



NORTHOAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Letter to Parents 01/2018

4 January 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians

Northoaks Primary School warmly welcomes all our students to the start of a new school year. I hope you and your child have had a pleasant holiday together, enjoying each other's company.

To our Primary 1 students and their parents, we are happy to have you and your child as members of our big family.

New Staff

We also warmly welcome the following staff to the Northoaks family:

- ❖ English-medium teachers:
 - Mdm Noor Alinah bte Ismail (School Staff Developer)
 - Mrs Lim Mei Leng (Assistant Year Head)
 - Mrs Cynthia Mable James (Senior Teacher – Music)
 - Mrs Amy Ong
 - Mrs Cheryl Chua
 - Ms Faith Yee Xue Ying
 - Mrs Jong-Bin Wern Hwei
 - Mrs Siva-Lim Hui San
 - Mr Muhammad Ghafur Bin Abdul Sukor
 - Mr Ng Chan Siong

STUDENT'S WELL-BEING

Temperature-taking Exercise – Friday, 5 January

The first temperature-taking exercise is scheduled on **Friday, 5 January**. This routine exercise will serve to educate the students on the need to take personal responsibility for their own health and social responsibility for the health of others.

All Primary 1 students will be given an Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) and will be taught how to use it in preparation for the exercise. The thermometers will be kept by the Form Teacher after this first exercise for the year. The ODTs will only be issued once to the child.

As for the Primary 2 to 5 students, the ODTs have been returned to them. We would like to seek your assistance in ensuring that your child brings his/her personal ODT (in working condition) on the day mentioned.

Photo-Taking for students for the School Smart Cards – Thursday, 25 January (For Primary 1 students only)

The Ministry of Education will be conducting the yearly photo-taking exercise for all students in Primary 1 for the issuance of the School Smart Card (SSC). Primary 1 students will get their SSCs tentatively by end-March 2018.

The photo-taking session is scheduled on **Thursday, 25 January** in the school. Students will need to be in their **school uniform** for the photo-taking. (Note: If they have PE lessons on that day, they **DO NOT** need to put on their PE attire. Instead, students will wear the school uniform.)

Morning Assembly and Lunch Time

The school would like to reiterate that students will only need to be in school **by 7.40am**. Parents/Guardian may wish to take your child/ward to the school between 7.25am to 7.40am and not any earlier.

Please also have a story book for your child/ward to read during the morning silent reading time (Monday to Wednesday: English Language Books, Thursday & Friday: Mother-Tongue Languages Books).

As stated in the Student's Handbook, students will be dismissed at 2.30pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. The Primary 1, 2 and 3 students will have their lunch break at 12.30pm while the lunch break for Primary 4 and 5 students will be at 1pm. Parents who wish to bring lunch for their child could pass it to their child at the school gate at the times given.

On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, please pack a light snack (preferably dried food) for your child/ward to be consumed in the classroom at around 12 noon. Children are not allowed to leave the classrooms to purchase food from the canteen.

Insurance

MOE has engaged NTUC Income to provide Basic Student Protection Plan for 2018 for all students of the school. The plan will cover all related-school activities, including co-curricular activities carried out in the school as well as outside school. The cost of the student protection plan will be fully borne by the school. Details of the Plan can be found in the information sheet attached.

Student Well-Being Form and Students' Well-being

To enable the school to provide necessary support to your child/ward, we seek your assistance in providing us with the latest information relating to your child/ward. Please complete the Student Well-Being Form and Individual Student Details Report Form which will be distributed to your child/ward and submit them to the Form Teacher, through your child/ward, **by Monday, 8 January**.

If there are any updates to the information especially changes to phone numbers and addresses, it would be very much appreciated that you notify the Form Teacher as soon as possible.

For children who come to school without breakfast and would like to have their breakfast in the school, the drinks and snack stall will sell simple healthy sandwiches for breakfast. The stall will open at around 7.15 am.

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Modes of Communication

The school believes that communication between parents and school is very important. Hence, in this issue of the school's newsletter, the various modes of communication available to you are shared.



Student's Handbook

- The Student's Handbook contains important information regarding the school such as school rules, school hours and school contact.
- Your child may record homework or other information in the handbook.
- You and your child's teachers could write to one another through this handbook. Your child should alert his/her teacher if there is a written message from you to the teacher.

Tip for parents:

Make it a daily routine to go through the handbook to monitor your child's homework or whether there is a message from his/her teacher. Teach your child to use the timetable for packing of his/her schoolbag.



