

# iN Touch @Frontier



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Trekathon

As part of our efforts to contribute to the community, pupils and staff of Frontier Primary School collaborated in the annual Trekathon donation drive. Frontier's staff, together with staff from MOE Kindergarten@Frontier will be doing a trekathon in the morning of 26 May 2017 at the Singapore Civil District area.

**All Frontier pupils will not report to school on Friday, 26 May 2017.**

The school is happy to announce that a total of \$50,470.00 has been raised as a result of everyone's contribution. As communicated in the January issue of iN-Touch, the funds raised will be distributed to the following beneficiaries:

- HCA Hospice Care
- Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS) and
- Art Outreach Singapore Limited

A very big 'Thank You' to all for the strong support given.

### At A Glance

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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>

**Confident Thinkers • Adaptable Individuals • Passionate Leaders**  
**Make A Difference • Be The Difference**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **PRIDE Day** (Performance Recognition for Inspiring & Distinguished Endeavours)

The school recognises the achievements of pupils and staff during *Frontier PRIDE Day*, which in previous years had been held in November. However, to hold *Frontier PRIDE Day* at the same time this year will not enable the school to recognise our P6 pupils who do well in the PSLE as the PSLE results will only be released after the end of academic year 2017.

As such, *Frontier PRIDE Day* will be held in the earlier part of next year instead of November this year. **Hence the achievements of pupils and staff in 2017 will be recognised during *Frontier PRIDE Day* in early 2018. There will be no *Frontier PRIDE Day* in November 2017.**

This will be the school practice with effect from this year.

### **Road Safety**

The school would like to seek the cooperation of parents/guardians to work with us in ensuring the safety of pupils coming to and leaving school. Some parents have given feedback that some care-givers may not be adhering to traffic rules while crossing the roads when they fetch or send the children to school.

We hope that parents/guardian can help to reinforce the correct road safety behaviour such as using the pedestrian crossings at St 61 & St 63, and to avoid jaywalking or using a mobile phone while crossing the roads as the children look to us to show them the best and right way to do things.

The school will also continue to stress the importance of road safety. Together, we can impart the values that will help our children safe on the roads.

#### **Tips for being a traffic safety role model**

- 1. Practise safe crossing methods – use pedestrian crossing when available, wait for the signal to cross at traffic light, cross only when it is safe to do so and hold hands with children.**
- 2. Take care when using public transport, particularly if crossing roads while getting on and off buses.**
- 3. Take care when dropping your child off at school or picking them up. Use the school foyer and park only where it is permitted.**
- 4. Wear a helmet and bright coloured clothing when riding bicycles or scooters.**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### New Pedestrian Gate

To segregate human movement and traffic flow, there is a newly built pedestrian gate just beside the school's Main Gate. Due to heavy vehicular movement, only School Staff and Parents may use this new pedestrian gate to enter or leave the school compound. Pupils are to use the pedestrian gate only when both Gates A and B are closed.

For security purpose, particulars of parents and pupils who enter or exit the school using the pedestrian gate will be recorded. Pupils are to exit the school using Gate A, B or C during the usual dismissal timings.

### Gate Opening Hours

Gate	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main Gate/ Pedestrian Gate</b>	6.30am – 6.30pm	6.30am – 6.30pm	6.30am – 6.30pm	6.30am – 6.30pm	6.30am – 6.30pm
<b>Gate A</b>	6.55am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 2.15 – 2.30pm 4.45 – 5pm	6.55am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 3.10 – 3.30pm 4.10 – 4.30pm	6.55am – 7.30am  12.45 – 1pm	6.55am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 3.10 – 3.30pm 4.10 – 4.30pm	6.55am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 2.15 – 2.30pm 4.45 – 5pm
<b>Gate B</b>	6.40am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 4.45 – 5pm	6.40am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 3.10 – 3.30pm 4.10 – 4.30pm	6.40am – 7.30am  12.45 – 1pm	6.40am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 3.10 – 3.30pm 4.10 – 4.30pm	6.40am – 7.30am  1.45 – 2pm 4.45 – 5pm
<b>Gate C</b>	1.45 – 2pm	1.45 – 2pm	12.45 – 1pm	1.45 – 2pm	1.45 – 2pm



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Term 2 Spring Cleaning

As part of the school's effort to inculcate responsibility and a sense of ownership over the shared classroom environment, pupils and teachers engage in termly Spring Cleaning activities. The school will be carrying out its second Spring Cleaning for the year on **Tuesday, 23 May 2017**.

All pupils are to bring to school a pair of disposable gloves, a rag and a plastic bag (to hold any of their belongings) for the spring cleaning. There will not be any cleaning agents used in this activity. This activity will help in getting the classrooms ready for the pupils' return in Term 3.

### P4 to P6 Sports Carnival

The school will be organising a Sports Carnival for **all Primary 4 to 6** pupils on **Wednesday, 24 May 2017**. The pupils will be competing in events such as Floorball, Basketball, Scooterboard relay games and an inter-class Captain's Ball tournament. All activities will take place at school. We are not able to carry out Sports Day at the stadium this year because of the unavailability of the stadium.

