



COMMZ@BTPS

Jan 2017

A School That Fuels the Hearts and Minds to be Future-Ready

Term 1

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We rounded up a wonderful 2016 with our pupils' contributions to *Music-in-the-City* at Ngee Ann City and *ArtVoice* at Clementi Library. Our pupils have done us proud with an overall of 99.3% passes for the 2016 PSLE. We wish them success as they embark on a new phase in their journey of knowledge, skills and wisdom.

Our 2016 P6 cohort rated the BTPS Total Curriculum, Teaching Practices, School Recognition and School Affect the highest in the Quality of School Experience survey. BTPS will continue to create opportunities and space for our pupils to love learning and develop strong character.

Following the positive feedback from parents in 2016, we have planned sessions for all of you to meet with the school. Please look out for the dates.

Finally, to assist in your planning, we have attached the following:

- Calendar of Events for Semester 1
- School Holidays and tentative examination dates
- Assessment Plan for all levels

We look forward to working together for a meaningful and joyful 2017!

School Leaders

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Annexes

- A Parents' Meeting Suggestion Form
- B Assessment Plan

Other Documents

- Calendar
- Student Details - Report
- Edusave Letter for Singaporeans
- CCA Letter

Important Notes

1) TEMPERATURE-TAKING EXERCISE

In order to maintain schools' preparedness for the temperature-taking regime and ensure that all new pupils are familiar with it, we will be conducting a temperature-taking exercise on **Friday, 6 January 2017**.

All P1 pupils will receive their thermometers on Thursday. P2-P6 pupils had been issued thermometers earlier and will have to buy their own replacements should they have misplaced theirs.

Please ensure that your child brings his/her personal thermometer for the temperature-taking exercise and ensure that it is in working condition. The Form Teachers will check on the condition of the thermometers on **Thursday, 5 January 2017**.

2) EDUSAVE STANDING ORDER (for Singaporean Pupils)

To save parents the trouble of signing and returning the Edusave withdrawal authorisation form multiple times a year, MOE is introducing the Edusave Enrichment Programme Standing Order. We seek your support in signing up as this will also reduce administrative work for our staff. We will continue to seek your consent before any programme, without which no Edusave withdrawals will be made. Thank you.

FOCUS AREA: SAFETY FOR ALL / ALL FOR SAFETY

ROAD SAFETY

The safety of our pupils using the roads around the school is the responsibility of all.

1)Traffic Control

To facilitate the flow of traffic along Lorong Kismis which is a two-way single lane road, BTPS has put in place security officers and staff at designated points to assist you.

We need your support to heed the directions given during the school arrival and dismissal time.

2) Arrival Time

Long queues on Lorong Kismis usually build up around 7.15 a.m. To ease traffic conditions, please observe the following when dropping off your child at the foyer.

- * Teach your child to alight safely and swiftly
- * Drive to the very end of the porch area if possible
- * Refrain from alighting to assist your child

Upon leaving the school, turn LEFT only.

3) Dismissal Time

If you are picking up your child, please park at appropriate areas so as not to inconvenience other road users. We work closely with LTA to enforce traffic rules.

Please note the dismissal times below:

Days with no extra activities	Mon/Tues/Thur Wednesday Friday	1.30pm 1.00pm 12.30pm
CCA Days (except for Band)	Tuesday Thursday	4pm
*After School Classes (P4-P6)	Monday	4pm
HMT Classes (P5-P6)	Tuesday	4pm

*Note that Supplementary Lessons are now called After School Classes.

SAFETY IN SCHOOL

Recess Time

To improve safety for our younger pupils, all levels have their designated area for play during recess. P1 and P2 pupils are using the blue Netball court. Also remind your child that the Arena is not a play area.

Pupils Who Are Unwell

Last year, 300 pupils visited the Sick Bay feeling sick and many came as early as 7.15 a.m.

Please keep your child at home if he/she complains of being unwell even if the symptoms are unclear. As children are in close contact with one another, they can easily infect the one next to them.

Change in Transport Before Dismissal

We had several mishaps due to last minute requests for a change of transport by parents. Such changes cause confusion and compromise the safety of our children.

Please note that only in times of emergency should you change the pick-up routine of your child. Allow plenty of time - at least an hour - for our staff to locate the teacher and child as the end of school day is the most hectic time of our day.

Request to Deliver Things to Pupils

During school hours, let us work together to minimise the number of people entering the school.

Please support our efforts to teach our children to be responsible. If they have forgotten their lunch money, please teach your child to borrow money from their teacher or the general office.

We strictly recommend that you do not send items like textbook, homework, water bottle etc... Should you wish to do so, note that our staff will only pass them to the pupils during recess to avoid disruption to lessons. Thank you for your support.

FOCUS AREA: SCHOOL-HOME PARTNERSHIP

PARENTS' MEETING

We believe that in helping our pupils to have a positive school experience, partnership with the parents is important. We invite all parents to meet with us.

