

# iN Touch @Frontier



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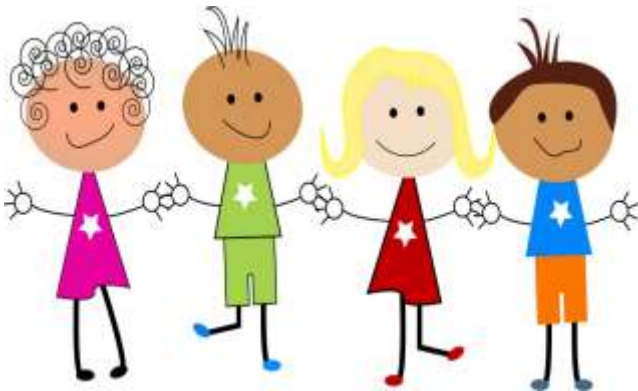
## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### September Holidays

The September school holidays will be on  
**3 September to 11 September 2016.**

As this year's Hari Raya Haji falls on Monday, 12 September 2016, all pupils are to return to school for Term 4 of the school year on Tuesday, 13 September 2016.

We wish all parents and pupils a restful and enjoyable break!



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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

### Pupils' Name Tags

The design of the school uniform includes pupils' name tags .

Please note that **with effect from Term 4 2016**, pupils without a name tag on their school uniform or PE shirt will need to wear a temporary name tag issued by the class Form or Co-Form Teacher. **Pupils will need to pay 50 cents for this temporary name tag**, and will be advised by teachers on how they can go about placing the orders for the name tags.

Upon receiving and securing the ordered name tags on their school shirts, pupils can return the temporary name tag to the teachers and collect back the 50 cents.

We seek your assistance in ensuring that your child/ward has his/her name tag secured to the school uniform at all times. Please refer to this webpage <http://www.frontierpri.moe.edu.sg/about-fps/school-rules-and-regulations/> for more information about the placement of the name tags.

### FPS Dental Clinic Temporary Closure

The dental clinic will be temporarily closed from **1 September to 7 October 2016**. It will reopen on 10 October 2016.

Pupils who require urgent dental treatment can visit any of the following school dental clinics.

Dental Clinic	Telephone	Address
Jurong West Primary School	67919700	30 Jurong West St 61 S (648368)
Xingnan Primary School	67935373	5 Jurong West St 91 S(649036)

Please call to ensure dental staff is on duty before going to the clinic.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PAM Splash

The school is holding its first PAM Splash this year, which will feature Physical Education, Art and Music activities. The event will take place on **30th and 31st August 2016**.

The PAM Splash aims to:

- ◆ build a culture of Sports and Arts appreciation among pupils
- ◆ promote leadership and values through PE, Art & Music programmes; and
- ◆ facilitate acquisition of knowledge and skills beyond the curriculum

On these two days, pupils will be exposed to various physical games as well as an array of art and music forms from around Europe. Fun and engaging activities have been planned for the pupils during their recesses.

Pupils can choose to be soccer players, famous artists or professional dancers. They can also take part in a unique soccer game, create art with a buffet of materials provided, dance along to groovy music, and take part in art and music quizzes. Do watch out for the event and enjoy the buzz!





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Teachers' Day-cum-ACES Day

*Dear Teacher,  
We may not say it always.  
But, we mean it whenever we say it.  
Thank You Teacher  
For all the things you have done for us;  
Inspiring hope in us;  
Igniting our imagination;  
And instilling in us – a love of learning.  
Happy Teacher's Day!*



Teachers' Day is a special time to honour educators who lend their passion and skills in educating our children. For the majority of teachers, the satisfaction and joy of teaching comes not only when students receive good grades but when their pupils grow holistically.

As a part of Teacher's Day celebration, a concert will be held on **Thursday, 1 September 2016**. The teachers will be given a treat of performances by pupils and our very own parents from the Parents Partnership Community (PPC). The celebration will end with a simple cake cutting ceremony and ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) day workout.

ACES day is an annual school activity built into the celebration where all pupils and teachers will participate in a mass aerobic workout, moving to popular dance songs. As such, **all pupils are to report to school in their PE attire on that day.**

We would like pupils and parents to refrain from buying gifts for the occasion. Instead, your child can make a gift for his/her teacher, such as a hand-made card, draw a portrait or bake some cookies or jelly.

