



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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

8 March 2018

From the Principal's Desk...

IN TOUCH 03/2018

Dear Parents,

Greetings!

Thank you very much for your support for the first term. The children have received their CA1 results including their scripts. The March holidays while being a time to rest and recharge also presents the opportunity for them to work on their areas for improvement. I would also like to encourage them to engage in sports, recreational activities and outings to broaden their exposure and experiences.

I wish you and your family a good term break.

Circle Time

During each Form Teacher Guidance Period, form teachers will select a group of students to have a chit-chat session. This chit-chat session, termed as Circle Time (CT), is part of the school's efforts to maintain a positive culture of care among our students. CT aims to build a positive teacher-student relationship as well as to strengthen bonds among the students.

During CT, teachers and students can agree on the place where they would like this chit-chat session to be held. Students can also choose a topic of their interest to discuss and become co-facilitators, in leading the discussion and answering one another's questions.

Over time, we hope that CT will help students understand each other's perspectives better and explore ways to find meaningful solutions together.

KidsExcel™ Programme

The school has engaged Viva Nurture Pte Ltd to conduct a KidsExcel™ programme for students under the Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS). The programme is crafted by curriculum experts from the National Institute of Education (NIE) and is delivered by trained instructors. Besides the academic modules, the year-long programme also offers sports and other life skills modules. Through this programme, we hope to nurture the physical, intellectual and social skills of our students.



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Adventure and Leadership Camps for P4 and P5 Students

As part of holistic education, the school will be conducting the following Adventure and Leadership Camps at BBGB Sembawang Campsite on the following dates:

P4 Adventure and Leadership Camp	P5 Adventure and Leadership Camp
26 th March -27 th March 2018 (Monday – Tuesday)	27 th March – 29 th March 2018 (Tuesday – Thursday)

All students are strongly encouraged to participate. More details will be shared with you at a later date.

Badminton CCA

The Junior Badminton Boys did the school proud by clinching 2nd position in the West Zone Primary School's Badminton Championship. Congratulations to the Junior Boys and Badminton CCA teachers for this achievement. Next on their target will be to achieve top 8 position in the National Badminton Championship 2018.





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Emergency Evacuation Exercise 2018

An emergency evacuation exercise was conducted on 12 February 2018. The aim of this exercise is to inculcate in our students the importance of staying prepared and to respond appropriately during an emergency.

During this exercise, an evacuation operation out of the school compound was also held for our Primary 5 pupils.

CNY@BPPS

The CNY Carnival was successfully held on 15 February 2018. Everyone who participated was awed by the fantastic decorations done by our Parent Support Group (PSG) members. Both students and staff enjoyed themselves immensely during the carnival. Through this carnival, students got to learn more about the CNY traditions and customs through food tasting, games and traditional handicraft.

The special appearance of our “God-of-Fortune” certainly brought out the festive mood as students crowded around him to rub off some good fortune for the new lunar year.

For this year, CNY decorations in the school was almost entirely designed and put up by the teachers and the P4-P6 students. To add an element of fun, a decoration competition was held for the students and teachers respectively.

We are proud to announce the following winners for our CNY Decoration Competition:

Winners for the Staff and Class CNY Decoration Competition:

Staff Category		Student Category	
First	P2 Teachers	First in P4 Level	4A
Second	P3 Teachers	First in P5 Level	5E
Third	P1 Teachers	First in P6 Level	6F

CNY@BPPS not only brought out the festive cheers but also the congeniality among staff and students.

Partners in Education - Parent Support Group (PSG)

BPPS Parent Support Group (PSG) plays a critical role in supporting the school to realise its mission in building a vibrant learning environment.

Parents who volunteer their time with the PSG have the opportunity to be part of their children’s school experiences through their involvement in organizing and supporting school events. PSG members are also able to build a sense of camaraderie through the mutual support that they have shown and received from each other.



