



OPERA ESTATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

48 Fidelio Street, Singapore 458436

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31 Dec 2019

2020 TERM 1 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all students, especially those who have just joined us this year. We hope that 2020 will be an enriching and fulfilling year for you and your family.

CHANGES IN SCHOOL STAFF

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following staff who have joined the school recently.

Name of Staff	Appointment
Mr Amir Hamzah	Head of Department, PE and CCA
Ms Lee Peiling	Level Head, Mathematics
Mdm Rosnah Bte Mohammad	Senior Teacher (Mathematics)
Mr Leng Kok Keong	Senior Teacher (Chinese Language)
Miss Deborah Tan	Teacher
Mdm Mary Sasi	Teacher
Mr Muhammed Aliff Bin Azman	Teacher (Malay Language)
Mdm Uma Maheshwari	Teacher (Tamil Language)
Ms Tng Jia En Joanne	School Counsellor
Ms Deborah Yue	Part Time School Counsellor
Mr Steven Tan Yong Thye	Operations Manager
Mr Yong Yi Jie	Desktop Engineer
Mr Lau Ik Leng	Corporate Support Officer

We would also like to bid farewell to the following staff and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours:

Name of Staff	Appointment
Ms Vedelyn Lien	School Counsellor
Miss Sophia Coelho	Teacher
Miss Lu Xing	Teacher
Miss Gina Widjaya	Teacher
Mr Tan Xuan Yuan	Teacher
Mr Wong Kai Keong	Teacher
Mdm Halimah Mansoor Alkadree	Teacher
Mr Tagehan s/o Abdurabbu	Operation Support Officer

PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE DURING TERM TIME

We would like to seek your cooperation to ensure your child/ward arrives punctually at the school hall for assembly and flag-raising ceremony by 7.30 a.m. Students who arrive after 7.30 a.m. will be considered late for school.

Students are required to submit a medical certificate if they are absent from school during curriculum time due to medical reasons. For students who are absent from school without a valid medical certificate, parents/guardians are required to submit a letter or an email to school, stating the reason. Only a maximum of five letters/emails with valid reasons to be accepted per semester.

In our efforts to enhance our attendance-taking process, the school will send SMS text message at 9.00 a.m. on the day your child/ward is absent. Should you receive the SMS, please follow up with your child's/ward's Form Teacher on the reason for absence.

Students are strongly encouraged to attend school regularly and to avoid taking leave for personal/family reasons during term time. Parents are required to notify school in advance if their children need to be absent from school for a period of time. The students' attendance will be marked as absent and there will be no make-up lessons for them.

We would like to reiterate the importance of your child/ward's attendance in school, and appreciate your support in this matter.

STUDENT'S ATTIRE

Students are allowed to wear prescribed PE attire on days when they have PE/PAL lessons. The school uniform should be worn during non-PE/PAL days. The student's name tag should be worn above the school badge. Only white shoes/socks are allowed during school hours.

For students with CCAs, they will be required to bring and change to the PE/CCA attire or sports shoes after school hours on days which they have CCAs.

STUDENT WELL-BEING

There will be a temperature-taking exercise in the school on **16 January 2020, Thursday**. The exercise serves to educate our students on the need to take personal responsibility of their own health and practise social responsibility. Primary 1 students will be given a thermometer on the day itself. Primary 2 to Primary 6 students must bring their own thermometer in working condition. If your child/ward needs a replacement thermometer, he/she can purchase one at the bookshop for \$4.50 each.

The well-being of our students is important to us. If your child/ward is unwell, please take him/her to see a doctor and ensure he/she is well before returning to school. We would appreciate it if you could inform the school immediately if your child/ward is diagnosed with chicken pox, Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD) or other illnesses that may be contagious so that the school can take necessary precautionary measures.

If your child/ward is in school and is unwell, you will be contacted to pick him/her up from the General Office. Our students will not be permitted to go home on their own during school hours for safety reasons.

HEALTHY SNACK BREAK

Students will be given a 10 minute snack break every day. We encourage parents to prepare a healthy snack for your child/ward. Some examples of a healthy snack are wholemeal sandwich, bun, fruits, biscuit, nuts or cereal bar. Please note that sweets, chocolates and any form of chips are strictly not allowed. We seek your understanding to prepare a small portion of the snack as it will be consumed in class.

