deserved awards in the individual category of this competition on 7 March this year. They presented their speeches with much oratorical skills involving songs, emotional appeal and thought-provoking questions on the specified themes. Before a panel of stringent judges and amidst stiff competition, Adithi Vasudevan and Preethi Kumaravel gave eloquent deliveries on the themes of Using Energy Responsibly and Tanya Lee I-Ching presented an impassioned speech on Small Islands And Climate Change.



The Straits Times National Spelling Championship (NSC) 2015

To facilitate our students to develop a greater appreciation of the importance of spelling in literacy development, Primay 4, 5 and 6 students went through an internal round of spelling activities to be selected to participate in the NSC. In the process, they gained greater knowledge of phonemes and syllabification skills while their vocabulary was enriched through the study of prefixes, suffixes and root words.

EL Fortnight 2015

Our EL Fortnight, from 30 March to 10 April, served to heighten students' awareness of the effective use of EL in both its written and spoken form. Various activities such as choral presentation, readers' theatre and recitation of tongue twisters were held before and during curriculum time to further excite students in the use of the language. The set-up of the flexi-canteen was timely in providing exposure to these activities to the optimal number of students per level during their recess. The EL Lucky Dip activity attracted a good number of students to have even greater interest in borrowing books. Students have benefitted from the EL Fortnight as evident in their use of imaginative and more sophisticated usage in their written assignments and in their oral interactions with peers and teachers.

Students engaged in interactive language activities in the flexi-canteen.



Our Accomplishments in Mathematics

Our school's progressive and well-planned Mathematics programme has developed in the students an acuity for Mathematics. They are thus able to face the challenges of the academic demands and at the same time enjoy with confidence, the challenges of external competitions. As such, our pupils have participated in various competitions and have done the school proud by having garnered accolades in the Raffles Institution Primary Mathematics World Contest (RIPMWC) 2015 and Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools (SMOPS) 2015.

Distinction winners of RIPMWC 2015.

From Left to Right: Giselle Tan (6F), Daniel Kwan (5F) and Lee Tze Ning (6E)



Experiential Learning at the NEWater Plant

It was a fun-filled enriching learning experience for our P5 students who went on a learning journey to the NEWater Visitor Centre in April. In learning about the third national tap in Singapore, our students came to realise how Singapore overcame many challenges to become self-sufficient in providing water for the nation. They had first-hand experience in discovering how Singapore harnesses modern technology to purify water to make it ultra-clean and safe for drinking. They were also facilitated to appreciate the need to conserve water and realise it is a precious resource in Singapore. The greatest takeaway was the realisation that they have a part to play to maintain the water legacy left behind by our Founding Father, Mr Lee Kuan Yew.

Promoting Appreciation of Cultural Festivities by the Mother Tongue Department

Students in PEPS were once again working in sync to celebrate two cultural festivals, namely the Chinese New Year and the Indian Pongal Celebration. Our students pooled their effort and talent not only to create oriental red lanterns using Hongbao packets but also to beautify the school environment to usher in the Year of the Goat. To live up to the spirit of inclusivity, parents of our students were invited to perform during the Chinese New Year concert. The highlight of the celebrations was the Cutest or Biggest Goat Competition which aimed to drive home the point of reduce, reuse and recycle. It was a platform for our students to demonstrate their resourcefulness in creating their 'goat' using recycled materials.



Our multi-talented Indian students rose to the occasion and took part in the Saving The Earth Pongal Celebrations, which comprised of the visual and performing arts, organised by Hong Kah North Community Club. 3 of our lower primary students participated in the Recycle Rangoli Competition and won the 1st Prize after their creative and painstaking efforts to decorate the given Kolam design in 3 hours. Along with that, 15 of our upper primary students won the 3rd Prize in the Group Singing Performance of cultural Tamil songs based on given themes.

Collaborations – with parents and the MLC

The Malay Department conducted a workshop to introduce the new syllabus (CEKAP) and the use of the related resources to the parents of our Primary 1 students. Strategies on how to use games to make the learning of the Malay Language at home a fun activity were also shared during the workshop. Parents expressed their appreciation to our teachers and felt the workshop had empowered them to play their role in helping their children in the learning of their Mother Tongue.

In collaboration with the Malay Language Centre (MLC), our Primary 6 students were involved in the trailing of Kata Pintar (Smart Vocabulary) App, an iPad Application which enables students to improve and expand their vocabulary usage. This has made the Malay Language lessons more interesting and interactive for our students.



