



SBPS/22/051

5 July 2022

Open Letter from School Leaders 5/2022

Dear Parents,

1. Welcome to Term 3! We hope that you had a wonderful bonding time with your child during the June school holidays. From Term 3 onwards, the pace will pick up a notch as more activities such as learning journeys are planned for your child and CCAs resume normalcy. And yes, our P5 students will be at the floating platform for the National Education (NE) Show 2022!

2. We have also made enhancements to the school infrastructure to further mitigate potential safety hazards and provide a more conducive learning environment for your child. Epitomising the school's safety culture of "School safety is the responsibility of all in the school", our teachers and staff are trained to spot and report hazards to VP(Administration) and Operations Manager (OM) for immediate attention and follow-up.

3. New Staff. We are pleased to welcome the following staff who have joined our SBPS family:

- Mr Cheah Boon Teck Janssen (EL/MA Teacher)
- Mr Mohamad Irwan Bin Mohamad Mazlan (PE Teacher)
- Mr Chiong Hian Boon, Gary (ICT Manager)
- Mdm Ang Lay Eng (OSO)

4. Heartfelt Appreciation. We would like to take this opportunity to show our heartfelt appreciation to Mr Silas Abdul Karim Bin Noor Shah (PE Teacher), who will be leaving us to join NIE with effect from 25 July.

Important Information...

Student Matters

5. P6 Prelim Examinations and PSLE. All P6 students will be sitting for their examinations, commencing with Prelim Examinations on 25 July 2022. As examinations are an integral part of a student's learning, parents can help your child to prepare for the examinations by revising with them the components or topics they have difficulties in. Your moral support and encouragement will motivate your child to strive for success. On some of these examination dates, students from other levels either do not need to report to school or will be dismissed earlier. Please refer to Table 1 for the schedule of the P6 examinations and how the other levels may be affected.



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Table 1 – Prelim and PSLE Examination Schedule

Date	Examination	Remarks
25 & 26 July 2022	Prelim EL/MTL Oral Exam	P1 to P5 students will be dismissed earlier at 12.30 pm. P6 students will be dismissed as soon as they complete their exams.
2 Aug 2022	Prelim EL/MTL Listening Comprehension (LC)	Lessons as usual for all students. P6 Prelim LC will be held during curriculum time.
18 to 24 Aug 2022	Prelim Written Papers	Lessons as usual for P1 to P5 students. All students will be released at usual dismissal time.
15 & 16 Aug 2022	PSLE EL/MTL Oral Exam	P1 to P5 students do not need to report to school.
16 Sep 2022	PSLE EL/MTL LC	P1 to P5 students do not need to report to school.
29 Sep to 5 Oct 2022	PSLE Written Papers	The plan for P1 to P5 students will be shared in the next Open Letter.

6. Direct School Admission for Secondary School (DSA-Sec). DSA-Sec aims to promote holistic education and provides P6 students with an opportunity to seek admission to a secondary school based on a diverse range of talents and achievements that may not be demonstrated at the PSLE. Each participating secondary school offers distinctive programmes and sets its own selection process and criteria to admit students.

7. Shortlisted applicants will be notified for an in-person selection, comprising interviews and auditions conducted by DSA schools, and selected students will receive DSA-Sec offers from DSA schools by 12 September 2022 (Monday). Please refer to <https://www.moe.gov.sg/secondary/dsa> for more details.

8. Singapore Youth Festival (SYF). A typical SYF Arts Presentation (AP) is a bi-annual performance cum benchmarking platform that offers opportunities for continuous learning and improvement through feedback from industry professionals. Following the relaxation of SMMs in April 2022, the SYF AP was scheduled in Term 3, allowing schools to have ample face-face preparation. We applaud our students in showing strength as a team and resilience, despite the many challenges they faced due to the lack of learning and training opportunities over the past 2 years.

9. Parents may view the schools' performances via livestreaming or on-site to show support to our students. Please refer to Table 2 for the schedule of our students' performances and visit the website <https://www.syf.gov.sg/arts-presentation/syf-2022-ap-livestream-schedule> for more details.



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Table 2 – School’s Schedule in SYF AP 2022

No	AP Categories	Date	Time	Venue (live streaming unless otherwise stated)
1	Chinese Orchestra	3 August	1.40 pm	Singapore Conference Hall
2	Choir	25 August	4.30 pm	School of the Arts
3	Chinese Dance	18 July	5.00 pm	Gateway Theatre (No live streaming for Indian Dance item)
4	Indian Dance	28 July	12.45 pm	
5	Malay Dance	3 August	3.45 pm	

10. **NE Show 2022.** The NE Show is back! It is a good platform to instil a sense of pride and belonging in our students and to bring across the significance of our National Day. All P5 students will be attending the NE Show on 16 July 2022 (Saturday) at The Float @ Marina Bay, subject to prevailing national SMMs. Students will report to school by 2.00 pm in the NE Show t-shirt with PE shorts and are expected to be back in school by 10.30 pm. Refreshments and NDP packs will be distributed on the day itself.

