



TEMASEK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learn, Lead, Serve & Grow

Homelink H/001/ 2018

2 January 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A warm welcome to the start of a new academic school year! I look forward to your support and partnership in educating and nurturing your child/ward holistically together with my staff for a fruitful year in 2018.

New Staff

I would like to introduce new staff members who have just joined the Temasek family.

| Name of Staff | Appointment | Teaching Subject/ Area of Work |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mr Martin Goh | Level Head Mathematics | Mathematics and English |
| Mr Ernest Choon | Level Head ICT | English and Social Studies |
| Mdm Nordiyana | Level Head CCE | Malay Language and CCE |
| Mdm Zalinah | Senior Teacher | Malay Language and CCE |
| Mr Shawn Peh | Teacher | Physical Education Teacher |
| Mrs Gan- Toh Hui Bok | Teacher | Chinese Language and CCE |
| Mdm Li Nan | Teacher | Chinese Language and CCE |
| Ms Jia Wei | Teacher | Chinese Language and CCE |

Accolades

Congratulations to our staff who received the following prestigious award for their contributions to the service.

| Name of Staff | Award |
|------------------|--|
| Mdm Tan Shih Ray | PS21 Distinguished Star Service Award 2017 |
| Mr Muhd Fadly | Outstanding Youth in Education Award 2017 |
| Mdm Connie Soon | President's Award for Teachers 2017 Finalist |
| Ms Sheela Devi | Inspiring Teacher of English Award 2017 |
| Mdm Connie Soon | Outstanding STEM Educator Award 2017 |
| Mr Krishnan (TA) | eTA Award 2017 |
| Mr Jiakai (TA) | eTA Award 2017 |

Home-School Partnerships

We believe that parents/guardians play a key role in supporting the growth and development of our children and in partnering the school to achieve the school's vision where our children learn, lead, serve and grow to become future-ready citizens rooted in values. With support from the home and school, our children will be able to enjoy school-life and taste success at school.



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a) **Timeliness** - Please ensure that your child/ward arrives in school on time. The timings for reporting and dismissal are indicated in the table below. The Flag-raising and Pledge-Taking ceremony will commence at 7.30 a.m. Students who are not present for the ceremony are deemed late for school.

| Level | Time to Assemble | Pupils should be not be later than | Dismissal |
|-------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| P1-P4 | 7.25 a.m. | 7.30 a.m. | 1.30 p.m. |
| P5-P6 | 7.25 a.m. | 7.30 a.m. | 1.35 p.m. |

Note: Students taking P5/P6 Higher Mother Tongue, P5/P6 Foundation Mathematics, P6 Supplementary lessons and focused grouped learning for identified students, will be provided with information at a later date regarding the commencement of the lessons in the afternoon.

b) **Attendance** - Regular attendance has an impact on students' achievements. We strongly believe that students should not miss lessons unless there is a valid reason. You can inform the school of your child/ward's absence in advance by filling in a prescribed form that is obtainable from the General Office. When leave is granted, students are expected to catch up on any assignments that they have missed.

c) **Homework** - Please ensure that your child/ward completes all homework given by his/her teachers and hands it in to the teachers on time. The homework given for each child may differ based on his/her abilities.

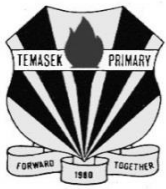
d) **School Rules** - The school places emphasis on Character Education and school rules are put in place to educate and guide our students in their decision making and protect the safety and interests of everyone in school. We seek your support to reinforce the school rules that we have laid out in the Pupil Planner with your child/ward and help him/her to understand that he/she may lose privileges or face disciplinary consequences if the rules are violated.

e) **Attire** - All students are required to wear the school uniform as stipulated in the Pupil Planner. Socks are also part of the school uniform hence students are required to wear socks with the Temasek Primary School logo.

Your child/ward will need to put on his/her nametag. This is part of the school uniform and PE attire. Please refer to the Pupil Handbook for details on how the nametag is to be worn by your child/ward.

f) **Responsibility** - The school would like to work with all parents to help your child/ward grow to be more responsible and independent. If your child/ward has forgotten to bring his/her belongings (e.g. books, assignment, files, stationery) to school, please note that you do not need to make a trip to hand the item to your child/ward. If the item is urgent and is required to be submitted, your child/ward's teacher will contact you. Please allow him/her to learn from these experiences even if he/she has to face the consequence of not bringing the belongings.

g) **Communication** - Please share with your child/ward's teacher any information regarding his/her special needs or health concerns so that we can support him/her better. In addition to the Parents' Meeting and Parent-Pupil-Teacher Conference session, we encourage you to use the Pupil Handbook as a means of communication with the teachers to monitor your child/ward's progress. Besides reflecting the homework given to your child/ward each day, the Pupil Handbook also allows teachers and parents to keep in contact through short messages. We



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believe that communication among parents, students and teachers is essential in our students' development.

Please visit our **school website** at <http://www.temasekpri.moe.edu.sg> to access school updates, information and important announcements to keep you informed and involved during the school year.

