



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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

13th July 2018

From the Principal's Desk...

IN TOUCH 07/2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back from the holidays. I hope that you have had a restful time during the holiday as well as time to catch up with your children.

In line with developing student's responsibility and independence, we dissuade parents from bringing lunch boxes, water bottles, wallets, pencil cases, CCA attire etc to the students during their curriculum time. Your child must learn the consequence for their actions and how to problem solve in the event that they forgot to bring some of their things. They could borrow money from their teacher if they did not bring money for recess or lunch. Please note that the school reserves the right not to accept items brought in for our students.

There are also far too many students queuing to use the school telephone in the office during recesses and dismissal time. The school phone is meant for urgent matters and emergencies only. If you would like your child to update you on his/her movement or any other matters, please advise him/her to use the public telephones in the canteen.

We seek your cooperation in supporting the school to help develop responsibility and independence in our students, characteristics that a future leader and concerned citizen should have.

I have also included an article, 'Helping Our Children Make Mistakes' where Ascott Limited CEO, Lee Chee Koon, shared his views about raising resilient kids and how we can prepare them for the future, for your reading pleasure.

Racial Harmony Day 2018 - 'Diversity Our Strength'

We will be commemorating Racial Harmony Day (RHD) with a series of activities, from 16th to 20th July 2018, to drive home the message that diversity is our strength and racial harmony plays an intricate part in maintaining the social fabric of our country.

Activities that our students will be engaged in include an assembly programme, traditional games, dressing up in traditional costumes and aesthetic activities to understand more about the different ethnic groups in Singapore. **All students are also strongly encouraged to put on their ethnic costumes on 17 July as part of the celebration.** Kindly note that students are still required to wear their school shoes and socks with their ethnic costumes.

With the thought that a similar message towards harmony in society could be further reiterated by parents to their child, we thank you for your support.

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Environment Effort @ BPPS

As announced by Environment and Water Resources Minister, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, at the recent United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP23), 2018 is designated as the Year of Climate Action. To show our support, BPPS had planned several platforms to encourage our pupils to recycle and to do their part for the environment.

Activities planned include collaboration with Fullmark Pte Ltd, a home-grown stationery company, to educate our students on recycling and the yearly statistics rate for plastic recycling.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in this recycling drive by contributing used correction tapes, ink cartridges and/or laser toner cartridges. This is part of the school's effort to create opportunities for our students to do their part for the environment.

In addition, from 1st August 2018, the school canteen will **no longer** provide any form of single-use disposable items. As such, students who buy food to bring home, will have to bring their own food containers.

We hope that you as a parent will join us to do our part for the environment and support the school in our fight against climate change.

For ideas on how we can further reduce our trash, you can visit <http://www.plasticfreejuly.org/living-plastic-free.html>.

Math Activity Week - 14 to 18 May 2018

The Math Activity Week was conducted in Term 2 Week 9. A range of activities was specially planned for all our P1 to P6 students during recess time. The target skills were estimation, spatial-visualisation, problem-solving, creative and logical thinking as well as mastery of Math facts.

The students tried their hand at tangrams to form a specific shape based on the outlines given. They also explored the pentomino puzzles app and tried their hands on forming interesting geometric solids in the form of angry birds and minions using nets. Another activity was turning circles into squares and rectangles. Students were puzzled at first, but after several rounds of experimenting and manipulating the materials, they were intrigued by the solutions.

Speed Stacking, a familiar game, was redesigned to include Math concepts. Similar to Lucky Numbers, both games required students to work with the numbers generated and problem-solve within a given time frame. An all-time favourite, Sudoku, also returned a second time!

The Math Activity Week ended on a happy note with a prize presentation. Each winner walked away with a unique BPPS ruler that was designed by our students. This Activity Week would not have been possible without the dedication of our Math Leaders and Parent Support Group. It was heartening to see our students enjoying the activities that we had planned for them. They demonstrated resilience and had endeavoured to overcome challenges. We hope that our students will continue to keep the flame of curiosity burning!

