



JING SHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thinkers. Learners. Leaders.

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

6 January 2015

REF : 2015T1_0001

From the Principal's Office – January 2015



A Happy New Year to you and a warm hello from Jing Shan Primary!

2015 promises to be an exciting year for the school as we are embarking on a few new initiatives as part of our curriculum innovation. We are also celebrating our 70th Anniversary this year.

Jing Shan Primary School is committed to strengthening teaching and learning in the school and helping to raise pupil achievement through exploring new ideas and innovative pedagogy. This is in line with our new vision to nurture “Thinkers.Learners.Leaders.” This year, the school is looking to infuse *Making Thinking Visible* – a teaching approach developed by Project Zero, Harvard University Graduate School of Education, into our curriculum. We will pilot the use of thinking routines (which are short, easy-to-learn mini thinking strategies) in some classes in the areas of English Language, Science, Art and Chinese Language. Through this, we hope to extend and deepen our students’ thinking in the classroom and beyond.

At the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) last year, the school maintained our good passing rate, with over 98% of pupils eligible for Secondary school. The school will continue to work on improving our quality results by customising our programmes for our pupils of different abilities, including a talent development programme for our high progressing pupils and a structured support programme for our low progressing pupils.

Beyond our endeavours in the academic arena, the school places equal emphasis on the character development of your child. We have strengthened our Pupil Leadership programme and Character and Citizenship Education programme for 2015. Through our efforts in these areas, we hope to provide your child with rich learning experiences to develop him/her into a values-driven leader. The revamped Co-Curricular Activities conducted by the school will place special emphasis on values inculcation and will be a key platform for your child to pick up leadership skills and other important competencies for the 21st century.

Jing Shan will be celebrating our 70th birthday with a big bang this year. As part of the JS70 celebrations, the school will be launching a Heritage Gallery, organising a Funfair for pupils, staff, parents, and residents in the neighbourhood, and hosting a Home-Coming Lunch with alumni from the past 70 years and other well-wishers. The school will also be launching a Souvenir Book to capture memories of Jing Shan over the years. With such a slew of exciting events lined up, I look forward to celebrating the school’s birthday with all parents and pupils of the school on 30 May 2015 (Saturday).




Loyalty
Integrity
Generosity
Enthusiasm
Respect
Responsibility



I hope to meet all parents/guardians on 7 February 2015 (Saturday) where I will have Principal's Briefings for different levels in conjunction with our annual Learning Festival. I hope you could make time to attend on that day as I will be sharing with all parents, pertinent information related to your child's level at the Briefing. My teachers will also be sharing useful tips on how to help your child at the Learning Festival on the same day.

With so many things planned, I look forward to a year of bountiful learning for your child at Jing Shan Primary School.