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We would like to encourage more parents to be part of our PSG. With stronger support, BPPS PSG can contribute more towards our students' development. To find out more about BPPS PSG and the upcoming school events that the PSG is supporting, you may visit the following links:

- a) School's website: <http://bukitpanjangpri.moe.edu.sg/partners-corner/parents-as-partners>
- b) PSG's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bpps.psg>

For parents who are interested to join BPPS PSG, the registration form can be downloaded from the school's website. Alternatively, you may send your queries to bpps.psg@gmail.com.

Sharing

Article taken from www.schoolbag.sg,

Contributed by, Mr Ngoh Choon Ho, Principal, Hong Wen School

Play or violence?

Children are playful by nature. Some of them seek fun by ridiculing their classmates, with no intention of causing any harm. They hurt others unintentionally because they may not know the limits. Some give each other nicknames, or engage in physical exchanges that eventually get out of control and cause hurt. In primary schools, most students may not be aware that they have hurt their friend.

Self-protection

Some children do not know how to express their hurt after having suffered mental or physical abuse; some suffer in silence because they do not want to lose their friend and do not know how to protect themselves. As time passes, the hurt grows. Some children who are bullied in school do not tell their teachers, or are unable to communicate well enough with their parents to voice their hurt. Keeping everything to themselves could lead to more emotional hurt.

School protection and safety
Children's safety is of utmost concern to schools, and we do our best to protect every child in school. Every school follows a stringent set of rules to maintain discipline and protect its students. Teachers in primary schools also play a part in keeping the student safe. While teachers may not be able to keep a constant eye on each and every student at every moment, there is almost always a teacher with the student while he is in school. The school also has other support mechanisms in place, such as the school counsellor who helps guide and counsel students.

Parents' role in a child's growth

A child's physical and emotional well-being is very important. When a child returns home from school, it is crucial that parents communicate with, understand and counsel them. Besides showing concern for the child's studies, parents should be more attentive towards his school life and find out if he gets along well with his classmates. Only in a healthy and happy learning environment can a child grow healthily and learn effectively.



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As a parent, you can help your child in the following ways:

- (1) Establish a good relationship with your child. Create the right setting and guide your child from young to voluntarily share with his parents about what goes on in school. When this becomes a habit, you as parents will be able to understand more about your child's life in school. It is very important to spend time talking with your child each day, and no matter how busy work is, make time for him. During these interactions, avoid talking about school work and do not give your child pressure; let him enjoy interacting and sharing the little things in life with you.
- (2) Teach your child mutual respect. Any words or actions that cause others to feel uncomfortable should be stopped immediately. If someone causes your child to feel uncomfortable, he should be taught to express his stand and tell the other party clearly: "What you said or did makes me very uncomfortable. I don't like it. Please stop immediately." The child must learn to respect others, and others must respect him. If he cannot stop the undesirable acts of the other party, let him know that the teachers in school or parents are his best support.
- (3) In the event your child is troubled, talk to him patiently and elicit responses from him to get the whole picture. If necessary, inform his school teachers. Do not jump to conclusions based on one side of the story, reprimand the child, rebuke the other party, or storm into school demanding justice to be served. In any conflict among children, it is highly possible that both parties are responsible.
- (4) We try but we may not always be able to protect our child from everything. Handle any incidents that may occur with care and your child will learn from the experience. Experiences in life are precious lessons for a child, providing opportunities for him to grow.
- (5) Bullying someone smaller in size, bullying a smaller group, and using words or actions to hurt others are all undesirable behaviour that will not be tolerated by the school. In primary school, most conflicts between students happen when they are playful, ignorant, or when both parties are unaware of the situation. Let the child learn to protect his own rights - do not be over-protective of him. What the child needs is our care and guidance. From each incident, we also hope our children learn how to relate with people effectively.

We have also included useful tips for you to help develop your child to be a positive peer influence online. This is also part of the school's efforts to promote cyber-wellness among our students.

Thank you.

Buckthan Seelan
Principal