



Commz@BTPS

A SCHOOL THAT FUELS THE HEARTS AND MINDS TO BE FUTURE-READY

Jan – Mar 2022, TERM 1

School Leaders Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the new year of 2022. While the past two years have been challenging, they have also presented us with opportunities to be future-ready. We have found innovative ways to educate our students through home-based learning. We have also explored new ways to work effectively from home. Despite the challenges, we continue to strive for the best and at the same time, keeping a lookout for the well-being of our students and staff.

As the school implements the refreshed curriculum for Character and Citizenship Education, let us empower our students with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to take on opportunities and challenges for the future. We will continue to hone thinking skills and desired learning dispositions through the school-wide pedagogy Inquiry-based Learning – Thinking Routines (IBL-TR) and journaling.

While we exercise vigilance through Safe Management Measures, we also endeavour to build an empathetic and resilient school community. In our Back-to-School Programme, form teachers build a caring and enabling class environment that promotes kindness, empathy and gratitude and fosters positive relationships among students and between teachers and students.

Please continue to check Parents Gateway (PG) app regularly for announcements, and to provide your timely responses when necessary. Your timely responses to the PG messages will keep you updated of our school matters and they will also ease the workload of our teachers in reaching out to you through additional follow-up emails/calls. Please call or email the school if you require technical support for PG app.

Last but not least, we wish our parents, guardians, staff and students a safe and purposeful year ahead.

Yours faithfully,
School Leaders

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A SPOTLIGHT ON...



Home-School Partnerships

Parent-Support Group

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the Parent Support Group (PSG), I would like to express my joy in welcoming all our BTPS parents to the new school year. The PSG is a group of parent volunteers who work alongside the school to enrich the learning environment of our students. We support school activities in various ways and at the same time, help connect the school with BTPS parents.

It has been a tough year for all of us in 2021. However, we managed to get through it and adapted to the new norm. Although we could not hold regular activities due to the Safe Management Measures, we embarked on alternative ways to support the school. We believe the learning journey of our students should not be hampered by the pandemic. In order to achieve this goal, we would like to invite all of you, existing or new parents, to join us! It will be a wonderful experience to be part of our BTPS community and witness how our children thrive!

Thank you and here's wishing everyone an amazing year ahead!

Catherine Hsiao
Chairperson
BTPS PSG

To find out more about the PSG, you can contact us via email or visit our Facebook page:
Email: btps.psg@gmail.com
Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/BTPS.PSGbuzz>

To join the PSG, fill in a form via the QR code or url below.



<https://tinyurl.com/PSG2022>

Safety Matters (Road Safety)

As part of the school's effort in educating pupils on road safety, we would like to seek the cooperation of all parents and guardians, to role model and reiterate the following proper road safety behaviours to your child.

- 1) Use pedestrian crossings, and avoid jaywalking or being distracted with the use of mobile phones or other devices, while crossing the road.
- 2) 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".

For students who are cycling/kick boarding to school, do ensure that they know the safe cycling rules and are competent cyclists/kick boarders. Do inform the form teacher so that we can brief your child on road safety and follow up with an official parental acknowledgement form.

Cyber Wellness

Cyber Wellness (CW) refers to the positive well-being of Internet users. We have a CW programme that equips students with the knowledge and skills to harness the power of ICT for positive purposes, maintain a positive presence in cyberspace and be safe and responsible users of ICT. Students should also be a positive peer influence by harnessing technology for collaboration, learning and productivity, as well as advocating positive use of technology for the good of the community.

Parents play an active role in guiding your child to navigate the cyberspace at home, and we seek your support in reinforcing these three key messages with your child:

1. Respect self and others - Practise asking for consent before posting photos, videos, and details online (including your child's).
2. Practise safe and responsible use - Show your child how to be safe, responsible and respectful online.
3. Be a positive peer influence - The values that guide everyday interactions are applicable online.

Last but not least, be mindful of your child's digital media use (or over-use). You can find useful resources through Parental Control:

<https://go.gov.sg/parental-control-apps>
<https://go.gov.sg/apple-parental-control>
<https://go.gov.sg/android-parental-control>

You may also refer to our school website for CW resources in MOE's ICT connection.

Communication Channels

Student Handbook BT Kit Teachers and parents have found the handbook helpful for sharing reminders or notes. Students should use it as a homework diary and develop responsibility for their own learning.

Teacher Emails and School Office Numbers Our teachers' email addresses and office numbers are available on our school website <https://bukittimahpri.moe.edu.sg> and the school email address is bukittimahps@moe.edu.sg. For urgent matters or if you are unable to reach our teachers during school hours, please call 6466 2863 and the message will be relayed to the teacher on the same day. We seek your kind understanding that our teachers will respond during school days, between 7.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

c. **Parents Gateway** All parents are strongly encouraged to come onboard Parents Gateway. For assistance, call our school main line at 6466 2863.

Important Reminders

Request of Delivery of Items to Students Students may borrow money from the General Office if they have forgotten to bring their recess/lunch money. To avoid disrupting lessons, please do not send items such as textbooks, homework and pencil cases. If you need to send other important items, it will only be collected by your child from the General Office during recess.