As pupils may not get to see some of their teachers on the day of celebration, pupils may bring their gifts (if any) for their subject teachers from 25 August to 31 August. Pupils may also send a virtual Teachers' Day card to his/her teachers. Our teachers' email addresses can be found on our school website <http://www.frontierpri.moe.edu.sg/our-people-programmes/staff-information/teaching-staff/>

The **school hours for Thursday, 1 September 2016 will be from 7.20am to 10.00am**. There will be no lessons conducted on that day and pupils are not required to bring any books. The canteen stalls will not be open. Do make the necessary arrangements for your child/ward's dismissal from school if he/she does not take the school bus home.

**Pupils do not report to school on Friday, 2 September 2016 as it is a school holiday.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Science Workshop for P3 to P5 Parents

The Science department will be organising a Science workshop for parents of P3 to P5 pupils. This workshop aims to:

- provide some tips to inculcate your child's interest in Science
- present some strategies in helping your child to revise Science
- share some common misconceptions and difficulties faced by pupils

The details of the workshop are as follows:

**Day/Date : Friday, 26 August 2016**

**Time : 3 pm to 4 pm**

**Venue : Teaching Lab Room (Level 3)**

If you are interested in attending the workshop, please register **by Wednesday, 24 August 2016** via <https://goo.gl/forms/gVLBv8kIPXa9kgmU2> .



## LOOKING BACK



### Building Our Singapore of Tomorrow

2016 marks the first of our next fifty years of our Singapore Story. This year's National Day Celebration theme is "Building Our Singapore of Tomorrow". Our P5 Frontierers had the privilege of attending this year's spectacular **NE show**, which was a preview of the NDP 2016, held last July at the National Stadium. They experienced various activities to celebrate with the nation and reflect on what it means to be Singaporean, as well as what they would like to see in the future of Singapore.

For this month's blog posts, you will get a glimpse of the P5 Frontierers' amazing experience at the NE show. We will also be featuring Frontier's exciting **National Day 2016 celebration-cum-Lower Primary Games Day** that was held at school on 8 August 2016.

Do look out for these special blog posts this month! View them at <http://blog.frontierpri.net/>



## ICT MATTERS

### Online Safety measures and Child Safe Search Engines

Looking for an online search engine other than Google.com for your child or ward? Worried that your child may come across inappropriate information or images while doing an online assignment?

Your fears are definitely not unfounded. In this day and age, when digital information is easily accessible from our mobile phones and tablets, it is necessary to apply some safety measures to safeguard children's online activities.

There are a few measures you can take. First, **check the 'SafeSearch' option** on your web browser's settings. This allows the browser to block any inappropriate information from the searches made by your child.



Another alternative is to use search engines that are safe for children. Two of the commonly used ones are:

[www.kidsrex.org](http://www.kidsrex.org)



KidRex is a fun and safe search for children. It searches emphasize kid-related webpages from across the entire web and are powered by Google Custom Search™ and use Google SafeSearch™ technology.

[www.kidzsearch.com](http://www.kidzsearch.com)



When a search is done on KidzSearch.com, it can only return Google "strict" search results and is not dependent on any computer, cookie or browser settings.

Hopefully, these tips will allay some of the fears that you have, when your children are doing their online work.



## Your grades do not define you

19 JUL 2016

*Retired principal, Mrs Jenny Yeo, shares on the importance of valuing a child's attitude, efforts and strengths, not just his academic performance.*

“Your grades do not define you” said Mr Jack Cook.

That was Debbie's defining moment.

Debbie, a perfectionist, always had the best academic results in her earlier years at school. However, when studying Economics at Junior College, she was thrown off balance. Despite putting more effort, hard work as well as getting extra coaching from her teacher, Mr Cook, Debbie just could not grasp the subject. She could not understand nor accept the poor grades she got for her Economics examination. She felt ashamed and guilty; so much so that she avoided her teacher and did not visit the school after graduation.

A few years later, when Debbie heard that Mr Cook was retiring and leaving Singapore, she plucked up her courage to visit and bid him farewell. Mr Cook greeted Debbie with a big smile and warmly welcomed her. She asked him sheepishly if he remembered her as the only student who scored a 'D' in his Economics class. Mr Cook simply replied, 'I hope that you didn't let the 'D' define you.' In that moment, Debbie learnt a valuable lesson on self-worth.

