

iN Touch @Frontier

www.frontierpri.moe.edu.sg

Oct/Nov 2016



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Principal's Message

Dear Parents

2016 marks the school's 5th year. The school has grown in strength. In 2016, Frontiers experienced many events and activities and we are happy to note that they are generally becoming more confident and compassionate boys and girls. Indeed, just a month ago, as we celebrated Children's Day, our senior pupils organised stalls for their younger schoolmates and raised funds for charitable causes. All in all, Frontiers raised \$11,230.46 from CD Fiesta. Well done!

This year has been filled with celebrations and commemorations, assessments and learning journeys, competitions and camps. It is heart-warming to see the children learning and growing well. These programmes and events are some of the ways in which the school continuously provides a quality school experience for our Frontiers. Through these common experiences, a distinct Frontier identity is formed and a strong affiliation for the school is developed in our pupils.

During the coming vacation, we hope our Frontiers will take advantage of this period to enjoy a good break with their family. We look forward to seeing our pupils recharged and refreshed and ready for more learning in 2017.

Mr Koh Chin Thong
Principal

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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

School Evacuation Drill

As part of the school's emergency plans, we will be conducting a fire-drill cum evacuation exercise to an External Holding Area (EHA) on the morning of **Wednesday, 16 Nov 2016**. The purpose of this drill is to familiarise staff and pupils with the processes for evacuating to the EHA in the event it is unsafe to remain in the school premises.

Our designated EHA is Jurong West Secondary School.

Extensive planning has been conducted to ensure an orderly and safe evacuation of pupils and staff during the drill.

Donation Drive for Used Textbooks and Uniform

The school will be carrying out a donation drive for used textbooks and uniforms from now till Thursday, 17 November 2016. The drive is part of our environmental conservation efforts in partnership with NTUC FairPrice. The drive also facilitates catering to pupils' needs for spare sets of uniform when theirs are accidentally soiled or torn during school hours.

Pupils have been briefed on the donation drive. Donated textbooks should be in decent condition without torn or defaced pages. Name tags are to be removed from the school uniform before donating them. **Join us in this donation drive by sending the items through your child to the school's General Office by Thursday, 17 Nov 2016.**

Additional Dismissal Gate in 2017

With MOE Kindergarten@Frontier shifting to the new Annex Building and our pupil population exceeding 1400 in January 2017, the school will be opening **Gate C** (the rear gate facing the fitness corner, near Blk 658B) **for dismissal** of pupils. Parents may arrange to pick up their children from Gate C during mass dismissal (1.45pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays; 12.45pm on Wednesdays). **Only Gates A & B will be open in the morning.**

	Arrival at 7am onwards	Dismissal after curriculum hours
Gate A	Open	Open
Gate B	Open	Open
Gate C	Closed	Open

Parents/Caregivers are advised to adhere to traffic rules and not park illegally while waiting to pick up the children.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Back To Frontier 2017 (3 to 6 Jan 2017)

As part of the school's induction for pupils returning from the long break, the school will carry out a 4-day **Back to Frontier Programme** on the first 4 days of school in 2017 i.e. **3 to 6 January 2017** for all pupils. Adopting the overarching theme of 'We Care', the programme is progressive in its objectives and accompanying activities to cater to pupils' developmental needs.

The aim of *Back to Frontier* is to give all pupils time to settle into the school environment after a long break from school and to build friendships within the class. In addition, pupils and teachers will work together to communicate with one another to forge stronger teacher-pupil relationships. Pupils will also get to articulate character development and academic goals for the year to their teachers. This will help pupils to monitor their own learning and motivate themselves towards success. Lower primary pupils will begin their 'Buddy Me' journey of meeting and getting to know a fellow Frontierer of a different level .

Schedule for items to be collected

During the first four days, teachers will be collecting materials from pupils in a staggered manner to help them avoid carrying heavy school bags. Please see **Appendix 1—Items to be Collected** for the first four days of school. A hard copy of the Appendix 1 will be printed for the respective levels to be given out together with their booklist.

Staggering of dismissal timings

During these four days only, the dismissal timings for P1 to P3 levels will be staggered as reflected below. This is necessary to ease pupils into the school routines.

