

iN-Touch @Frontier



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September 2017



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PSLE Marking Exercise

Pupils are reminded not to report to school from **19 – 20 October** and **23 – 24 October** due to the PSLE Marking Exercise. Pupils are to return to school on Wednesday, 25 October

Admin Day

The school will be having its Admin Day on **9 November 2017**. Pupils are reminded not to report to school on that day.

Post-PSLE Programme for P6 Pupils

The school has arranged several exciting activities as part of the school's post-PSLE programme, which will run from 9 October – 17 November 2017. Details of the planned activities can be found in the letter to parents dated 20 September 2017.

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



Nomination for Caring Teacher Awards 2018

The Caring Teacher Awards are aimed at acknowledging and rewarding teachers in our school who show care and concern for the holistic development of their pupils and go the extra mile to ensure their charges grow up to be confident and independent learners. The nomination form has been printed for all pupils and we would like to invite you to submit a nomination for any teacher who may be deserving of the recognition. Please submit your nomination form to the General Office. E-Nomination is also opened to all parents and pupils at <http://www.cta.nie.edu.sg/nominate>. The closing date for all submission is Friday, 13 October 2017.

Used Textbooks and Uniforms Donation Drive

As a part of our environmental conservation efforts, Frontier will be carrying out a donation drive for all used textbooks and uniforms till 17 November 2017. The school has partnered NTUC FairPrice organisation for its *FairPrice Share-A-Textbook* project to recycle used textbooks. Textbooks should be in decent condition without torn pages or a lot of defacing.

The school also caters to its pupils' needs for spare sets of uniform which are needed when accidentally soiled or torn. Pupils may recycle either school uniform or PE attire. Take note that name tags are to be removed from the shirts before donating.

Join us in this donation drive by sending the items through your child to the school's General Office before 17 November 2017.

Yearbook 2017

We will be publishing a hard copy Yearbook entitled 'Shaping the Future' which will contain our school community's memory of 2017, celebrating our pupils' successes and cherishing their school experience. To defray the cost and to further support our needy pupils, advertisement spaces are available in the Yearbook. If you are interested or know of organisation which may be interested in putting advertisements in our Yearbook, please contact Mr Andrew Tan (Admin Manager) at 6578 9555.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Home-Based Learning (HBL) for Primary 1 to Primary 5 Pupils

Frontier Primary School will be having Home-based Learning during the PSLE Marking days from **19 October to 24 October 2017**. Some of the work will need to be carried out online on the school's learning management system, MC Online.

HBL encourages pupils to take the responsibility for pupils to learn at their own pace. We believe that pupils will be gainfully engaged while developing the value of self-directed learning through work assigned. Pupils are expected to complete all online tasks assigned to them.

A letter containing details and a task sheet will be provided nearer the date. Related announcements and guides will also be placed on the school website for easy reference.

Outstanding Character Award 2017

The Outstanding Character Award, including the ECHA@FPS, recognizes outstanding Frontiersers who are exemplary in character, and who can be role models to inspire others. We believe in moulding the character of our students from young. Hence, we have programmes planned and integrated across the curriculum to help develop this in our students.

This award will be given to deserving students 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.

There is a structured rigorous process of nomination and selection within the school. More details on the winners of the award will be shared in the November 2017 issue of the In-Touch.



ACCOLADES

Community Chest Sharity Day 2017

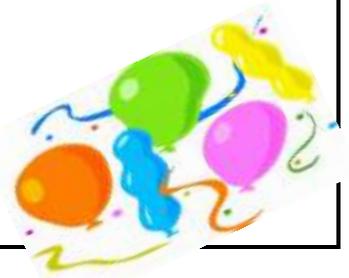
On 25 August 2017, Frontier was one of only six schools given a special award by Sharity for our outstanding efforts for the *Youth Day Appeal* and *Children's Day Appeal*. Well-done Frontierers!

The *Youth Day Appeal* and the *Children's Day Appeal* are nation-wide initiatives organised by Community Chest to encourage pupils to care for those in need.

The credit goes to all pupils, parents, teachers and stakeholders for their strong support in the school's Children's Day Fiestas in the last few years as the funds raised were donated to the annual Children's Day Appeal.

Our Vice-Principal (Administration), Mr Goh Gin Howe, received the 'Special Events Awards' on behalf of the school from Ms Low Yen Ling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, MOE during the event at River Safari.

Let's continue the good job by making Frontier's Children Day Fiesta 2017 a success!



Mathematics Competition

Frontier Primary School participated in the *Raffles Institution Primary Maths World Contest*. We are proud to announce that we have achieved the **Distinction Award** and have also emerged as one of the *top 20 schools* for that competition.

Congratulations to our pupils for their outstanding performance. Well done!



ACCOLADES

National Children's Story Writing Competition

Our pupils *Lynn Wong* and *Yip Yern Teng* won **2nd prize** in the “Creativity, No Boundaries!” National Children's Story Writing Competition. Co-organised by the Singapore Centre for Chinese Language (SCCL) and the Committee to Promote Chinese Language Learning (CPCLL), the competition required participants to write original stories which are interesting and inspiring.

Our pupils' winning entries will be published as part of a series of picture books suitable for primary schools, and all primary school will receive complimentary sets of the books. During the prize giving ceremony, our pupil was selected to join the opening ceremony together with MP Low Yen Ling, and our pupils were interviewed by the local media such as Channel 8 News and Lian He Zao Bao (联合早报).





LOOKING BACK

Step up and Stand Up to Keep Our School Safe

A safe and supportive school climate can help prevent bullying. Everyone at school can work together to create a climate where bullying is not acceptable.