11. **Redesigning Pedagogy.** Building multiliteracies in our students is one of the key elements of English Language teaching and learning in SBPS. Thinking outside the box, our teachers introduced video lessons in the form of news reports, advertisements, and online stories in class, to engage our students as they develop their listening and viewing skills. This pedagogical approach was amongst the topics shared at the Redesigning Pedagogy International Conference 2022 on 1 June 2022, by teachers Mdm Sharmila Singh and Ms Chua Mei Xi Shermeine.



12. **MK Neighbourhood Walk.** With the easing of the SMMs at external venues, learning can take place beyond the classroom. Our students from MK@Sembawang participated in a neighbourhood walk and visited essential places at the Canberra Community Club and learned about the roles of the community helpers. During the walk, the children spotted some common patterns in the environment and learned about how they should present themselves in public. See **Figure 1** for photographs of our MK students in the neighbourhood walk. In the upcoming terms, we have planned various programmes to promote the children’s active participation, ignite their curiosity and build on their competencies.

Figure 1 – MK Student Outdoor Learning



Safety and Security

13. **Security Incident Exercise.** The school has planned for a Security Incident Exercise on 7 November 2022 (Monday), with the simulation of a hostage situation in the school. The exercise will involve all the occupants of the school, centred on “Run, Hide & Tell” procedure and the evacuation to an external venue, safely. A key objective for the exercise is to instil intuitiveness, safety consciousness and awareness in our students during emergencies. We will update parents on the details of the exercise closer to the date.

14. **Fight Against Dengue.** During the June school holidays, the National Environment Agency (NEA) informed our school of a dengue cluster within the Sembawang Central Constituency (see **Figure 2**). The school has taken additional vector control measures in the areas of treatment, cleaning services and estate inspection to ensure no mosquito breeding sites in the school:

Figure 2 – Dengue Cluster (dated 20 Jun)





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- Mosquito fogging treatment in our premises during the school holidays, and on a monthly basis in the next few months;
- Step-up cleaning at drainages by our contract cleaners;
- Step-up inspection of estate such as roof grating.

15. Attendance and Temperature Taking Exercise (ATTEEx). The school conducted an ATTEEx on 29 June 2022 (Wednesday), primarily to maintain the school's preparedness to re-activate the attendance-taking regime, educate staff and students on personal responsibility for own health and practise social responsibility. The ATTEEx comprised attendance and temperate taking of all staff and students present in school on the day of the exercise. This was conducted as a school with decentralised execution at class level. We are pleased to note that all the students (approximately 95% of the student population) present on the day of the ATTEEx had a serviceable Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT). The Form Teachers (FTs) have been briefed to follow up and ensure that students who were absent on the day of the ATTEEx have serviceable ODTs.

16. Premise Safety and Conducive Environment. The school is on the constant look-out to address premise safety and improve the school environment. Over the June holidays, we have added two superfans at the sheltered basketball court to improve airflow and installed awning to keep out the rain wetting the corridor. See Figure 3 for the completed jobs.

Figure 3 – Installation of Awning and Superfans



17. COVID-19 Matters. From Term 3, the school has maintained (a) mask-on setting when in school, unless eating, drinking or partaking in strenuous exercise, (b) level recesses to ensure manageable and conducive setting and (c) screening of students when in school to sieve out unwell students. We urge parents not to send your child to school if he/she is unwell.

18. Vaccination is a key tenet of protection against COVID-19 infections. We encourage parents to get your child vaccinated as soon as possible. Other forms of protection include mask-wearing and personal hygiene. When outdoors, mask-wearing is not mandatory but encouraged.



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19. Anti-drug Ambassador Activity (AAA) Programme. The AAA is a programme rolled out by Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) targeting P4 and P5 students as part of Preventive Drug Education (PDE). The AAA aims to promote greater understanding and peer sharing of the dangers of drug abuse, leveraging activities and messages specifically tailored in an Anti-drug Ambassador booklet. We are glad to announce that all our P4 and P5 students had completed the booklet in Term 2. In addition, our students also learned ways to fend off peer pressure on consuming or distributing drugs through a skit titled “Saying NO to Drugs”, held during the assembly programme. For more information and resources regarding anti-drug efforts/programmes in our school, please refer to the school website under Programmes > Departments > Student Management > Preventive Anti-drug Education Programme.

Celebration of Successes...

20. “Be the Change”. As part of the leadership development, the P5 prefects connected with their peers to understand possible areas for improvement, followed by brainstorming and ideation of possible solutions, and subsequently presenting to the School Leaders (see Figure 4 for our students in action). We hope that this initiative will provide and promote student’s voice and seed a growth mindset in our students.

