

January 2016



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Principal's Message

At Frontier, our children are nurtured to be *Confident Thinkers, Adaptable Individuals, Passionate Leaders*. While we place emphasis on academic excellence, we also seek to imbue in our young charges the right values, life skills and dispositions so that they are well equipped to seize opportunities and thrive in a dynamic and ever-changing globalised world. The school programmes and environment have been carefully designed to revolve around the values that every Frontierers upholds – Responsibility, Respect, Resilience, Innovation, Care and Confidence.

The holistic development of our pupils will not be possible without our partnerships with our stakeholders. Our stakeholders have been most supportive of the school. Their presence and invaluable contributions have not only added value to the learning experience but also given us the confidence and faith to continue in this meaningful pursuit of education as we serve our Frontierers.

As the school celebrates our 5th year in 2016, we are happy to note that we have made good progress to provide a quality education for our pupils. We are thankful for the warm support that we have received as a school. Together with parents, we will continue to enable our pupils to discover themselves, explore their interests and talents, and realise their aspirations so that they can fulfil the school motto: "Make a Difference, Be the Difference."

### At A Glance

- ◆ **Announcements**
  - \* Principal's Message
  - \* Pupils' Health Screening
  - \* PAL @FPS 2016
  - \* Inspiring CL Teachers' Awards
  - \* P3 GEP Identification Exercise
  - \* Snack Breaks
- ◆ **Upcoming Events**
  - \* Chinese New Year Celebration
  - \* Trekathon 2016
  - \* CL & EL Workshops for Parents
- Admin & Operations Matters**
  - \* Safety & Security Matters
  - \* Morning Assemblies & Programmes
  - \* Update to School Uniform Policy
  - \* Pupils' Accident Protection Scheme 2016
  - \* Pupils' School Bags
  - \* Commitment to Quality Service
- ◆ **Looking Back**
- ◆ **PPC Spotlight**
- ◆ **SchoolBag**
- ◆ **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>



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### Pupils' Health Screening

The School Health Services will be conducting its annual health screening in Frontier Primary School. All pupils will be having their annual Health Screening during the period of **21 January to 28 January 2016**.

Only P1 and P5 pupils' health booklets will be collected by teachers, and these will be returned after the health screening. New health booklets (cost \$1.50) can be purchased through the school if pupils have lost them. Please ensure that the necessary forms found in the health information booklets as issued to the pupils are signed before handing them to the teachers.

### PAL @ FPS 2016

The school has a wide range of interesting and engaging PAL modules planned for our Primary 1 and 2 pupils. The PAL schedule and module objectives are shown below for your information.

Level/Term	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
<b>Primary One</b> (8 Classes)	<b>Dance and Movement (DaMo)</b> (Dance)	<b>Stories Come Alive Through Art (SCATA)</b> (Visual Arts)	<b>Asian Games</b> (Sports and Games)	Mother Tongue Languages <b>Speech and Drama</b>
<b>Primary Two</b> (8 classes)	<b>Rhythm and Movement (RhyMo)</b> (Dance)	<b>PAL Drama</b> (Performing Arts)	<b>Senses In Exploration (SE)</b> (Outdoor Education)	English Language <b>Speech and Drama</b>

### Inspiring Chinese Language Teachers' Awards

The Inspiring Chinese Language Teachers Awards 2016 is now open for nomination. The awards are organised by *Lianhe Zaobao*, Singapore Chinese Middle School Teachers' Association and Singapore Chinese Teachers' Union, with strong endorsement by the Ministry of Education and sponsored by Lee Foundation.

The awards seek to give due recognition to deserving teachers who are outstanding in their ability to engage pupils in the Chinese language and culture through creative teaching. The teachers must also show concern and dedication in understanding their pupils, and help them in their learning. In addition, they must command the respect of their pupils, parents and fellow teachers.

Nomination forms have been given to all pupils taking the Chinese Language as their Mother Tongue Language. Pupils can also obtain the nomination forms from the General Office. Please submit all nomination forms to the General Office **by 22 February 2016**.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **P3 Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise 2016**

Every year, the Gifted Education Branch of the Ministry of Education carries out the identification of P3 pupils for the Gifted Education Programme (GEP). The GEP provides opportunities for the intellectually gifted to develop their potential in an educational environment that is designed to stimulate intellectual growth. Pupils for the GEP are selected through two stages of exercises: the Screening Exercise (1st round) and the Selection Exercise (2nd round).