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Achievement in Mathematics

The Mathematics Department has organised several competitions in the first semester of the year. Till now, participants have taken part in Raffles Institution's Primary Mathematics World Contest (RIPMWC), River Valley High School Mathematics Challenge (RVMC), Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools (SMOPS) and Mathematics Project Competition.

Our students have done well in some of the competitions and we are happy to share with you their results.

River Valley High School Mathematics Challenge

River Valley Mathematics Challenge (RVMC) is an annual Mathematics competition which aims to fuel students' interest and intellectual curiosity towards Mathematics. It has been a fruitful and rewarding experience for our three school representatives and they managed to emerge as the top 20% participants among all the competing schools who had done well!

Participants for this competition are:

No.	NAME(S)	CLASS(ES)
1.	Tham Ming Cher	6F
2.	Chua Lik Qun	6G
3.	Tey Kay Eng	6G

Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools (SMOPS)

This competition was held with the aim of generating greater interest in Mathematics among students. Two of our sixteen Primary 6 participants managed to achieve 'Silver' awards for this competition.

The proud winners are:

No.	NAME(S)	CLASS(ES)
1.	Tham Ming Cher	6F
2.	Zhu Ziyang	6G

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Mathematics Project Competition

The Primary Mathematics Project Competition encourages students to create innovative and creative artefacts using mathematics concepts.

Two teams of Primary 4 students designed posters based on the theme, "Mathematics is all around us" and our team of Primary 5 students designed a game based on the theme "Mathematics is fun". We are awaiting the results. Let's wish these participants all the best!

		NAME	CLASS
P4 TEAM 1	1.	FONG SI XUAN CHARLYN	4A
	2.	JENITH CHIA XIN TONG	4A
	3.	TAN SHI QI JOVIE (CHEN SHIQI)	4A
P4 TEAM 2	1.	CHUA WENZHENG FREDERIC (CAI WENZHENG)	4A
	2.	KWAI MING ZHE LOUIS	4A
	3.	NG YAO HUI, JAYDEN	4A
P5 TEAM 1	1.	CHUA KAH YU	5A
	2.	EUNICE ANG GEH KAR	5A
	3.	TAN YEE HENG CALEB	5A

Sony Creative Science Award (SCSA) 2018

As part of our preparation for SCSA and to ignite student's imagination and creativity, a Toy-Making Week was organised in Term 2 to give them the opportunity to make simple toys using everyday materials during recess. We also made arrangements for our 2017 SCSA winner to share his toy-making experience with the school during morning assembly.

44 toys were shortlisted from our students and they gamely showcased their toys with pride during recess. Out of these entries, the Science Department selected 5 toys for submission to the Singapore Science Centre.

Let us wish these students all the best in the national competition held by Singapore Science Centre.

No	Name	Class	Category
1	AALIYAH KAMALA MARCELINO	1G	JUNIOR WHIZKID
2	JAYDEN ONG JOON KAI	3A	WHIZKID
3	MIKHAIL RAYYAN KHOO	4A	WHIZKID
4	TAN JUN HAN JAYDEN	4B	WHIZKID
5	JOSHUA ONG JOON FONG	6G	WHIZKID

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

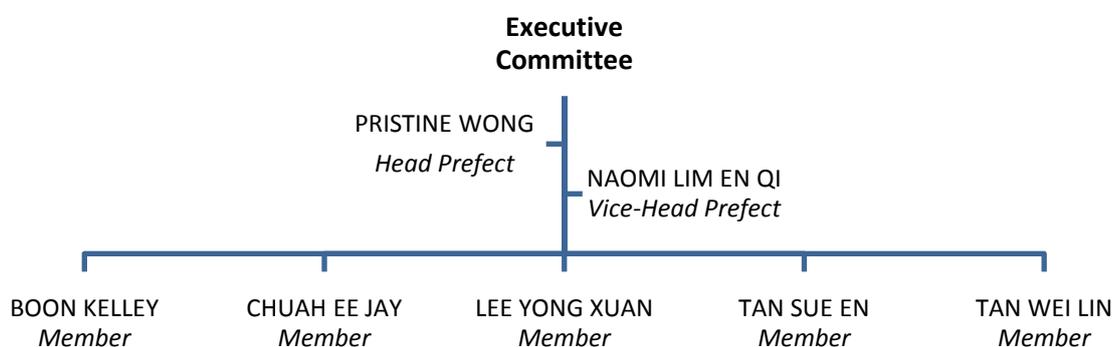
Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Prefects' Investiture

