

March 2017



ANNOUNCEMENTS

March Holidays

The March school holidays will be on Saturday, 11 March to Sunday, 19 March 2017.

All pupils are to return to school for Term 2 of the school year on Monday, 20 March 2017. We wish all parents and pupils a restful and enjoyable break!



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>



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Class and CCA Photo-Taking

The school will be having its annual class photo-taking on **Friday, 24 March**. CCA photo-taking will be conducted during their CCA sessions **on either Friday, 24 March or Monday, 27 March afternoon**.

All P3 to P6 pupils are to be dressed in their school uniforms. Pupils who have PE lessons on that day are to bring their school uniforms along to change into for their class photo-taking. PE attire is allowed only for P1 and P2 students. Any pupil who is inappropriately dressed will not be allowed to join the photo-taking session. Members of various CCA groups are also to bring along their CCA attire, if any, as advised by their CCA teachers.

Please note there will be no provision made for pupils who are absent. Details of the ordering process will be provided at a later date.



UPCOMING EVENTS

International Friendship Day

This year, Frontier Primary School will celebrate International Friendship Day on **Monday, 3 April**. This year's theme is "**ASEAN 50**". International Friendship Day aims to spark pupils' curiosity about different cultures, appreciate cultural diversity and encourage them to welcome and integrate international peers to the school.

Singapore's friendship with regional countries goes beyond economic collaboration. It has been 50 years since the establishment of this association and members have been working together to accelerate economic growth, social progress, sociocultural evolution while protecting regional peace and stability. Singapore is an active member of ASEAN, working for peace and collaboration in the region. As a member of ASEAN, our pupils need to learn from the different backgrounds and experiences of people in our neighbouring countries and continue maintaining our good relations with them.

On 3 April, our school canteen will be serving **special meals originating from Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar, costing between \$1.30 - \$1.50 a plate, during the pupils' recesses**. There will also be a **snack sampling session** where pupils will be exposed to some of the native snacks of the three countries.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mother Tongue Fortnight

Frontier Primary will be organizing our annual Mother Tongue Fortnight from **20 March to 31 March**. The objective of this programme is to create a conducive environment to promote the learning and usage of Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) outside MTL class and school.

Your child will be engaged in a series of Language and Cultural activities throughout these two weeks. It will be an exciting learning experience for your child. You can be involved in this event too by getting your child to share with you on the activities that he/she has taken part in school. We are looking forward to your support in the event.

P4 & P6 NAPFA (National Physical Fitness Award)

NAPFA is a standardised assessment for overall fitness of pupils in Singapore. Since 2014, only P4 and P6 pupils will take the NAPFA test. The NAPFA involves a series of five stations (Sit-Ups, Inclined Pull-Ups, Sit and Reach, Standing Broad Jump and Shuttle Run) and a 1.6km run.

The scheduled dates are as follows:

Primary 4

- 1.6 km — Monday, 10 April (during curriculum hours)
- Five Stations — Monday, 17 April (**outside curriculum hours**)

Primary 6

- Five Stations — Monday, 20 March (**outside curriculum hours**)
- 1.6 km — Monday, 3 April (during curriculum hours)



The P6 pupils have already been given a separate letter on their NAPFA while the P4 pupils will be receiving a separate letter with more details in early Term 2.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Term 1 Spring Cleaning & Recycling Efforts

In an effort to inculcate responsibility and a sense of ownership over their immediate classroom environment, pupils and teachers are engaged in termly Spring Cleaning activities. The school will be embarking on its first Spring Cleaning for the year on **Friday, 10 March**. All pupils are to bring to school a pair of disposable gloves, a rag and a plastic bag (to hold any remaining materials). There will not be any cleaning agents used in this exercise.

As part of our environmental conservation efforts, Frontier has partnered the NTUC Free Textbooks organisation in its drive to recycle used textbooks. As such, the school would like to remind pupils to keep their textbooks in good condition so that they could be donated during the October/November period.

The school also caters to its pupils' needs for spare sets of uniform when theirs are accidentally soiled or torn. Name tags are to be removed from the donated PE or formal uniforms and they can be dropped off at the General Office at any point of time in the year. Thank you for playing a part to keep our Earth green.





UPCOMING EVENTS

Chinese Language Workshops for P4, P5 & P6 Parents

Writing Workshop (for P4 Parents only)

This workshop will cover essential information about writing format and different techniques for writing.

Comprehension Workshop (for P5 Parents only)

This workshop will give parents an overview of the examination format for Comprehension and introduce some helpful techniques and strategies for tackling Comprehension questions.

