



WHITE SANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ILB / 01 / 2023

IN LINK Bulletin

Jan 2023

1. Welcome Back to School for 2023

Dear parents/guardians,

Happy New Year and welcome to the new school year 2023. For parents/guardians who just joined our White Sands family, a very warm welcome!

We will continue to be guided by our school vision and mission statements, in addition to our values and motto, in developing our students holistically. With the strong partnership between parents and the school, let us continue to make White Sands Primary School a conducive and caring environment where our children forge lasting friendships and wonderful memories learning, growing and excelling together.

We would like to bid farewell to and thank the following staff for their contribution:

- Mrs Evelyn Tay (Vice Principal)
- Mdm Rabi'ah bte Rahmat (ST ML)
- Mrs Daphne Seah (LH Math)
- Mr Bryan Foo (SH CCA)
- Mr Richard Teo (Teacher)
- Mrs Chon (Teacher)
- Ms Eve Tan (AYH P5, Internal)
- Mdm Jembu Krishnamurthy Nalini (Teacher)

We would like to welcome the following staff to the WSPS family:

- Ms Lina Tiong (Vice Principal - Administration)
- Mdm Goo Lay Hoon (HOD Math)
- Ms Wan Nurin Zahian (LH EL)
- Mr Asraf s/o Salavan (SH Student Wellbeing)
- Mdm Hirdawati d/o Mohamed (Teacher)
- Mr Tan Yew Wee (Teacher)
- Mr Nur Salim (ICT Manager)
- Mr Md Fadzli bin Anuar (Adj ICT Associate)

2. Communications between Parents and School

a. Below are the email address of the school leaders and key personnel for your reference.

Name	Designation	Email Contact
Ms Audrey Wong	Principal	wsps@moe.edu.sg
Ms Rezina Khan	Vice Principal	wsps@moe.edu.sg
Ms Lina Tiong	Vice Principal Admin	wsps@moe.edu.sg
Ms Jean Tham	School Staff Developer	tham_bao_jing@moe.edu.sg
Ms Emmeline Ong	HOD/Eng (Cov)	ong_chang_ching_emmeline@moe.edu.sg
Mdm Goo Lay Hoon	HOD/Math	goo_lay_hoon@moe.edu.sg
Mrs Joyce Soon	HOD/Sci	yeo_siok_hwee@moe.edu.sg
Mdm Qiu Suguan	HOD/Mother Tongue	giu_suguan@moe.edu.sg
Mrs Joycelyn Lok	HOD/CCE	tay_aijing_joycelyn@moe.edu.sg

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Name	Designation	Email Contact
Mr Alvin Tan	HOD/PE, Aesthetics & CCA	tan_meng_kwang_alvin@moe.edu.sg
Ms Lim Hui Yuen	HOD/ICT	lim_hui_yuen@moe.edu.sg
Mr Gary Peh	HOD/Student Mgt	peh_gary@moe.edu.sg
Ms Brenda Ng	HOD/Special Education Needs	Brenda_Ng@moe.edu.sg
Mdm Erica Cheah	Year Head (P1 & P2)	cheah_tze_yuen@moe.edu.sg
Mr Wong Ye Xiang	Year Head (P5 & P6)	wong_yexiang@moe.edu.sg
Ms Wan Nurin Zahian	Level Head (English Language)	wan_nurin_zahian_wan@moe.edu.sg
Mdm Seah Hui Xin	Level Head (CL)	seah_hui_xin@moe.edu.sg
Mr Ismail	Subject Head (ML / TL)	ismail_kasim@moe.edu.sg
Mdm Roza	Subject Head (Aesthetics)	roza_rahman@moe.edu.sg
Mr Asraf s/o Salavan	Subject Head (Student Wellbeing)	asraf_salavan@moe.edu.sg
Mr Liew Guan Jie	Subject Head (ICT)	liew_guan_jie@moe.edu.sg
Mr Mohamed Razlee B Bidin	Year Head (P3 & P4) (Cov)	mohamed_razlee_bidin@moe.edu.sg
Mrs Beverly Peh	Lead Teacher /Math	cheong_may_fung@moe.edu.sg
Mrs Linda Chan	Lead Teacher/Sci	lim_yen_peng_linda@moe.edu.sg
Mr Amos Sim	Senior Teacher/Eng	amos_sim_kah_heng@moe.edu.sg
Mdm Naziathul	Senior Teacher/Lower Pri	naziathul_suhailah_ibrahim@moe.edu.sg
Mr Roy Tay	Operations Manager	tay_eng_foo@moe.edu.sg
Mr Tan Tong Mou	Operations Manager	tan_tong_mou@moe.edu.sg

b. Pupil Handbook Details

All students would receive the Pupil Handbook 2023 by the first week of school. Please do spend some time to go through the details provided in the Handbook. We would like to draw parents' attention to the section on gate opening hours, school rules, school procedures, school uniform and school assessment. Thereafter, do acknowledge on page 14 and page 25 of the Pupil Handbook.

