

UNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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7 November 2024

Dear Parents

The upcoming week will be the last 2 weeks of the school year and the following are some information to note:

1. Events for Term 4 & School Holidays

Day / Date	School Holidays / Celebrations				
Fri, 8 Nov 24	E-PTC for P1 – P5 (No School for all Students)				
Wed, 13 Nov 24	Promotion & Level Awards Day (Last Day of School for P1 – P5 Students) School Hours: 7.30 am – 10.30 am				
Thu, 14 Nov 24	P6 Graduation Day (Only for P6 Students)				
	School Hours: 8 am – 11 am				
Fri, 15 Nov 24	Annual Awards Day (Only for P1 to P6 Award Recipients & Performers) School Hours: 7.30 am – 11 am				
Sat to Wed, 16 Nov 24 – 1 Jan 25	School Holidays				
Thu, 2 Jan 25	School Reopens: Only P1/2025 Students report to School				
onwards	Dismissal for Thu, 2 Jan 25 to Tue, 7 Jan 25: 12.30 pm				
Fri, 3 Jan 25 onwards	Start of School for P2 to P6 students				
	Daily Staggered Dismissals P1 : 1.25 pm (from 8 Jan 25)				
	P1 : 1.25 pm (from 8 Jan 25) P2 & P4: 1.30 pm				
	P3 : 1.25 pm				
	P5 & P6: 1.35 pm				

2. Year-End Holiday Travel Declaration

You would have received via Parent's Gateway (PG) to submit your child's travel declarations if you intend to travel with your child during the year-end school holidays. Kindly submit your travel declarations via PG by **Wed**, **13 Nov 24** if you have not done so.

3. Updates of Personal Particulars

To ensure the school's database is up to date, please inform the Form Teacher or Staff in the General Office whenever there are updates pertaining to your child, e.g., **contact address or phone numbers**. Latest information is especially crucial during emergencies.

4. Recognizing Efforts of Your Children

As we draw nearer to the end of the school year, we feel it is opportune to share these insights. Understandably as parents, we expect our children to do well in school and achieve a reasonable level of academic performance. However, inevitably there will be some who may not have performed as anticipated and feel disappointed. They may also experience difficulties managing unmet expectations and emotions.

Be observant and supportive. Recognise your children's strengths and weaknesses. Instil in them the resilience to learn from their experience and confidence to continue forging on. While we set high expectations to stretch our children's potential, be realistic about their abilities. There are multiple pathways to reaching their goals in life. For primary school students, PSLE is but one of the many milestones in their educational journey and the results alone do not define who they are or determine their future.

The school has prepared specially designed cards (You're more than your results!) that will be passed to you through your child. The softcopies are also attached for your own printing should you require more. We recommend that you take the time to pen words of encouragement and affirmation to your child on the card. Show that you value his/her efforts and regardless, your love for him/her will not be any lesser. For the parents of the P6 students, we suggest you do it before the release of PSLE results.

We encourage you to take pictures of the card or pictures of you and your child with the card and upload to https://tinyurl.com/yudh5khw. We would love for such meaningful cards and moments to be shared with the rest of the school community.

5. Student Well-Being

We hope that your child can continue to be engaged meaningfully during the school holidays. The school has compiled a set of learning and self-management resources and sites to reinforce key concepts/ skills taught and bridge learning gaps for your child. These resources will be accessible via SLS from 23 Nov 24 to 15 Dec 24 of the school holidays. Please support and encourage your child to access and use these resources.

School holidays should also be a time for your child to explore sports and the outdoors or to pick up a hobby or new skill. Following are some suggestions:

- Encourage your child to participate in moderate to vigorous physical activities for about 60 min a day as recommended by HPB. These can be in the form of exercises such as swimming, cycling, jogging or walking on the park connector, Kranji Marshes, Bukit Timah Hill, playing some outdoor games, etc.
- ✓ Learn to cook or bake or eat healthily as a family.
- ✓ Visit the nearest community library and borrow a range of books. For the school holidays, the quota of books that can be borrowed is usually increased.
- ✓ Do revise on the areas, which your child needs to work on for the respective subjects. Start your child reading on new topics to be taught in the new level.
- ✓ Get your child to do mini research on culture, places of interest, historical background, geographical structure, famous people, etc. to widen his/her general knowledge.
- ✓ Get your child to identify an area of self-management that he/she would like to improve on and actively work on it this holiday, e.g., cultivating the habit of cleaning after himself/herself, packing his/her work and play areas, sleeping and waking early, etc.

6. School Schedule 2025

Next year's schedule is appended below for your planning. There will be a snack break in addition to the 30-min recess. If your child needs a bite, please ensure that he/she brings along his/her snack. The timings for snack breaks will be communicated by the form teachers.

Timings	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
7.30 am	Flag Raising & Pledge-Taking					
1.30 pm	School Dismissal					
2 pm – 3 pm	# P5 & P6 Foundation English Language			* Dismissal at 3 pm for P3 to P6 students when there is CCA	# P5 & P6 Foundation Mathematics # P3 to P6 HMTL Lessons	
After- school	E2K Programme (2 pm – 3.30 pm) Competitive CCA (3.15 pm – 4.45 pm)	Remedial/ Supplementary Lessons (2 pm – 3 pm) Competitive CCA (3.15 pm – 4.45 pm)				

Recess Timings by levels

P1: 10.30 am
P2: 8.30 am
P3: 11 am
P4: 10 am
P5: 9.30 am
P6: 9 am

Lunch Timings by levels

For the well-being of the students, lunch break is mandated for lessons beyond 1.30 pm. Hence, the lunch breaks for students will be:

P1 to P3: 1.30 pm - 2 pm
 P4 : 1 pm - 1.30 pm
 P5 : 12.30 pm - 1 pm
 P6 : 12 pm - 12.30 pm

CCA Day on Thursdays

* For P3 to P6 students, to factor in CCA on Thursday morning, the curriculum hours will be extended and students dismissed at 3 pm every Thursday. When there is no CCA, all P3 to P6 students will be dismissed at 1.30 pm and there will not be any lunch breaks. **CCA will start on Thu, 6 Feb 25.**

P5 & P6 students taking Foundation English Language will have lessons till 3 pm on Mondays.