On 14 May 2018, the Prefects' Investiture was held to induct our newly-appointed trainee prefects and inaugurate the Primary 5 Executive Committee (EXCO). It was also an opportunity for BPPS to thank our Primary 6 prefects for their contribution to the prefectorial board.

We would also like to thank our parents for gracing this event and supporting our prefects so that they can continue to be of service to the school and community.

Executive Committee (EXCO) Members:



Newly-Appointed Trainee Prefects:

Name	Class	Name	Class
RANDAL SIOW YI XUAN	4A	KOH LE ON	4B
JENITH CHIA XIN TONG	4A	CHING SZE MIN, AMANDA	4C
RUSHA SAMDHATHRI VADDADI	4A	SU RUI JIE	4C
KESTON CHAN JING HOI	4A	TOH YAN SHAN FELICIA	4C
TSAI ENN NOR, ANGELINA	4A	LIM JIA XUAN RACHEL	4C
MIKHAIL RAYYAN KHOO BIN MOHAMAD DANIAL KHOO	4A	AALIYAH SHAKIRA BINTE MOHAMAD ALJUFREY	4D
HO LEUNG ENN, JEREMIAH	4B	PHOEBE ANG SHI YING	4E
JAZZLYN TANG SWAN EE	4B	SEAH MIN DE	4E
LIM JUN ZHI DARIUS	4B	FYDELIQ PUTRA KYLISH BIN KIEFLY	4F
KOH JIA PEI FIONA	4B	KEVAN CHUA	4F
TAN ZE XUAN, HAGEN	4B	HENG YU FENG ZENNETH	5B
VALENA JEANNE ISSABEL DE GUZMAN	4B	THARA NUR SHAKIRA BINTE MOHAMED KHAIRUDDIN	5F

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Club Rainbow Donation Drive

We would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions to our Club Rainbow Donation Drive. We managed to raise more than \$1000 in cash and receive in-kind donations of both diapers and milk powder. Both in-kind and monetary donations have been given to Club Rainbow. This was especially fulfilling for us because the prefects initiated the idea, sourced the recipient and planned the logistic for the donation drive. We look forward to more students initiated projects.

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (Digital Technology) 2018

64 BPPS students participated in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (Digital Technology) 2018 and attained the following results:

Name	Class	Award	Name	Class	Award
ZACHARY LEO YUAN HAO	4D	High Distinction	CHEW YU HAO ELLIOT	4A	Credit
JARED KOH	3A	Distinction	KARTHA JEREMIAH JEEVAN	4A	Credit
NG WEN JUN	3B	Distinction	TAN YU YANG	4A	Credit
CHARLES NG	3C	Distinction	NG U WEN	4A	Credit
JOVIE TAN SHI QI	4A	Distinction	CHEN XINQUAN	4B	Credit
MIKHAIL RAYYAN KHOO	4A	Distinction	TAN EN JIE	4C	Credit
REMUS LIM	4A	Distinction	ZHANG SHENG LANG	5A	Credit
MATTHEW TAN	4A	Distinction	NAOMI LIM EN QI	5B	Credit
R. VADDADI	4A	Distinction	NG ZONG HENG	6E	Credit
TAN XIANG KAI	4B	Distinction	LEONG HONG KIT LUCAS	6F	Credit
HADY HUSSAIN	4C	Distinction	JETHRO CHIA MIN ERN	6G	Credit
ETHAN TOH YANG YI	5B	Distinction	SHERNAZ CHEW ZHI XUAN	3B	Merit
SOH YAN XI	6F	Distinction	KHOR KAI LE	3B	Merit
TAN LE CHUAN	3A	Credit	ELDEN GOH KAI YANG	4A	Merit
DEVAN	3A	Credit	JENITH CHIA XIN TONG	4A	Merit
ANNA ELIZA TANG WEIQI	3A	Credit	THULASIRAMAN NIKHITA	5A	Merit
DAVE GAN YONG LE	3B	Credit	TAN YEE HENG CALEB	5A	Merit
JANNETTE LEE YAN NING	3B	Credit	CHUAH EE JAY	5C	Merit
MAX ANDRE YANG HAOQUAN	3C	Credit	LEE YI ZHEN BERNICE	5C	Merit
VALDUS CHEW JING XUAN	3C	Credit	DESMUND LOO HIAN HAO	6F	Merit