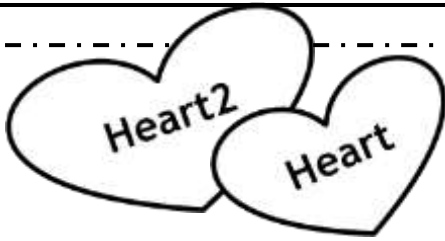
She realised that her apprehension and fears were unfounded and unnecessary. Her teacher remembered her well and fondly, not for her grades, but for her attitude, efforts and character.

This episode changed Debbie's perception about herself and her values. She realised that her focus on academic excellence had set her up for failure precisely because she was so afraid of failing. Debbie learnt that people had different talents and strengths. The key was to accept and work on our weaknesses, and hone our strengths. She understood that it was more important to be resilient, enjoy learning and pursue it passionately.

Later, Debbie became a teacher and her experience shaped her approach. At a Secondary School, she noticed that a student, Dan, was struggling with Mathematics and Science but was incredibly gifted in Art. Debbie spoke to Dan's parents during a parent-teacher meeting, encouraging them to recognise his talent and not focus only on his grades. She was confident that Dan could be a successful artist in future. Dan was encouraged because his teacher recognised his talent and did not penalise him for aspects he struggled with. Over time, he honed his artistic skills and was also motivated to do his best in his academic subjects.

Carol Dweck, psychologist and a professor at Stanford University, a pioneering researcher in the field of motivation, says, “Praise the process that kids engage in: their effort, their strategies, their focus, their perseverance, their improvement.” In other words, focus on the process, not the end result.

Just like Mr Cook and Debbie, we all need to look beyond academic success for our children. As parents, we must not let grades define our child but instead, should focus on their attitude, effort and strengths. Show them that we love them unconditionally, that we accept them for who they are, regardless of their grades.



## Build Compassion: Encourage Your Child to Volunteer

Doing

volunteer work together with your child is an effective way to help him or her learn about giving back, about the concerns in our community, and serve as a reminder that we have so much to be grateful for.

President Tony Tan launched the **Volunteer Drive** in September 2012 as part of the President's Challenge, he said, "The purpose of this new initiative is to show that all of us can make a difference".



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Indeed, we can, and it does not matter whether we are big, small, tall or short. While most organisations prefer older volunteers – from age 13, at the National Library Board, for instance – younger ones are welcome to help out as well.

As parents, you have to explain what to do with your child before embarking on a volunteering project together so that he or she will be mentally prepared beforehand. Working side-by-side with your child from sourcing for an organisation to planning of the volunteer work allows him or her to have an ownership in the volunteering work.

There is no shortage of organisations to volunteer with in Singapore and to better ease your child into it; you can choose one that he or she already has an interest in. Most of these welcome volunteers to help out with their daily operations and other chores.

Here are two selections which allow family volunteering in this month's Heart to Heart article:

### 1. Reading

Share your child's love of reading by becoming **Friends of the Library (FOL)** and **Junior Reading Ambassadors (JRAs)**. Paired together as buddies, you and your child (under 12 years) will both undergo a two-part training programme before taking up assignments to help the **National Library Board (NLB)** on a regular or project basis. The NLB currently has over 450 young FOL who are active during the school holidays.



If your child is interested, you can get your child to join a three-day camp organised by the NLB. Upon completion of camp, the children would serve as JRAs for two years to help and perform at public events by "storytelling, dramatization, buddy reading, or recommendation of favourite stories on different platforms".

### 2. Donating and Recycling

In school, we have in place donation and recycling drive several times a year. But you can go the extra mile as a family. Participate actively in events such as **Recycling Week**, which is organised by the **National Environment Agency**. You can also inculcate the notion of recycling by having your child put aside old clothes, books, and toys for donation. There are many places where these can go to: the **Salvation Army** as well as various aid and religious organisations. There are also organisations like **Pass It On** and the **Singapore Red Cross Society** which will filter through your pre-loved items and send them to the ones who need them most. Just check your items before donating them to ensure that they are clean and in working condition. If in doubt, check with the person in charge to see if the items are acceptable.

**Stay tuned for more selections which allow family volunteering next month!**

Source: <http://singaporemotherhood.com/articles/2012/10/building-compassion-encourage-your-child-to-volunteer/>