



BUKIT PANJANG PRIMARY SCHOOL
109 Cashew Road, Singapore 679676
Tel: 67691912 Fax: 67637462
<http://www.bukitpanjangpri.moe.edu.sg/>

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

7 Aug 2017

From the Principal's Desk...

IN TOUCH 08/2017

Dear Parents/Guardian

We are 52! It seems like only yesterday that the whole nation was celebrating our golden jubilee and now we are forging ahead for another 50 years of unparalleled success.

This theme for this year's National Day Parade is "One Nation Together". In the VUCA world today, challenges and changes take place at an exponential speed. Besides having to acquire critical life skills, it is also important to instil in our younger generation the importance of staying united and weathering the storm together for a better Singapore. To achieve this, both parents and schools have an important role to play.

The school will commemorate National Day on 8 August. Besides an observance ceremony, students will also participate in a host of fun filled activities that aim to drive home the theme for this year's NDP. School will function from 0730 hrs to 1030 hrs. A notification letter has been issued separately.

Primary School Squash Championships 2017

We congratulate Addison Lim Yi Ming of Class 5E, for his excellent performance in achieving 7th position in the Singapore Squash Rackets Association (SSRA) Primary School Squash Championships 2017. The SSRA organised competition was played between 17th to 21st May 2017. Addison achieved his feat by competing against some of Singapore's promising young squash talents. We hope more budding talents in BPPS can follow his footsteps and excel in their desired sports or interests. Yes, we can!

National Pintar Kata App Competition 2017

On 26th July 2017, 4 of our students participated in the National Pintar Kata App Competition 2017. There were about 300 participants from over 100 schools to vie for the Top 10 positions. We are proud to announce that our P5 student, Muhd Ryan Amani bin Mohd Nor from class 5D has attained 6th placing. Through this competition, our students have enriched their vocabulary and gained new experience.

Student of the Term Award and Recognition (STaR)

STaR was introduced to recognise students' exemplary behaviour in demonstrating the six school values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Integrity, Compassion and Gratitude. We are proud to share that the following students were presented with STaR for Term 2:



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Name of student	Class	Name of student	Class
YOO ZHI TING	1A	THONG YI EN	2A
OH KAI XIANG	1B	BRYAN TEO KAI XIANG	2B
ZOHA ALI	1C	RISHIV RANJAN	2C
NG XUAN YING	1D	ALICIA CHEN JIAWEN	2D
SERI AIYA ADRINA BINTE NAZRI	1E	SHEN SHI EN	2E
NG HONG WEI	1F	KOH JIM KHONG, JARED	2F
NG WEI JIE	1G	CHIN WENG YAN	2G
GOH YU QING	1H	SAHARSH	2H
JAZZLYN TANG SWAN EE	3A	IRISSA OOI WAN TING	4A
MIKHAIL RAYYAN KHOO	3B	CHAN YEE ZA	4B
PARAB KABIR VIJAY	3C	YEW KIT	4C
LIM JUN ZHI DARIUS	3D	VANESSA BOO	4D
VALENT LIM WEN CHUAN	3E	KRIZETTE JAENA FRANCISCO RAMOS	4E
HONG YI LE	3F	CAYDEN TAN ZHI KAI	4F
MOHAMAD IRFAN	5A	ISAIAH TAN JIN HAN	6A
NUR IRAH ZAHIRAH	5B	DIVVASHINI	6B
GENEVIER GWEE TINGYUN	5C	TAN YAN KAI, EUGENE	6C
MUHAMMAD RYAN AMANI	5D	NILPAI PHATTARANAN	6D
TAN HUI XUAN, TRIXIE	5E	TAN JIAN YAN, AXEL	6E
LAI YONG YAN	5F	CHUA BING HENG	6F
SIM KAI XIN, SHERISE	5G	KUA ZI YI	6G
		SIM HUI JUN NICOLE	6H

Edusave Character Award (ECHA) Nomination

MOE introduced the ECHA in 2012 to recognise students who have demonstrated exemplary character and outstanding personal qualities through their behaviour and actions. For more information on the eligibility criteria for the ECHA award, do visit the school website.

Nominations are open to students, staff, parents and the public. The nomination period is from 14 August 2017 to 30 August 2017. Nomination forms are available for download on the school website. Alternatively, you may get the form from the school's General Office. Completed nomination forms are to be submitted to the General Office by **Wednesday, 30 August 2017**.

National Day Celebrations

The school is celebrating National Day on 8 August (Tuesday). Apart from the usual Observance Ceremony and National Day concert, we will also involve our P5 students to showcase their project work titled 'It's our business'. In the spirit of Entrepreneurial Dare, the P5 students have come up with interesting businesses ranging from setting up of games booths, sales of recycled items, performances and services. Their main aim is to make as much money as possible while managing their expenditure and promoting their businesses. Proceeds gathered from the sales of these booths will be channelled to support the President's Challenge 2017.