Goh Meel Yunn (Mdm)
Principal

1) Safety and Security of Pupils

a) Arrival Procedures

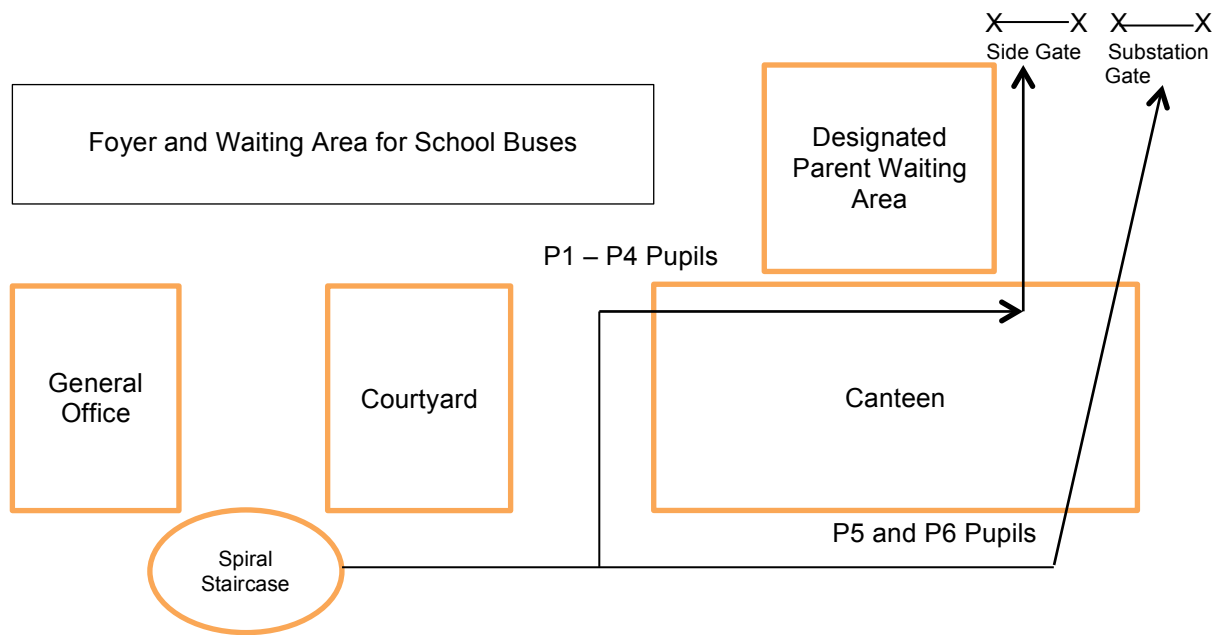
The school would like to remind all parents/guardians that only pupils are allowed to enter school premises with effect from Tuesday, 6th January 2015 when they arrive at school due to safety and security concerns for all pupils. As such, pupils would need to be dropped off outside school premises except for those arriving on school buses. Pupils could enter the school via the side gate (next to bus stop on Ang Mo Kio Street 52) or the back gate located opposite Blk 585.

Provision will only be made to allow parents/guardians to drop off their child/ward within school premises when it rains. Please help to ensure that pupils are equipped and ready with their bags and things that they are bringing to school when they get off from the vehicle to ensure pupil's safety and a smooth flow of traffic during school arrival time.

The school wishes to remind pupils to report to school punctually by 7.25 am daily. We would like to advise all parents/guardians to observe road safety and traffic rules when sending your child/ward to school as well.

b) Dismissal Procedures

Following our practice last year, the school has cordoned a section of the walkway (marked by barricades set up and yellow lines on the floor) outside the canteen and designated it as Parents' Waiting Area for pupils leaving by the side gate. We seek the understanding and patience of all parents/guardians who are picking up your child/ward to wait at the cordoned area or outside the school premises and to refrain from blocking the way at key dismissal points. The arrangements for the back gate remain unchanged. Your support and understanding will help the school in dismissing all our pupils safely.



c) Visitor Registration

Should parents/guardians wish to enter the school to attend to matters regarding their child/ward, please proceed to the security counter to register and you will be issued with a visitor pass. Parents/Guardians are advised to make an appointment should they need to meet with staff.

The school would like to advise parents/guardians that they will be allowed to come into the school to buy books from the bookshop between 8.00 – 9.00 am, 11.00 am – 1.00 pm and 1.45 – 3.00 pm from Monday to Friday.

d) No Right Turn from Main Gate

In the interest of safety, please note that any vehicle exiting the school's main gate on a school day will not be allowed to make a right turn onto Ang Mo Kio Street 52 between 7.00am – 7.30am on school days.

2) **Temperature – Taking Exercise, 7 Jan 2015**

Pupils are reminded to bring their thermometers to school on Wed 7 Jan 2015. All pupils are to report to their respective classrooms by 7.20am. The temperature-taking exercise will start immediately after flag-raising.

All P1 pupils will be issued thermometers before the commencement of the temperature-taking exercise.