CONTACTING TEACHERS

Should you need to meet your child's/ward's teachers, please make an appointment via email at oepe@moe.edu.sg or through the General Office. When you are in school, please observe our school's security procedure by registering at the security post before proceeding to the General Office.

DELIVERY OF FOOD

Should you need to deliver packed food to your child/ward after school in view of afternoon activities, the food should be given to the staff on duty at the canteen gate. Please ensure your child/ward collects the food from the staff on duty at the gate. The packed food should be labelled with the child's/ward's name and class. Any uncollected food will be discarded on the same day.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR PERSONAL BELONGINGS

The school would like to work with all parents to help your child/ward grow to be more responsible and independent. If your child/ward has forgotten to bring his/her belongings (e.g. books, files, stationery and homework) to school, please note that you **do not** need to make a trip to hand the item to your child/ward. If the item is required urgently, your child/ward's teachers will contact you. Please allow him/her to learn from these experiences even if he/she has to face the consequence of not bringing his/her belongings. It will be good for them to inculcate the habit of packing their bags the night before school. If your child/ward forgot to bring food or money for his/her recess, they may approach the staff at the General Office for assistance.

We would also like to inculcate responsibility and ownership in students for their personal belongings. Please remind your child/ward to label and take care of their personal belongings. Students are not allowed to use electronic and mobile devices within school premises without the permission of school staff. They should avoid bringing expensive items or excessive cash to school.

For those who cycle/scoot to school, your child/ward is advised to secure his/her bicycle/scooter at the bicycle racks on the school premises. They should refrain from parking overnight in the school. The school will not be responsible for the loss and damage to your child's/ward's bicycle/scooter.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN SCHOOL

We understand that some parents would like their child/ward to celebrate his/her birthday in school. We would like to request for parents not to send birthday cakes, food items and goodie bags to school for birthday celebrations. We seek your kind understanding and cooperation in this matter.

SCHOOL SMART CARD PHOTOTAKING (PRIMARY 1 AND 6)

There will be a photo-taking session on 9 January 2020, Thursday, for all Primary 1 and Primary 6 students for the issue of School Smart Card (SSC). Students are required to be in their school uniform. The School Smart Card for Primary 1 will be ready by end March 2020 while the photo-images captured for Primary 6 students will be used for Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary One in 2021.

STRUCTURED REMEDIAL PROGRAMME (PRIMARY 3 TO 6)

The remedial programme will commence in Term 1 Week 5 for identified Primary 3 to Primary 6 students. The consent form and schedule for the remedial sessions will be issued at a later date.

HIGHER MOTHER TONGUE LESSONS (PRIMARY 5 TO 6)

Primary 5 and 6 students taking Higher Mother Tongue will attend lessons on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm to 3pm. Lessons will commence on 14 Jan 2020 (Term 1 Week 2). Please make the necessary transport arrangements to pick your child/ward up from school.

CCA COMMENCEMENT

All CCAs will commence from 13 January 2020, Monday for Primary 3 to Primary 6 students. CCAs will be conducted on every Monday and/or Thursday from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. More information will be given by the respective CCA teachers-in-charge.

PUPIL'S DIARY

The Pupil's Diary 2020 will be given to all students on 2 January 2020, Thursday. Parents/guardians are requested to read the school rules and discipline matters on pages 5 to 12, and sign on page 12 for acknowledgment by 6 January 2020, Monday.

BOOKSHOP

Our bookshop operates from 8.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. every Monday to Friday. During school terms, parents/guardians are **only allowed** to visit the bookshop from 2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. on Monday to Friday and 12.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday.

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES AND SCHOOL CHARGES

We would like to encourage all parents/guardians to sign up for GIRO for all payment of school fees and charges. Alternatively, you may make your payment at the AXS machine or download the AXS app on your mobile phone and pay via the app.

We would like to encourage all parents/guardians to sign up for GIRO for all payment of schools fees, costs of enrichment programme and CCA attire. Alternatively, you may make your payment at the AXS machine or download the AXS app on your mobile phone and pay via the app.