Level/ Day	Tues (3 Jan)	Wed (4 Jan)	Thurs (5 Jan)	Fri (6 Jan)
Primary 1	1.15 pm	12.15 pm	1.15 pm	1.15 pm
Primary 2 & 3	1.30 pm	12.30 pm	1.30 pm	1.30 pm
Primary 4 to 6	1.45 pm	12.45 pm	1.45 pm	1.45 pm

Pupils taking the school bus

Pupils taking the school bus are to note that the school buses leave school shortly after the usual dismissal time (i.e. 1.45pm, except on Weds when dismissal is at 12.45pm) in the first four days. For the first days of school, do expect some slight delays in bus departure timings as the pupils and bus service provider adjusts to the new routines.

Temperature-Taking Exercise

The school will be conducting a Temperature-Taking Exercise on **Friday, 6 Jan 2017**. Pupils are reminded to bring their working thermometer by that day.

We look forward to having your child back with us in 2017!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

P4, P5 & P6 Project Work 2017

In 2017, all Primary 4, 5 and 6 pupils will be involved in Project Work, which will be conducted **over four Fridays from 6 January 2017 to 3 February 2017** (excluding 27 Jan which is the eve of Chinese New Year). The programme will be conducted **from 2.45 p.m. to 4.45 p.m.** in Frontier Primary School. Hence, please make the necessary dismissal arrangement.

Project Work is a learning experience which aims to provide pupils with the opportunity to synthesise knowledge from various areas of learning and critically and creatively apply it to real life situations. This process enhances pupils' knowledge and enables them to acquire skills like collaboration, communication and independent learning hence preparing them for lifelong learning and the challenges ahead.

The learning outcomes identify the key areas of learning of the subject. Four learning outcomes are separately articulated: knowledge application, communication, collaboration and independent learning. While pupils learn to work in groups, they will also learn independently through self-reflection and evaluation of their own work processes. These learning outcomes exist in dynamic interplay rather than as compartmentalised and distinct categories. The following are the learning outcomes for project work:

Domains	Learning Outcomes
Knowledge Application	Students will acquire the ability to make links across different areas of knowledge and to generate, develop and evaluate ideas and information so as to apply these skills to the project task.
Communication	Students will acquire the skills to communicate effectively and to present ideas clearly and coherently to specific audience in both the written and oral forms.
Collaboration	Students will acquire collaborative skills through working in a team to achieve common goals.
Independent Learning	Students will be able to learn on their own, reflect on their learning and take appropriate actions to improve it.

Project Work Focus Areas

The Primary 4 Project Work will centre on Science topics and involve pupils applying scientific knowledge and effective communication skills. The Primary 5 Project Work will centre on Innovation and Enterprise: specifically on creative exploration of social enterprise set-ups. The Primary 6 Project Work will focus on Education and Career Guidance: specifically on a creative exploration of future of employment. More details on the programmes will be shared with the pupils in January 2017.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCCA / CCA Commencement in 2017

After taking into consideration the availability of venues to conduct CCAs, and to ensure optimal engagement of pupils during CCA sessions, P4 to P6 CCAs will continue to be conducted on Mondays and Fridays in 2017. P3 SCCA will be conducted on Fridays.

CCAs on Mondays	CCAs on Fridays
Softball	P3 SCCA
Badminton (Group 1)	Badminton (Group 2)
Library Club	Scouts
Media Club	Red Cross
String Ensemble	Chinese Dance
Art Club	Tag/Touch Rugby
Choir	
DanzWhiz	

Primary 3 SCCA will commence in Term 1 Week 1 on Friday, 6 January 2017.

Primary 4 to 6 CCA will commence on Term 1 Week 6:

Monday CCA sessions will be from 6 February 2017

Friday CCA sessions will be from 10 February 2017



ACCOLADES



School Green Awards

Frontier has promoted environmental conservation since it began in 2011 and in 2016, many conservation 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.

In recognition of the school's efforts, we are pleased to announce that **Frontier Primary School has achieved the *Orchid Award* in the SEC-StarHub School Green Awards (SGA)** for the second year. We thank our stakeholders for supporting our pupils and staff in our efforts.



ACCOLADES

Outstanding Character Award

The Outstanding Character Award recognizes outstanding Frontiersers who are exemplary in character, and who can be role models to inspire others. Deserving Frontiersers are identified from all levels as the school has programmes across the curriculum to in mould the character of our pupils from young.

