



Letter to Parents 13/2017

6 February 2017

Dear Parents / Guardians

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

1. Total Defence Day 2017

The school will be commemorating Total Defence Day on Monday, 13 February. This year, the theme for Total Defence Day (TDD) is "Together We Keep Singapore Strong". Singapore has remained safe and peaceful over the past 51 years because of the efforts of all Singaporeans. This is essentially Total Defence. Total Defence remains relevant because the threats faced today require all Singaporeans to step up and play their part. Our youths are encouraged to put Total Defence into action in their daily lives by reaching out to one another, forging new relationships and strengthening existing ones to keep Singapore strong and resilient because our greatest strength lies in the unity and resilience of our people.

The school will be conducting a series of activities including assembly talk, exhibitions during recess times, classroom activities between 13 February and 17 February, and **a food rationing exercise on Wednesday, 15 February.**

All students are strongly encouraged to participate in the food rationing exercise. The school hopes to provide students with the experience of appreciating the importance of food and safety in the event of an emergency or a crisis. Hence, the canteen will be providing sweet potato porridge for all students for recess on that day and no payment is required for recess. We strongly encourage students not to bring packed food and drinks during their recess unless they have any medical conditions or specific diet. For those with specific diet, parents may pack food for their child. Otherwise, we seek your cooperation and support in this meaningful activity.

In addition, all students will only need to have their water bottles with them. After the exercise, students will be led to reflect on the importance and significance of the exercise. Together, we can keep the spirit of resilience strong.

Parents may also wish to note that lunch for that day will resume as usual.

2. Briefing for Parents of Primary 1 Students – Friday, 10 March

The school strongly believes that building a positive and an effective partnership with parents will bring out the best in every child. At this briefing, the parents/guardians will get to understand the key focus of the Lower Primary Education, the Holistic Assessment for Primary 1 students and changes to the PSLE scoring system. The briefing will begin at 8.20am and end around 10am so that the parents / guardians can join their child/ward for recess (at 10am). For safety reasons, parking will not be available in the school.

Please complete the attached reply slip and return it to the Form Teacher through your child **by Friday, 10 February.**

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CURRICULUM MATTERS

3. Holistic Assessment for Primary 1

There will be no examinations for Primary 1. Assessment will be conducted in bite-size to assess students' level of understanding and to assess them holistically. The assessments carried out in Term 1 will not be weighted but merely practices for students to know how holistic assessment is carried out. Please refer to the attachment for details of the assessment plan for Semester 1 (more details will be shared at the briefing on 10 March 2017).

4. Holistic Assessment and Semestral Assessment 2 (SA2) for Primary 2

Holistic Assessment will be carried out from Term 1 to Term 3. In Term 4, all Primary 2 students will sit for the formal SA2 examinations. Please refer to the attachment for details of the assessment plan for Semester 1.

5. Assessment for Primary 3 and Primary 4

There will be no Continual Assessments (CA) for the Primary 3 and 4 students in Term 1 and Term 3. Instead, tests / performance tasks will be conducted for them. In Term 2 and Term 4, all Primary 3 and 4 students will sit for the formal SA1 and SA2 examinations respectively. Please refer to the attachment for details of the assessment plan for Semester 1.

6. SwimSafer Programme for Primary 3

SwimSafer is a national water safety programme in Singapore. The programme aims to teach swimming proficiency and water survival skills to children in a fun manner.

SwimSafer will be carried out in Term 2 during the PE periods. More details on the programme will be given at a later date.

STUDENTS' WELL-BEING

7. Road Safety of Students

We would like to seek your cooperation to work with the school in ensuring the safety of students coming to and leaving the school. This is especially important as young children may not have skills required to use roads properly and do not always fully appreciate the dangers presented. Their small physique also makes them less visible to motorists.

This newsletter reiterates the road safety policies of the school:

- a. LTA has implemented various safety measures to make school zones safer, including a new road sign that requires motorists to slow down when its lights are flashing. The new sign comprises three smaller signs, a *'children ahead, school zone' sign*, a *'40km/h' speed limit sign*, and a *'when lights flash' sign with a pair of alternating amber lights*. Motorists are required to reduce their speeds to 40km/h or under when amber lights on the road sign flash during school peak hours. Motorists are advised to stay alert for pedestrians in the school zone.
- b. Cooperate with traffic marshals to ensure overall safety and smooth traffic flow.
- c. Let your child alight only at the designated drop-off point.
- d. Be advised not to violate traffic rules by driving recklessly or making illegal maneuvers such as turning into the school from the outer lane(s) of the road.

- e. Do not horn indiscriminately.
- f. Help your child alight from the car on the side nearest to the kerb as quickly as possible.
- g. Reinforce correct road safety behaviour such as using the pedestrian crossings, and avoiding jaywalking or using a mobile phone while crossing.
- h. Remind your children to practise the kerb drill before crossing - “look right, look left, look right again, ensure all vehicles have stopped, raise your hand high up and cross the road briskly”.
- i. If your child must cycle to school, ensure that he knows safe cycling rules and is a competent cyclist.

We thank all parents and guardians who have been the role models for our children.

8. Fire Drill

As it is necessary to prepare our students in times of emergencies, the school will conduct a fire drill on one of the school days in February 2017. During the drill, students under the guidance of their teachers, will move out of their classrooms and assemble in a designated area in the school. The school will take all necessary precautions / measures to ensure the safety of our students.

9. Use of Students' Photographs

The school would like to seek your approval in using your child's/ ward's photographs in our publicity materials. The photographs may appear in our website, brochures, publications and banners. The school would like to seek your consent of the use of your child's/ ward's photographs by completing the attached consent form.

