



31 Oct 2023

Principal's note: Making Informed Choices

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Many schools are empowering students to make informed decisions about their CCA choices, placing a strong emphasis on nurturing their passions and overall growth. Our school has also embraced this approach.

During our recent Primary 2 CCA recruitment session, students had the opportunity to explore various CCA groups through exhibitions and demonstrations. These sessions were led by confident and articulate students who showcased their dedication to their chosen CCAs.

One particularly inspiring example comes from our Chinese Orchestra. It's truly remarkable to witness Primary 6 students who started their CCA journey with little to no knowledge of instruments or music, now demonstrating exceptional musical abilities. This exemplifies the positive impact of our approach, which focuses on nurturing your child's interests and abilities.

Our shift in CCA recruitment is not just about providing opportunities; it's about creating an environment where your child can grow, explore, and develop their passions. We believe in empowering our students to make informed decisions from an early age, whether it's choosing their meals in the canteen when they start Primary 1 or selecting their secondary schools when they reach Primary 6.

We are pleased to share that for 2022 and this year, 100% of our Primary 2 students were able to secure their 1st and 2nd choice of CCAs. Additionally, in 2022, 90% of our Primary 6 students were successfully posted to their 1st and 2nd choice (including DSA) of secondary schools. These experiences build independence and help them develop decision-making skills that will serve them well in their educational journey and beyond.

Our commitment remains unwavering in providing your child with a nurturing and supportive environment that encourages their personal growth and development. As this is the final newsletter of the year, I wish to express my gratitude to parents and guardians for your consistent support and partnership in your child's holistic educational journey. I hope you will be able to enjoy quality time together as a family during this year-end school holidays.

*Honesty in Performance
Pride in Service*

Charles Chan
Principal

1 Children's Day Celebrations

The school celebrated Children's Day on Thursday, 5 October 2023. We organised a carnival filled with a variety of activities. This included a mix of traditional carnival games, arcade games, giant inflatable castles, and an exhilarating obstacle course. Our dedicated team of HPPA Parent Volunteers played an essential role, enthusiastically manning the various booths and ensuring that the students were actively engaged. Their commitment and support were invaluable in making the day a success.

Additionally, a portion of the day was reserved for student-led activities. Here, our students exercised their agency by choosing the activities they most desired, building not only wonderful memories but also stronger class spirit as they collaborated, played, and learned together.

Children's Day 2023 was a wonderful and memorable event, thanks to the collective efforts of our school community, leaving everyone looking forward to next year's celebration.



Enjoying themselves in the bouncy castle



Who will complete the obstacle course first?



Teaming up to earn more points



An intense game of Table Football



Trying to shoot the basketball into the hoop!



Playing at the different game booths



Choosing their tattoo stickers



Eagerly waiting to receive their balloons



Student-led classroom activity



Playing musical chairs together as a class

2 P4 Outdoor Education Learning Journey – Trip Around the Neighbourhood

During the PSLE marking days, our Primary 4 students had the opportunity to embark on an exciting outdoor education adventure that brought their classroom learning to life in the real world. They embarked on a 2km walk around the Ghim Moh estate and the scenic Rail Corridor, allowing them to apply the practical aspects of their curriculum and ensuring a well-rounded education.

Before the trip, students put their outdoor education knowledge acquired during Physical Education (PE) lessons into practice by packing and preparing for the day's outing. This instilled valuable life skills and encouraged independence. During the trip, students applied their observation skills to identify the mathematics used in everyday activities and took notice of the various flowering plants along the routes they explored. After the trip, students utilized their Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills to conduct simple research, enhancing their understanding of the plants they had encountered and extending their learning beyond the classroom walls.

This outdoor excursion deepened their connection with the natural world. As they observed and appreciated the local flora and fauna in their school's neighborhood, students developed a heightened sense of environmental awareness and conservation. This hands-on learning experience enriched their understanding of their surroundings and fostered a holistic perspective on education that transcends textbooks, making it an unforgettable and impactful part of their academic journey.



Students taking a short break to hydrate and pose for a group photo



Students taking photos of the plants along the nature trail in the Rail Corridor.



Students taking pictures of signages with numbers as part of the mathematics task



Group photos to mark the checkpoints along the walk

3 Schedule for the last week of school (13 – 17 November 2023)

The table below outlines the schedule for the last week of school. Please make note of the specific days your child is required to be at school.

Date	Event	Remarks
13 November (Monday)	Deepavali Public Holiday	No school for all students.
14 November (Tuesday)	Makers Day	All Primary 1 to Primary 6 students should attend school as usual.
15 November (Wednesday)	P6 Grad Party	Only Primary 6 students are required to attend school. <i>(More information will be shared with the Primary 6 parents via PG.)</i>
16 November (Thursday)	HPPS Celebrates!	Only prize winners are required to attend school. <i>(More information will be shared with the parents of prize winners via PG.)</i>
17 November (Friday)	School Admin Day	No school for all students.