Racial Harmony – Past Present & Future
(Certificate of Recognition)

Achievements In The SG50 – SYF Art Exhibition

It was with great pride and enthusiasm that our students took part in this year's SYF Art Exhibition. Nurtured by our school's Art programme and inspired by the spirit of SG50, their creative juices flowed and 2 of the 4 entries were awarded the Certificate of Recognition and accepted for this year's SYF Art Exhibition. These pieces of artwork depict our student's personal perspective of the progress and achievements of Singapore over the 50 years of independence. Each piece is also an insight into what they appreciate and value of their life in our country. Their creative endeavours is also a reflection of their hopes and aspirations for the continuance of gracious living, national security and a beautiful environment in the future of our nation.

Primary 4A : Yang Jie Yu, Lim Tze Ying, Afikaah Azuraah, Angel Ng, Toh Zi Hao, Mervyn Ong

Our Co-curriculum

Learning Innovation – The Flexi-Canteen

Subscribing to the educational belief that play is a powerful pedagogical tool that develops children's learning, from January this year, our school has converted the canteen into a flexi-canteen with a multi-sensory and audio-visual environment to facilitate activities such as recess performances, quizzes, CCA activities for learning beyond the classrooms.

Making sandwiches as part of their English lessons

Pitting their wits during a Games Club session

Holistic Education – The SAIL (Sports, Aesthetics, ICT, Life-skills) Programme

Continuing with the SAIL programme for our P1 and P2 students' holistic learning, the school gives them exposure to a variety of enrichment activities conducted level-wide. These programmes serve to develop our students in the areas of sports, the aesthetics, ICT and life skills. In Semester 1, students have enjoyable experiential learning through drama, the visual arts and Capoeira. They certainly can look forward to even more exciting and unique modular activities in Semester 2 of this year.

Collaborating to produce their artwork.

The Flexi Canteen awash with activities by the Uniformed Groups

CCA Programmes

The CCA curriculum is an integral part of the holistic education in PEPS. Consequently, it is a powerful platform for character and citizenship development. An exciting CCA Fair was held on 7 January, followed by recruitment drive in the following week. CCAs are conducted on Wednesday mornings within school hours for two hours with effect from January this year. This facilitates 100% participation among the students. Through the various CCAs, we seek to nurture our students' interests in various activities, develop talent, discover and lay foundation for niche areas and cultivate in them a zest for life and gracious living.

Our 61st Annual Track & Field Meet

The theme for this year's Annual Track & Field Meet parallels the Olympic values of Friendship, Excellence and Respect. Held on 2 April, our student competitors sought to bring glory and joy to their respective Houses, through their personal and team achievements, without forgetting the intrinsic value of good sportsmanship. The focus of this sports event is not so much about winning as it is about participation and celebration. We would like to congratulate not only the winners but also all students who have been actively involved in the various House practices and House cheers. Congratulations also goes out to Emerald House for emerging champion this year. Special mention goes to Amethyst House as well for having been the champion for the inaugural Inter-House Cheer Competition.

CCA leaders guiding their juniors

All the way to the finish line!

In the true Olympic Spirit of Friendship, Excellence and Respect

Nurturing Independent Learners – Primary 4 (2D1N) Camp 2015

The P4 adventure camp was held over 2 days from 6 to 7 March. One of the learning objectives was to enable our students to learn to be independent learners through games and outdoor activities. One highlight of the camp was the Camp Fire Night during which our students and their parents were facilitated to bond over a hearty dinner and through participating in traditional games. It was a memorable night for all and the objectives were achieved at the end of this camp.



"The seniors...in action! We are always here to help!"

Learning with Length, Breadth and Depth – Learning for Life Programme (LLP)

In alignment with our school vision, 'Every Child, an Engaged Learner, a Caring Citizen and a Steadfast Leader, the focus of our LLP would be on imbuing our students with our school's core values of Ambition, Self-discipline, Perseverance, Integrity, Respect and Empathy (ASPIRE). This is achieved through community service and tiered student leadership development via our Values In Action (VIA) programme. The ultimate aim is to lay a solid foundation for our students to appreciate the value of citizen leadership in caring for others within the community.

Nurturing Student Leadership – WZ COE Student Leadership Camp

Our school organised a student leadership day camp, Level Up Leaders, for which we hosted 150 Primary 5 CCA student leaders, house captains and prefects from 15 West Zone primary schools on 13 March 2015. Far from being conventional, the camp gave student leaders a totally different learning experience with hands-on exposure to neuro-linguistic programming, accelerated learning and multiple-intelligence. The participants gained not only new perspectives on student leadership roles but also learned to translate knowledge and skills learnt in these areas into practice.



