

iN-Touch @Frontier



www.frontierpri.moe.edu.sg

Oct/Nov 2017



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Principal's Message

Dear Parents

I will be posted to Henry Park Primary School on 15 Dec 2017 as Principal. The new Principal of Frontier is Mrs Tonnine Chua, currently the Principal of Concord Primary School.

I am most grateful for the support that you have given me as we started Frontier Primary School from scratch. I am confident that Mrs Chua will take the school to greater heights. Please support her as you have supported me.

We have always believed that it takes a whole community to raise a child. We are always grateful to our stakeholders and parents for supporting us in our endeavour to provide a holistic education to our children. As an often quoted saying goes, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

Together we can provide a rich educational experience which will develop in Frontierers a deep desire to make a difference, and be the difference.

Thank you once again for the support. I am proud to be able to play a part in growing the school.

Mr Koh Chin Thong, Martin
Principal

At A Glance

- ◆ **Announcements**
 - * Principal's Message
 - * Earlier Dismissal for P1-P5 on 17 Nov
 - * School Evacuation Drill
 - * Donation Drive for Used Textbooks & Uniform
 - * Spring Cleaning Day Term 4
 - * Temperature-Taking Exercise
 - * Student Transfer Exercise for Primary Schools (STEPS)
 - * Back to Frontier 2018
 - * P4, P5 & P6 Project Work 2018
 - * SCCA / CCA Commencement in 2018

- ◆ **Accolades**
 - * School Green Awards 2017

- ◆ **Upcoming Events**
 - * Post-Examination Activities
 - * P3 CCA Skills-Awareness Programme (SAP)
 - * Frontier PRIDE Day

- ◆ **ICT Matters**
- ◆ **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>



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Early Dismissal for P1-P5 on 17 Nov 17

Please note that on Friday, 17 Nov 2017 all P1 to P5 pupils will be dismissed slightly earlier **at 11:45am**. This is to facilitate a graduation event for P6 pupils. Please make the necessary pick-up arrangements if your child/ward is not utilizing the school bus service.

School Evacuation Drill

As part of the school's emergency plans, we will be conducting an evacuation exercise to an external holding area (EHA) in the morning on Thursday, 16 November 2017 for our P5 and P6 pupils. The objective of this drill is for our staff and pupils to know how to respond and where they should report if the school needs to be evacuated. Our EHA, Jurong West Secondary School, is the designated area outside the school compound to hold the school population should it be unsafe for us to remain within the school premises during an emergency. Extensive planning has been conducted to ensure an orderly and safe evacuation.

Donation Drive for Used Textbooks and Uniform

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 when accidentally soiled or torn. Pupils may recycle their school uniform and PE attire. Take note that name tags are to be removed from shirts before donating. Join us in this donation drive by sending the items through your child to the school's General Office **before Friday, 17 November 2017**.

Spring Cleaning Day Term 4

As part of our efforts to inculcate in pupils responsibility and a sense of ownership over their immediate classroom environment, pupils and teachers engage in termly Spring Cleaning activities. The school will be carrying out its final Spring Cleaning on 17 November 2017. All pupils are to bring in a pair of disposable gloves, a rag and a plastic bag (to hold any remaining books and materials) on 17 November. There will not be any cleaning agents used in this exercise.

Temperature-Taking Exercise

Conducted twice a year, the temperature-taking exercise aims to maintain schools' preparedness to re-activate the temperature-taking regime should there be a need to. The temperature taking exercise will be held on the fourth schooling day of Term 1 and Term 3. The first temperature-taking exercise in 2018 will be conducted on Friday, 5 January 2018. All pupils will be reminded to bring a working thermometer when school re-opens in 2018.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Transfer Exercise for Primary Schools (STEPS)

The Student Transfer Exercise for Primary Schools (STEPS) serves to facilitate the transfer of students who have relocated to another address, to schools nearer to their new residences. The 2017 STEPS registration at schools will be conducted on 20, 21 and 22 November 2017. The STEPS-Internet System (STEPS-IS) serves as a channel to facilitate the registration of children. STEPS-IS registration for parents will start from 10 am on 17 November 2017 to 11.59 pm 21 November 2017. The outcome of the STEPS application will be released on 12 December 2017.

