



XINGHUA PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Xinghua Link

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Message from the Vice-Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

One month of school has passed by smoothly and we are pleased that our students, especially the Primary 1 students, have adapted well to our school. I have met some of you and I appreciate your warm wishes and kind thoughts. I would also like to thank all parents for their feedback in partnering us to make school improvements.

We would like to inform you that Mrs Bakhshish Singh (HOD/ Student Well-being), Mrs Mahes Nair (Tamil Language teacher), Ms Nadya Farah (Malay Language teacher) and Mdm Niko (Student Welfare Officer) joined our school in January 2021. We welcome them and believe they will settle in the school fast, and will be contributing to the well-being of our students.

Safety of our students and staff is very important and hence, we have put in place certain measures that will help create a safe and secure environment for all. Despite the disruptions brought about by the evolving COVID-19 situation, I must say that everyone has worked very hard to ensure that school continues to be safe and uninterrupted. I am heartened that our students and parents are rallying together to support and show care for one another.

Do continue to remind your child to practise good personal hygiene and social responsibility. I am confident that we can work together as a family to ensure that our school continues to be safe for our students to learn and grow. Also, not forgetting, do feel free to give us your feedback and opinions. Of course, let us use this as a platform to affirm the efforts put in by the teachers, Allied Educators and Administrative Operations Staff.

Warmest regards,
Mr Richard Chong

Looking Back at January 2021

Our Confident
Primary 1 students
with happy faces. 😊

First Week of School



The **P1s** having a first-hand experience at buying their own food and drinks at the canteen with teachers guiding them.



It has been a month since the P1s entered Xinghua Primary School. A lot of anxiety and excitement must have been felt by our young students in the first week. However, through the class activities and tours to different parts of the school, they are adapting really well and are able to follow routines with the help of teachers. Despite the need for social distancing in school, the P1s have developed friendships among classmates and bonds with their teachers.



The Primary Twos and the New Norm

Although the **P2** students had to practice safe measures in school, they enjoyed the collaborative activities during interaction time during New U in the first week of school.

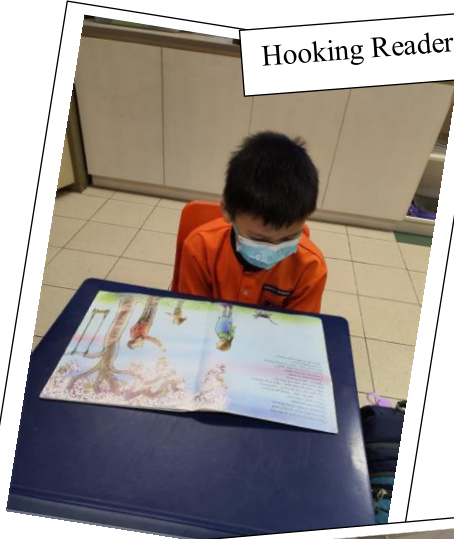
The students also understood the importance of social distancing and showed care for one another by ensuring proper hygiene and using face masks and face shields.



Looking Back at January 2021

Silent Reading in Action!

Hooking Readers on Books...