Sudden Change of Transport Before Dismissal There were incidents where parents made last-minute requests for the school to inform their child of a change in transport arrangement. This creates confusion for the children, which may compromise their safety and cause delays to the school's dismissal procedure. Do only change the pick-up routine in case of emergencies and give sufficient time for the school to relay the message.

Healthy Snack Time Students enjoy a 5 to 10-minute snack time at 12.10 p.m. daily, except Fridays. The snack should be easy to consume and allows your child to clean up quickly thereafter. Please guide your child in making healthier choices for snack time.

School Attire On days without P.E. lessons, students should wear full school uniform. However, in view of mask-wearing, students are allowed to wear half-uniform (P.E. t-shirt with school shorts or skirt) for comfort, on days without P.E. lessons as well. Please note that P1 and P2 pupils should wear full or half uniform for Term 1 PAL lessons, and come to school in full P.E. attire for Terms 2 to 4 PAL lessons.

Birthday Celebrations In view of Safe Management Measures, the school has stopped holding birthday celebrations at the canteen. Goody bags are also not allowed due to our students' various dietary needs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Movement

We welcome the following new staff to our BTPS family.

1. Mr Ho Boon Huat (HOD Mother Tongue Languages)
2. Ms Josephine Ho (Music Teacher)

At the same time, we would also like to bid farewell and thank Mrs Clarissa Pang for her contributions during her time with the school. We wish her all the best in her future endeavour.

Congratulations

Learning for Life Programme (LLP): Music For Everyone – Building Empathy and Resilience

LLP@BTPS allows our pupils to grow holistically by providing them with platforms of opportunities to pursue their interests beyond school.

Congratulations to Corine Chiong Ke Wei (6G), Isabelle Lee Zi Kay (6RP), Aloysius Sin Shi Xuan (5C) and Kiriel Lim Kai Rui (5RP), members of the BTPS Brass Symphonia, for their successful auditions into the Singapore National Youth Orchestra (SNYO)!

Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise

Every year, the school supports the conduct of GEP Identification Exercise as we believe that every child is special. This exercise aims to identify students with high intellectual potential. For 2022, the tentative schedule for the two stages of GEP Identification Exercise is as follows:

GEP Screening Exercise (English Language and Mathematics) will be conducted during curriculum time on 17 August 2022 (Wednesday).

Only shortlisted pupils will be invited to participate in the subsequent Selection Exercise. GEP Selection Exercise (English Language, Mathematics and General Ability) will take place on 18 & 19 October 2022.

The GEP Screening and Selection Exercises will be based on the Primary 1 to Primary 3 English Language and Mathematics syllabuses.

More details of the GEP Screening Exercise and the coverage of topics will be given in Term 3, 2022.

Canteen Updates

Revised school canteen pricing

Our school works closely with our canteen stallholders to ensure that the food sold is of quality, meets the basic nutritional needs of students and is reasonably priced. As our school canteen stallholders face challenges with rising cost of goods and services, especially with costlier ingredients for healthy meals, it is important that canteen food prices reflect the underlying cost of the food items, while still allowing the stallholders to earn a reasonable profit margin to sustain their businesses.

Based on MOE's engagement with commercial food operators, a sustainable price point at the primary level is \$2.00 per meal to achieve balance between food quality, pricing and business sustainability in the longer term. Therefore, the school has decided, in our regular review of canteen food prices to retain stallholders, to allow our stallholders to raise prices where justifiable. Please refer to the table below for the revised pricing.

	2021	From 2022	Increment
Set Meals (inclusive of fruits)	\$1.80	\$2	Increased by 20 cents per meal
Individual items	Price varies		Increased by 10 cents per item

Values-In-Action

BTPS Clean – Let's go Green

Due to the current Covid situation and Safe Management Measures that the school has put in place, students have been packing food from the canteen in order to have recess in classrooms during alternate weeks. As such, there is significant waste generated from one-time use disposables such as styrofoam boxes, plastic containers, plastic cutlery, and plastic bags. In our efforts to save our environment, we would like to encourage your child to play his/her part in reducing plastic waste by adopting one or more of the following:

- **Bring your own lunch box**
- **Bring your own lunch bag**
- **Bring your own cutlery such as fork and spoon**



With your guidance and support, our students can put their values into action. Let us support them in doing their part for the environment. Together, we can make a difference.

School-wide Events

Level-based events and assessment dates will be communicated through Parents Gateway at a later date.

Date	Event	Details
24 Jan to 28 Jan	P2 to P6 Parents Briefings	Please refer to the Parents Gateway (PG) app for the latest announcements.
24 Jan	Health Week	
31 Jan	Chinese New Year Celebration	
14 Feb	Total Defence Day Commemoration	

Important Dates

Date	Remarks
3 Jan	New Year's Day school holiday
1 – 2 Feb	Chinese New Year public holiday
14 Mar to 18 Mar	Term Break