The school will also be issuing you termly homelinks to keep you updated regarding the termly programmes and activities. Kindly refer to Annex A for the programmes and activities for Term 1.

h) **Student Well-being** - The school places great importance on the well-being and health of our students. We seek your assistance to verify and complete the "**Individual Student Details Report**". Primary 1 students will receive this report at a later date. Please submit the completed form to the Form Teacher by **Tuesday, 9 January**.

If your child/ward is ill, please submit a medical certificate when your child/ward returns to school. We would appreciate it if you could inform the school at your earliest convenience should your child/ward be diagnosed with Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD), Dengue Fever, Chicken Pox or other contagious illnesses so that precautionary measures can be taken.

It is recommended that children with high fever be fully recovered before returning to school. If your child/ward has a fever (temperature above 37.6°C) before school, please ensure that he/she remains at home. If your child/ward is unwell in school, the school will contact you to pick him/her up from the General Office. Students will not be permitted to go back home on his/her own due to safety reason.

Absence from School During School Days

We would like to inform parents that a child's absence from school during term time can be disruptive to his/her education and interrupts his/her progress in learning. Parents are requested to write to the school to apply for your child to be away from school during term time. The application will be subjected to the approval of the school. For applications that are not approved, absence from school will be considered as "Absent without valid reason". The school will not conduct extra or make-up lessons for those who are absent from school without valid reasons.

Kindly refer to the school's Exam Policy in the Pupil Planner in the event that a child is absent from the Holistic Assessments and Semestral Examination. His/Her period of absence must be supported with a medical certificate and letters of excuse from parents are not acceptable. Students who are absent from school without being supported with a medical certificate during an assessment will be assigned a zero for that assessment. There will be no make-up examination for pupils who are absent for any of the subject papers during the Written Examination.

Temperature Taking Exercise

As part of measures to maintain school's preparedness to ensure that all pupils are familiar with temperature taking, there will be a temperature-taking exercise on **Friday, 5 January 2018**. The exercise will also serve to educate pupils on the need to take personal responsibility for their own health and social responsibility for the health of others.



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As part of the school's preparation for the exercise, the school will be conducting a pre-exercise check on Oral Digital Thermometers (ODTs) on Wednesday, 3 January 2018. We would like to seek your assistance in ensuring that your child brings his/her personal ODT on the two days mentioned. If your child's/ward's ODT is misplaced or faulty, please purchase a new one from retail outlets. Alternatively, your child can purchase one from the school bookshop. For P1 pupils, the thermometers will be issued free of charge to the pupils on the day of the temperature taking exercise on 5 January.

School Smart Card Phototaking (Primary 1 & 6)

There will be a photo-taking session on **Friday, 5 January 2018** for all Primary 1 and Primary 6 students for the issue of School Smart Card (SSC). Students are required to be in their school uniform. Hence, students who are having PE lessons have to bring along their school uniform that day.

Please be informed that if your child/ward is absent from the photo-taking session, he/she will have to submit a recent colour passport size photograph (35mm by 45mm) without border, taken full face and in school uniform against a white backdrop, to the school by **Friday, 12 January 2018**. Kindly write clearly the (1) School Name, (2) Student Name, (3) Student ID and (4) Class Number on the reverse side of the photograph. The School Smart Card for Primary 1 will be ready by end March 2017 while the photo-images captured for Primary 6 students will be used for the printing of Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary One in 2019.

Co-curricular Activity (CCA)

As part of our efforts to develop our students holistically, it is compulsory for all Primary 3 to 6 students to participate in a CCA. All CCAs will be conducted every Monday morning from 7.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. within the school curriculum time.

Students identified by their CCA teachers for demonstrating potential to represent the school in competitions may be invited to come down for additional training sessions to be held on:

- Tuesday afternoon only or
- Friday afternoon only or
- Both Tuesday and Friday afternoons

Students who are selected to represent the school in competitions are to remain in the CCA for at least 2 years and provide ample notice to the teacher-in-charge one year in advance should they want to quit the CCA. We strongly encourage our students to learn the importance of decision-making and be responsible for their choices and actions.

You will receive more details regarding the CCA through the CCA teacher-in-charge.

Parents' Meeting (Primary 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6)

The education of our students rests upon the close collaboration between parents and the school. The Parents' Meetings for all levels is scheduled on **Friday, 19 January 2018**. The purpose of this session is to keep parents informed of curricular content and provide the opportunity for parents to meet up as well as to get to know your child's teachers. We believe that such a session would foster a close collaboration between the school and the home.

You will receive more details regarding the Parents' Meeting through another homelink.



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Breakfast Chat with School Leaders

The school will be organizing a series of conversations at the respective levels during breakfast to foster greater partnerships between the school and the home. You will receive more details regarding this in another homelink.

Focused Group Learning (Primary 3, 4, 5) and Supplementary Lessons (Primary 6)

The Focused Group Learning for selected Primary 3, 4 and 5 students and Supplementary lessons for all P6 students for Semester 1 will commence in the afternoon in Term 1 Week 4 on Mondays and Thursdays. More information on the lessons will be made available at a later date.