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Mother Tongue Language Fortnight

The Mother Tongue Fortnight is a yearly event held for our students to develop a deeper understanding and interest in their Mother Tongue language and culture.

A variety of activities will be organised to expose our students to the rich culture of the Chinese, Malay and Indian communities. This is essential for our students as Singapore is a multicultural and multilingual society.

The Mother Tongue Department has dedicated two consecutive weeks from 16 July to 27 July for this event and students can expect activities like a carnival, competitions, learning journeys and many more.

We look forward to seeing the smiles and excitement from our students where learning languages go beyond the classroom.

Hari Raya Celebration

Students were treated to a Hari Raya carnival @ BPPS on the very first day of Term 3. Besides trying out traditional delicacies such as Suji and Kuih Bangkit, booths were also set up for students to experience a variety of activities such as paper weaving, kueh-making using plasticine and kain sampling wearing. Highlight of this carnival had to be the photobooth where pupils wore traditional Malay costume and have their photograph taken as a keepsake. Students definitely had a fun time learning more about the Malay culture!

Art Week

Our inaugural Art Week was held in Term 2 to expose students to different genres of art. Activities were planned for the students during recesses with the support from our PSG.

Students had an opportunity to try their hands at weaving strips of paper and recycled materials. This activity also serves to create awareness about weaving as a traditional art form in the Malay culture. From the smiles on the students' faces and the enthusiasm they displayed, we can say that students had enjoyed these activities tremendously.

We thank the PSG for their contribution and look forward to more of such collaborations in future.

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Singapore Kindness Movement

In conjunction with the Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM), BPPS has specially appointed 9 ambassadors to lead our student body in displaying kindness and values to their peers. Their plans include interesting presentations, exciting quizzes and showing engaging videos to promote kindness in one another.

The SKM Team consists of the following 9 ambassadors:

No.	Name	Class
1.	Isabelle Ooi	3A
2.	Jared Koh	3A
3.	Xuan Ling	3B
4.	Max Andre	3C
5.	Davina Wong	3D
6.	Ashley Yue	3E
7.	Teoh Germaine	5C
8.	Vanessa Boo	5C
9.	Fock Si Yan Charlotte	5F

One of the activities planned by the SKM Team includes showing appreciation to our canteen vendors. Students are encouraged to write 'thank you' messages on cut-out door knobs which we hope will put a smile on the faces of the canteen vendors when they read them.

Your child has also received the Kindville Times Magazine Issue 3 and we would like to take this opportunity for you to encourage your child to complete all the activities in this issue and submit them to their form teacher.

Let us work together to promote and inculcate kindness in our students! Together, BBPS Can Make A Difference!

P3 Learning Journey to Gardens By the Bay

All Primary 3 students will be embarking on their project work titled, "Plants and its Uses". To make this project work more meaningful for them, an experiential learning journey to the Gardens by the Bay was arranged so that students could find out more about the diversity of plants around them.

During this trip, the students went on a specially-designed interdisciplinary trail and visited the flower dome and cloud forest to deepen their understanding about plants and their uses.