3) **P5 Leadership Camp, 26-28 Jan 2015**

The school will organize a 3-day, 2-night residential camp in CAMP CHALLENGE Sembawang, from Mon 26 Jan 2015 to Wed 28 Jan 2015. The school aims to inculcate in every pupil a sense of adventure, a 'can-do' attitude, independence and resilience through the wide array of interesting activities in a rugged outdoor environment.

More details will be provided in a separate letter.

4) Photo-Taking for Smartcard for P1 and P6 Pupils, 30 January 2015

All P1 and P6 pupils will have their photographs taken for their Smartcard. Pupils are to be in their school uniform on that day. Pupils should be neat and smart-looking for this photo-taking exercise.

5) 70th School Anniversary: Heritage Gallery & Souvenir Book

As part of the school's plans to commemorate our 70th anniversary this year, the school will be setting up a Heritage Gallery and publishing a Souvenir Book.

The school is appealing to former Jing Shan staff/pupils who can contribute old school artefacts eg old report books, certificates, old photographs, etc. relating to the school. These resources will facilitate the school in the setting of the Heritage Gallery and the preparation of the Souvenir Book. We also welcome anyone who can provide oral history of your memories of the school, so that our current and future batches of pupils will be able to relate to how Jing Shan has developed over the years.

Please contact Mrs Ivy Tan Siang Peng Chua (chua_siang_peng@moe.edu.sg) or Mrs Wong Sujin (liao_sujin@moe.edu.sg) at 6456 6305 if you wish to donate any of your old school artefacts or can provide a contact person who is willing to contribute to the Jing Shan story.

The school is also appealing to advertisers who wish to place advertisements in the Souvenir Book. For those who are interested, kindly contact Mdm Gayathri (gayathri_mangai_asogan@moe.edu.sg) at 6456 6305.

6) Revised Opening Hours for School Library

From 2015, the School Library opening hours have been extended to close at a later time. The Library will be open from 8.30am to 5.30pm on Mon – Thu and 8.30am to 5.00pm on Fri. This is in support of the school's efforts to build a good reading habit in our pupils and to encourage more pupils to visit the Library.

7) Supporting Your Child in the New School Year

In the new school year, you can also play a key role in supporting your child's learning experience at home, and in school. To find out more about how you can be involved in supporting your child's learning at home, the school would like to refer parents to this website <http://parents-in-education.moe.gov.sg>. There are many easy-to-read articles on strategies to help your child transit into the new school year, support your child's learning at home, and to facilitate better home-school communication in the development of the whole child.

8) Working Towards a Greener Environment

According to the National Environment Agency, parents who are waiting to pick their children from school is 1 of the top 4 reasons why engines are left idle while vehicle is stationary.

The school is appealing to parents who drive to switch off your engines while waiting to pick your children from school. Through collective efforts, we hope that in 2015, parents will be more aware of the anti-idling engine regulations and comply with them.

9) Calendar of Events for Term 1, 2015

Together with this letter, we have included a list of school events in Term 1, for parents' information. We will inform by letter if there are any changes due to unforeseen circumstances.

Collated Level Activities for Term 1 2015
Primary 1

Date	Day	Programme / Activity	Remarks
7 Jan	Wed	Temperature-Taking Exercise	All P1 pupils will be issued thermometers before the commencement of the temperature-taking exercise
17 Jan	Sat	Breakfast for Dad Kidsexcel Briefing cum English Workshop for P1 & P2 parents	8am-9am 9am-11am AVA room
30 Jan	Fri	Photo-taking for SmartCard	Pupils are to be in their school uniform on that day
7 Feb	Sat	Principal's Briefing & Learning Festival for Parents	8am -12pm
9 Feb	Mon	Commemoration of Total Defence Day	
18 Feb	Wed	Chinese New Year Eve	7.30am-9.30am
19 – 20 Feb	Thu-Fri	Chinese New Year Holidays	Public Holidays
14-22 Mar	Sat - Sun	March Vacation	