The tentative schedule for the two stages of the GEP Identification Exercise 2016 is given below:

<b>GEP Screening Exercise</b> (English Language and Mathematics)  Shortlisted pupils are invited to sit in the GEP Selection Exercise	26 Aug 2016 (Friday)
<b>GEP Selection Exercise</b> (English Language, Mathematics and General Ability)	18, 19 October 2016 (Tuesday, Wednesday)

Both exercises will be based on the Primary 1 to Primary 3 English Language and Mathematics syllabuses. The topics "Area and Perimeter", "Geometry" and "Time" in the Primary 3 Mathematics syllabus will be excluded from the Screening Exercise.

There will a notification letter to parents from the Gifted Education Branch in July 2016. More information will be provided in the letter.

### **Snack Breaks**

The school will be allowing pupils to have a snack break in class at around 12 noon on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

If pupils wish to have a snack break during this period, they will inform the teacher. Pupils can bring along their own dry snacks such as biscuits and energy bars. Pupils are permitted to consume the dry snacks and plain water during lessons with the consent of the teacher. Sugared drinks and other food will not be allowed due to potential hygiene issues in the classroom.

The consumption of dry snacks will be done in a manner that does not disrupt lesson. Lessons will not be paused while pupils consume the snacks. Teachers will facilitate the process in the classroom.

This implementation will take effect from **Monday, 25 January 2016**.

Consumption of any food outside this time, or without the permission of the teacher in class, will continue to be prohibited as per current practice.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Chinese New Year Celebration

The school will be celebrating Chinese New Year on **Friday, 5 February 2016**. Pupils are invited to wear their Chinese traditional costume (with black school shoes) on that day. If they do not have any traditional Chinese costumes, pupils may come to school in the school attire.



**School hours will function as per normal on 5 February 2016.** School hours will not be shortened as 5 February is not the eve of the Chinese New Year. Lessons will run as per timetable from 7.30 am to 11.15am. Hence, pupils are to pack their bags according to the timetable. All pupils will be engaged in various activities planned by the school to celebrate the Chinese New Year from 11.15am onwards.

There will **NOT** be any school activities after dismissal at 1.45pm that day. School will be closed on 8 and 9 February 2016. School will resume on Wednesday, 10 February 2016. We wish everyone a Happy Chinese New Year!

### Trekathon 2016

The school will be organising a Trekathon for all staff members in June to raise funds for the following objectives:

- Support pupils' participation in school programmes that contribute to their holistic development
- Support needy students so that they are able to engage fully in school programmes
- Support School Improvement Projects that will contribute to the development of Frontierers

All staff and pupils will be given a donation card in February 2016. While not compulsory, we would like to encourage Frontierers and parents to support this cause. We will be collecting the cards from pupils in April 2016.

### Chinese Language Workshops for Parents

#### i) Oral Workshop (for P4 parents only)

The school will be organizing a Chinese Workshop for all Primary 4 parents on **Friday, 19 February 2016**. The title of the workshop is "**How to better prepare your child for Oral Examination**". In this workshop, we will be sharing with you strategies that you can use to help your child better prepare for his/her Oral Examination. Please go to the link or QR Code <http://goo.gl/forms/a5yorQISOU> to register your attendance **by 14 February 2016, Sunday**.



#### ii) Composition Workshop (for P5 parents only)

The school will be organizing a Chinese Workshop for all Primary 5 parents on **Friday, 4 March 2016**. The title of the workshop is "**How to better prepare your child for Composition Examination**". In this workshop, we will be sharing with you strategies that you can use to help your child better prepare for his/her Composition Examination. Please go to the link or QR Code <http://goo.gl/forms/cNw11uz2JA> to register your attendance **by 28 February 2016, Sunday**.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### EL Workshops for Parents

#### i) Storytelling Workshop (for P3 parents only)

As part of Holistic Assessment, **P3 pupils** will be engaged in storytelling for both their English and Mother Tongue classes. Besides the teachers training the pupils in class, the school has also collaborated with National Library Board to conduct a storytelling workshop for **parents of P3 pupils**. The areas that will be covered include benefits of storytelling and different types of storytelling techniques.

Day/Date: Friday, 12 February 2016

Time: 3.00 pm – 5.00 pm

#### ii) Comprehension Workshop (for P5 parents only)

We will be conducting a comprehension workshop for parents of P5 pupils. The details of the workshops are as follows:

Day/Date: Friday, 12 February 2016

Time: 3pm – 5.00pm

Due to space constraint, we can only allow one parent per child to attend the workshops. The workshop is also limited to the first 100 registrants (per workshop) only. Please go to the following websites to register your attendance **by 31 January 2016, Sunday**.

**Storytelling Workshop:** <https://goo.gl/wS9m13>

QR Code:



**Comprehension Workshop:** <https://goo.gl/Z74B1h>

QR Code:



We hope that these sessions will give you some ideas on how you can support your child in his/her learning. Thank you for partnering us as we work together to help the pupils succeed in their academic pursuits.



## ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS MATTER

### Safety & Security Matters

#### (i) Pick-up and Drop-off By Car

Parents may drive your cars to the school porch **to drop-off your children** when you send your children to school. After **school dismissal**, parents may drive in to pick up your children at designated times.

Day	Monday	Tues	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Time parents can drive into school to <b><u>DROP OFF</u></b> children	7.00am to 7.20am only				
School Dismissal time	1.45pm	1.45pm	12.45pm	1.45pm	1.45pm
Approximate Time Parents can drive into school to <b><u>PICK UP</u></b> children	2.05pm	2.05pm	1.05pm	2.05pm	2.05pm

The school will **NOT** allow parents to drive into the school compound for school dismissal outside the timing indicated above. This is because of safety considerations, especially with over 1,200 pupils being dismissed and school buses parked inside the school compound. The buffer of 20 minutes is also necessary to enable school buses to leave the school premises quickly and safely. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation in the matter.

#### (ii) Reporting to Security Guard Post 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 this will make it difficult to deter unauthorised persons from entering the school. We hope you will work with your child/ward to appreciate the importance of responsibility for their own belongings in packing their bags daily.

#### (iii) Gates for Dismissal after CCA & SCCA

With the increase in school population from 2016, both Gate A & B will be opened for pupils' dismissal after their CCA & SCCA on Monday and Friday. Parents are advised to arrange with their children on the correct gate for pick-up.

#### (iv) Jaywalking

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.

We thank all parents and guardians who have been the role models for our children.



## ADMINISTRATION & OPERATIONS MATTER

### Morning Assemblies and Programmes

This year, a few changes have been made to our enriching morning programmes.

The school's flag raising ceremony begins at 7.30am after which the various morning programmes will commence. We would like all pupils to be at school by 7.20am so that they are ready for flag raising and morning programmes. Pupils coming in **from 7.30am are late for school**. Recurrent late-coming will result in disciplinary consequences. We urge all parents and caregivers to work with us in ensuring your children to school by 7.20am.

On Mondays and Tuesdays, will assemble in the hall for the flag raising ceremony and the following morning programmes: **61 FM** (Mondays) and **Fun Time with English, Maths and Science** (Tuesdays). On Wednesdays to Fridays, pupils make their way to their classrooms for Silent Reading or the Critical Reading programme.

### Update to School Uniform Policy

Since 2014, P3 and older students may report to school in PE attire on days when they have PE lessons. **From 2016, pupils who do not have PE lessons on days they have CCA/SCCA are to change to their PE attire for CCA/SCCA if the activities require it.** Sufficient time is available for pupils to change to their PE attire during the lunch break.

Except for P2 pupils, pupils must not be dressed in their PE attire on days when they have their formal examinations e.g. Common Tests or Semestral Assessments. If the rule is infringed, the pupil may be barred from taking the examination.

Any exceptions to the usual expectations on attire of pupils for special occasions will be communicated in advance.

### Pupils' Accident Protection Scheme 2016

The school has arranged for an insurance policy to insure our pupils against accidents. A hard copy of the summary of the insurance policy has already been provided to all pupils by their Form Teachers.

In the event of any queries or claims, parents can contact **AVA INSURANCE BROKERS PTE LTD** directly at their hotline: 6535 1828 or email them at [claims@ava-ins.com](mailto:claims@ava-ins.com).

### Pupils' School Bags

The school has collected most of the pupils' workbooks, files and materials and placed them in the classrooms. Pupils should use their timetable to guide them in the packing of their school bags so that they can better manage the weight. We seek your assistance in guiding your child/ward in the matter. We trust that our collective efforts will ensure that our pupils' school bags are not too heavy.

### Commitment to Quality Service

We are committed to serving our stakeholders and adhere to the service standards set by the Singapore Civil Service.

If the query is relatively straight forward, the school will respond to written queries within 3 working days. If the query is more complex and more investigation is needed, the school will respond within 7 to 14 working days.



## LOOKING BACK

### Back To Frontier

As part of our induction for pupils returning from the long break, the school conducted a 4-day **Back to Frontier Programme** from 4 to 7 January for the P2 to P5 pupils while the P1 pupils were engaged in an orientation programme. With an overall theme of 'We Care', the pupils engaged in different level activities which cater to their developmental needs.

For more information of the programme and to view the pupil in action, do visit our blog

@ <http://blog.frontierpri.net>



## PPC SPOTLIGHT

### Introduction to the PPC Executive Committee 2016/2017

The Parent Partnership Community (PPC) was established with the objective of enhancing the experience of our children in Frontier by supporting school-initiated events. PPC also aims to provide a channel for parents to play an active role in their child's school.