Telephone: 6753 8835

- This is the telephone number of our General Office. Should you wish to call a teacher, it is best to leave a message at the General Office as teachers are very likely to be in class and not at the Staff Room to answer your call. Appointments should also preferably be made in advance instead of just walking into the school to meet up with the teacher.
- Please understand that the teachers will do their best to return your call as soon as possible but as they have teaching duties during curriculum time and meetings outside of curriculum time, they might not be able to return your call immediately. Do specify if there is something urgent to talk to the teacher when you contact the school.



Email: northoaks_ps@moe.edu.sg

- This is the generic email address of the school. Please give the school 3 working days to respond to you.



SNAC™

- From time to time, you will be receiving letters/newsletters from the school via SNAC™, a smartphone APP solution. The school may require an acknowledgement from you so that we know that you have read the letter(s). These letters will keep you informed of what is happening in the school as well as upcoming events so that you could make alternative transport or childcare arrangements, if needed.
- Sometimes, this could be seeking your consent for an out-of-school learning journey. If we do not receive a written approval from you, your child would not be able to join his/her classmates on such learning journeys.
- Please note that only **ONE** parent will be informed via SNAC™.



School website: <http://www.northoakspri.moe.edu.sg>

- Alternatively, you could access the school website to refer to past issues of the newsletter.
- The school website also gives you updates on school programmes and events.



SMS Notification System

- At times you may also receive updates and reminders through the SMS notification system. To be cost effective, only one parent will be informed via SMS.

Involvement in Child’s Education

As a parent, you are the key navigator of your child’s growth. Your child will benefit the most when we put your child at the heart of what we do, and when we understand our shared responsibilities for your child and work together to bring out the best in your child.

Here are some tips that you could consider to support your child’s learning:

- Praise your child’s good efforts, and not only his/her successes.
- Don’t dwell on mistakes and academic marks. Rather, always encourage your child to strive for improvement.
- Give your child the confidence to seek help from his/her teacher.

School Name Tags

Name tags are compulsory on the school attire: school blouse for the girls, school shirts for the boys and PE T-shirts. They are to be sewn on the blouse / shirt just above the pocket or school crest on the PE T-shirt. For students who do not have the woven name tags, please order the name tags directly with the school bookshop.

Breakfast with Parents (7.30am to 8.00am)

Breakfast with Parents@Northoaks provides opportunities for parents to have some bonding time with their child while having breakfast together in the school. Parents may bring food in to the school and eat with your child or purchase simple food from our canteen vendors. For safety reasons, parking in the school will **NOT** be available. We seek your understanding on this matter and we look forward to your participation.

For Primary 1, 2 and 3, this is a monthly activity (on different days). As for the Primary 4 and 5, the activity will be held once every 2 months but on a different day from Primary 1, 2 and 3.

The schedule of ‘Breakfast with Parents’ for the first 3 months is as follows:

Primary 1	3 Jan (Welcome Breakfast)	8 Feb 2018	8 Mar 2018
Primary 2	23 Jan 2018	6 Feb 2018	23 Mar 2018
Primary 3	25 Jan 2018	22 Feb 2018	22 Mar 2018
Primary 4	19 Jan 2018		9 Mar 2018
Primary 5	16 Jan 2018		20 Mar 2018

School Holidays 2018

In order for your child not to miss out on his/her school lessons, we seek parents’ understanding and cooperation in taking your child on overseas holidays only during the school holidays. To help you in your planning, we have included the school vacations in this issue.

The 4 school vacation periods are as follows:

Between Terms I & II :	Sat 10 Mar to Sun 18 Mar
Between Semesters I & II :	Sat 26 May to Sun 24 Jun
Between Terms III & IV :	Sat 1 Sep to Sun 9 Sep
At end of School Year :	Sat 17 Nov to Mon 31 Dec

Calendar of Events for Term 1

Date	Event
Wednesday, 3 Jan	Welcome Breakfast and Curriculum Briefing for Primary 1 Parents (in the morning)
Thursday, 25 Jan	For Primary 1 only Photo-Taking for School Smart Card (all students are to wear their school uniform).
Wednesday, 17 Jan	Start of Co-Curricular activities (CCA) for Primary 4 and Primary 5
Wednesday, 7 Feb	Start of Modular Co-Curricular activities (CCA) for Primary 3
Thursday, 15 Feb	Chinese New Year Celebration (School will end at 10 a.m.)
Friday, 16 Feb	Chinese New Year (Public Holiday)
Saturday, 17 Feb	Chinese New Year (Public Holiday)
Monday, 19 Feb	Chinese New Year (Scheduled School Holiday, off-day in-lieu)
Term 1 School Vacation – Sat 10 Mar to Sun 18 Mar 2018	

CURRICULUM MATTERS

Higher Mother-Tongue Classes for Primary 5

These classes are only for students taking the subject and will start in Term 1 on Mondays from 2.30 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. A separate letter for the Primary 5 students will be issued.