The objectives of the carnival are as follows:

- encourage mass participation in sports events
- promote the spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship
- apply skills learnt during PE lessons in a competitive setting
- instil class pride and loyalty in pupils while developing their competitive nature in a fun setting

**The pupils will report to school in the morning as per normal and will be dismissed from school at 11.30 a.m.** Buns will be provided for pupils to consume during their breaks.

**Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils do not need to report for school that day.** A sporting event will be carried out for Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils later in the year.

Information to note:

Event	Frontier Primary School Sports Carnival 2017
Day / Date	Wednesday, 24 May 2017
Time	7.15 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.
Attire	PE attire, black school shoes or sports shoes
Items to bring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a small bag</li> <li>• a filled water bottle</li> </ul>

We look forward to a fun and enjoyable Sports Carnival ahead!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC)

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-Child-Teacher Conference on Thursday, 25 May 2017 from 8 am – 4 pm**. Parents are able to register a slot through the Learning Management System **from 1 May – 14 May 2017**. It will be **on a first-come-first served basis**. Details on the PCTC have been sent out via a school letter.

**Pupils will be required to attend the PCTC with their parents on this day.** We strongly encourage all parents/guardian to take this opportunity to meet up and converse with the Form Teachers and Co-Form Teachers regarding your child's/ward's education at school. Together, we will discuss how we can work together to support his/her learning progress and character development.

### P6 Internationalization Trip to Melaka

The upcoming P6 Internationalization Trip to Melaka will be held during the post-PSLE period. 128 P6 pupils have been confirmed to attend the trip. Please note that the P6 pupils who have not signed up for the trip are **not** to attend school on the dates of the trip as their teachers will be accompanying the respective pupils to Melaka. The dates of the trip will be advised in Semester 2.



## ACCOLADES

### Young Entrepreneur Programme and Kids Flea Recognition

69 Primary 4 Frontierers took part in an in-house *Young Entrepreneur Programme*. As part of this programme, the school ran a school-wide donation drive of pre-loved storybooks, bags, soft toys and board games.

The pupils learnt many concepts related to entrepreneurship and were involved in the selection, packing and pricing of the items. These items were sold at the *Kids Flea* bazaar at Sentosa over the March holidays and in school. The team raised \$660 from the sales and all proceeds are donated to the Autism Association of Singapore.

Frontier had received a plaque recognizing our involvement in the *Kids Flea 2017*. Our heartiest congratulations to all stakeholders on the award.

### Poster Design Competition



Recently, P1 to P5 Frontierers took part in a *Poster Design Competition* organised by the Workplace Safety and Health Council. The theme for 2017 is "Prevent all injuries. Go home safe and healthy" which aims to focus on motivating everyone to take action to prevent and avoid injuries.

**Well done to Wayne Tan of 2 Confidence for winning the consolation prize of \$100!** Our school has also received a token of appreciation for submitting the most number of entries! Great job to all!

### Red Cross Youth Director's Award Recipient

We would like to congratulate Melody Tia Kai Xin of Primary 6 Responsibility for being the recipient of the *Red Cross Youth (RCY) Director's Award 2017*. This annual award is given to the nominated Links in recognition of their exemplary contributions and achievements in their respective school units and Red Cross Youth.

Melody was selected from amongst her peers in the Frontier Primary Red Cross CCA to receive this award based on her participation in the various competitions and programmes organized by the headquarters, the accreditations that she had attained during her involvement as a Red Cross link, her services rendered in first aid duties and also the performing of her duty as the Vice Chairperson of the Red Cross CCA.

As the recipient of the Director's Award, Melody also received certificates on behalf of the graduating members of the Red Cross CCA. The ceremony was held during the *World Red Cross Day cum Excellent Unit Award* ceremony which happened on Saturday, 25 March 2017 at OCBC Square in the Sports Hub.

We are indeed very proud of Melody and hopes that she will continue to achieve more and still be actively involved in this meaningful CCA even when she leaves the school. Congratulations Melody!



## ICT Matters

### Travel Declaration for Pupils (for the June holidays)

As Term 2 ends on 26 May 2017, pupils are required to declare their travel plans for the upcoming June school holidays. We seek the co-operation of parents/guardian in ensuring that this is done via the MC Online website by **Wednesday, 17 May 2017**.

More details and a step-by-step guide will be provided on the school website and the MC Online website.

### Change of MC Online LMS Password

Following the implementation of new password security measures, a **new default login password** to our Learning Management System (LMS) is created in accordance with the new security measures.

With the new security requirements, the password must:

- be made up of a minimum of eight alphanumeric characters, containing at least one letter and one numeral
- be changed at least every 90 days
- not allow the password to be reused for at least three generations of password
- be locked out at a maximum of six failed attempts
- be changed upon the first login
- not be the same as the account ID or user ID

**Default Password for Term 2: 2017fps2** (*in lower case*)

Please take note that this **has taken effect from 24 April 2017**.