4 Inclusive Insights - Celebrating Abilities, Enhancing Differences

Purple Parade

The Purple Parade is Singapore's largest movement advocating for inclusion and celebrating the capabilities of Persons with Disabilities. With strong support from the Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) and a diverse coalition of organizations, its mission is to ensure their equal participation in all aspects of Singapore's growth. The event features inspiring concerts and a vibrant carnival, with proceeds from carnival coupons benefiting Disability Organizations partaking in the parade.

Let's Celebrate!

Date: Saturday, 4 November 2023
Location: Suntec City
Time: Starting at 3 PM
Attire: Wear anything in **purple!**

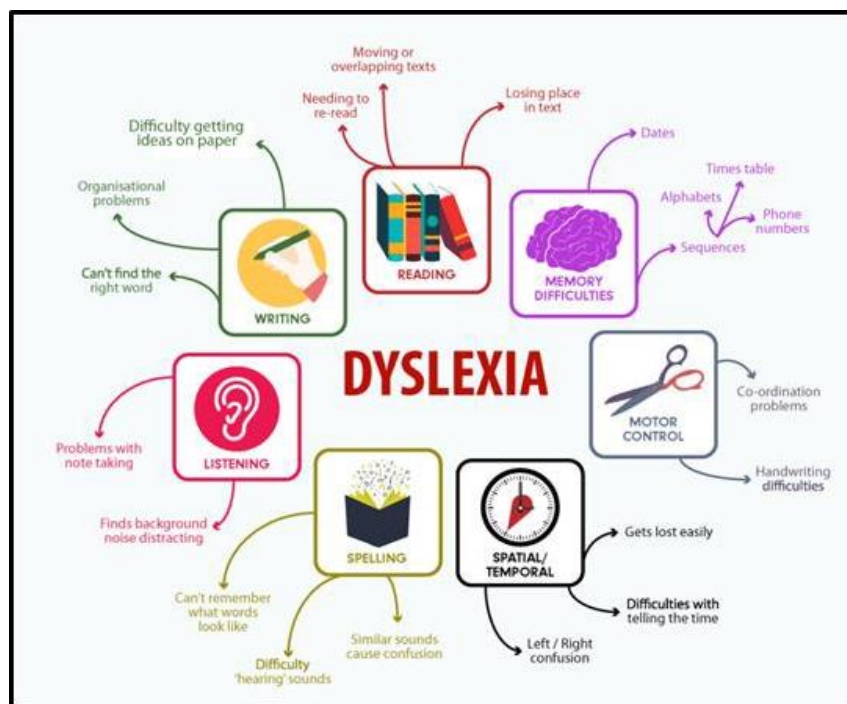
For additional details, please visit: <https://www.purpleparade.sg/>

In conjunction with Purple Parade, we aim to enhance awareness about one of the hidden learning disabilities. Do bring your family and child(ren) to the event. Together, we can raise awareness and embrace inclusivity in Singapore.

Dyslexia: Unveiling Hidden Challenges

Understanding Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a hidden disability thought to affect around 10% of the population, 4% severely. It ranks as the most common among Specific Learning Differences (SpLDs). Frequently hereditary; dyslexia manifests as students mixing up letters within words and sentences during reading. They also grapple with spelling words accurately, with letter reversals being a common occurrence. Yet, dyslexia is not limited to literacy, as it encompasses other aspects beyond its most visible signs.



Retrieved from: https://das.org.sg/images/About_dyslexia/ilearndifferently-2022.pdf

Dyslexia Myths

MYTH	FACT
<i>Everyone with dyslexia has letter reversals (Eg. p / q and b / d)</i>	Backward writing and letter reversals are common in young children learning to write, whether they have dyslexia or not and it is a concern if it continues beyond eight years of age.
<i>He can't have dyslexia because he can read.</i>	Individuals with dyslexia can read but encounter limitations such as processing speech sounds and thus they cope by memorizing, recognizing words by shape or by guessing from the first letter.
<i>All children with dyslexia must go to a special school</i>	Students with mild to severe dyslexia can excel in the mainstream classroom with the necessary support (coping strategies/professional intervention).

For more information about dyslexia & risk assessment testing, please visit the **Dyslexia Association of Singapore (DAS)** website: <https://www.das.org.sg/news-events/das-events/dyslexia-screening.html>

5 Revised School Fees for Non-Citizens in Government and Government-Aided Schools for 2024 to 2026

As announced by MOE on Wednesday, 18 October 2023, the school fees for Singapore permanent residents and international students in Government and Government-Aided schools will be increased over the next three years (i.e. 2024 – 2026), as part of MOE's regular review of school fees. The revised fees in the table below will take effect from January each year. Singapore Citizen students in primary schools do not need to pay monthly school fees.