To be eligible to participate in STEPS, the child must satisfy the following criteria:

- a. The child is a Singapore Citizen or Singapore Permanent Resident;
- b. The child is currently attending Primary 1 to Primary 5 in 2017;
- c. The parents/guardians have changed their residential address within the last two years i.e. since 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017 (both dates inclusive).

If you have any enquiries, please approach the General Office.

Back To Frontier 2018 (2 to 5 January 2018)

As part of the school's induction for pupils returning from the long term break, the school will carry out a 4-day **Back to Frontier** programme on the first four days of school in 2018 i.e. **2 to 5 January 2018** for all pupils. Adopting the overarching theme of 'We Care', the programme is progressive in its objectives and accompanying activities to cater to the 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, both pupils and teachers will work together to communicate with one another and 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 .



ANNOUNCEMENTS

P4, P5 and P6 Project Work in 2018

In 2018, all Primary 4, 5 and 6 pupils will be involved in interdisciplinary Project Work (PW). PW sessions for P4 & P5 will be conducted over **four Tuesdays from 9 January 2018 to 30 January 2018** while P6 PW will be conducted over **four Fridays from 5 January 2018 to 26 January 2018**. PW will be conducted **from 2.45 p.m. to 4.45 p.m.** in Frontier Primary School. Hence, please make the necessary dismissal arrangement.

The interdisciplinary 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 in applying scientific knowledge while innovating and communicating effectiveness. The Primary 5 Project Work will centre on Innovation and Enterprise; specifically on creative exploration of social enterprise set-ups. Primary 6 Project Work, on the other hand, will focus on Education and Career Guidance; specifically on a creative exploration of the future of employment.

More details on the programmes will be shared with pupils in January 2018.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCCA / CCA Commencement in 2018

Please note that Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) sessions will continue to be conducted on Monday and Friday afternoons in 2018. This arrangement takes into consideration the availability of venues to conduct CCAs, and enables optimal engagement of pupils during CCA sessions.

P3 pupils will take part in Structured CCA (SCCA) on Friday afternoons. More information will be provided regarding SCCA in early January.

CCAs conducted on Monday	CCAs conducted on Friday
Softball	P3 SCCA
Badminton (Group 1)	Badminton (Group 2)
Library Club	Scouts
Media Club	Red Cross
String Ensemble	Chinese Dance
Art Club	Rugby
Choir	Sport Climbing
DanzWhiz	
Basketball	

SCCA for Primary 3 (2018) will commence in Term 1, Week 2 on Friday, 12 January 2018.

CCA for Primary 4 to 6 (2018) will commence in Term 1, Week 6 i.e.

- **Monday** CCA sessions will be from 5 February 2018
- **Friday** CCA sessions will be from 9 February 2018



ACCOLADES



School Green Awards 2017

Frontier has always promoted environmental conservation with many activities 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 do their parts in helping the environment.

In recognition of the school's efforts, we are pleased to inform that Frontier Primary School has achieved the highest level **Lotus Award** in the SEC-StarHub **School Green Awards 2017**. We have also achieved a **Gold Star** in the **Clean, Dry & Sparkling Toilets** programme by the Restroom Association (Singapore). We thank everyone for making our attainment of these awards possible,



UPCOMING EVENTS

Post-Examination Activities (13 - 17 November 2017)

P1 to P5 Post-Examination Activities

As the school year 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, between 13 November to 17 November.

These are the scheduled dates for Post-Examination Activities:

P1 to P4: 14 to 17 November 2017

P5: 13 to 17 November 2017

Activities at a glance

The activities planned for the pupils include Sport Education Programmes (SEP), Digital Life-skills Programme, Financial Literacy Workshop, Career Guidance and Assembly programmes.

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

On 17 November, Frontierers will engage in a Spring Cleaning exercise. Frontierers will prepare the classrooms for the new classes in 2018. The children will be introduced to their Form Teachers and Co-form Teachers at a later date.

School hours

School will function at the usual hours for P1 to P5 pupils during the Post-Examination Activities period. The only exception will be dismissal for P1 to P5 pupils on 17 November at 11.45 am. Information for P6 pupils has been provided much earlier.