For this month's blog entry, you can read about how some Primary 4 pupils have been trained to be *Bully-Free Ambassadors*, and their efforts to help to raise the awareness of everyone's role in creating a Bully-free environment in the school.

Do visit our blog at <http://blog.frontierpri.net> to read more.





ICT MATTERS

Learning with Technology at Home

4 Tech Tips for Parents to Embrace Digital Education

Learning about new technology is a lot like learning to swim or riding a bicycle. It comes more naturally to you after some practice. As schools increasingly use online platforms and digital devices, tech-challenged parents may feel intimidated.

If you feel like you are 2 steps behind your digitally savvy children, fret not: here are some advice to you keep up and keeping children safe at the same time.

Show and tell: If your child is using a device, program, or website you aren't familiar with, have them show you how it works.

Get excited: Computers, tablets, and smartphones bring students out of their shells and open up exciting new avenues for learning. They bring out the extrovert in the shy kid and encourages communication at a time when insecurity abounds.

Keep tech public: If your children's computers are in their bedrooms, you should move them. What your children are doing on the computer should be public as well. Parents should "friend" their students on Facebook, follow them on Twitter, and know who their online friends are.

Beyond keeping technology in an open space, parents should check the browser history so they know what sites their children are visiting.

Google it: It's a simple but often overlooked step to technical understanding and Internet safety. Get online. Google your child's name. Google your family name. See what's out there. Pupils and parents need to be especially aware that what they post on the Internet is permanent, and poor online decisions can have severe consequences.

Google also has a multitude of tutorial videos to bring parents up to speed on everything from screensavers to video chats.

Parents can overcome their own digital insecurities by talking to other parents and engaging with their children's teachers. Send the teachers a quick e-mail and ask how they use technology in their classrooms. You might be surprised by what you hear!



Why Are Friends Important?

Friendship is important and friends do become a significant part of our lives. Some of us like to build a network of new friends, some others prefer a small circle of friends. Are friends important in our lives? There are undeniable reasons which justify the pursuit of friendship, and it is especially true for our children:



Surrounding yourself with great friends is one of the best ways to find joy and happiness in your life.

1. Friendship is a natural desire

Humans are social creatures, which means it is natural for us to form connections with others and to search for people we are comfortable with. The tendency to form friendships is clearly defined in [Maslow's hierarchy of needs](#): the human need to belong holds a prominent place in our nature. Moreover, people generally feel that interpersonal relationships provide the foundation for wellness, motivation, engagement, and achievement. If you don't have friends, the isolation will likely weigh on you, which can affect other areas of your life.

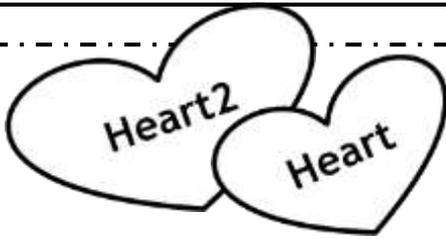
2. Friendship improves peer influence

According to the [looking-glass self-concept](#), a person grows within society through interpersonal interactions and his perception of how others view him. On the other hand, the socialisation effect suggests that children who don't have any friends tend to manifest more motivation to take on the characteristics of peers than children with friends do.

3. Friendship cultivates a positive culture

A network of friends develops a supportive culture in any environment, which means that friendships built within a school can help children feel like they belong. When children sense that they belong, they are more likely to persevere in tough times; thus, good friendships provide protection for students, especially for those at risk. Friendships have even been identified as the best defence available for students to avoid school bullying.

Read more at : <https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/why-are-friends-important>



Teaching Children to Save

By Richard Hartung

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For many families, it seems like it should be easy for children to learn about savings and money management. Have your child open an account and put money into it. The reality, though, is that it takes more than a bank account for children to learn about saving and money. Indeed, even many parents who have a savings account don't save much. Fortunately, there are many ways children can learn.

LEARNING ABOUT MONEY

Learning about saving can be effective earlier than many people may think. Studies show that children begin to understand money concepts from the age of 2 or 3 years old.

Parents can start with a savings jar or a piggy bank that children can put money into every week so they learn how to save. Some parents prefer a clear jar so children can see their savings grow. Allowing children to take money out sometimes to buy a toy or a treat, too, is a good way for them to understand why savings are important.

Parents who want to do more can get special piggy banks, such as a Money Savvy piggy bank with four chambers labelled save, spend, donate and invest. Tools like this can teach children that managing money is about more than just savings.

Beyond just saving, though, children need to learn how to manage money. Washington University Professor Michal Grinstein-Weiss suggests that parents teach their children financial literacy by discussing basic finances around the dinner table, teaching children how to save for short-term goals such as a new toy or long-term goals such as university, opening a savings account, teaching budgeting, and getting children involved in daily activities such as grocery shopping. Parents can compare prices at stores, for example, and explain why buying certain items makes more sense.

Realistically, parents also need to realise that much of this learning has to happen at home. While the Ministry of Education advocates financial literacy, there is currently no specific syllabus in the school curriculum.

TOOLS FOR TEACHING

Along with talking about savings, using technology can also help children learn about money. Plenty of apps for children support interactive learning about savings and money. Moolahverse, for example, makes children guardian of their own planet and teaches them to make smart money decisions to grow it. On the POSB Smiley Town app, children can be the mayor of their own town and build home or shops to earn money. Or the Money Savvy Generation Savings Spree app teaches children how daily lifestyle choices can add up to big savings or big expenses.

Read more of the article at <http://www.todayonline.com/business/teaching-children-save>