Values In Action – Our In-House PLEDGE Club (Passionate Leaders Empowered to Do Great)

The PLEDGE Club is an effective platform for student leaders of our school, consisting of Prefects, NE Ambassadors, CCA Leaders and House Captains, to learn, contribute and serve with empathy. These hand-picked student leaders are given the opportunity to plan, organise and implement essential school events, such as Teachers' Day and Children's Day celebrations, just to name a few. This approach coupled with regular training programmes develop our student leaders to their full potential of being steadfast and dynamic leaders with a passion to serve.



Fire Drill

The school conducted a Fire Drill on 14 April 2015. It was activated at 8.10am. As the school was briefed during one of the morning assemblies about the evacuation procedures and routes of evacuation, nobody panicked and everyone moved in an orderly manner to the assembly area.



Partnership

Sharing of Best Practices with Japanese Educators

Our school had the honour of having been handpicked by the Curriculum Planning & Development Division (CPDD) to host a delegation of 7 educators, from Japan, headed by Dr Hideyuki Takashima, a professor of English Teaching Pedagogy at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. On 27 March, accompanied by 3 CPDD officers from the Ministry of Education, our guests observed 3 STELLAR lessons conducted by our very own EL teachers. As our Japanese counterparts were keen to learn about the STELLAR curriculum and our school's good practices in English Language teaching and learning, a discussion and sharing session was also arranged during which the CPDD officers and the EL Department key personnel shared their expertise on the teaching and learning of EL in Singapore.

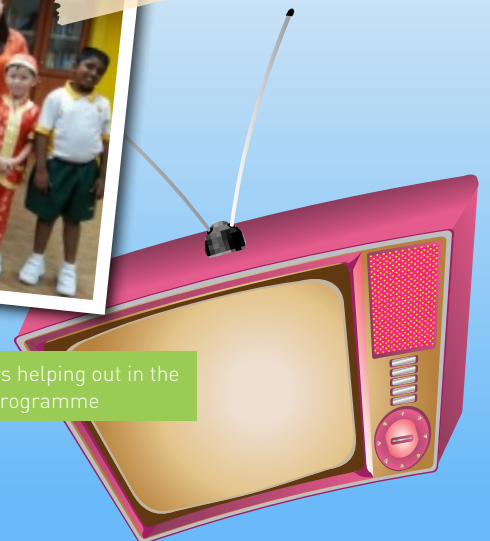


PEPS 3PIE (Princess Parents as Partners in Education) Committee

The parent support group plays an important part in strengthening the implementation of the school's programmes. As of this year, the membership is 100 strong and their involvement this year includes putting up performances for the various celebrations, supporting our school-organised events and workshops for parents, helping out in the KidsREAD Programme, just to name a few.



Our parent volunteers helping out in the KidsREAD Programme



Family Matters@School Parenting Talks & Family Bonding Activities

Time spent with family is time well spent. Family is the one constant element in life.

Princess Elizabeth Primary School partners the Ministry of Social and Family Development to bring to our parents enriching programmes, workshops and activities rich in resources, knowledge and skills to build strong, happy families and foster better parent-child bonding.



Internationalisation Programme

Education Beyond The Classroom

In November 2014, a group of our Primary 5 and 6 pupils was taken on an internationalisation trip to Jakarta and Bandung, in Indonesia. The highlight of the trip was the homestay programme in which our students were paired with students from the host school, Raffles International Christian School. This provided them with the opportunity to gain first-hand insight into another culture and adapt to a new living experience. Throughout the trip, our students demonstrated the values of responsibility, independence and respect in their various encounters. Their visit to the Abhimata Orphanage facilitated them to demonstrate care and empathy towards others while the use of the iPads to create a project enabled them to apply their ICT skills meaningfully. The trip there ended with our students collaborating with their Indonesian buddies in planting trees.



Staff Updates

A Very Warm Welcome To The Following Staff Members :

- Mdm Malathi D/O Maniam
- Mdm Yap Shiao Lea
- Mr Mahmud Bin Ahmad
- Miss Fiona Nah Min Yee
- Ms Toh Sock Ruan
- Miss Nur Diyana Binte Johah
- Miss Nur Azimah Binte Hassan
- Mr Herbert Goh Guang Yang
- Miss Liew Si Min

Heartfelt Thanks, Farewell and Best Wishes To :

- Ms Ng Loh Yeong
- Miss Hildalista Binte Golam
- Mrs Louisana Low
- Mdm Oh Chui Yian