This award will be given to deserving pupils who demonstrate (1) school values and character traits that we strongly encourage, (2) a high level of civic responsibility and (3) qualities associated with resilience. The rigorous process of nomination and selection has recently been completed.

Our heartiest congratulations go to the following Frontiersers for receiving the Outstanding Character Award 2016. Awardees will be recognized during the annual Frontier PRIDE Day.

NO	NAME	CLASS		NO	NAME	CLASS
1.	WAN HOY WENG	1 RY		20.	WANG JING YI JOCELYN	4 RY
2.	CHARLENE TIU JIA QI	1 RY		21.	FOONG HO YAN	4 RE
3.	MUHAMMED ZHARFAN BIN AINAL	1 RE		22.	SHARMELL KIEW JIA YI	4 RE
4.	ANTHEA PUTT YAN NING	1 CR		23.	SORENSON YEO ZHI XUN	4 CO
5.	JASMINE KHOR JIA XIN	1 IN		24.	LAI QI HENG	4 CO
6.	CHUAH CHENG XI	1 JO		25.	CHARMAINE WONG SI YA	4 CA
7.	LAI QI XUAN	2 RT		26.	AMIRAH ZAHIRAH BINTE	4 CA
8.	ANG YUN NING	2 RE		27.	ALYSHA KAISAH BINTE ISNIN	4 IN
9.	FILOMENA LITANI MAGHA AMIELA	2 CR		28.	ALETHEIA YEO	5 RY
10.	ADAM CHAN YI SHENG	2 CR		29.	MIYOKO ANG SHU XIAN	5 RY
11.	XU MEIXUAN	2 CO		30.	TAN YING QI, JERYANN	5 RE
12.	FELYSSYA INJIELLA BINTE FAI-	2 IN		31.	FOROSAN WRENEL DEAN	5 CO
13.	ABIA CHAN YI XUAN	3 RE		32.	EUNICE TAY PEI SHI	5 CO
14.	TAN YING XIN, JERNISE	3 RE		33.	SENG ENHUI, CHLOE	5 CA
15.	JOVI SOH MING LONG	3 CO		34.	CHUA WEN JIE TARASIA	5 CA
16.	CLEMENCE KER KAH WEE	3 CA		35.	MOHAMMED ZAFUAN BIN	5 IN
17.	EYU JIE NI	3 CA				
18.	KEK KE ER	3 IN				
19.	SHALISA BINTE SHAFUDIN	3 IN				



UPCOMING EVENTS

Post-Examination Activities (14 Nov to 17 Nov)

As the final term comes to an end, the school will be enriching the learning experiences of Frontierers through a range of post-examination activities in the last week of school **on 14 Nov to 17 Nov**. The activities planned for the pupils include **Sports Education Programmes (SEP), Sports Experience Clinics, Digital Life-skills Programme, Financial Literacy Workshop, Anger Management Workshop and Assembly programmes**.

P1 and P2 pupils will also embark on a personalised gift-making and gift presentation to culminate the **“Buddy Me” Programme** for the year. This aims to inculcate values of friendship among the young Frontierers as they appreciate their buddy for the year.

On the last day of school **Thursday, 17 November**, Frontierers will be engaged in the termly **Spring Cleaning exercise**. All pupils are to bring a pair of disposable gloves, a rag and a recycling bag. Frontierers will prepare the classrooms for the new classes in 2017.

School will function at the usual school hours during the Post-Examination Activities period. Dismissal hours and venues remain unchanged.

Pupils do not attend school on Friday, 18 November as the school will be holding Frontier PRIDE Day for award recipients in the Primary 4 and 5 levels. Award recipients and performers involved will be informed separately.





UPCOMING EVENTS

P3 CCA Skills-Awareness Programme (SAP)

The Primary 3 pupils have gone through a **P3 Skills-Awareness Programme (SAP)** as one of the P3 activities scheduled during SCCA **to assist them with their selection of their CCA at Primary 4.**

The P3 SAP is a baseline skills awareness programme with the following objectives:

- For pupils to be aware of their strengths and competencies in the school-offered CCAs to assist them in making an informed choice when they select their CCAs at the start of P4.
- For teachers to assess pupils' readiness and capabilities at current point to facilitate the allocation process of pupils in CCA at P4.