Some activities require pupils to be in their PE attire due to the nature of the activity:

Date	Activity	Level to report to school in PE Attire
Mon, 13 Nov 2017	P5 Sports Education Programme (SEP)	Primary 5 pupils
Wed, 15 Nov 2017	P4 Sports Education Programme (SEP)	Primary 4 pupils





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 purposes:

- Facilitate teachers' assessment of pupils' readiness and capabilities at current point to facilitate the allocation process of pupils in CCA at P4.
- Enable pupils to be aware of their strengths/competency levels in the school-offered CCAs to assist them in making an informed choice when they select their CCAs at the end of P3.

Primary 4 pupils will be selecting their CCAs early next year. The following information will be made available when they return to school in 2018 to assist them in making an informed decision on their CCA choices.

- Individual results from the P3 SAP
- CCA information on every CCA that will be offered in 2018

Frontier PRIDE Day

Frontier **PRIDE** Day (**P**erformance **R**ecognition for **I**nspiring and **D**istinguished **E**ndeavours)

Frontier PRIDE Day is an awards event for the school to recognize the achievements of our pupils and staff as well as to celebrate the year's work.

As mentioned in the April edition of iN-Touch, the school will not have Frontier PRIDE Day in 2017. Instead, it has been scheduled for early 2018. This will allow us to recognise our P6 pupils who did well in their PSLE, as their results will only be released after the end of the academic year.

Award recipients and their parents will receive a note from the school early in 2018.



ICT MATTERS

Enhancing Family Communication via Technology

Have you ever tried to ask your child to stop playing with their mobile phones during dinner? Have you tried to strike a conversation with your children but their eyes were glued to their laptop screen with a nod or a one-word "okay" as an answer? This is how ICT has impacted the communication in families today.

Interestingly, a poll conducted in 2012 by the American Association of Retired Persons and Microsoft showed that 83% of families considered technology "helpful" in increasing the quality and frequency of communication among its members.

Let's rethink and look at how technology today can enhance family communication instead.

Keep in Touch with Communication Apps

- With a quick text, voice or video call, parents and children can contact each other throughout the day.
- Examples: Whatsapp, Wechat

Strengthen Bonds with Family Members

- The ease of technology has helped many to strengthen bonds with their family members who may be busy or living far apart
- Social media also helps them to be updated with each other life.
- Example: Facebook

Bridge Generation Gaps within Families

- With the vast array of entertainment and information resources available online, there are more common topics for communication as parents try out at their children's favourite online game, or as children chat with their parents after watching an old movie from their era.

When guidance is provided to steer children away from potential risks of technology, benefits can definitely be reaped by understanding and exploring all advantages that technology can offer.

Source: Ana G. " Embracing the Online World: 5 Ways Technology Benefits the Family Life". 9 Sept 2015. <<http://www.froddo.com/embracing-the-online-world-5-ways-technology-benefits-the-family-life>>



Building an Immunity to the Effects of Stress

09 OCT 2017

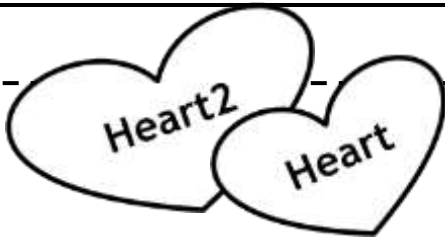


When we feel stressed and weighed down, we often wish that we could remove the cause of the stress. More often than not, that's not possible. We can't control what life throws our way.

As parents, we tend to deal with our children's stress in the same way we deal with our own. But by removing these difficulties from their lives, are we becoming a saviour mum or dad who flies in to save the day? Or perhaps we are helicopter parents, who hover over instead of helping our children to fly independently?

Perhaps we can all learn some strategies of coping with stress. Did you know that **Positive Emotions** and **Positive Relationships** can improve our resilience and well-being? Interestingly, this has nothing to do with the cause of stress, but these methods help us develop some immunity to the effects of stress.

Read more at <https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/building-an-immunity-to-the-effects-of-stress>



Gratitude

Quality time with our families is so important. There are so many things we can do together to make the every minute count: make time to explore the Science Centre, bring them to the library, hike in MacRitchie, cycle in the park... the list goes on.

Are there some simple activities and habits we can pick up to boost the positive feelings and enhance the relationships in the family?

The answer is Yes! Read the infographic for 5 simple tips we can use to practise gratitude with our families.