Oral Workshop (for P6 Parents only)




This workshop will touch on the new PSLE format for Oral and is especially useful for parents of our P6 pupils. Parents will receive first-hand knowledge about our structured approach in guiding pupils to communicate effectively for the Conversation component.

Schedule and Registration

All three workshops will be conducted on **Friday, 31 Mar 2017**.

	Session	Time
For P4 Parents	Writing Workshop	2.30 – 4.30
For P5 Parents	Comprehension Workshop	2.30 – 4.30
For P6 Parents	Oral Workshop	2.30 – 4.30

Due to space constraint, we are only able to allow one parent per child to attend the workshop. The workshops are also limited to the first 100 registrants only (per workshop), Please go to the following links to register your interest **by 28 March 2017**.

P4 Parents	P5 Parents	P6 Parents
Writing Workshop	Comprehension Workshop	Oral Workshop
		
https://tinyurl.com/gltomez	https://tinyurl.com/hgqrycc	https://tinyurl.com/zmxghhl

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 our pupils succeed in their academic pursuits.



ICT Matters

Baseline ICT in Frontier

As part of our 6-year ICT training plan, our Primary 1 and 2 pupils are undergoing Touch Typing and Word training respectively in Term 2. We are incorporating ICT training into English and Mother Tongue Language lessons to increase its relevance and applicability. We would like to encourage parents to revise some of these skills with your children during their leisure time, so that they can have more opportunities to practise.

P1 pupils

Touch Typing training for our Primary 1 pupils starts from **Term 2 Week 1**. Pupils will be introduced to a web-based Finger Position Touch Typing software. The objective is to excite pupils to acquire typing skills and be proficient through games and animation. Each game challenges pupils to type as many correct words as possible. Each level offers different games to choose from. Best of all, pupils have fun while learning!

P2 pupils

Web-based Word training for our Primary 2 pupils starts from **Term 2 Week 5**. The objective is to empower pupils with essential skills to create media rich documents through step-by-step video demonstration. Pupils can pause, replay or fast forward to match their learning speed. There are interactive exercises after each video for pupils to challenge themselves and track their learning progress. The approach captivates and engages pupils with audio, visual and illustrative animation.



LOOKING BACK

"This might be the last time I performed in the String Ensemble," I thought. I recalled the first time I played my violin on stage. That was six years ago, when the String Ensemble CCA was just being formed. This made me feel rather sentimental and I held back my tears, just as the curtain opened."

Do catch the latest blog entry at <http://blog.frontierpri.net> to see what Charlene Goh Rui En (6 RY) has to share with you on her experience in the recent Lunar New Year celebrations.



ACCOLADES

Green School Awards

Frontier Primary has promoted environmental conservation since it began in 2012 and many activities have been implemented school-wide to educate and empower our young Frontierers. Stakeholders, staff and pupils have been engaged at different levels in these efforts to raise the awareness of our young charges on the importance of environmental conservation and doing their parts in helping the environment.

We are pleased to announce that Frontier Primary School has been recognised with the **Orchid Award in the SEC-StarHub School Green Awards (SGA)** and the **Gold Award in the Green Schools @ South West CDC** for our efforts in 2016. Our heartiest congratulations to all on the award!

Scouts Frank Cooper Sands Award

Created in 1995 in honour of the father of Scouting in Singapore, the **Frank Cooper Sands Award** is awarded annually to sectional scout units for unit excellence. We are pleased to announce that our Frontier Cub Scout has done the school proud by clinching the most prestigious **Frank Cooper Sands Gold award** for the assessment year 2016.

The award is also known as the Best Unit Competition under the Co-Curricular Activities Branch of the Ministry of Education. The assessment for the award centres on Unit administration, Unit participation, Training and Development, International participation, Unit finances and Unit Initiatives.

This achievement would not have been possible without the active participation and dedication of all Frontier Cub Scout, the CCA teachers and support from teachers and parents.

Red Cross — First Aid Championship

The Red Cross Youth First Aid Championship 2017 (Links) was organized as an annual platform for Red Cross Youth (RCY) members to hone and showcase their readiness for First Aid emergencies. The theme for 2017 Championships is “Humanity in Our Hands”. We are proud to announce that **have achieved Silver Award under the Links Management Category during this championship.** .

Our school was represented by 13 links who went to Yio Chu Kang Secondary School on 24 February 2017 to compete against 32 other primary schools. The Red Cross Links went through a series of challenges which are designed to test their knowledge and skills. They went through 4 stations where they were tested on: First Aid theory, identifying the First Aid Items, matching the injuries with the treatment, signs and symptoms, and performing first aid on 4 casualties.

We would like to congratulate the Links on their achievements and believe that they will continue to make us proud!