The following information will be made available when the pupils return to school in 2017 to assist them in their CCA selection:

- Individual results from the P3 SAP
- CCA information on every CCA that will be offered in 2017

We believe that the SAP will help your child in making a more informed choice in his/her CCA selection.

Frontier PRIDE Day

Frontier PRIDE Day is a time the school recognizes the achievements of our pupils and staff, as well as celebrate the year's work. PRIDE is an acronym for **Performance Recognition for Inspiring and Distinguished Endeavours.**

Since 2015, the school has run the Frontier PRIDE Day awards ceremony in 2 tiers - with each tier held on a different day - rather than all awards being presented on a single day. **Tier 2 (for P1-P3 pupils)** will be held during school hours on Tuesday, 15 Nov 2016. **Tier 1 (for P4-P5 pupils)** will be held on Friday, 18 Nov 2016.

This arrangement facilitates recognition of pupils in front of their peers as good role models to the rest of the pupil population. We would also like the pupil population to witness and affirm our award recipients. While we would like awardees' parents to be present for the Tier 2 ceremony, we are unable to do so due to constraints of space in the hall. Photos of the presentations will be made available for download by parents in January 2017.

With the Tier 1 and Tier 2 arrangement, greater significance is given to the achievements of each and every child, as fewer awards are given out on each day. More than 200 awards in academic and non-academic areas will be given out over the two days. Spacing out the awards presentations allows for greater significance to be given to the pupil's achievements.

All pupils do not attend school on 18 November 2016 except for the P4 and P5 award recipients and performers who will be notified separately.



ICT MATTERS

Turning Pokemon Go into Learning Opportunities

Pokemon Go, a free-to-play augmented reality (AR) mobile game, soared to immense popularity immediately after its launch. While parents might be troubled over their children's addiction to this virtual mobile game, here is what you can do right now to transform your perception of Pokemon Go as a distracting game into a valuable learning tool for your child:

1) Setting Targets

Set a target with your child. Have them to complete their homework or school tasks before they can be entitled to a game play of Pokemon Go. The aim is to let your child understand the importance of completing crucial tasks on-hand before enjoying recreational activities.

2) Surrounding Awareness

You can also use the game as a means to have a walk together with your child in the neighbourhood or take a stroll together in the garden during the weekends. Pokestops are often positioned at cultural, historical and natural landmarks. Parent-child bonding can also be enhanced too.

3) Social Engagement

Pokemon Go offers opportunities for all players to engage socially in the non-virtual world. As your child searches for rare Pokemon, engage in team building, and battle for supremacy, they are communicating, problem-solving and building relationships with other players in the vicinity. These are social skills which have been acknowledged as invaluable for 21st-century learners.

4) Subject Literacy

Link it with learning. For example, you may do the following:

- Plot the best route with your child with the most Pokestops.
- Ask your child to calculate the total distance between each stops using Google Map.
- Use the data available to come up with problem sums for your child to work on.
- Ask your child to unleash their creativity and write stories around them.
- Encourage your child to keep a Pokedex notebook to record down the type of virtual Pokemon creatures they have captured, alongside with research on real insects, animals or plants that look alike.

Adapted from: <http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/education/how-pokemon-go-can-be-a-positive-tool-for-learning>



When sibling rivalry causes problematic behaviour...

Retired Principal, Mrs Jenny Yeo, shares how sibling rivalry can be the cause of a child's misbehaviour.

A mother of a Primary Two student came to see me in exasperation and said, "Mrs Yeo, I don't know what to do, the only thing I can think of is to transfer Taylor to another school." I advised her to take a step back and proposed that we find the root of the problem. She was at her wit's end because she had been called to school nearly every day for her son's problematic behaviour, such as being disruptive in class and even punching his classmate. When I found out she had given birth to her second child recently, I immediately suspected that Taylor's behaviour was due to his struggle with this change.



Sibling rivalry is the jealousy, competition and fighting between brothers and sisters, which usually starts right after, or even before, the arrival of a sibling. The older child often becomes aggressive, "acts out" or regresses when he feels that he is getting an unequal amount of attention and responsiveness from his parents.