c. Parents Gateway (PG)

Other than emails, phone calls and the student handbook as mode of communications, the school uses the PG mobile app to convey important messages and notifications to parents. Developed by MOE and GovTech, PG allows parents to receive information and perform a range of administrative functions such as giving of consent and declaring of travel intention.

d. White Sands on Social Media

Our school maintains a presence on Facebook. This is a platform for us to share on the vibrancy of learning in our school, relevant resources and interesting news. Parents can access it at <https://www.facebook.com/whitesandsprimaryschoolofficial>. Please be informed that photos of students for their involvement during various events and learning experiences will be posted on this page. Parents are to contact Mr Liew Guan Jie at liew_guan_jie@schools.gov.sg if they have any concern on the matter.

3. Daily assembly and punctuality

In line with the school values, we seek parents' support in ensuring that your child/ward is punctual. Being punctual will imbue the habit of responsibility and develop self-discipline and

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time management. We would like to remind parents that pupils who are not present for the flag-raising ceremony at the hall/classroom will be considered as late for school.

As we have pre-assembly programmes planned and temperature taking routines, we strongly encourage your child/ward to be in school by 7.30am.

As communicated in our In-Link Bulletin Special Edition last year, the school will be adjusting the school hours to fit in the additional period of CTGP to the curriculum for P4 to P6 by extending 15 minutes on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please note the change in school hours for 2023 as follows:

Day	Curriculum hours	After curriculum hours
Monday	7.45 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.	Pupil-related sessions, for example, Enrichment, Student Leaders' meeting
Tuesday	7.45 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.	Remedial classes
Wednesday (CCA days)	<u>P1 and P2:</u> 7.45 a.m. – 1.15 p.m. <u>P3 to P6:</u> 7.45 a.m. – 2.15 p.m.	P3 – P6 CCA (2.15 p.m. – 3.45 p.m.) Lunch: P6: 11.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. P5: 12.45 p.m. – 1.15 p.m. P4: 12.15 p.m. – 12.45 p.m. P3: 1.45 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.
Wednesday (No CCA days)	<u>P1 and P2:</u> 7.45 a.m. – 1.15 p.m. <u>P3 to P6:</u> 7.45 a.m. – 1.45 p.m.	Second 10-min Snack break: P6: 11.45 a.m. P5: 12.45 p.m. P4: 12.15 p.m. P3: 1.15 p.m.
Thursday	7.45 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.	No planned Pupil Programme due to staff meeting
Friday	7.45 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.	Higher Mother Tongue Language Classes

4. Chinese New Year Celebrations, 16 January 2023

Our school's Chinese New Year celebrations will be held on Monday, 16 January 2023. Celebrations and classroom activities will be held during curriculum hours. School hours will be as usual.

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, signifies the beginning of Spring. It is a time when families and friends get together to bid the past and greet the new beginning. The celebration is a platform to increase our students' awareness and understanding of the Chinese custom, culture, and values.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our Chinese pupils and their families Happy Lunar New Year, 新年快乐, 万事如意!

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5. School-Parents Engagement and Communication Session (SPECS)

School-Parents Engagement and Communication Session (SPECS) is the school's annual platform for School Leaders and teachers to engage parents on the students' learning experiences for 2023 so that parents may provide the necessary support and reinforcement at home. This year, we are delighted to invite parents back to the campus grounds to meet our teachers on the following days.

Level	Date & Timing
Primary 5 & 6	9 February, 3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Thursday)
Primary 3 & 4	10 February, 3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Friday)
Primary 2	13 February, 3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. (Monday)
Primary 1	10 March, 11 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. (Friday)

More information about the respective level's engagement session will be sent to you via PG nearer the dates.

6. Remedial schedule

P6 remedial lessons will be held weekly on Tuesday afternoons in Term 1. Remedial for P5 will start from Term 2. Parents will be notified via PG if your child is selected for remedial lessons.

7. Assessment schedule

Please take note of the assessment schedule in the table below. More details on topics and assessment coverage for the whole year will be sent via PG by 20 January.

Date	Event	Remarks
27 Feb – 10 Mar	P3 to P6 WA1	Dates of the WA1 will be provided by the subject teachers to the class one week before the assessment.

8. Co-curricular Activities (CCA) Schedule for Term 1/ 2023

All our students, from Primary 3 to Primary 6, are strongly encouraged to participate in and contribute to one CCA. CCA forms an integral part of our students' holistic education where our students discover their strengths, interests and talents. It also helps to develop values and life skills that are essential for them to do well in life.

CCA sessions are held on Wednesdays. They begin at 2.15 p.m. and end at 3.45 p.m., unless stated otherwise. Please refer to the table below for the relevant dates. More specific details will be shared by the respective CCA teachers.