We hope that with this authentic experience, students have gained new insights and will be able to complete their project work with more depth and confidence.

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Anti-bullying policy

The BPPS anti-bullying policy states the school's stance on bullying.

Safety is paramount in every school. Children and parents need to perceive the school as a safe place to achieve a positive school experience. Teachers and parents play a huge role, working hand in hand, in educating the children positively. Understanding children and educating them is a complex task which is multi-disciplinary and dynamic. In the school, the focus is on maintaining a culture of positive discipline. Students are taught values of care and respect for one another and are also held responsible for their actions. Student development is a whole school approach where all staff, parents and students play a role. While incidents among children are inevitable, the school takes a zero tolerance stance on bullying and follows up closely on any report of cases.

The school adopts positive discipline as a whole school approach to student management. It hopes to develop self-disciplined individuals who take responsibility for their actions and demonstrate care for others. Discipline should focus on solution by teaching students the necessary social and life skills. Importance is also given to the quality of relationships which exists among the individuals in the school community. Students must also be responsible to face consequences for their actions.

In Bukit Panjang Primary School, **bullying is defined as repeated or persistent behaviours intended to cause hurt, distress or humiliation.**

Bullying is defined as these forms (W.O.R.S.T.):

• W ords	Refer to teasing, using offensive names, ridiculing, spreading rumours , threatening to cause hurt
• O stracism	Refers to deliberately excluding others from group
• R umours	Refer to speculating hurtful or embarrassing comments
• S preading insults	Refers to writing offensive notes about others on paper, using e-mail or text messaging to hurt others, using social media to insult/embarrass anyone
• T hreats	Refer to the act of coercion to cause hurt and force another to act against his/her wish

W.O.R.S.T. is used as a reference for bullying incidents in Bukit Panjang Primary School. There may be other forms which may not be reflected in W.O.R.S.T.

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

The school adopts various strategies to prevent and address bullying in the school. The two pronged approach consists of identification and education.

Identification: Before intervention, we need to identify the incidents of bullying. There are several avenues for students to report bullying:

- 1) YourBox (Located outside the counselling room)
- 2) reportbullyingnow@gmail.com (Email to report bullying)
- 3) Report bullying hotline 6877 9472 (Every Tuesday, 3pm to 5pm)

Education: All students will be educated on bullying and how to manage it. The students who end up bullying other children need to be supported and educated to show compassion and respect to everyone. The victims need to be counselled and reassured that the school is a safe place. We also want our students to have the knowledge to decide whether an incident constitutes to bullying or not.

Parents are encouraged to listen to their children and encourage them to speak to their teachers if they are being bullied or have witnessed bullying. Through peer support, students take on positive actions to stop the bullying if they observe one taking place. Students take on the role of being 'Upstanders' and stand up against bullying. Students go through lessons in socio-emotional competencies through the Form Teacher Guidance Period and Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) Lessons. Positive attitudes and behaviours are taught through the CCE curriculum.

To bring about a positive vibe in the school, students who exhibit good behaviours are recognised in front of the school population.

Students are also given the recognition through other platforms to celebrate the positive behaviour of the students. Teachers take on a proactive role in looking out for bullying among students. They educate the students through teachable moments in the classroom. Teachers are also prompt in reacting to reports of bullying in the school.

Let us work together to make BPPS a bully-free zone where every child comes to school feeling safe.

The complete policy will be uploaded onto the school's website.

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Workshop for Parents

A) MOE's Seminar on "Preparing Your Child's Transition to Secondary School"

ARE YOU A P.S.L.E PARENT?

- Is the PSLE overwhelming you and your child?
- Are you thinking of how to select a suitable secondary school for your child?
- Do you wonder how secondary school life will be like for your child?

Join our panellists at MOE's seminar **"Preparing Your Child's Transition to Secondary School"** and find out how you can better support your child during this period of transition.