Figure 4 – “Be the Change” Programme

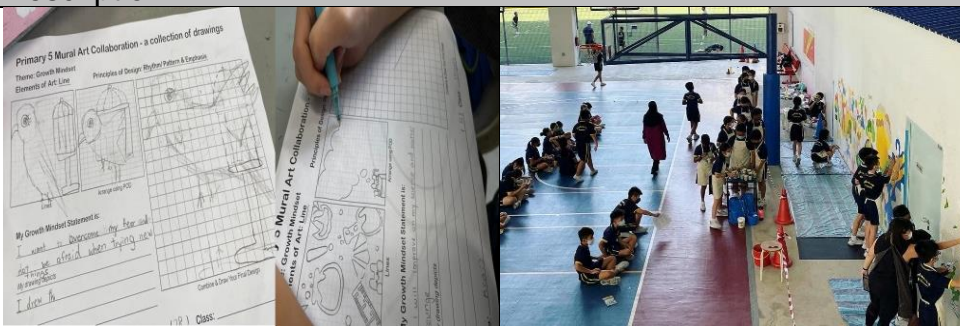



		
<p>A prefect interviewing a fellow student on problems that they may be facing in school.</p>	<p>P5 prefects brainstorming on the possible solutions for questions posed by their peers.</p>	<p>P5 prefects presenting their solution to a panel.</p>

21. Wall Murals. Our P4 to P6 students experienced authentic, out-of-classroom art making as they worked collaboratively to create three wall murals over 10 weeks in Term 2. The students collaborated in their respective levels co-designing and painting one large mural with resident artist, Ms. Joycelyn Wong.

22. The wall murals depicted the applications of growth mindset in daily lives, as well as a collaboration between Aesthetic and Science departments on water conservation and biodiversity in different habitats. In advocating student’s voice, it was heartening to know that the students played a key role in the conceptualisation, designing and painting of the wall murals. To ensure maximum patronage, the wall murals were located at the sheltered basketball court and the level 1 and 2 main

staircases of the teaching block. See Figure 5 for the artists at work and the finished products.

Figure 5 – Wall Murals of Sembawang Primary

Stage	Description
Conceptualisation & design, Student artists at work	
P4 Mural: Water Conservation	
P5 Mural: The Growth Mindset	
P6 Mural: Biodiversity in Different Habitats	



23. 2021 SEA Games. When the announcement “Marc Brian Louis has won Singapore a bronze medal in the 100m and 4 x 100m relay in the 2021 SEA Games” was made, we knew immediately that the name was synonymous with SBPS! Marc was a member of the SBPS Track & Field team from 2011 to 2014 (see Figure 6). Marc’s achievement is a testament of his hard work, dedication and striving to achieve excellence. We are very proud to be part of his journey in track & field. Well done, Marc! We wish him more successes in the future.

Figure 6 – Marc Brian Louis



24. 2022 Singapore Olympic Foundation (SOF)-Peter Lim Scholarship. The SOF-Peter Lim Scholarship is awarded to deserving students who have demonstrated potential to excel in sports. The scholarship also supports under-18 athletes who are on a high-performance pathway and are training with the national youth or national teams. We are pleased to announce that our student, Nur Sheza Tamara Binte Yusri of 6 Empathy, has received the 2022 SOF-Peter Lim Scholarship through the Pencak Silat sport. Congratulations, Tamara!

25. Choir Exchange. As a lead up to the SYF AP, our school choir participated in an exchange programme with Nanyang Primary School and South View Primary School choirs on 21 June 2022 (see Figure 7). In the exchange programme, our newly formed choir performed a challenging piece titled “There Shall Be Music” with strength and success. We are heartened to know that our students were encouraged by the meaningful experience that had added to their confidence in large group performances.

Figure 7 – Choirs from Sembawang, Nanyang and South View Primary Schools





Up-coming School Events...

26. Open House 2022. The event will be held on 23 July 2022 (Saturday). Potential P1 parents can look forward to understanding our school's infrastructure and key programmes through a school tour led by our school prefects, and a live chat session with our Principal and Key Personnel. The chat session will also be livestreamed through our school social media sites. We will be grateful if parents could help to spread the information. The link to register for the open house is <https://go.gov.sg/sbpsopenhouse>.



More information about the event can be found on our school social media sites.

27. Racial Harmony Day (RHD). RHD is an annual event to celebrate our multicultural and multi-ethnic society and to remind students the importance of maintaining racial and religious harmony in Singapore. Our school will be commemorating RHD on 20 July 2022 (Wednesday). Students are encouraged to come to school in traditional ethnic costumes (with school shoes) of the various races in Singapore as part of the commemoration. For classes that are having PE lessons on 20 July 2022, they should bring along their PE attire to change for the PE lesson.

Miscellaneous...

28. Hari Raya Haji Public Holiday. The school will be closed on 11 July 2022 (public holiday in lieu of Hari Raya Haji on Sunday 10 July).

Concluding Remarks...

*"Remember that failure is an event, not a person."
~Zig Ziglar~*

29. When you fail an exam, that's not the end of life. It just means that you have to put in a little more effort than the last time. It is just a passing moment and does not define you. Study harder and make a comeback.

30. We thank parents for your unwavering support and understanding of the necessary adjustments to your child's learning due to the relaxation of the SMMs in response to the COVID-19 situation nationwide. Stay safe and healthy!

Warmest regards.

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