Collated Level Activities for Term 1 2015
Primary 2

Date	Day	Programme / Activity	Remarks
7 Jan	Wed	Temperature-Taking Exercise	Pupils are reminded to bring their thermometers
17 Jan	Sat	Breakfast with Dad Kidsexcel Briefing cum English Workshop for P1 & P2 parents	8am-9am 9am -11am AVA room
7 Feb	Sat	Principal's Briefing & Learning Festival for Parents	8am -12pm
9 Feb	Mon	Commemoration of Total Defence Day	
18 Feb	Wed	Chinese New Year Eve	7.30am – 9.30am
19-20 Feb	Thu – Fri	Chinese New Year Holidays	Public Holidays
12 Mar (To be Confirmed)	Thu	P2 Learning Journey to Health Zone	Curriculum time
14 -22Mar	Sat - Sun	March Vacation	

Collated Level Activities for Term 1 2015
Primary 3

Date	Day	Programme / Activity	Remarks
7 Jan	Wed	Temperature-Taking Exercise	Pupils are reminded to bring their thermometers
7 Feb	Sat	Principal's Briefing & Learning Festival for Parents	8am -12pm
9 Feb	Mon	Commemoration of Total Defence Day	
18 Feb	Wed	Chinese New Year Eve	7.30am – 9.30am
19-20 Feb	Thu – Fri	Chinese New Year Holidays	Public Holidays
11 Mar	Wed	P3 Learning Journey – Clean Singapore Learning Trail	Curriculum Time
14 -22Mar	Sat - Sun	March Vacation	

Collated Level Activities for Term 1 2015
Primary 4

Date	Day	Programme / Activity	Remarks
7 Jan	Wed	Temperature-Taking Exercise	Pupils are reminded to bring their thermometers
7 Feb	Sat	Principal's Briefing & Learning Festival for Parents	8am -12pm
9 Feb	Mon	Commemoration of Total Defence Day	
18 Feb	Wed	Chinese New Year Eve	7.30am – 9.30am
19-20 Feb	Thu – Fri	Chinese New Year Holidays	Public Holidays
12 Mar	Thu	P4 Learning Journey – Road Safety Park	Curriculum Time
14 -22Mar	Sat - Sun	March Vacation	

Collated Level Activities for Term 1 2015
Primary 5

Date	Day	Programme / Activity	Remarks
7 Jan	Wed	Temperature-Taking Exercise	Pupils are reminded to bring their thermometers
26-28 Jan	Mon - Wed	P5 Leadership Camp	A separate letter will be issued
7 Feb	Sat	Principal's Briefing & Learning Festival for Parents	8am -12pm
9 Feb	Mon	Commemoration of Total Defence Day	
18 Feb	Wed	Chinese New Year Eve	7.30am – 9.30am
19-20 Feb	Thu – Fri	Chinese New Year Holidays	Public Holidays
2-5 Mar	Mon-Thu	CA1	A separate letter will be issued
14 -22Mar	Sat - Sun	March Vacation	

Collated Level Activities for Term 1 2015
Primary 6

Date	Day	Programme / Activity	Remarks
7 Jan	Wed	Temperature-Taking Exercise	Pupils are reminded to bring their thermometers
30 Jan	Fri	Photo-Taking for Smart Card	Pupils are to be in their school uniform on that day
7 Feb	Sat	Principal's Briefing & Learning Festival for Parents	8am -12pm
9 Feb	Mon	Commemoration of Total Defence Day	
18 Feb	Wed	Chinese New Year Eve	7.30am – 9.30am
19-20 Feb	Thu – Fri	Chinese New Year Holidays	Public Holidays
2-5 Mar	Mon-Thu	CA1	A separate letter will be issued
13 -14 Mar	Fri – Sat	P6 Learning Journey – Visit to Malacca	A separate letter will be issued
14 -22Mar	Sat – Sun	March Vacation	