Books



Morning Express: Silent Reading as a school 😊



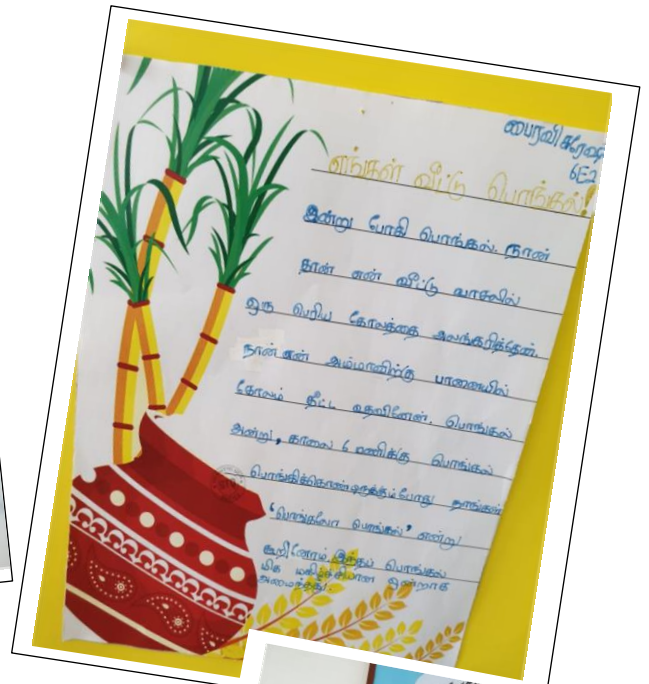
READING
is the key to
SUCCESS



Looking Back...



Pongal festival was celebrated on January, 14 Jan 2021 island-wide in Singapore. In Xinghua, to create an awareness about Pongal, P6 TL students decided to highlight the significance of the Pongal through the artistic expressions. Students created a beautiful board and also reflected on how Pongal is celebrated in their homes. To add vibrancy to the class, students crafted beautiful poems to describe the sweet experience of Pongal.



Though Pongal is celebrated on a grand scale in India especially by farmers, in Singapore, Hindus also celebrate it as a special event. **Pongal means to 'overflow'**, hence, the pot of rice has to bubble over to symbolise prosperity and abundance. This is then served to members of the family as well as any visitors to the house. It is a very social period, as relatives and friends visit each other and exchange greetings.



Looking Back... The Joy of Sharing

An Act of Kindness Writer: Ammar Aqil (6E3)

It was a blazing hot Monday afternoon. A wave of students streamed out of the school gate. Excited to reach home. I was caught among the many sweaty and scruffy students. I tied my hair again, trying to look pristine and clean. After all, I was a prefect and had to carry the school's reputation on my shoulders. I loosened my tie to allow air to enter my body. I felt like I was in the Sahara desert! I separated myself from the crowd and made my usual five-minute walk back home.

As I was strolling, I saw a frail elderly man of about 70 years old. His back was hunched and every step looked unsteady. Even though he was using a walking stick, it did not seem to do much help. Suddenly, he tripped on a rock and fell! He groaned in pain as his body hit the ground. He then struggled to get back on his feet.

Without thinking twice, I rushed to his side and helped him up. He was still wincing in pain as he stood up. Looking at his condition, I did not have the heart to leave him. Glancing at my watch, the good Samaritan in me offered to follow him home. He thanked me profusely in hushed whispers. Holding his hand while also supporting his back, I asked him where he lived. To my surprise, he was occupying a home that was directly below mine! With small steps, we made our way back home.

While making our way back, the old uncle struck a conversation with me. In a quiet voice, he told me that all his children had left him alone and that his wife had passed away many years ago. All I could do was feel sorry for him and I tried to comfort him with words of encouragement. He smiled warmly and said that I could call him Uncle Tan. I smiled back. Without realising, we had already reached his doorstep. I peered inside to look at the condition of it. My mouth gaped in horror.

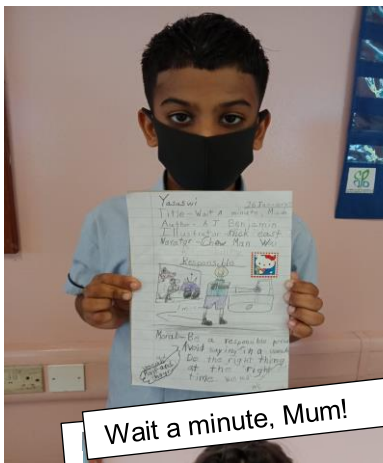
His house was cluttered with stuff everywhere. Dirty clothes were left in piles on the floor. Pictures on the walls were hanging awkwardly. Pots and pans were not in the right places. A mess would be an understatement. Uncle Tan caught my attention and waved goodbye to me. Once again, he thanked me profusely. I simply waved back.

When I got home, my mother bombarded me with questions but before she could finish, I told her all about Uncle Tan. I had not even taken off my socks. My mother praised me and said that I had done the right thing.