PANELISTS

- Mrs Tan Wai Lan**
Coordinating Divisional Director
Communications and Engagement Group
Ministry of Education
- Dr Kit Phey Ling**
Consultant Psychologist
and Lecturer
National Institute of Education
- Mr Edmund Chen**
Actor, Author,
Producer and Parent

SESSION 1
28 JULY 2018
Time: 9AM - 12.30PM
Venue: AUDITORIUM,
NANYANG JUNIOR COLLEGE

SESSION 2
4 AUGUST 2018
Time: 9AM - 12.30PM
Venue: EDUTORIUM,
MOE HEADQUARTERS
BUONA VISTA

Register for either session at <https://bit.ly/2JL7izd> or scan the QR code to see more.

MOE has been organising "Preparing Your Child's Transition to Secondary School" Seminar in the last few years to help parents understand the importance of parental support as their child transits from Primary to Secondary School. This year, parents will hear from a school leader, psychologist and parent who will share tips and information on how they can support their child in dealing with stress in the lead-up to PSLE, selecting a suitable secondary school and adapting to a secondary school life.

Registration to the public starts from 9 July onwards. If you have further queries, you may email moeparentseminar2018@pfevents.sg or contact MOE at +65 8257 5793 (Mondays to Fridays, 10 am – 6 pm).

B) Mandarin workshop for parents: Interacting with young children aged up to 3 years

Recognising the important role that parents play in their young children's learning and development for languages, the Committee to Promote Chinese Language Learning (CPCLL), SEED Institute and Singapore Centre for Chinese Language (SCCL) has launched a new course for parents to equip them with skills in interacting with young children aged up to three years old. In addition, CPCLL will be funding a set of three Chinese language books for each course participant. The books will be used to demonstrate strategies in engaging children, based on experiences in the participants' daily lives.

The course will be conducted from May till November 2018. For more information on the course, please visit cpcll.sg, seedinstitute.edu.sg or sccl.sg.

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Staff Updates

We warmly welcome the following colleagues to the BPPS family:

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ▪ Ms | Huang Yulin, Evelyn | English and Maths Teacher |
| ▪ Mdm | Mythili D/O Perakasam | English and Maths Teacher |
| ▪ Ms | Soefie Adnin | English and Maths Teacher |
| ▪ Ms | Lim Gek Khim Michelle | English and Maths Teacher |
| ▪ Mrs | Rosario | English and Maths Teacher |
| ▪ Mdm | Fazlin Md Fadzuli | English and Maths Teacher |
| ▪ Ms | Nirisha Darshari | Tamil Teacher |
| ▪ Mdm | Vanitha Arivalakan | Tamil Teacher |
| ▪ Ms | Angeline Ng Su Hoon | Art Teacher |
| ▪ Ms | Nurul Fathihah Bte Mohd Jamil | Music Teacher |

As we warmly welcome our new colleagues, we also bid a fond farewell to the following colleagues and thank them for their contributions to the school:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------|-------------|
| ▪ Ms | Judit Agardi-Nagy | Art Teacher |
|------|-------------------|-------------|

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

Sharing

Article taken from schoolbag.sg

Helping Our Children Make Mistakes

The Ascott Limited CEO Lee Chee Koon sat on the recent Government-led committee that seeks to prepare Singaporean workers for the future. How does the father of three hope to prepare his own children?

Like any parent, Mr Lee Chee Koon worries about his children's future. But he does so with particularly good reason: The father of two boys and a girl, aged 3 to 7, also happens to be the CEO of a serviced-residence business with operations in 28 countries. And he was on the Committee on the Future Economy's Sub-committee on Jobs and Skills.

He's got a vantage point that many other parents may not have. And what he sees doesn't make him comfortable. Because he sees extraordinary hunger and drive in job-seekers from countries like China, where he was based for four years; and Spain and Italy, where high unemployment levels are pushing youth to look for opportunities overseas.

He sees a future where jobs are increasingly international, and competition with these highly motivated, hard-working individuals is unavoidable.

He also sees the way technology is changing the way we work. Machines are becoming smart enough to learn, automation is becoming complex enough to replace a lot of manual labour, and Internet-driven business models like AirBnB and Uber are disrupting traditional companies' business.

