



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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

6 April 2018

From the Principal's Desk...

IN TOUCH 04/2018

Parent Teacher Dialogue (PTD)

The school successfully conducted its first PTD on 9th March 2018. As the school aims to build a stronger partnership with parents, we took on a different approach for this first formal meeting with our stakeholders. Only selected parents were invited so that deeper conversation and understanding could take place between the teachers and the parents. It was a fruitful session and we hope that parents can continue to show us your support.

The next PTD will be held on 25th May 2018. More details will be shared with you at a later date.

World Water Day

World Water Day is held annually on 22nd March, a day designated by the United Nations to celebrate the importance of water.

The theme for Singapore World Water Day 2018 is "Make Every Drop Count". Students at BPPS experienced the importance of water through a water rationing exercise that was held during recess. In addition, students from 5A and 5E also shared with the school on how making small changes in our daily lives could make a difference to water conservation.

P5 and P6 Chinese/Malay and Science Sharing for Parents

The Mother Tongue and Science Department jointly organised a sharing for our P5 and P6 Parents on 23rd March 2018. This is the school's effort to support parents in their journey to guide their children.

The Science Department shared on the STAR approach which is used by our Science teachers to help students analyse and answer Science questions better. The Mother Tongue Department shared on the new examination format for the PSLE Oral and Written Exam. New examination components for the Higher Chinese Language Paper 2 were also shared.

We are heartened by the enthusiasm and show of support by our parents in wanting to support their children better.



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Learning Journey to Madame Tussauds Museum

Our prefects spent a meaningful Saturday morning with a group of senior citizens at Madame Tussauds Museum on 31st March 2018. This is a collaboration with the Youth Executive Committee of Bukit Panjang Community Centre as part of our community involvement efforts.

Our prefects were given the opportunity to interact with the elderly whom they otherwise would not have any contact with. Friendships were forged and a sense of empathy was instilled in our prefects.

Xavier Sim, an executive committee member of the Prefectorial Board, recounted that through listening to one of the elderly's life story, he learnt the importance of resilience and perseverance no matter the obstacles that lie ahead.

It was indeed an invaluable experience for our prefects which made them realise that they can always do more to give back to the community.



First Aid Training for Staff

The school leaders and selected staff attended First Aid Training on 12th and 13th March. This is in line with the school's mission of creating a safe and caring environment for our students. Staff who attended this training were equipped with basic first aid skills to treat bleeding, fractures, burns and injuries.

We aim to have all staff trained in first aid so that we can be the first responder to come to the aid of our students and staff during times of emergencies.



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P4 and P5 Adventure and Leadership Camp 2018

Our Primary 4 and 5 students returned triumphant and spirited after their Adventure and Leadership Camp at BBGBHQ Sembawang Campsite. This is part of the school's Outdoor Education Programme to inculcate leadership skills and values in our students.

The camp provided an excellent opportunity for our students to experience 'being comfortable in the uncomfortable'. Through sheer teamwork and unyielding resilience, the students had to overcome many challenges which they had not experienced before.

We hope that our students will continue to exhibit the same tenacity when they meet with any challenges ahead.

P5 Camp (27th March 2018 to 29th March 2018)



P4 Camp (26th March 2018 & 27th March 2018)





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International Friendship Day

International Friendship Day (IFD) falls on 6th April 2018. It is a day dedicated to the understanding of Singapore's relations with neighbouring countries and beyond. It aims to sensitise our children towards the geo-political realities inherent in Singapore, as well as nurture in our students the spirit of friendship and collaboration among different people.

IFD provides students with the opportunity to explore who they are in relation to the new immigrant communities within cosmopolitan Singapore. We want to nurture in students the spirit of friendship and collaboration with their international peers. This year, the theme for IFD is "Celebrating the ASEAN Community". BPPS has a series of exciting activities lined up throughout the week for students to deepen their understanding of the relations that we share with other countries.

Direct School Admission–Secondary (DSA-SEC)

The DSA-Sec allows students to seek admission to a secondary school on the basis of talents and achievements that may not be demonstrated at the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE). It enables students to enter suitable academic and non-academic programmes in Secondary Schools that can develop the students in these areas.