P5 & P6 students taking Foundation Mathematics will have lessons till 3 pm on Fridays. P3 to P6 students taking Higher Mother Tongue Languages will have lessons till 3 pm on Fridays.

Remedial Lessons on Tuesdays from 2 pm to 3 pm

- For identified P2 to P4 students starting in Term 2.
- For identified P1 students starting only in Semester 2.

Supplementary Lessons on Tuesdays from 2 pm to 3 pm

• For all P5 & P6 students starting in Term 2.

E2K Programme (Mathematics or Science) on Mondays from 2 pm to 3.30 pm

For identified P4 to P6 students only.

Competitive CCA on Mondays or Tuesdays from 3.15 pm to 4.45 pm

• For identified participants only. Competitive CCA may start earlier than 6 Feb 25.

7. Student Dismissal Plan 2025

For better management of crowds and safety, mass dismissals of all students are staggered.

Refer to this table for the various venues:

Time	Side Gate 1 & 2 (Front)	Side Gate 3 (near Block 672)	Back Gate (near School Field)
1.25 pm/ 3 pm	P1	P3	P1 & P3
1.30 pm/ 3 pm	P2	P4	P2 & P4
1.35 pm/ 3 pm	-	P5 & P6	P5 & P6
Adhoc Dismissal after 3.15 pm	P1 – P3	P4 – 6 (Turnstile Exit with Student Pass)	P4 – 6 (Turnstile Exit with Student Pass)

Kindly observe the following:

Parents/Caregivers

- Wait at the appropriate dismissal venue regardless of weather conditions.
- Wait at the appropriate dismissal venue of the younger/youngest sibling. Arrange with and inform your children where they should be picked up.
- Pick up P1 & P2 children at the designated waiting area within the school.
- Do not crowd outside Gate 3 but keep the pavement clear for the students. Wait at the sheltered HDB void deck.

Students

- Bring an umbrella to school every day.
- Can be dismissed via Side Gate 1 & 2 if they have a sibling in P1 or P2 or be dismissed collectively via a gate that is convenient for the family. Dismissal points **should not vary** on a day-to-day basis so as not to confuse the students and teachers.
- Wait at the canteen for siblings before proceeding to the appropriate dismissal gate if they are going home together without any adults.
- Walk along the pavement instead of on the road and not dash across the road.
- Comply with road safety regulations. Exercise the kerb drills and safe pedestrian practices. Be considerate road users.

8. Silver Zone along Choa Chu Kang Crescent

The entire Choa Chu Kang Crescent along which the school is located has been redesignated a Silver Zone since Dec 2023. Please be reminded that there is enforcement against vehicles that are parked outside the main gate.

All parents and visitors driving into the school to drop off/pick up students/passengers are advised to exercise patience and consideration. We reiterate that there will be <u>no right turn upon exit</u> from carpark from <u>6.45 am to 7.45 am & 1.45 pm to 2 pm</u> to facilitate smoother and safer traffic flow.

9. Temperature-Taking Exercise in 2025

In line with the revised guidelines from MOE, temperature-taking will be conducted at the beginning of each semester. The temperature-taking exercise for Term 1 2025 will take place on **Wed**, **15 Jan 25**. Please ensure that your child brings a working Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) to school every day.

10. Advisory For Coming School Holidays

The school would like to remind all parents to exercise vigilance in the care and supervision of your children to ensure that they stay meaningfully engaged and not get into trouble/mischiefs/ bad company or fall prey to online scams/ predators.

Singapore Police Force (SPF), Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB), National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) and National Council Against Drug Abuse (NCADA) would also like to remind students of the dire consequences of committing crime and drug/ inhalant abuse, as well as to take measures to avoid being victims of crime. Our teachers will reiterate these messages and we hope that parents will continue to monitor and watch over the safety of your children. Please refer to attached Advisory and Stories.

11. Cyber Wellness

In today's digital age, it is crucial for both parents and educators to work together in fostering a culture of responsible digital citizenship among our students. The growing role of digital technology in 21st-century education cannot be overlooked. As children spend increasing amounts of time online, whether for entertainment or home-based learning, it is essential for parents to stay vigilant and monitor your children's online interactions closely.

To guide your child in developing the right mindset and habits online, we encourage you to spend some time exploring this resource: <u>Four Ways To Foster Positive Internet Use In Your Child's Online Interactions (digitalforlife.gov.sg)</u>.

Also consider this material on engaging your child in reading, through e-books or printed books: https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/parenting-education/screen-vs-print-e-books-seem-more-fun-but-printed-books-benefit-kids

Additionally, do take note of these requirements and guide your children accordingly:

Online App/ Social Media Platform	Legal Age Requirement
WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, etc.	At least 13 years old
Telegram	At least 16 years old

12. Partnering for Success

Last but not least, we wish to express our appreciation to all parents for journeying with us this entire year and look forward to your unstinting partnership going forward.

Have a well-deserved holiday with your loved ones. Keep healthy and safe. See you when school reopens in 2025!

Yours sincerely Mrs Lee-Koh SC Principal