Primary 1 Day Camp

Parents of P1 pupils, spend the afternoon with your child in BTPS. We will open the canteen for you so that you can order some food together with your child. You will also get to meet the teachers and take part in some fun activities while getting to know the school. To ensure better engagement, we will limit the participation to 1 parent per child.

Details are as follows:

Date: 20 January 2017

Time: 12.00 - 2.30 p.m

Please complete and return **Annex A** to the Form Teacher by Monday, 9 Jan 2017.

Briefing for Parents from P2 to P6

Please join your child's teachers to bond and get to know them better. Details are as follows:

Level	Date /Time
P2: Assessment Matters	Friday 20 Jan 2-4 p.m.
P3: Curriculum Matters	Thursday 19 Jan 2-4 p.m.
P4: Subject-based Banding	Wednesday 18 Jan 2-4 p.m.
P5: PSLE Matters	Tuesday 17 Jan 2-4 p.m.
P6: PSLE Matters	Monday 16 Jan 2-4 p.m.

Please complete and return Annex A to the Form Teacher by Monday 9 Jan 2017.

COMMUNICATION

Many of you have given feedback on your wishes to enhance communication between school, parents and teachers.

Annual Updates of Student Details (P2-P6)

Please confirm your personal details and your child's health updates in the Student Details Report generated by the school and make amendments if needed. Return the form by 9 Jan to the Form Teacher. This is to ensure that we have the updated details for emergencies.

Tok-Tok! Communicator

In 2017, we will be using Tok-Tok! Communicator as an additional communication platform with parents. Tok-Tok! will be used by School Leaders for school matters and Teachers to keep in touch with the class parents or individual parents.

Tok-Tok! is a messaging app which can be downloaded from App Store and Google Play, on iOS and Android devices respectively. For parents who are not using smartphones, you will receive the messages via SMS.

You will be invited to download the app during the Parents' Meetings in January.

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

We value your feedback. Please take the time to make suggestions in the area of Communication.

- What can BTPS communicate more about?
- How often would you like to have updates about your child? What kind of updates do you wish for?
- In what ways can we enhance communication between teachers and parents?

Please use Annex A for your suggestions.

Thank YOU.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF MOVEMENT

We welcome new members to the BTPS family:

Mdm Evelyn Ang: Form Teacher - 1 Compassion

Mr Victor Tan: Form Teacher - 5 Adaptability

Ms Khoo Li Ying - Teacher

At the same time, we thank Mrs Kwan Lay Leng for her invaluable services rendered to the school. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Chinese New Year will be celebrated from 28 to 30 January, (Saturday, Sunday and Monday) which are public holidays. In view of 28 January being on a Saturday, 31 January will be a school holiday.

The school will celebrate Chinese New Year on 27 January, Friday and function from 7.30am to 9.30am. We encourage pupils to wear their ethnic costumes or something festive.

CHINESE NEW YEAR VISITS - P3 (2 Feb 2017)

To foster the school-community relationship and provide an avenue for our students to display the values they have learnt in school, our P3 pupils will visit the residents of Eng Kong Neighbourhood during the Chinese New Year.

TOTAL DEFENCE DAY

The school will commemorate Total Defence Day on 13 February. The theme this year is ***Together We Keep Singapore Strong***. Pupils will be able to explore the theme during assembly and in class.

AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES

In order to cater better to the various needs of our children, BTPS has redesigned the supplementary lessons. Time will be carved out for the following purposes:

- Preparation for School-wide events
- Extension programmes
- Academic programmes with a focus on needs

P6 After School Classes start on 9 Jan and P4-P5 on 6 Feb. Your child will be given a termly After School Classes schedule in Week 2.

A WORD FROM OUR PSG

Dear Fellow Parents

A very Blessed New Year to you all! As the PSG, our primary objective is to promote an active partnership between the staff, students and parents.

The PSG helps BTPS to organise activities to enrich the school life of our children such as weekly Buddy Reading and Story-Telling or events like International friendship Day and Children's Day.

If you are keen to volunteer or be part of our activities or join our mailing list - email us at btps.psg@gmail.com.

Goh Bee Lin

On behalf of PSG Exco

HEALTHY SNACK TIME

To ensure that pupils maintain their energy level in school, BTPS is introducing a short snack time of 5 mins at 12.10 p.m. daily except Fridays. We encourage all pupils to bring a fruit snack to be eaten in class.

The fruit snack can be grapes, a banana, apple slices or some dried fruit. We discourage pupils from bringing snacks such as biscuits or chips as we wish to get them to eat more fruits.

ASSESSMENT

As in 2016, there is **no Continual Assessment** for P1-P5 pupils in 2017. This is to enable the teachers and pupils to have more time for in-depth learning. Bite-size tests will still be conducted so that we can assess how we can help our pupils.

For P6 pupils, in preparation for the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE), the first Continual Assessment is conducted to serve as a milestone check before the end of Term 1. Assessment Plan for all levels are in **Annex B**.