We thank our outgoing PPC Executive Committee (Exco) team 2014/2015 who has served us diligently. They are:

Mdm Mary Heng  
Mdm Lim Pei Pei  
Mdm Ong Pei Pei  
Mdm Kuah Wee Ling  
Mdm Ng Guat Leng

We welcome the following parents who have volunteered to sit in the current PPC Exco team 2016/2017 to take on the duties for the next two years.

Mdm Ang Hwee Mei  
Mdm Ang Hui Hoon Candace Reis  
Mdm Ee Suat Sian  
Mr Eric Liao  
Mdm Lin Liang Yu April

To date, the PPC has close to 200 members. The Exco team provides leadership to the PPC. To ensure the continuity of the parent and school partnership, parents who have demonstrated the passion to serve are invited to sit in the Frontier PPC Exco team biennially. We look forward to the support of more parents to make the children's life more meaningful at Frontier Primary.

### Upcoming Event : Fund-Raising Sale of Chinese New Year Goodies

Once again, Frontier's Parent Partnership Community (PPC) is looking forward to our annual fund raising event for the pupils. To celebrate the coming Chinese New Year, the PPC is organising a sale of Chinese New Year goodies from **1 to 4 February 2016** during recess. Goodies like pineapple tarts and love letters will be sold at \$1 per packet. There are halal and non-halal goodies, indicated clearly, prepared for all pupils. The booth will be located in the school canteen. Do support this fund raising event generously!

PPC Exco ( Email us at: [ppc@frontierpri.net](mailto:ppc@frontierpri.net) )





## Back to School with a Bang

06 JAN 2016 by Mrs Chua Yen Ching

*The new term doesn't have to be a stressful period for both children and parents. Mrs Chua Yen Ching, a mother of three and former principal, offers five tips to help parents ease their children back into the school routine after a long break.*

Getting back to the daily grind of school can be challenging for most children after the year-end holidays. It's hard to get the momentum going after weeks of too much play, later bedtime and generally, a more relaxed schedule.

But children can enjoy a wonderful start to the fresh school term with a bit of help from their parents.

Mrs Chua Yen Ching, the MOE's Deputy Director-General of Education (Professional Development) and Executive Director of the Academy of Singapore Teachers, has had years of experience motivating students and teachers. Here, she shares some tips for parents to help their children settle into the rigour of school.

### Get rid of first-day jitters

Children who are starting primary school and secondary school may look forward to the fresh term as it's a brand new experience for them. They're excited about buying shoes, a cool bag and all the latest personalised stationery.

However, this doesn't mean that they're not anxious about being the new kid on the block. Parents can reduce this anxiety by getting their children familiarised with the school. Take the bus with them to determine the route before the start of the term. Check out the school's website to find out more about the principal and teachers. If your child is starting Secondary 1, find out the range of CCAs the school offers and which your child is interested in.

### Teach them responsibility

Children should pack their own school bags – start them off young. Give them the time table and show them where to put certain things such as a pencil case and art supplies. Get them to record their homework assignments in the hand-book or diary every day.

### Ask the right questions

Show you're interested in your child's life beyond homework, exams and grades. Questions such as "do you have homework?" and "how did you score in the Maths test?" will give your child the impression that you're only interested in their studies instead of caring for them as a person.

Instead, ask them what happened in school and if they've made new friends and really listen when your child opens up to you. If you don't have this channel of communication, your child will not share deeper issues with you.

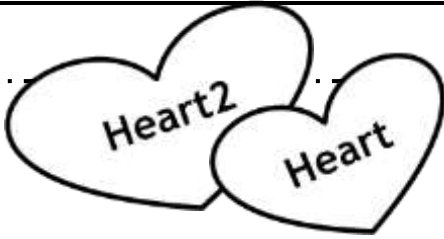
### Praise your child for incremental improvement

Set small goals for your child and praise them for their hard work and perseverance in achieving those goals. This will help you track your child's progress and motivate them to continue improving.

### Encourage them to share

Show your children that it's more fun to share with friends. If they're better at a subject, encourage them to help their classmates – this will reinforce their own learning.





Family bonding activities are a blast. This game calls for adults to introduce their old school dances to the children and the children to introduce their modern day dances to the adults.

It's old school vs. new school! Who will win? This fun game is a great pick for family bonding activities as it opens the door to great family conversation both before and after the game. It's a dance-off that allows adults to share stories of their youth and the children to share their youth with the adults.

What You'll Need: music, open dance floor, score sheet

Family Dance Off Score Sheet			
Contestant	Round 1	Round 2	Total Score

Activity adapted from <http://www.simply-fun-games.com/family-bonding-activities.html#sthash.X1G4e2C9.dpuf>