9 January 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year and to also introduce myself. I am Mr Wilbur Wong and I have been appointed by the Ministry of Education to take over the principalship from Mrs Wee with effect from January 2023.

Waterway Primary opened her doors in 2016 with 5 primary one classes and since then, we have grown from strength to strength and over the years, our family has grown and we have put in place many innovative and exciting programmes, all with the intention of providing a rich, vibrant and holistic learning experience for our students. Much of the credit for our success must go to Mrs Wee, who is the pioneering principal. Thanks to her foresight, passion and beliefs, staff and students of Waterway Primary are able to reap the fruits of her labour. As Mrs Wee moves on to the next phase of her life, we would like to thank her for her efforts and to wish her well in all her future endeavours. She will always be a treasured family member of Waterway Primary School.

It is with great excitement that I take on the principalship of the school. Our vision, **‘A Lifelong Learner, A Gracious Citizen’** resonates deeply with me and remains relevant to the ever-changing world around us. Our children will grow up in a world that is complex and uncertain, where skillsets may change but they will need to develop mindsets that will take them through this ambiguity. We will continue to develop in our students’ future-centric competencies and strengthen their grasp of a ‘Growth and Benefit Mindset’. We will continue to place emphasis on inculcating our school’s core values of **Responsibility, Integrity, Self-discipline and Empathy (RISE)** so that we can remain anchored and learn to serve others.

For us to achieve this, we will want to work closely with you, so that together we can help each child learn and grow in a safe and supportive environment. Over the course of this year, I will find more opportunities to meet up with you to share more about our approaches and programs and to seek your feedback. I look forward to meeting up with you in the year ahead.

As this is the start of the new year, I would like to share some information with you:

# Year Heads

The following are the Year Heads for the levels:

P1: Mrs Shrlinda Lee assisted by Miss Nur Humairah Binte Hasim P2: Mrs Mitchelle Wong assisted by Miss Chew Yann, Zandra

P3: Mrs Lu Li Ting assisted by Miss Cheryl Khoo and Mdm Foo Wan Qing P4: Mdm Nazreena Bte Abdul Rahman assisted by Mrs Serene Ng

P5: Mr Jason Yew assisted by Mdm Tan Lay Syn

P6: Mr Wong Beng Yu assisted by Miss Priscilia Goh Shi Qi

# School Activities and Hours

School hours are from 7.45 a.m. to 1.30 p.m, and students will need to be in school by 7.40 a.m to have sufficient time to walk to the hall/ class for flag-raising at 7.45 a.m. Our pre-assembly programme, Good Morning School (GMS), starts at 7.25 a.m. During the pre-assembly programme, teachers share with students about current affairs, science, culture and knowledge, and information of the world around us so that they can be enthused to learn beyond the classroom. We would like to encourage students to join in the pre-assembly programme even though school officially starts at 7.45 a.m.

The Year Heads will share with you the assessment approach and schedule.

Modular CCAs are conducted during curriculum time for all P3 to P6 students. Interest CCAs are for P3 to P6 students. Currently these interest CCAs are conducted on Thursday and Friday afternoons over two timeslots - from 2.15 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. and from 3.45 p.m to 5.15 p.m. As changes to the CCA schedules are expected, we will share more information on the actual CCA schedules later in Term 1.

# Punctuality

Daily school attendance is indicated by reporting time and hence will be reflected as punctuality records.

Please ensure that your child is punctual for school and reports to school by 7.40 a.m. The national anthem will be played at 7.45 a.m. sharp. The school will work with you to inculcate the value of punctuality as it is important to develop this in a child from young.

# Homework

Homework serves to reinforce learning in the classroom. It also provides good feedback on students’ learning so that teachers can adapt their teaching strategies to be more effective in helping students learn. Homework is differentiated and structured to reinforce learning of basic concepts. It also allows students to apply, practise and extend their learning. Teachers will work together with students and parents to pace the learning of students.

# Health Management

We would like to remind you to keep your child at home if your child is not feeling well and have flu-like symptoms. Do bring him/ her to visit the doctor if the need arises. Please allow your child to return to school only when his/ her medical leave ends. Do inform your child’s form teacher of his/ her absence and submit the medical certificate or letter upon returning to school.