Leaders' Week

The school has set aside the last week of each month as Leaders' Week. P1 and P2 pupils will commemorate Leaders' Day on Tuesday, P3 and P4 on Wednesday and P5 and P6 on Thursday. Kindly refer to the schedule of the Leaders' Week in the Pupil Planner and remind your children to wear the tie on the designated date.

Assessment

In the area of academic assessment, we will continue to include bite-sized assessments known as Holistic Assessments (HA) at Primary 1 and 2.

Common Tests (CTs) will only be conducted only for the P6 students in Term 1. All P3-P6 students will take the Semestral Assessments 1 (SAs) to help our students build consistency in their learning. You will be informed of the school assessment schedule for Mid-Year SA and Year End SA at a later date.

Primary 3 Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise 2018

The GEP Identification Exercise aims to identify suitable students with high intellectual potential. The tentative schedule for the two stages of the GEP Identification Exercise 2018 is as follows:

a) GEP Screening Exercise

Friday, 24 August (English Language and Mathematics)

Shortlisted students will be invited to participate in the Selection Exercise.

b) GEP Selection Exercise

Tuesday, 16 October and Wednesday, 17 October (English Language, Mathematics & General Ability)

The GEP Screening and Selection Exercises will be based on the Primary 1 to Primary 3 English Language and Mathematics syllabuses.

a) Screening Exercise (Mathematics)

All topics in the Primary 3 Mathematics syllabus are included except for topics on "Area and Perimeter", "Geometry" and "Time".

b) Selection Exercise (Mathematics)



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All topics in the Primary 3 Mathematics syllabus are included except for Angles, Perpendicular and Parallel lines in the topic of Geometry.

More details will be made available nearer the dates.

Communication with Teachers

We hope that you have found the various school platforms useful in communicating with your child/ward's teachers. While we would like to encourage you to have regular communication with the teachers, we would also like our teachers to spend time with their families and loved ones, and have enough rest so that they will be able to teach your child/ward better in class. As such, we would like to seek your understanding to contact our teachers between 2.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. on working days from Monday to Friday should you have any queries regarding your child/ward or school matters. We appreciate your understanding regarding this.

Notification on Use of Pictures and Videos

Photograph(s) or video image(s) of your child/ward may be captured during school programmes and events. From time to time, the school will be using these photographs, images or video footages on school website, social media, feature walls, newsletters and publications. We seek your understanding that the school may feature your child/ward's photographs and videos on these platforms.

School Security and Safety

For the security and safety of all members of the school, all visitors including parents/guardians are required to report at the guard house and exchange for a visitor pass before making their way to the General Office.

Schoolwide Snack Time

We will continue to implement the Snack Time to allow students to consume a snack during class. This snack time schedule for all the levels is as follows:

| Level | P1 | P2 | P3 | P4 | P5 | P6 |
|------------|------------|------------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Snack Time | 10.30 a.m. | 11.00 a.m. | 12 p.m. | 12 p.m. | 9.30 a.m. | 9.30a.m. |

We encourage parents to prepare healthy snacks for your child/ward. Some examples of a healthy snack are wholemeal sandwich, bun, fruits, biscuits, nuts or healthy snack-bar. Please note that sweets, chocolates and any form of chips/crackers are strictly not allowed. As the students will be having their snack in class while the lesson is on, we seek your understanding that a small portion of food is prepared for your child/ward.



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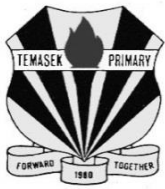
Thank You

We strongly believe in home-school partnership and that you will continue to partner your child/ward's teachers in making 2018 a meaningful year of learning and growth for your child/ward.

We look forward to enriching your child/ward's education journey ahead with us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Alison Ho
Principal



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Annex A

Term 1 2018 Events/Programmes

School Calendar for Term 1 2018

| Date | Events/Programmes | Level |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 01 Jan | New Year's Day (Public Holiday) | All levels |
| 05 Jan | Temperature Taking Exercise | All levels |
| 05 Jan | School Smart Card Photo taking | All levels |
| 08 Jan | CCA Allocation Day | P3-P6 |
| 15 & 18 Jan | P4 NE Learning Journey** | P4 |
| 19 Jan | Parents Meeting** | All levels |
| 23 Jan | Leaders' Day | P1-P2 |
| 24 Jan | Leaders' Day | P3-P4 |
| 25 Jan | Leaders' Day | P5-P6 |
| 29 Jan & 1 Feb | P6 NE LJ to Chinatown** | P6 |
| 15 Feb | Total Defence Day | All levels |
| 15 Feb | Chinese New Year Celebrations** | All levels |
| 16 Feb | Chinese New Year (Public Holiday) | |
| 19 Feb | Chinese New Year (School Holiday) | All levels |
| 23 Feb – 1 Mar | P6 Common Test ** | P6 |
| 1 Mar | Prefects' Investiture | P3-P6 |
| 2 Mar-7 Mar | P3 Learning Tapestry** | P3 |
| 3 Mar | Parents' Symposium | |
| 5 Mar-7 Mar | P5 Camp** | P5 |
| 5 Mar – 9 Mar | Mother Tongue Fortnight | All levels |

*** More details will be issued in a separate homelink at a later date.*