Nationality	2023 (Current)	2024	2025	2026
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Permanent Resident	255	280	305	330
International Student (ASEAN)	520	545	570	595
International Student (Non-ASEAN)	885	935	985	1,035

MOE has announced in July 2023 that the standard and second-tier miscellaneous fee for students of all nationalities will be merged into a single tier from 2024 (see table below). For more information on the single-tier miscellaneous fee, please refer to: www.moe.gov.sg/news/press-releases/20230705-enhancements-to-edusave-and-moe-financial-assistance-scheme-to-benefit-350000-students-in-government-and-government-aided-schools

Miscellaneous Fee for all Nationalities (Per Month)	Current Standard Miscellaneous Fee	Current Maximum Second-Tier Miscellaneous Fee	New Single-Tier Miscellaneous Fee (from 1 January 2024)
Primary	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$13

6 New school polo T-shirt

Singapore is experiencing increasing and prolonged hot spells throughout the year. As part of our school's continued efforts to help your child better manage the heat, we have worked with our uniform vendor to change the material of our school polo T-shirt. The T-shirt design will remain unchanged.

The new school polo T-shirt will be made of Dri-fit material (Cool Max – mix of 40% cotton and 60% polyester). The smaller sizes (26 to 36) will be available for sale at the end of this year while the larger sizes (38 and above) will be made progressively available at the start of 2024.

It is not compulsory for your child to buy the new school polo t-shirt if he/she is comfortable wearing his/her current uniform. There is a minimal increase in the price of our new school polo t-shirt. The school uniform price list for 2024 ([Annex A](#)) is attached for your information.

7 HPPS Celebrates! (Prize Presentation)

We will have our prize presentation ceremony on Thursday, 16th November 2023 for our prize-winners and their invited guests. This year we have diversified our school awards to celebrate more of our students' strengths and character qualities. We recognise that some of our students possess character strengths and traits that we want to acknowledge in their 6 years in HPPS. Hence, we want to affirm our students' diverse achievements holistically in both academic and non-academic domains with a wider selection of school awards. During the reception, we will be staging pockets of performances by selected CCA groups. There will also be photo booths especially setup for you to capture this precious moment with your child(ren) and friends. Do bring along your cameras and/or handphones as there will not be instant printing of photos at the on-site photo booths available.

There is no school on Thursday, 16 November 2023 for students who are not involved in this event. More information will be shared with the parents of prize winners via PG.

8 Eat With Your Family Day – 17 November 2023

"Eat with Your Family Day" (EWYFD) is a nation-wide initiative led by the Centre For Fathering and supported by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), to encourage all Singaporeans to consciously set aside time that day to be with their families. Through the simple practice of having a family meal, we hope the event will serve as a reminder to families to eat together regularly.

HPPS and our Student Care Centre (SCC-ProTeach) will support this and would like to inform our parents that Friday, 17 November 2023 is the date set aside for this term. Please note that on that day, the General Office and SCC will close by 5.00pm. We seek the co-operation of our parents to make the necessary arrangement and enjoy a day with your family.

For more information on the EWYFD initiative, please refer to <http://fathers.com.sg/ewyfd/>.

9 Arrangements for 2023 PSLE results release

The PSLE results will be released tentatively between Wednesday, 22 November 2023 and Friday, 24 November 2023. More information regarding the arrangements for the release of the PSLE results will be shared with our Primary 6 parents via PG at a later date.

10 Book List and Packing List

Please note that your child will receive the 2024 book list by Tuesday, 14 November 2023. The packing list will be sent via PG. Please follow the packing list as it helps to lighten the load of the students' school bag for the first few days of school in 2024. The subject teachers will be collecting the books and materials based on the packing list.

11 2024 P1 Orientation

The P1 Orientation is scheduled for **Tuesday, 21 November 2023 from 9 am to 11 am**. This orientation is a pivotal event to ensure a smooth and successful transition for our Primary 1 students into our school community.

During the orientation, our new Primary 1 students will engage in activities and receive information that will help them acclimate to the new school environment and begin their educational journey with confidence.

Simultaneously, we have organised a parallel session for parents during the same time frame. We believe that parents play a crucial role in a child's education, and this session will provide parents with valuable insights into our school's values, goals, and expectations. It is also an excellent opportunity for our parents to understand how you can actively support your child's academic and personal development.

Following the orientation, we will make available the essential resources and materials online on our [school website](#) under Circulars and Forms.

12 School holidays & Start of School Year 2024

Our staff will have their protected holidays from **Saturday, 25 November 2023 to Thursday, 28 December 2023**. We seek your understanding that they may have limited access to their emails during this period and may not be able to respond to your queries as promptly.

Similar to the arrangements in 2023, only Primary 1 students will report on the first day of school on Tuesday, 2 January 2024. Primary 2 to Primary 6 students will report to school on Wednesday, 3 January 2024.

13 Parenting Article

How to encourage good behaviour in pre-teens and teenagers

Good behaviour in pre-teens and teenagers starts with positive communication and warm relationships. This lays the foundation for guiding your child's behaviour in a positive way. Here are some [practical tips](#) for putting this positive approach into action.

Vision
Lead with Character, Serve with Talents

Mission
Nurturing concerned citizens with integrity and a spirit of excellence through holistic education

School Values
Respect, Integrity, Care, Excellence

