WHITE SANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL



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IN LINK

1 Jul 2021

ILB / 07 / 2021

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Welcome back to Term 3!

As Singapore transits into Phase 3 (Heightened Alert), pupils will return to school progressively from 28 June 2021. We would like to reassure parents that we would make every effort to implement the various SMMs (Safe Management Measures) to ensure the safety of all pupils and staff. Our teachers will continue to remind the pupils on procedures such as temperature-taking, hand washing, wipe down, safe-distancing and wearing of face masks.

Our focus for the next few weeks will be on re-integrating of our pupils into school life and its routines before gradually returning to the normal intensity of teaching and learning. Do let your child's C4RE teachers know if your child requires any support in managing the transition.

My team and I would like to thank all staff, parents and pupils for the support and cooperation given so far. We seek your continued support in working together to remind our children on the importance of personal responsibility so that they can return to school in a safe manner.

1. Recess and dismissal timing

As part of SMM, we would like to minimize intermingling across levels.

- For recess, we would like to decongest the canteen, hence there would be 1 level per recess slot. In Term 3, P1 and P5 pupils will stay in class during their recess from Week 2 onwards. Pupils are strongly encouraged to bring packed food from home. There will be in-class relaxation and down time to allow pupils to have the conducive environment to rest and recharge. Pupils who are unable to bring packed food will be given time to purchase finger food/dry food such as bread, buns and rice set from the canteen and bring the purchased food back to class for consumption. Do allow your child to bring lunchbox for his/her purchase from the canteen.
- The staggered dismissal timing would continue as per last term as follows:

Level	Dismissal timing (Mon – Thu)	Dismissal (Fri)
P1 & P2	1.00pm	12.45pm
P3 & P4	1.15pm	1.00pm
P5 & P6	1.30pm	1.15pm

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2. Staff Movement

- a) We would like to welcome the following staff to the WSPS family:
 - Mdm Tay Yi Ling (Music teacher)
 - Mr Muhd Ismail Bin Rosli (LBS)
- b) We would also like to thank the following teachers for the contributions in WSPS and wish them all the best:
 - Mrs Lee Soon Cheng (SH/CL)
 - Mrs Jennifer Ong (Music teacher)

3. National School Games (NSG) Wushu Competition

We would like to congratulate Ang Zhen Kai (6D) for obtaining 8th position in Senior Division 5-Duan Nanquan Competition and 9th position in the 5-Duan Broadsword Competition held on 7 April 2021. Well done!

4. Haze Management

Singapore experiences smoke haze from time to time. The haze is caused by forest fires in the region which arise when open burning is carried out to clear land for agricultural uses. It can be made worse by dry seasons, changes in wind direction, and when precipitation is low. Prevailing winds sometimes carry smoke haze produced by the forest fires over Singapore's skies, particularly during the Southwest monsoon season.

The school has a contingency plan to ensure the well-being of the students and staff during a haze situation. This plan enables us to respond and take appropriate measures based on the health advisories issued by Ministry of Health (MOH) corresponding to the air quality.

Our students' well-being remains as a key priority and teachers will be on the lookout for students who are unwell or have pre-existing lung or heart conditions.

For such cases, please remind your child to have their medication, such as inhalers for asthma, at all times with them. Do make an arrangement to care for them at home as well. They should also seek medical attention if they are unwell. For more information, please refer to https://www.moe.gov.sg/about-us/emergency-preparedness/haze-management.

5. Resumption of eCCA in Term 3 Week 2 to Week 4

To minimise intermingling across classes and levels, CCA will resume in eCCA mode in Term 3 Week 2. eCCA instructions and ZOOM details will be sent through Student Learning Space (SLS) or the Parents Gateway announcements by Term 3 Week 1. eCCA will be conducted on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30 p.m. unless otherwise stated.

Term 3				
Weeks	Date and Time	CCA Mode		
Wk 1	30 June	No CCA		
Wk 2	7 July	eCCA		
Wk 3	14 July	eCCA		
Wk 4	21 July	eCCA		
Wk 5	28 July	No CCA		

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There are no CCA sessions on Week 5 due to Weighted Assessment 2. Face-to-face CCA will resume in August, with adherence to national safe management guidelines. More details on face-to-face CCA will be provided via Parents Gateway. All Primary 6 pupils will stand down from CCA with immediate effect until the PSLE is completed.