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ECG Fair (Parent Engagement Session)

ECG Fairs aim to bring the world of work through selected industry sectors and related education and career pathways to the ground.

The Parent Engagement Session, held on Day 2 of the ECG Fair (16 September), warmly welcomes parents of students from all levels, from Primary to Post-Secondary levels. Dr Jessie Ee, a Certified Behavioural & Career Consultant as well as an Adjunct Faculty member of NIE, NTU and co-author of "Preparing Youths for the Workplace, will give a keynote address centered on the theme "Helping Children Flourish: Developing Children's Interests and Talent through 4Es (Engage, Explore, Embrace and Empower)".

Event	Date	Venue
ECG Fair • Sectors: Hospitality (Hotel), Maritime, Logistics	• 16 Sep (Parent Engagement Session)	Republic Polytechnic

Respect

We see an increasing number of children who are rude to their peers and their parents/grandparents. I have had to correct a number of them when they call their parents or grandparents. When brought up to parents, they themselves are at a loss of what to do. Some dismiss it as a meltdown or something the children will outgrow or describe it as a condition.

The school takes a serious view of children being disrespectful and you should too. If parents are finding it difficult to manage their children from the age 7 to 12, it doesn't get easier as they grow up and you are going to be with them for the rest of your life. It is best to address the situation head out and put it right.

Some of the talks organised by the school have elements of establishing a good relationship with your child etc. The Family Service Centre also offer family counselling and Thye Hua Kwan Family Service Centre @ Bukit Panjang is close to the school. Please use their services when the needs arise.

A child who is disrespectful usually ends up with not too many friends and gets ostracised sometimes resulting in more extreme behaviour. In our experience, when the whole family is involved, it is easier to change behaviour such as this.



Sharing

Fake or Real?

How can we help our children stay vigilant against fake news? By teaching them to spot it...

Taken from Schoolbag.sg, Ministry of Education.



“Supermarket jasmine rice made of plastic!” Aiyoh! “Alert, the roof collapsed in these Punggol houses!” Waaaaaah!

You must have seen these circulating online or in various Whatsapp groups. Did you believe them? Did you pooh-pooh them? Or did you do the smart thing and think it through?

Through sensationalised headlines and clever manipulation of images, lies can easily be disguised as truths. And they spread virally, because people assume they are true and want to share the juicy gossip fast.

As parents, how can you help your child discern what’s real and what’s not? MOE’s Guidance Branch shares a few tips.

Encourage your child to:

- **Question the source of information 1**

If your child comes across an unfamiliar website, encourage him to check the “About” section if there is one. Find out who the website owners are and what they represent, if necessary, track it back to original sources by doing an online search with keywords from the article/site content.

- **Question the source of information 2**

Scan the website and look out for tell-tale signs that hint that it is meant to mislead. For example, if the URL link is trying to pass off as one from an authentic news website. Some websites are known to publish articles by their users without verifying the accuracy of the content. When reading from these websites, treat the information with a healthy dose of scepticism and always check against other sources.



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- **Go beyond the surface**

Encourage your child to go beyond the “wow!” headline to read the main text. Look for facts rather than opinions. Find out what others are saying about the piece of news by cross-checking with sites such as www.gov.sg/factually or www.scamalert.sg, which has a database of local scams to watch out for. If the article cites a source, check the source itself to make sure it’s authentic and accurate.

- **Speak out**

It’s common to come across news alerts that may be fake from friends and even family. Trusted friends may sometimes let their guard down and share what they assume to be real news without verifying. Even if the information comes from a friend or family member, encourage your child to fact check with other information sources and step forward to debunk anything that is fake.

Guide your child by:

- **Identifying what is credible**

Familiarise your child with credible news websites and help him identify what is quality information. Instead of depending on one or two sources of information, encourage your child to read how different major news outlets report on the same piece of news. Have regular conversations with him on how to rate the information he receives. When your child has a strong foundation in finding and assessing information, he will be more confident to navigate the Web.

- **Co-viewing the content**

When children are younger, it’s good to read through content together with them. As you do this, share how you would evaluate the information you read. For example, point out why you might avoid clicking a certain link because it could be a fake advertisement leading to a malicious website. Or explain why you are checking if an article is sponsored, so that you are aware if the writer was paid to write in a certain way on the subject.

- **Focusing on being digitally wise**

Yes, your child is digitally savvy. He’s able to navigate different social media platforms with ease. But does that mean he is digitally wise? Being digitally wise involves having the skill to assess information, and be guided by values such as caring and respecting others. Encourage him to make responsible decisions when responding to what he reads online.

Thank you

Bucktha Seelan
Principal

A child who is allowed to be disrespectful to his parents will not have respect for anyone - Billy Graham