

1 February 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy Lunar New Year to you and your family!

In the midst of the festive celebration, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for partnering the school in providing a safe and secure environment for our students.

### **1. Chinese New Year Celebrations**

The school will be having a Chinese New Year Celebration on Friday, 9 February 2024. The reporting time for the students will be as usual at 7.30 a.m. and dismissal time will be at 10.45 a.m. on that day. Students may come to school dressed in Chinese ethnic attire with school shoes or P.E. attire.

Please note that Monday, 12 February 2024 is public holiday and Tuesday, 13 February 2024 is a school holiday. All students will report back to school on Wednesday, 14 February 2024.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Chinese students and families a happy and prosperous Lunar New Year.

### **2. Commemoration of the Total Defence Day (TDD) on Thursday, 15 February 2024**

2024 marks 40 years of Total Defence (TD40) in Singapore. As part of our commemoration of TD40 this year, our students will experience a **food disruption simulation** in school on Thursday, 15 February 2024.

This TD40 Exercise aims to prepare students for potential disruptions to our food supply chain due to climate change, protectionism, or geopolitical tensions etc., given Singapore's reliance on food imports.

Please note that the canteen will not serve any form of meat (e.g., chicken, fish, pork, beef, mutton and seafood) on that day to encourage students to be flexible in food choices and be open to protein alternatives in the event of such disruptions. Following the exercise, students will reflect on their experience and share their thoughts and feelings with their classmates through a guided discussion.

Parents/Guardians may wish to engage your child/ward in sharing his/her experience with you and reinforce the important notion that everyone has a part to play in Singapore's Total Defence effort. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mr Jason Tan via [tan\\_wei\\_jian@schools.gov.sg](mailto:tan_wei_jian@schools.gov.sg).

Thank you for your continued support for Total Defence. Together We Keep Singapore Strong!

### **3. Cohort Programmes**

- **Support and Stretch Programmes**

To support our students in their academic subjects, small group teaching (SGT) for Primary 3 to 6 identified students have commenced in January. The intent of SGT is to provide targeted support to a small group of students to address their learning gaps and reinforce specific concepts or skills. SGT is a term-based support programme and in every term, a fresh batch of students will be identified based on their needs. Those whose learning gaps have been closed will graduate from the programme.

To stretch our students and develop their interest in Mathematics and Science, Excellence 2000 (E2K) programme for the Primary 4 and 5 identified students will commence in February. The intent of E2K is to develop in our students the habits, attitudes and dispositions a mathematician/scientist possess.

If your child/ward has been selected for E2K or SGT, you will receive a letter from the school via the Form Teacher or Parents Gateway (PG) for your consent. We seek your support in ensuring that your child/ward attends these lessons that have been planned for them by the school.

- **P4 Museum-based Learning Journey**

Since 2018, all primary school students visit a museum as part of a refreshed Art education syllabus aimed at making learning more authentic and for exposure to Singaporean art. National Gallery Singapore is one of the museums nominated by the Ministry of Education for the museum-based learning programme.

All primary school students will get to visit a museum as part of their Art classes. They will learn about Singapore's heritage and cultures and get to share their thoughts and hear others' perspectives. A recommended list of artworks by local and international artists has also been included in the new Art syllabus so that the students can develop an awareness of Singaporean art.

The experience has a greater focus on visual inquiry skills – observation and interpretation – and reflecting on artwork through activities and discussions facilitated by a National Gallery Singapore education facilitator. More details will be sent in a separate letter via PG.

- **P5 Social Studies Learning Journey to Indian Heritage Centre**

As part of the refreshed Character and Citizenship Education curriculum, the Primary 5 students will be embarking on a half-day learning journey to Indian heritage Centre between Thursday, 1 February 2024 and Wednesday, 6 March 2024.

This learning journey is one of the key Student Development Experiences for primary school students which supports their learning in Social Studies, as they deepen their understanding of the heritage and culture of the Indian communities in Singapore beyond the classroom context. The museum-based learning experiences will be guided and facilitated by specially trained museum educators using various artefacts in the museum.

More information has been provided via Parents Gateway.

- **P5 Outdoor Adventure Camp at Singapore Discovery Centre**

The P5 Outdoor Adventure Camp, 'Dare to Dream!', is one of the most memorable milestones that a Horizon student will experience. The camp provides students with authentic learning opportunities beyond the classroom walls and allows them to build character as well as deepen values such as resilience and independence. Through the intentionally designed shared camping experience, students will also get to forge greater camaraderie and form stronger bonds with their peers and teachers.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents/guardians of P5 students for your unwavering support in the holistic development of your child/ward. We look forward to an amazing P5 Outdoor Adventure Camp from Thursday, 29 February 2024 to Saturday, 2 March 2024. More information will be provided at a later date via Parents Gateway on the P5 Outdoor Adventure Camp.

#### **4. Social Responsibility**

As a leadership school, we are committed in developing our students to be responsible citizens and practise good personal hygiene and social responsibility. If your child/ward is unwell, do take him/her to the doctor and keep him/her at home until he/she recovers fully.

Your partner-in-education

Mrs Ong Hui Khim  
Principal