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CCA Calendar 2023 (Term 1)

Dates			P3 to P6
Term 1	Week 1	4-Jan	No CCA
	Week 2	11-Jan	No CCA
	Week 3	18-Jan	CCA
	Week 4	25-Jan	No CCA
	Week 5	1-Feb	CCA
	Week 6	8-Feb	CCA
	Week 7	15-Feb	CCA
	Week 8	22-Feb	CCA
	Week 9	1-Mar	CCA
	Week 10	8-Mar	No CCA

9. Safe Management Measures (SMM) and Health-related Matters

We would like to seek your partnership to inculcate good habits and personal hygiene practices in your children to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission for the school to continue to operate safely with SMM in place.

Personal Hygiene

- Washing hands with soap/ sanitising of hands when they reach school and before their snack break/ recess.
- Wiping down of canteen tables/ desk areas and common shared equipment after using them
- Having a packet of tissue, a spare mask (if needed) and hand sanitiser with them when in school
- Having a ziplock bag/ case to put their mask when they take it off (if needed)

Social Responsibility

- Bringing a working Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) daily. The school will be conducting the annual Attendance and Temperature Taking Exercise on Wednesday, 11 January. Its objective is to educate students on taking personal responsibility for their own health and practising social responsibility. Please ensure that your child/ ward has a working thermometer at all times.
- Taking an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) when required to do so.
- Seeing a doctor and staying away from school if they are unwell. If they have cough, sore throat or runny nose, please bring your child/ ward to see a doctor to seek medical treatment and inform the school immediately.
- Being vigilant of their health especially when an adult staying with them is unwell with flu-like symptoms. Please keep your children at home when they display flu-like symptoms and keep the school informed.

It is of utmost importance for you to reinforce the above measures with your child/ ward. You can do this by ensuring that he/she carries out the same routines whenever you and your family go out or return home.

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We will continue our best efforts to ringfence and keep all students and staff members safe in school. Besides the measures mentioned above, some of the other enhanced measures we have in place include the following:

- Screening of students in the morning
- Screening of all visitors/ vendors coming into the school
- Staggered recesses and dismissal times
- Stepping up cleaning and sanitising of common areas when needed.

The school will continue to stay vigilant and seek your partnership to continue the good efforts of everyone to ensure safety and wellbeing of our staff, students and the school community.

10. Starting the School Year Right!

As we begin 2023, it is important as parents, to prepare your child/ ward to start the school year off right. This requires some planning to ensure that he/she is prepared. By following these easy tips, not only will you make it a smooth transition into the school year, but your child/ ward will come to school with confidence, ready for a successful year ahead.

a) Set specific goals

Work with your child/ward to determine what they want to achieve this school year. Help them break long-term goals down into smaller goals that they can see themselves achieving. Every little step is important in reaching those goals!

b) Deliver genuine praise often

Praise your child/ward not only for what they accomplish, but also for what they try to accomplish. Let them know that you believe in them and reflect on any new skill they gained over the year like resilience, time management, and responsibility.

c) Set up a study area

Make study time more effective by creating a distraction-free zone away from the television, tablets and phones. Be sure this area is stocked with necessary supplies like pens, paper, markers, books, magazines that they can use as they are engaged in a task.

d) Establish a consistent homework routine

Schedule a daily homework time and make it a part of your family's routine right from the start. This also helps children to see that homework is a priority.

e) Get to know your child's/ ward's teachers

One of the most important aspects of any parent-teacher-child relationship is the establishment of regular communication. This will strengthen the relationship in developing healthy skills and habits which will in turn help your children start the school year off right and finish it off successfully.

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11. Major Events and Holidays for Term 1

Date	Event	Remarks
1 & 2 Jan (Sun & Mon)	New Year's Day	Public Holiday
3 Jan (Tue)	Back to school for P1 pupils only	P2 – P6 pupils do not report to school
4 Jan (Wed)	Back to school for P2 – P6 pupils	All pupils to report to school
6 Jan (Fri)	Annual SSC Phototaking for P1 and P6	--
10 Jan (Tue)	Commencement of P5 Swimsafer Programme	Every Tuesday and Friday (12.15 pm– 3.45pm) until 7 Feb. Details have been shared via PG in 2022.
16 Jan (Mon)	CNY Celebrations	More details will be provided at a later date.
18 Jan (Wed)	Commencement of CCA	For P3 to P6 pupils only
22 Jan – 24 Jan (Sun – Tue)	Chinese New Year	Public Holiday
9 Feb (Thu)	P5 & P6 SPECS	More details will be provided at a later date.
10 Feb (Fri)	P3 & P4 SPECS	
13 Feb (Mon)	P2 SPECS	
10 Mar (Fri)	P1 SPECS	
27 Feb (Mon) to 10 Mar (Fri)	P3 to P6 Weighted Assessment (WA) 1	More details will be provided at a later date.
11 Mar (Sat) – 19 Mar (Sun)	Term 1 School Holidays	--

Once again, thank you for your kind attention to the contents of this bulletin. Looking forward to a fulfilling Term 1 2023 with your child/ward.

Your partner-in-education,



Ms Audrey Wong
Principal

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