SchoolBag.sg

Reading and Spelling Games for Kids

22 NOV 2016

For children in lower primary, nothing is more important than instilling the joy of reading and equipping them with skills to become successful, lifelong readers. Playful yet purposeful phonics games are a great way to do this!



Playing reading and spelling games at home with your children encourages them to learn while having fun. The games, recommended by MOE Learning Support Coordinators, are pitched for children in lower primary and cater to different learning styles by incorporating auditory and visual mnemonics, and tactile activities. Some of the activities also help to develop phonemic awareness. Words used in these games are taken from books that you can find at the [National Library](#) or on NLB's online Tumblebook Library.

Check out these interesting activities accompanied by fuss-free printable resources and have fun bonding with your kids!

Reading Activity 1: Onset-rime blending : Onset-rime blending is a useful reading strategy, especially for beginning readers. Parents can play the game with their children to create and read new words! The words used in this game are drawn from the book, "Keesha's Bright Idea". Parents can also use the resource template to park in words from any book at home.

Reading Activity 2: Rhyme race: Rhyme ability is important for later reading success. According to research, children's exposure to ending sounds in words and word families gives them a head-start to reading. Young children who are able to rhyme are also likely to become successful readers later on. Through a memory game that spans several difficulty levels, this activity is both fun and challenging. Parents can download and print out these word cards, or use words from other books at home.

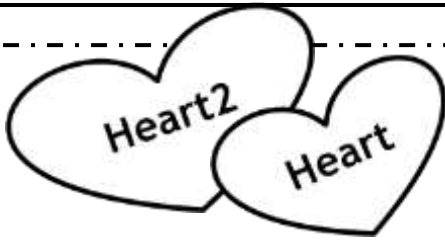
Reading Activity 3: Story cubes: To check for understanding, use this post-reading activity to help children to retell the story. Alternatively, use it to start and guide the writing process. Folded into small square cubes, each cube covers a key story element (e.g. setting, characters, and event). In the inner folds are prompts to support the retelling process, which also double as cues to start children on writing a narrative. Prepared based on the book "Hello Sun", a set of word cards and story cubes can be downloaded for use. Alternatively, use the generic set to complement other books.

Reading Activity 4: Dramatization: Drama helps develop empathy and encourages perspective-taking in children. By emphasising "doing" rather than passive reading or memorizing, children are given the opportunity to respond to the text, thereby increasing concentration and comprehension. Drama strategies also build confident speakers and creative writers. Freeze Frame and Thought Tracking are 2 strategies parents can use with their children to dramatize any book they are reading at home.

Spelling Activity 1: Explore-to-spell: Instead of the conventional use of pencil and paper, this activity involves movement and fun! Children break up a word into its respective sounds, and represent each sound using game tokens and bands. Played with parents at home, this game enhances children's encoding skills and helps children with sound-letter correspondence for spelling. This game can also be played using words from the school's spelling list!

Spelling Activity 2: Spell-to-bingo: Through a Bingo game, parents can help children master sounds. Depending on the child's ability, choose from three levels of difficulty. Children will place tokens on the cells based on the correct beginning or ending sounds from words given by parents and win when they are able to place a row of tokens in a vertical or horizontal line. Boost your child's confidence by repeating the words slowly if children are unable to hear the sounds accurately the first time. Speaking clearly and slowly will train your child's listening skills. Parents can also play this with their children using words from the school's spelling list.

<https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/reading-and-spelling-games-for-kids>



Learning 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 develop good friendships.

Friendship skills children are learning:

Self-control: being able to wait for what they want, using words to express their feelings rather than acting disruptively or misbehaving, giving others a turn with toys.

Welcoming: being able to approach and respond to others positively (eg with a smile and greeting such as 'hello').

Assertiveness: being able to say what they would like.

Consideration: being able to say 'please' and 'thank you', taking turns, being able to lead and follow what others want to do, being able to cooperate and share.

Play skills: being willing to take part in games and make suggestions for play.

Communicating: talking and listening to others in a friendly way, saying something to start a conversation.

Helping: being willing to help others.

Prediction: being able to understand how others might be feeling based on their behaviour, being able to predict how their behaviour might affect others.

Thinking: such as about alternatives when things go wrong (eg if other children want to play something different, thinking of whether to join them or find someone else to play with).

Coping: being able to respond to rejection, disappointment or disapproval without experiencing too much distress or winning without gloating.

Empathy: being able to respond to others' feelings with understanding.

Flexibility: being open to hearing or learning about other points of view or ways of doing things.

It takes a long time to learn these skills and we should continue to develop the children well into adulthood. We can help children develop these skills by being aware of what friendship and empathy skills they are developing, playing with them and giving some gentle coaching when children are really struggling with something.