In partnership with you

Mrs Theresa Hong
Principal



NORTHOAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Briefing for Primary 1 Parents Parent Reply Slip

(To be submitted to Form Teacher by Friday, 10 February 2017)

Name of Student: _____

Class: P1 - _____

Please tick (✓) the appropriate box.

Briefing for Primary 1 Parents

Date: **Friday, 10 March 2017**

Time: **8.20 am**

Venue: **Hall**

I will be attending the Briefing for Primary 1 Parents
No. of persons attending: _____ (please let us know so that we could
look into the seating capacity)

I am unable to attend the Briefing for Primary 1 Parents

Signature of *Parent / Guardian

(*Please delete where applicable)

Date

(Form Teacher to collect reply slips and submit to Office)



NORTHOAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Approval for Use of Students' Photographs

Please tick:

- I allow my child's /ward's photographs to be featured in the school publicity materials and publications.

- I do not allow my child's /ward's photographs to be featured in the school publicity materials and publications.

Name of Child/ Ward: _____ () Class: _____

Name of *Parent/Guardian : _____

Signature of *Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____
*(*Please delete where applicable)*

**Primary 1
Holistic Assessment Calendar 2017 (T1-T2)**

Date(s)	Term 1 (0% for each Subject)
14 Feb (Tue)	English Language (EL) Listening Comprehension
17 Feb (Fri)	Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Listening Comprehension
From 20 Feb to 23 Feb*	EL Reading Aloud
24 Feb (Fri)	Mathematics Mini Test 1
27 Feb (Mon)	EL Mini Test 1
3 Mar (Fri)	MTL Mini Test 1
Date(s)	Term 2 (30% for each Subject)
7 Apr (Fri)	Mathematics Mini Test 2 (10%)
From 10 Apr to 13 Apr*	EL Reading Aloud (5%)
17 Apr (Mon)	EL Mini Test 2 (5%)
From 19 Apr to 21 Apr	MTL Performance Task (10%)
24 Apr (Mon)	EL Listening Comprehension (5%)
27 Apr (Thu)	MTL Listening Comprehension (10%)
From 2 May to 5 May*	EL Poetry Recitation (5%) Mathematics Performance Task 1 (20%)
8 May (Mon)	EL Mini Test 3 (10%)
12 May (Fri)	MTL Mini Test 2 (10%)

Note:

* Your child may be tested on any day within this period.

If your child is unwell on the day of the assessment, he/she will be assessed upon his/her return.

**Primary 2
Holistic Assessment Calendar 2017 (T1-T2)**

Date(s)	Term 1 (10% for each Subject)
14 Feb (Tue)	English Language (EL) Listening Comprehension (5%)
17 Feb (Fri)	Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Listening Comprehension (5%)
24 Feb (Fri)	MTL Mini Test 1 (5%)
27 Feb (Mon)	EL Mini Test 1 (5%)
2 Mar (Thu)	Mathematics Mini Test 1 (10%)
Date(s)	Term 2 (20% for each Subject)
From 10 Apr to 13 Apr*	MTL Performance Task (10%)
From 17 Apr to 21 Apr*	EL Picture Discussion & Reading Aloud (10%)
24 Apr (Mon)	MTL Listening Comprehension (5%)
5 May (Fri)	EL Mini Test 2 (10%)
8 May (Mon)	MTL Mini Test 2 (5%)
From 9 May to 12 May*	Mathematics Performance Task 1 (20%)

Note:

* Your child may be tested on any day within this period.

If your child is unwell on the day of the assessment, he/she will be assessed upon his/her return.

**Primary 3
Holistic Assessment Calendar 2017 (T1-T2)**

Date(s)	Term 1 (20% of SA1, 6% of Overall)
14 Feb (Tue)	Mathematics Mini Test 1
17 Feb (Fri)	English Language (EL) Mini Test 1
From 20 Feb to 24 Feb*	Science Performance Task 1
1 Mar (Wed)	Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Mini Test 1
Date(s)	Term 2 (80% of SA1, 24% of Overall)
17 Apr (Mon)	EL Oral and MTL Oral
24 Apr (Mon)	EL Paper 1
25 Apr (Tue)	MTL Paper 1
26 Apr (Wed)	EL Listening Comprehension MTL Listening Comprehension
3 May (Wed)	EL Paper 2
4 May (Thu)	Mathematics
5 May (Fri)	MTL Paper 2
8 May (Mon)	Science

Note:

* Your child may be tested on any day within this period.

If your child is unwell on the day of the assessment, he/she will be assessed upon his/her return.

**Primary 4
Holistic Assessment Calendar 2017 (T1-T2)**

Date(s)	Term 1 (20% of SA1, 6% of Overall)
17 Feb (Fri)	English Language (EL) Mini Test 1
From 20 Feb to 24 Feb*	Science Performance Task 1
27 Feb (Mon)	Mathematics Mini Test 1
1 Mar (Wed)	Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Mini Test 1
Date(s)	Term 2 (80% of SA1, 24% of Overall)
19 Apr (Wed)	EL Oral and MTL Oral
24 Apr (Mon)	EL Paper 1
25 Apr (Tue)	MTL Paper 1
26 Apr (Wed)	EL Listening Comprehension MTL Listening Comprehension
3 May (Wed)	EL Paper 2
4 May (Thu)	Mathematics
5 May (Fri)	MTL Paper 2
8 May (Mon)	Science

Note:

* Your child may be tested on any day within this period.

If your child is unwell on the day of the assessment, he/she will be assessed upon his/her return.