The school will be conducting a DSA-SEC briefing for interested Primary 6 students. More details about this briefing will be shared with the students in May 2018.

Students who are keen to partake in the DSA-SEC exercise are strongly encouraged to explore the websites of the various secondary schools that offer the academic and non-academic programmes of their choice and attend the open houses to have an idea of the various programmes offered by the school of their interest.

You may visit <https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/direct-admissions/dsa-sec>, for more information about DSA-SEC.



Sharing

Taken from Schoolbag.sg, Ministry of Education

5 Questions To Encourage Your Child To Ask in Class.

As parents, how can you help your child be engaged in their learning in school? We hope you and your child have been talking. But what if he tells you he doesn't know what to ask the teacher when the subject is a tough one? Here are five questions to start him off on this journey.

1. Teacher, can you help me understand...?

Encourage your child to clarify with the teacher during lesson or after. He may feel shy raising his hand in class itself to ask questions. Assure him it's okay to ask for help when he needs it, and this is part of the learning process. Steer him towards taking charge of his own learning and developing an inquisitive mind.

2. Teacher, can I help you with?

Whether it's helping the teacher with small tasks such as setting up the projector or distributing worksheets, remind your child to be helpful to the people around him and contribute positively to his environment. Plus, this way, he's learning about how teamwork works. He can try taking the initiative to sweep the classroom floor when it's dirty, even when he's not scheduled to do that – or better, getting his friends to help out at this task.

3. Can we agree on this?

When everyone in the group has different views, what should your child do? If he is older, he can identify the problem statement, and get the group to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of each option. Try and guide the discussions towards reaching a consensus. In this way, he learns to exercise good facilitation and problem-solving skills. For younger children, remind them to listen and respect different opinions. If the situation escalates, ask the teacher for help.

4. Do you need help with this question?

Help him to appreciate that the school experience is richer, when he is surrounded by friends. If he's ahead in an assignment, he can offer to guide his classmates who're stuck. Peer mentoring is one way of reinforcing your child's learning. Otherwise, he can also encourage his friends to speak up and ask the teacher for guidance. Or simply cheer them up on with kind words.

5. Can you tell me how I can improve?

Uh-oh, did your child completely forget what he had to say for his project presentation? Acknowledge the setback and talk to him about it. Why couldn't he recall his script? Was he nervous or did he not prepare sufficiently? Help him find ways to overcome his failures, and be unafraid to try again. Also, encourage him to seek out his teachers' or his classmates' feedback on what he can do better the next time. When your child is able to pick himself up, he builds up resilience and is more confident of his abilities.

Thank you.

Bucktha Seelan
Principal

Talent is a gift, but character is a choice ~ John C. Maxwell



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**Bukit Panjang Primary School
 Calendar of Events for Term 2, 2018**

Date	Event	Remarks
9 April (after school)	SA1 – P3 EL& MTL Oral	Details in letter to parents
10 April (after school)	SA1 – P4 EL& MTL Oral	
14 April 9.00 a.m. – 11 a.m.	FMS Talk	More details will be sent separately
16 April (after school)	SA1 – P5 EL & MTL Oral	Details in letter to parents
17 April (after school)	ICAS – Science	For selected pupils only. More details will be sent separately
	SA1 – P6 EL Oral	Details in letter to parents
18 April	SA1 – P3 to P6 EL Paper 1	-
23 April	SA1 – P3 to P6 EL & MTL Paper 1	Please refer to separate letter issued for P1 and P2 assessment dates
24 th and 25 th April	Class Photo taking	
26 April & 27 April (after school)	SA1 – P6 MTL Oral	More details will be sent separately
30 April	SA1 – P5 & P6 HMT Paper 1	
1 st May	Labour Day	No school for students
2 nd May	SA1 – P3 – P6 EL & MTL Listening Comprehension	
4 th May	SA1 - P5 & P6 HMT Paper 2	
7 th May	SA1 – P3 to P6 Science	
8 th May	SA1 – P3 to P6 EL Paper 2	
9 th May	SA1 – P3 to P6 MTL Paper 2	
10 th May	SA1 – P3 to P6 Mathematics	
23 rd May	Briefing on DSA for P6 students	
25 th May	Parent Teacher Dialogue	More details will be sent separately