

April 2015



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Pupils' Health Screening

All pupils will be having their annual Pupils' Health Screening during the period of **13 May 2015 to 19 May 2015**.

Pupils' Health Booklets will be collected by the teachers on **4 & 5 May 2015** and will be duly returned after the health screening.

Please ensure that the necessary forms found in the booklets are signed before handing them to the teachers. New booklets can be purchased through the school if pupils have lost them.

### AT A GLANCE

- ◆ **Announcements**
  - \* Pupils' Health Screening
  - \* Parent-Teacher Conference
  - \* Inspiring Teacher of English Awards
- ◆ **Upcoming Event**
  - \* International Friendship Day
- ◆ **Admin & Operations Matters**
  - \* Safety & Security Matters
- ◆ **Looking Back**
  - \* P1—P4 Learning Journeys
  - \* Chingay @Pioneer
- ◆ **ICT Matters**
  - \* Cyber Wellness Week
- ◆ **SchoolBag**
  - \* Are values taught or caught?
- ◆ **Heart 2 Heart**

Do you have any feedback or ideas for In-Touch?

Do let us know on our website at <http://www.frontierpri.moe.edu.sg/our-stakeholders/in-touch-feedback-form>

You can also view our past issues at <http://www.frontierpri.moe.edu.sg/our-stakeholders/in-touchfrontier>



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Parent-Teacher Conference

A close collaboration between parents and the school plays a critical part in our children's holistic education. To facilitate this, Frontier will be holding the annual **Parent-Teacher Conference** on Friday, **29 May 2015 from 8 am to 4 pm**.

Parents are able to register a slot through the school's Learning Management System **from 1 May – 17 May 2015**. It will be on a **first-come-first-served basis**. More information will be provided through a separate letter closer to the date.

We strongly encourage all parents to take this opportunity to meet up and converse with the Form Teachers and Co-Form Teachers with regard to your child's education in school. Together, we will work hand-in-hand to support the pupils' academic progress and character development.

### Inspiring Teacher of English Awards

The *Inspiring Teacher of English Award* is jointly presented by the *Speak Good English Movement* and *The Straits Times*, with the support of the *Ministry of Education*. This award recognises teachers who ignite a love for the English language and are effective in helping their pupils speak and write accurately by:

- Being role models of the use of good spoken and written English;
- Promoting learning-focused interaction during English language lessons; and
- Choosing pedagogies appropriate to learners' needs.

If you have a teacher in mind whom you would like to nominate for the award, please obtain a nomination form from the General Office. .

All parents and pupils are invited to send in nominations. You can **submit your nomination form to the General Office by 8 April 2015, Wednesday**.





## UPCOMING EVENT

### International Friendship Day

This year, Frontier Primary School will celebrate **International Friendship Day on Wednesday, 8 April 2015**. This year's theme is "*Deepening International Friendships*".

International Friendship Day aims to spark students' curiosity about different cultures, foster an appreciation for cultural diversity and encourage students to welcome and integrate international peers to the school.

Brazil, Chile and Russia will be the focus countries for our school this year. On this occasion, students will learn and appreciate the cultures of these countries through an assembly program, various arts, music and PE activities, and a special menu during recess.

On that day, our school canteen will be serving these special meals:

Stall No. and Name	Dish Served*	Country of Origin	Price
Stall 2 (Sweet Corn) (Halal)	<b>Locro</b> – Stew made up of Corn, Chicken and Vegetables	Chile	\$1.30
Stall 3 (Fresh Cabbage)	<b>Misto</b> – Ham and Cheese Sandwich	Brazil	\$1.00
Stall 4 (French Beans) (Halal)	<b>Pastel de Papa</b> – Potato and Cheese Pie	Chile	\$1.30
Stall 6 (Cauliflower)	<b>Shaslyk</b> – Skewered Meat Served with Potatoes	Russia	\$1.30
Snack Corner	Cassava Chips Coffee Sweets Blueberry Fruits (upon availability)	Chile Brazil Chile	Free Sampling

*\*Menu is subject to changes based on the availability of ingredients.*

We hope that our young Frontierers will learn to understand the interconnectedness of the world today and possess a global outlook despite their tender age and yet remain rooted to Singapore.



## ADMIN & OPERATIONS MATTERS

### Safety and Security Matters

#### (i) Reporting to Security Guard during Visitation

The school takes the safety of our pupils seriously. Hence, all visitors are required to report at the security post located at the main gate. We hope that parents will refrain from sending your child's books, files, stationery, water-bottles etc to school as it will make it difficult to deter unauthorised persons from entering the school. We hope you will work with your child to appreciate the importance of responsibility for their own belongings in packing their bags daily.

#### (ii) Jaywalking

In the interest of road safety, the school would like to remind all pupils and parents to make use of the traffic lights located near the school gates when crossing the roads and not to jaywalk.



## Looking Back

The whole school was out on **Learning Journeys** on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015. It was a day when all pupils had an authentic experience in their learning. What an enriching experience it was!

And were you there at the **Chingay celebration @Pioneer**? Our Chinese dancers were there to perform!

Do visit our school blog at <http://blog.frontierpri.netto> see what Frontierers experienced during these exciting events!



## ICT MATTER

### Cyber Wellness Week—13 to 18 April 2015

This year's theme focuses on '**Respect for Self and Others**' and '**Safe and Responsible Use**'. During assembly, pupils will attend sharing sessions by *Touch community* on the topics of "*Netiquette*" and "*Addictive Nature of Gaming*". More in-depth coverage on these topics will also be covered during Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP). Throughout the week, fun and meaningful activities have been planned for the pupils to enhance their understanding of Cyber Wellness messages.