His own company has had to adapt. "My job is to grow the business and make sure there are enough opportunities for everyone," he's told his staff. "But some jobs may change as a result, and people must be willing to be retrained."

That's why he's worried for his children. They, and those of their generation, will need great adaptability and resilience to thrive in an uncertain future. But Singapore isn't known to be the kind of place that breeds these qualities naturally.

"Singapore is a safe environment. We really care for citizens from cradle to grave," Mr Lee says. "It's nice to work here, but it's also quite surreal, because the rest of the world is not like that. Even the other global cities."

Singaporean graduates have been known to consider a China posting to any city other than Shanghai as "hardship", while young Spaniards and Italians are happy to seize any opportunity in any Chinese city, and compete with the locals for jobs.

Raising resilient kids: Ideas for parents

What does all this mean for Singaporean parents? How can they inculcate the toughness and resilience that their children need?

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

“We need to be prepared to let our children make mistakes and fail,” says Mr Lee. “Our role is to provide a safety net, and not to over-parent.”

It is this attitude that he and his homemaker wife bring to their child-raising. While he concedes that “it’s difficult to artificially create a harsh environment”, they hold firm on these points:

- **Eat or go hungry.**
“When my kids refuse to eat what is being served at mealtimes, I’ll tell my wife that we can pack the leftover food. Nothing until the next meal; no snacks in between. Then they will learn what hunger means.”
- **Pack their own bags.**
“I hope to send them to camps when they are young, without parental involvement. I know of parents here who worry about whether their kids have brought everything they need for camps. My take is, you can give your child a checklist. Let him pack. If he doesn’t bring anything [*that he needs later*], let him learn the hard way.”
- **Build things.**
“We build things together, whether it’s a simple Lego set, or a model kitchen made of cardboard, or a piece of furniture from Ikea. The idea is to get them used to working with their hands and go through the trial and error process.”
- **Fix things.**
“When something is spoiled at home, like a clock, I will fix it with them. I will remove the screws, explain how it works, and get them to try putting it back together.”
- **Look out for others.**
“When our younger son goes for his English class, we will sit our elder son outside the classroom and tell him to wait for his little brother. We do this to teach him about being responsible for someone else. Also, it can be quite daunting for a 7-year-old to wait alone but he has to learn to overcome his anxieties.”
- **Take the lead when crossing the road.**
“When crossing the road with my 4-year-old kid I will say, ‘Tell me when you think it’s time to cross.’ This trains them to be independent because we’re not going to be there whenever they cross the road.”
- **Go outdoors and get dirty.**
“On weekends, we go to the Botanic Gardens, farms, and all the different parks. They do their skate-scooting, and we teach them cycling. We want them to run around and get used to a more rugged life.”
- **See the grittier side.**
“As the kids grow up, I want to bring them to see societies which may be underprivileged. We could always bring them to nice places that are good for holidays, but I want them to be mindful of underprivileged people, and develop empathy for them.”

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD





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

Future Leaders, Concerned Citizens

- **Gain work experience early.**

“I intend to find work opportunities for them when they are a little older – it could be at a hawker centre, where they can learn how to serve, or at a provision shop where they can learn how to handle money and convince people why they should buy something from them.”

Mr Lee’s learning-through-failing approach extends to his children’s education as well. “We must be able to accept whatever results they get, as long as they have done their best,” he says.

“The question is whether or not they can learn to pick themselves up [*after getting poor grades*]. If they try and still fail, it could be that they’re just not good in that subject. Our role then is to help them uncover their strengths.”

He does not believe in protecting his children by sending them to the best schools and providing them with the best tutors – because eventually, they would have to fend for themselves in the real world without their safety nets.

As he says, “If they only suffer failure when they are adults, it will be far more difficult to handle.”

Thank you.

Buckthan Seelan
Principal

Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love ~ Lao Tzu

Mission

Developing our students holistically in a vibrant and caring environment

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS
LOTUS AWARD