Dr Becky A. Bailey, an expert in childhood education and developmental psychology, wrote in *Easy to Love, Difficult to Discipline* that children of school-going age often complain about being unfairly treated. In this case, Taylor felt that his mother was more responsive and attentive to the baby and felt threatened. Dr Bailey says "the best kind of help you can offer is empathy".

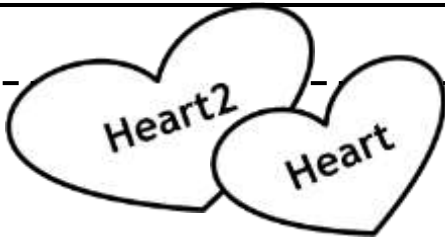
For example, Taylor might not know a positive way to get attention, so he picks a fight and shows his anger at the younger sibling. His mother could acknowledge his frustration and express care and understanding by saying "sometimes being a big brother is difficult" or "it's hard to share". When he acts up or behaves aggressively, she could say "you can ask for my attention and I will give it to you." I recommended that Taylor's mother make a conscious effort to pay more attention to him while we do the same in school. The teachers were briefed and I appealed to them to think of different ways of managing his behaviour, rather than constant punishment.

A year passed, not only did Taylor stay on in the school, he became known in school for being a talented presenter. Whenever the school received visitors like ministry officials from other countries, he would accompany them around and explain the school's programmes. Many were impressed with such a well-behaved and confident child. By giving him this role, we effectively distracted him and channelled his energy and focus to more constructive activities. The teachers gave him more attention by helping him prepare for his presentations. Furthermore, his outstanding performance earned him praise and attention, this time in a good way. Taylor thrived and graduated with excellent results. He also gets along well with his younger sibling.

Sibling rivalry can be destructive when not dealt with properly, so if you want your bundles of joy to get along happily, help your older children adjust when you are expecting another baby. The way parents treat their children and react to conflict has a big impact on how well siblings will get along, which in turn impacts how a child interacts with his friends in school, as well as how he learns.

Here are some tips on tackling sibling rivalry from an article from the University of Michigan:

- Favouritism is a huge no-no.
- Each child is an individual, let them be who they are and enjoy their different gifts.
- Help them learn to cooperate (as opposed to compete) and respect each other.
- Teach them positive ways to get each other's attention, like how to approach each other to play and share their toys.
- Be fair; this is not the same as being equal. Explain how the treatment for older and younger children is different according to their unique needs and reassure them that you do your best to meet them.
- Plan family activities that everyone enjoys.



Most of us are caught up in a hectic whirlwind of activities which start on Monday morning, end on Sunday night and then begin all over again. Time slips by as we rush to complete urgent tasks which relate to juggling jobs, running the household, chauffeuring our children, our parents, relatives and spouses to work, school, appointments and commitments. Yet, we all acknowledge, that spending quality time together is the best way we have to show each other that we care and that our families are important.

Some families solve this problem by organising big family holiday activities together. This allows them to get away from the day-to-day distractions and interact by building new experiences together.



If you are planning to have your family experience nature and learn more about Singapore's biodiversity, "Families for Nature" is a new initiative which encourages families to do that through exciting events and activities organised under the National Parks Board's Community in Nature (CIN) programme.

You can take part in activities organised throughout the year with your family members! These activities fall into four categories – Nature Adventurer, Wildlife Guardian, CIN Ambassador and SGBioAtlas Contributor.

Participate in all four types of activities and collect unique stamps and puzzle pieces. Upon completion of each activity, you will also receive one of the four puzzle pieces. Collect

all four pieces to form a map featuring Singapore's rich biodiversity.

To build new experiences for your family embracing nature, Singapore parks, garden and nature areas can be one of your consideration as they have many activities for all to enjoy. You can download the NParks Programme [Booklet](#), to find out about the wide variety of activities which you and your family can participate in for a fulfilling day at the green spaces from now till Dec 2016! Have fun exploring the nature as you bond with your family members.

Articles adapted from:

<https://www.nparks.gov.sg/biodiversity/community-in-nature-initiative/families-for-nature>

<https://www.nparks.gov.sg/activities/events-and-workshops/2015/5/nparks-programme->