CW stations will be set up during the recesses and some of these activities include quizzes, sharing via social learning wall on the school's Learning Management System *mconline* and a hunt for cyber wellness messages around the school. Our T.A.C. leaders will also be deployed during the recesses to assist in setting up and overseeing the stations for the activities.

As part of the CW week, we will be designing a '**Special Parent Edition**' of the **CW Hunt** on **18 April 2015**. There are limited vacancies and more details will be coming your way in a separate letter. Do keep that date free and join us for a morning of fun-filled activities!

During the month of April, you may also want to also bring your child to the Science Centre to extend their cyber wellness education beyond school. The details are appended below for your reference.

#### ***iZ Hero Exhibition @ Science Centre***

The iZ Hero Exhibition aims to help children learn about safe and responsible online behaviour, key cyber wellness issues like cyber-bullying, addiction and privacy; as well as how they can protect themselves. Highlights of the exhibition include interactive games, quizzes, multimedia presentations and augmented reality exhibits. Educational information on cyber wellness such as tips to combat the various threats in the digital world is also available for parents. Please visit <http://www.science.edu.sg/exhibitions/Pages/iZHero.aspx> for more information on the exhibition.

Venue: Hall A, I-space, Science Centre Singapore

Time: 10am to 6pm, open daily

Tickets: Science Centre admission fees apply



## SchoolBag

### Are values taught or caught?

*Retired principal, Mrs Jenny Yeo, shares about the important role that parents play in developing the character of our children.*

How do we build strength of character in our children? I asked one of my daughters this question, and this was her reply:

*“For me, I learnt from your words and actions. You preached kindness and respect and I saw you practising it as you interacted with staff and students as a principal. Even when you had to discipline the naughty students, it was always done with kindness and respect. What struck me most was the joy you brought to people. So as a child, I learnt that joy was the result of treating people with kindness and respect. I think that really shaped me.”*

Through an experiment, a psychologist, Mr J. Philippe Rushton, demonstrated that role modelling was the most effective way of helping our children to internalise values. Often, adults are not aware of the impact of our actions. For instance, if a parent curses other drivers on the road, children in the car will think that it is acceptable and do likewise when they get angry. In our day-to-day lives, we need to be more conscious of our own behaviour, even when it is not directed at our children, such as our response when something unexpected happens.

My daughter went on to recount an incident at a supermarket that I barely recall. She said, *“That day, the wheels of a trolley ran over your feet. Instead of fussing about the pain it must have caused, you checked on the person using that trolley. The lady had tripped and you immediately checked if she was alright. I learnt not to care only for ourselves, but to also care for others.”*

Building character must be the work of both parents and schools. It does not just happen! We must work hand-in-hand to impart the same values. If we fail to do that, our children will be confused. For example, a teacher was teaching her students to show care by giving up their seats to the very young, elderly and pregnant on public transport. One eager student pledged to practise this on his way home. However, the next day, the student was downcast and refused to share his experience when asked. He explained later in private that his mother had told him off for giving up his seat. The poor child was perplexed.

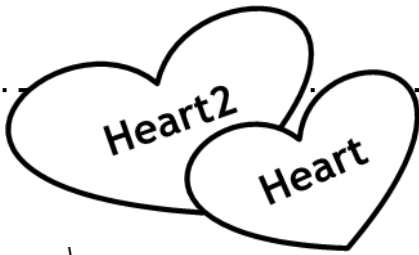
If we want our children to grow up to be good and useful citizens, we need to inculcate the right values and habits. If we teach them to focus only on themselves, they will grow up self-centred, thinking that the world owes them a living!

One way that we can actively support the efforts of schools, is to spend quality time together with our children or as a family. Suggested activities can be found in the Character and Citizenship (CCE) workbook, which accompanies the textbook which is designed based on students' daily experiences. If a structured approach works for you and your child, get your hands on a toolkit by the Touch Community Services.

So how do we build the character of a child? My advice is to:

**Teach, Enforce, Advocate and Model**

This will set behaviour boundaries to shape your child's character. Building a child's character is certainly not an easy task as it takes time and effort, but we know that character counts in life and your children are counting on you!



## Bonding Over Cooking

Fancy having a great time with your children in the kitchen? Why not ask them to join you? It will be an enjoyable time to satisfy their curiosity, engage in good safety habits and a priceless bonding time as a family.

Children are always curious about what goes on in the kitchen when adults are cooking. It can be a good idea to let them join in. Here are some ways to do it. Engage them in small tasks like getting the ingredients ready, stirring a pot, measuring ingredients and even cracking an egg. By doing this, children will be involved in the process and at the same time equip themselves with real-world mathematical skills, psychomotor skills and healthy eating habits.

Here are some pointers to consider before inviting the little ones into the kitchen as an extra helping hand.

### 1) **No Rush**

Please choose a time when you are most comfortable with, like over the weekend, when you have no deadlines to meet and no appointments to fulfil. Failure to do this may lead to frustration on both the adult and the child.

### 2) **Tasks Assigned**

Tasks given must be suitable for your child's age. Choose activities that your child can complete independently and reasonably well. If you must introduce a new skill, be prepared for wastage and some misadventures. No worries though. These are what memories are made of.

### 3) **Safety Precaution**

There is no better time for adults to engage their children in safety kitchen procedures. During the cooking process, it is good to have constant reminders on what appliances the child can hold and which ones can be used only with adult supervision.

### 4) **Have Fun**

Be prepared to have fun and have a blast in the kitchen. Remember, this is not a cooking contest nor is it a time for frowns. The kitchen might get a little messy and the food may not turn out quite perfect. However, always remind the child that it is him or her that matters to you the most. Have a nice bonding time with your kids!



For more information, please visit [http://kidshealth.org/parent/nutrition\\_center/](http://kidshealth.org/parent/nutrition_center/)