## LOOKING BACK

### P5 Camp F.O.R.D (Friendship through Outdoor and Resilience enDeavours)

It was here at the P5 F.O.R.D camp that many of our P5s challenged and overcome their fears with their heads held high. For the majority of our P5 Frontiers, it was the first time they were spending two days away from home on their own where they learnt to be more independent and resilient. They had built many new friendships and bonded with their peers through fun games and activities during the camp.

Do visit our blog at <http://blog.frontierpri.net> to see them in action.



## E-books vs. Paper Books: Which is better for children?

21 APR 2017

In this age of technology, children are no strangers to smartphones and tablets. They have access to more options for reading than ever before. Do they actually prefer one mode of reading to another? A survey conducted in 2012 by the National Literacy Trust in UK of 34,910 8 to 16-year olds reported that of those surveyed, 52% preferred to read on screen compared with 32% who preferred print. But the critical question on the minds of parents and educators is whether one form of reading is better than the other. Let's take a look.



### Digital Reading

E-books are convenient because of their portability. E-readers and tablets have the capacity to hold numerous books in one handy, slim device. Certain features such as built-in dictionaries, adjustability of font and font size and even read-aloud features can enhance the reading experience of children.

However, studies have shown that digital reading generally discourages deep reading, recall of information and the sustained reading of longer texts. Repeated digital multitasking - using various digital forms simultaneously - may also lead to a more superficial processing of the text. There is also a tendency to scan and browse when reading online, rather than read slowly and carefully.

### Print Reading

The actual feel of a book also has more importance than we realise. The ease with which readers can flip pages when they make connections or follow words with their fingers provides a sensory experience that cannot be replicated with digital reading. The reader can use certain strategies to regulate their reading such as checking back or re-reading to clarify their understanding. Print reading is also associated with close, sustained reading.

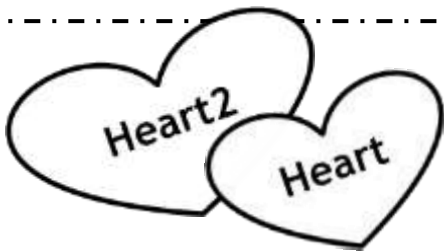
### So, which is better?

So which form should we encourage our children to read in? The answer is neither simple nor direct. Instead, we need to adopt a balanced view and ensure our children are effective readers of both print and digital texts. It is also essential for them to know the appropriate reading skills to use for different reading purposes.

A 2015 Scholastic survey of 2558 parents with children aged 6- to 17-years old showed that the percentage of children who have read an e-book has increased steadily from 25% in 2010 to 61% in 2014. Parents can take advantage of this trend to motivate their reluctant readers to read. Children's interest and abilities in digital reading can be utilised to start a cycle. Frequent reading of digital texts can ignite a love for reading which can later be transferred to print reading.

While we capitalise on digital reading interests, we should still promote print reading. This way, children will stand to gain from the benefits of both mediums. Ultimately, we strive for our children to have a mixed reading diet, both in terms of format and content.





## Learning positive friendship skills

*Continued from the March issue of iN-Touch, here are more ways for children to learn positive friendship skills.*

As children grow up, they engage with different children and individuals around them. They learn to make friends and are keen to interact although it can be a challenge sometimes. As parents, we need to be aware of these challenges and equip our children with positive friendship skills to help them cope with conflict and disagreements.

Children learn a lot about the give and take of relationships just from playing together, and they need lots of opportunities to learn to work things out for themselves. It is during play in the early years some children find they can get what they want through aggression, while others allow themselves to be pushed around or not get a turn. Due to this, sometimes children need adult help to work things out.

Watchful adults can help with problems between children by helping each child to see how others feel and to say what they want. It is important to help all children express their feelings and learn the skills to work things out. Sometimes, adults might be tempted to step in, take over and tell children what to do or not to do. This may make children feel that they are not capable of working it out for themselves and keeps them reliant on adults. Children need to learn why conflict arises and how to work it out among themselves.

Parents and carers can help children manage conflict by:

- Making a connection with each of the children involved in the conflict (eg by making eye contact and making sure that each child knows that you are there to care for and help them).
- Teaching children to use words rather than actions.
- Helping each child to say how they feel.
- Helping children to understand some words are hurtful.
- Encouraging each child to say what they would like to happen.
- Supporting children to think of things they could do to try and solve the problem.
- Acknowledging children doing well. This can be shown with a smile, a friendly glance, a comment (eg telling them what they are doing well and asking them to tell you how they did it).
- Following up and making sure children understand their problem solving worked well or talking to them about other solutions if things did not go so well.

It is important to consider what else may be going on for a child. If children are stressed or troubled by something that is happening in their lives, they have less resources to deal with life's everyday challenges and will be less able to learn new ways of doing things.