6. Racial Harmony Day 2021

The school will be commemorating Racial Harmony Day (RHD) on 21 July 2021. The activities planned during school hours will provide our students a good opportunity to learn and appreciate the different cultures that make up Singapore.

As part of engagement, students will be given Kindsville/ A-Ok booklets with accompanying activities such as comics, kindness tips and contests. We would like to encourage parents to participate in these activities together with your child/children so that values of respect and appreciation are reinforced even at home.

7. Issue of report books

As part of providing feedback to parents on your child's learning in Semester 1, please be informed that report books will be returned to you on 16 July (Fri). Please return the signed report book to your child's CARE teacher on 19 July (Mon).

8. MWS Family Support Programme (FSP)

Our partner, MWS Family Support Programme (FSP) with its team of certified trainers, provides preventive evidence-based programmes to guide parents. If parents need further assistance beyond parenting, FSP can collaborate with our school and other agencies to provide a more wrap-around delivery.

Supported by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), Triple P is a preventive programme that provides parents with simple and practical strategies to manage teenage behaviour and foster strong parent-child relationships. Triple P is one of the most effective evidence-based parenting programmes. It has more than 30 years of research.

For details and further enquiries, please refer to the infographic on our school website / Useful Links / Family Matters (https://whitesandspri.moe.edu.sg/useful-links/family-matters/triple-p)

9. School-Home Partnership: Promoting Students' Well-being through the Growth Mindset

Having crossed the mid-way mark for 2021, it is important for your child to learn to think back and look at the many things that they can be grateful for despite the challenging times in order to build resilience.

Gratitude

"Say thank you!"

Growing up, many of us would have heard this simple instruction uttered by our parents, and now, we find ourselves echoing the same instruction to our children. But is teaching our

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children to say thanks enough? Does it make them truly grateful people, or are they merely polite? And why is gratitude all that important anyway?

Studies have found that there are <u>many benefits to practising gratitude</u>. They've observed an increase in levels of satisfaction and positive emotion, improved sleep quality, lowering of negative emotions and an ability to cope better with stress. People who are grateful are able to form deeper relationships with others.



Here are two fun methods which you can try with your child. Doing these on a regular basis helps to make gratitude a habit.

Three Good Things

Remembering and appreciating the good things. The three things can be big or small and you may ask your child to think about why they think these things happened.

Mental Subtraction of Relationship

Try to imagine our lives without certain people, we realise how important they are and how fortunate we are. Recognising these important relationships reminds us not to take these people for granted.

Finally, you can also have fun with your children by doing this activity called 'The Gratitude Scavenger Hunt'. Enjoy!

Adapted from https://www.naturalbeachliving.com/gratitude-scavenger-hunt/

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More tips can be found in the following articles:

https://www.schoolbag.edu.sq/story/why-gratitude



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 $\underline{https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/raising-grateful-children-not-just-polite-ones}$



Major Events and Holidays for Term 3

Date	Event	Remarks
5 Jul (Mon)	Youth Day	Pupils need not come to
20 Jul (Tues)	Hari Raya Haji	school.
22 Jul (Thu) – 23 Jul (Fri)	P6 Oral (Prelims)	
24 Jul (Sat)	Young Cartoonist	
26 Jul (Mon) – 3 Aug (Tues)	Weighted Assessment	For P3 & P5
6 Aug (Fri)	National Day celebration	Students are to report to
		school as usual by 7.30am.
		Dismissal timings:
		P1 & 2: 11.15am
		P3 & 4: 11.30am
		P5 & 6: 11.45am
9 Aug (Mon) – 10 Aug (Tues)	National Day Public Holiday and	Pupils need not come to
	School Holiday	school
12 Aug (Thu) – 13 Aug (Fri)	PSLE Oral	
17 Aug (Tues)	P6 Listening Comprehension	
	(Prelims)	
19 Aug (Thu)	P6 English (Prelims)	
20 Aug (Fri)	P6 Math (Prelims)	
23 Aug (Mon)	P6 Mother Tongue (Prelims)	
24 Aug (Tues)	P6 Science (Prelims)	
25 Aug (Wed)	P6 HMT(Prelims)	
3 Sept (Fri)	Teachers' Day	
4 Sept (Sat) – 12 Sept (Sun)	Term 3 vacation	P6 supplementary classes
		will be held from 7 Sept to 9
		Sept. (More details would be sent out nearer the
		date.)

Your partner in education,

Ms Audrey Wong Principal

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