Supplementary Classes for Primary 5

The Primary 5 supplementary classes will be scheduled on Tuesdays from 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. A separate letter for the Primary 5 students will be issued.

Sports Enrichment Programme for Primary 2 – Inline Skating

The optional enrichment programme will start in Term 1 on Mondays from 2.45pm to 4.15pm. A separate letter for the Primary 2 students will be issued.

Sports Education Programme for Primary 1 – Wushu-Silat Exposure

The optional enrichment programme will start in Term 3 (after the June holidays) on Mondays from 2.45pm to 4.15pm. A separate letter for the Primary 1 students will be issued at a later date.

Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) for Primary 4 & 5 and Modular CCA for Primary 3

Co-curricular activities are not compulsory for primary school students. However, to enable our children to experience a holistic education, the school strongly encourages all students to participate in a CCA. CCA will be carried out on **Wednesdays from 2.45 pm to 4.15 pm** for Primary 3 to 5 students. Primary 4 students will be issued with a CCA option form by this week whereas a separate letter for the Primary 3 and 5 students will be issued.

Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise 2018 for Primary 3 Students

The GEP Identification Exercise aims to identify suitable students with high intellectual potential. Test-preparation activities could inflate students' scores and not reflect their actual potential. Students who are not ready to handle the intellectual rigour and demands of the programme will struggle with the enriched curriculum and not benefit fully from it.

The tentative schedule for the two stages of the GEP Identification Exercise 2018 is given below:

(a) GEP Screening Exercise (English Language and Mathematics)	Friday, 24 August
<u>Shortlisted students</u> are invited to participate in the Selection Exercise: (b) GEP Selection Exercise (English Language, Mathematics and General Ability)	Tuesday, 16 October and Wednesday, 17 October

More information will be provided at a date closer to the exercise.

The staff and I would like to wish you a great year ahead and we look forward to your continuous support.

In partnership with you

Mrs Theresa Hong
Principal

- Injury, illness, disease or Death resulting from complications or related to attacks by venomous or disease transmitting insects, reptiles, amphibians, sea creatures and animals.
- Competitive Sports and Activities of Higher Risks
- Illness, disease or Death from the contracting of pandemic or communicable diseases or viruses, including but not limited to Avian flu, MERS, SARS, Dengue Fever, Ebola, Malaria, Chikungunya, Zika, HFMD and other similar or related diseases or viruses due to and arising from exposure in the insured's school premises or during any school-related activity, whether in Singapore or elsewhere.
- Claims arising directly or indirectly or in consequence of invasion, act of foreign enemy, hostilities, acts of terrorism, civil war, civil unrest, civil commotion, strike, riot, rebellion, revolution, insurrection, mutiny, uprising, military coup or other usurpation of power, confiscation, detention, nationalization, requisition, martial law or state of siege or any events or causes which result in the proclamation or maintenance of martial law or state of siege.

Table 1: Comatose State Benefit Schedule

Duration of Comatose	Schedule of Benefits
At least 3 months	25% of Comatose state benefit
At least 6 months	50% of Comatose state benefit
At least 9 months	75% of Comatose state benefit
At least 12 months	100% of Comatose state benefit

Table 2: Schedule of Benefits for Partial/Total Disability

Schedule of Benefits for Partial/Total Disability	
Permanent Total Disablement	150%
Permanent unsound mind to the extent of loss of legal capacity	100%
Loss of 2 limbs or more	100%
Loss of 1 limb	100%
Loss of both eyes	100%
Loss of 1 eye, except perception of light	75%
Loss of 1 limb and 1 eye	100%
Loss of speech and hearing	100%
Loss of speech	50%
Loss of hearing in both ears	75%
Loss of hearing in 1 ear	25%
Loss of 4 fingers and 1 thumb on 1 hand	70% either Right or Left
Loss of 4 fingers on 1 hand	40% either Right or Left
Loss of 1 thumb (2 phalanges)	30% either Right or Left
Loss of 1 thumb (1 phalange)	15% either Right or Left
Loss of 1 finger (3 phalanges)	10% either Right or Left
Loss of 1 finger (2 phalanges)	7.5% either Right or Left
Loss of 1 finger (1 phalange)	5% either Right or Left
Loss of all toes on 1 foot	15%
Loss of big toe (2 phalanges)	5%
Loss of big toe (1 phalange)	3%
Loss of any one other toe	1%
Fractured leg or patella with established non-union	10%
Shortening of leg by 5cm	7.5%