PARENTS GATEWAY

Since 2019, we have started to send communications from school to parents through Parents Gateway (PG). If you have not come onboard, we strongly encourage you to do so as the school will stop issuing hardcopy letters or send SMS to parents/guardians. Only those who are unable to join PG will continue to receive hardcopy letters and SMS from school.

To ensure that you receive timely updates of any communication that is issued by the school on PG, please ensure that you allow notifications on the PG app on your mobile phone. Here are the steps to allow notifications:

- 1) Go to Settings > Notifications
- 2) Select "Parents Gateway" app
- 3) Switch on "Allow Notifications" or Turn on "Notifications" under the PG app

MOE has further enhance the PG app to allow parents to have the option to turn on email notifications. This feature will trigger alert when there is a new message sent by PG. Parents would still need to log in to the PG app to view the entire message (announcements/consent forms) and respond to consent forms. Please go to Profile under the PG app, at the email notifications tab, turn on to receive the emails notifications.


CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES FOR TERM 1

The key activities for Term 1 can be found in the attached Annex A.

We hope this termly update is useful for you. Please feel free to contact us at 62410417 or email us at oepe@moe.edu.sg, should you need further clarifications.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,



Mdm Loe Lai Pink
Principal

Annex A

Calendar of Events for 2020 Term 1		
Date	Events/Programme	Level
2 Jan (Thurs) – 3 Jan (Fri)	First Week of School Orientation <i>Time-table will be suspended.</i>	All Levels
9 Jan (Thurs)	P1 and P6 School Smart Card Photo Taking <i>P1 and P6 pupils are required to come in their school uniform.</i>	P1 and P6
13 Jan (Mon) to 9 Mar (Mon)	P3 SwimSafer Programme*	P3
15 Jan (Wed)	Curriculum Briefing for all Parents (after school hours)*	All Levels
16 Jan (Thurs)	Temperature Taking Exercise <i>P1 pupils will be given a thermometer. P2 to P6 pupils are required to bring their own thermometer.</i>	All Levels
16 Jan (Thurs) to 17 Jan (Fri)	National Library Board (NLB) Books2Go (English Books) <i>Students are to bring their Ezlink or NLB library cards if they would like to borrow the library books. Please note that these books are to be returned to any NLB Public Library by their due date.</i>	All Levels
21 Jan (Tues)	P4 museum-based lesson*	P4
21 Jan (Tues) to 31 Jan (Fri)	Student Health Screening Exercise*	All Levels
24 Jan (Fri)	Chinese New Year Celebrations <i>School dismissal is at 10.30 a.m.</i>	All Levels
25 Jan (Sat) to 26 Jan (Sun)	Chinese New Year (Public Holiday)	All Levels
27 Jan (Mon)	Public Holiday In-Lieu	All Levels
28 Jan (Tues)	School Holiday <i>All students do not report to school.</i>	All Levels
6 Feb (Thurs) to 7 Feb (Fri)	P4 Digital Maker Programme*	P4
10 Feb (Mon)	Total Defence Day Programme	All Levels

21 Feb (Fri)	P1 Learning Journey to Zoo*	P1
27 Feb (Thurs)	Learning Review for English Language*	P3 to P5
	Continual Assessment for English Language*	P6
28 Feb (Fri)	Learning Review for Mathematics*	P3 to P5
	Continual Assessment for Mathematics*	P6
2 Mar (Mon)	Learning Review for Science*	P3 to P5
	Continual Assessment for Science*	P6
3 Mar (Tues)	Learning Review for Mother Tongue Language*	P3 to P5
	Continual Assessment for Mother Tongue Language*	P6
4 Mar (Wed)	Learning Review for Higher Mother Tongue Language*	P5
	Continual Assessment for Higher Mother Tongue Language*	P6
5 Mar (Thurs)	Class Photo Taking <i>All students are required to come in school uniform.</i>	All Levels
10 Mar (Tues) to 12 Mar (Thurs)	Language Week	All levels
12 Mar (Thurs)	P4 OEPS Championships*	P4
13 Mar (Fri)	Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC) for P6*	P6
16 Mar (Mon) to 22 Mar (Sun)	Term 1 School Holidays	All Levels
17 Mar (Tues)	P3 to P6 Leadership Camp*	P3 to P6 Pupil Leaders
23 Mar (Mon)	School Re-opens for Term 2	All Levels

*More details will be provided at a later date.