# Use of Students’ Images for Print & Non-Print Resources

In the course of the year, photos or videos of the students may be used in various publications or corporate videos produced by the school. Such resources are produced as a form of communication with parents and the community or for the purpose of publicity. At times, they may also be used in press releases. If parents do not wish to have the use of their child’s images for such purposes, kindly inform your child’s class form teacher.

We look forward to your continued support in 2023. Please do not hesitate to contact us or your child’s

teachers if you need any advice, information, or clarification.

The calendar for Semester 1 is attached below. Specific details related to the levels will be shared in the Year Head’s letter subsequently.

Best wishes for you and your family in the new year.

Yours sincerely

Mr Wilbur Wong Principal

# Calendar of Events – Semester 1 (2023)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event / Programme** | **Remarks** |
| 20 Jan | **Lunar New Year Celebrations**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | Normal school hours |
| 23 and 24 Jan | **Lunar New Year Public Holidays** | No lessons |
| 26 Jan | **P4 Parents Engagement**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | Normal school hours |
| **Start of CCA for P4 to P6 levels**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | Normal school hours; refer to CCA schedule  provided |
| 2 Feb | **P6 Parents Engagement**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | Normal school hours |
| 9 Feb | **P5 Parents Engagement**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | Normal school hours |
| 15 Feb | **Total Defence Day**  **-** Commemoration in school | Normal school hours |
| 16 Feb | **P3 Parents Engagement**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | Normal school hours |
| Week of 27 Feb | **P6 Learning Journey to Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve** | Normal school hours |
| 7 and 8 Mar | **P4 Learning Journey to Kreta Ayer Heritage Gallery or Geylang Serai Heritage Gallery** | Normal school hours |
| Week of 20  Mar | **P5 Learning Journey to Gardens by the Bay** | Normal school hours |
| 11 – 19 Mar | **Term 1 School Holidays**  **-** Term 2 starts on 20 March | No lessons |
| 23 & 30 Mar | **P4 Museum Based Learning Journey (Art)** | Normal school hours |
| 6 Apr | **International Friendship Day** |  |
| **Parent Teacher Conference (full day)**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | No lessons in school; Home-Based Learning  (HBL) for all students |
| 7 Apr | **Good Friday Public Holiday** | No lessons |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 13 Apr | **Start of CCA Experience for P3**  **-** After school hours | Normal school hours; refer to CCA schedule |
| 24 Apr | **Hari Raya Puasa Public Holiday**  **(off-in-lieu for Hari Raya Puasa on 22 April)** | No lessons |
| 27 and 28 Apr | **P2 Learning Journey to Jewel (Airport)** | Normal school hours |
| 1 May | **Labour Day Public Holiday** | No lessons |
| 15, 18 & 19  May | **P3 Learning Journey to Botanic Gardens** | Normal school hours |
| 16 & 17 May | **P5 Learning Journey to Indian Heritage Gallery** | Normal school hours |
| Week of 22 May | **P3 Explore, Discover and Learn (EDL) Programme** | Normal school hours |
| **PAMtastic Week** | Normal school hours |
| 25 May | **P1 Learning Carnival** | Normal school hours |
| 26 May | **P1 and P2 Books and Beyond Programme**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | After school hours |
| 27 May to 25 Jun | **Term 2 School Holidays**  **-** Term 3 starts on 26 June | No lessons |
| 29 May to 17 Jun | **WAPS Challenge (online)**  **-** Optional holiday enrichment activities for students | No lessons |
| 2 Jun | **Vesak Day Public Holiday** | No lessons |
| 21 Jun | **P4 Cultural Camp**  **-** More information will be shared later via PG | Refer to schedule to be given |
| Week of 20 Jun | **P6 Enrichment Lessons**  **-** More information will be shared later | Only for P6 students |

*Please Note:*

1. *P5 students will have SwimSafer sessions on Mondays or Wednesdays in Term 1, while P4 students will have SwimSafer sessions on Tuesdays or Wednesdays in Term 2. The schedule for the individual classes will be shared with parents in January 2023. There are lessons as per normal and students will be dismissed at the usual times.*
2. *The assessment schedules for 2023 will be shared in the Year Head letters.*