The next day in school, I was called to the stage where my principal, Mr Lieu, was standing with a trophy in his hands. "Jane is given this award for helping an elderly man who called yesterday. Jane has done the school proud!" announced the principal while giving me the trophy. A thunderous applause followed. I turned pink in the face and quickly scuttled off the stage. In the inside, I was smiling from ear to ear. After all, I had done an act of kindness. When I got home, I took the initiative to ask my mom to help to clean Uncle Tan's house. After going there, the house looked much cleaner.

We then began to visit him every week. He looked happier with us accompanying him. At school, I encouraged my friends to do the same. Over the years, Uncle Tan and I got closer. This relationship all started with an act of kindness.

Creative work done by 2A6



Wait a minute, Mum!



Quote of the month

Learning should be a joy and full of excitement. It is life's greatest adventure; it is an illustrated excursion into the minds of the noble and the learned.

Taylor Caldwell

February 2021

1. SCHOOL EVENTS

Total Defence Day

The school will be commemorating Total Defence Day (TDD) on Monday, 8 February 2021. The theme for this year is, **"Together We Keep Singapore Strong"** which focuses on the many ways we can put Total Defence into action in our everyday lives. The programme will be carried out in the classrooms during the assembly periods. This year, besides classroom discussion and quiz, we have also invited a fighter pilot to meet and answer questions from the students via google meet! Students will be given the opportunity to express their appreciation for RSAF through Thank You notes or letters. These will be delivered to the airbases.

Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year Celebration (CNY) will go online on Thursday, 11 February 2021 @ Xinghua Primary School. Students can come to school dressed in ethnic wear for the day. Dismissal will be staggered starting from 9.30am. In view of the early dismissal, there will be no recess for that day. Friday, 12 February 2021 will be a Public Holiday and Monday, 15 February 2021 will be a School Holiday. Students will return to school on Tuesday, 16 February 2021.

Happy Chinese New Year Greetings.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Student Personal Accident Plan for 2021

As explained in the first issue of Xinghua Link, MOE has an insurance plan with NTUC Income with 24-hour worldwide accident coverage for activities organized by school.

Parents can now do an Online Claim Submission. Here's how to make the claim:

1. Go to Income's GPA portal at <https://studentgpa.incomegroupins.com.sg/#/dashboard>
2. Complete online claim form.
3. Upload tax invoice(s), receipts (outpatient/inpatient claims) and required documents.
4. Confirmation email will be sent to parents.
5. Submit claim form with required documents to the school for verification.

Please Note: Most claims require prior payment to be made first. Reimbursement by NTUC Income will be done upon approval of claims.

If you have any queries, please contact Mr Lim Fung Jin, Operations Manager@ 62889121.

Ongoing School Meals Programme@Canteen for needy pupils

Students who are on MOE's FAS will continue to have their school canteen meals subsidised during school days. At the start of each week, the weekly subsidy sum is credited into students' TransitLink Concession Card for them to purchase food at the canteen stalls.

Parents of P1 FAS students, please note that P1 students will only receive their TransitLink Concession Card in April, hence, P1 FAS pupils are issued a temporary canteen card for use until April.

With effect from Monday, 8 February 2021, in order to encourage students to manage daily provisions better, the weekly sum will be dispensed equally across the week. As such, each student will receive \$2 for their daily recess and an additional subsidy of 2 lunches per week, also at \$2 per lunch. The lunch subsidy is given to support the students when they stay back after school for afternoon lessons or activities. Students are reminded to bring their TransitLink Concession Card with them daily so as to pay for food when they purchase at the stalls.

Students who have lost their card should inform their form teacher so that a temporary canteen card can be issued to them. At the same time, parents should get the card replaced as soon as possible. Kindly note that replacement of cards can be done via TransitLink Online services or in person at designated TransitLink offices. Please refer to their website for more information: <https://www.transitlink.com.sg/eservice.aspx?id=7>



Feedback from Parents

As partners in education, we value your feedback and suggestions to make the school a more conducive learning environment for our children. Please feel free to give us your feedback via the QR Code placed within the link. It will give you access to our digital form to pen down some of your thoughts, compliments or comments for the school.

