



# JING SHAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Thinkers. Learners. Leaders.*

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5 January 2017

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

From the Principal's Office – January 2017



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

First and foremost, I would like to share with you the good news that the school has once again done very well at the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) last year, outperforming comparable schools on multiple fronts. We achieved a year-on-year improvement in both our quality and quantity passes over the past three years across many subjects. This is most encouraging for my team of dedicated colleagues, and is an outcome of our restructuring of our teaching and learning processes and structures. Our student-centric and ability-based approach, as well as the use of both school-wide and subject-specific pedagogy has reaped direct benefits for our pupils, which we hope to sustain and further improve upon.

The focus this year will be on scaling up some of our good practices. Our Seamless Science programme will be scaled to the whole Primary 3 level. Over the past two years, our Science teachers have piloted this programme with the support of researchers from the National Institute of Education. We have gained encouraging initial outcomes from this approach of marrying thinking routines with the use of iPADS in the learning of Science. In the area of student well-being, our student development team tracks our pupils individually and works closely with the teaching & learning team to provide targeted support for each pupil. This year, we hope to work on pupils' motivation and leadership competencies through a targeted whole-school approach.

In 2016, the Ministry of Education announced plans for all schools to involve their pupils in keeping the school clean. In Jing Shan, we recognise the importance of inculcating responsibility and loyalty to the school through our Clean Canteen and Clean Classroom programmes. This is only one component of our comprehensive Values-in-Action Programme which supports the school's values education efforts. I hope you can continue to support us at home as we anchor our efforts on the school's LIGER values of Loyalty, Integrity, Generosity, Enthusiasm, Respect and Responsibility.

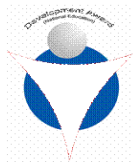
I look forward to meet all parents on Friday 13 January 2017 (for P1 – P2 parents), Thursday 19 January 2017 (for P3 – P4 parents) and Friday 20 January 2017 (for P5 – P6 parents). The event will start with a short 30-minute Welcome segment in the classroom with your child's/ward's form teachers, followed by my briefing for parents in the Hall. I hope you can make time to attend on the designated day(s) as I will be sharing with all parents pertinent information related to your child's level at the Briefing.

I look forward to a year of bountiful learning for your child at Jing Shan Primary School. Onward we strive!

Principal,  
Mdm Goh Meei Yunn



Loyalty  
Integrity  
Generosity  
Enthusiasm  
Respect &  
Responsibility



1) **Welcome**

The school is pleased to introduce the following staff who joined the school in the new school year: Mrs Shanthi Magendran, Mdm Sharon Chen, Ms Yu Ziling, Mrs Yan Soo Chai and Mr Mohamed Hamsah B Ismail.

We bid farewell to Mr Terence Chan, Mdm Gayathri Mangai d/o Asogan, Mdm Juhairah bte Muhd Abd Halim, Mdm Punitha Jayandran, Mrs Tay Wei Yen, Mdm Ng Wei Eng, Mdm Regina Goh and Mrs Choo Soh Huang. The school would like to extend our sincere thanks to them for their past contributions to the school.

2) **School Values of Respect, Responsibility & Enthusiasm**

In alignment with the school vision, mission and values, and to foster a quality school culture, the school places special emphasis on our school values of **Respect** and **Responsibility** throughout the year. In addition, one other value is emphasized each term: **Enthusiasm** (Term 1), **Integrity** (Term 2), **Loyalty** (Term 3) and **Generosity** (Term 4). The school hopes that all parents could support the school's efforts and reinforce these values at home.

Respect: All pupils need to be respectful of self, others and our environment. Pupils who are self-respecting present themselves well and are neat at all times. Pupils show their respect to others by politely greeting their peers, elders and teachers. They are also kind with their words and actions. Pupils undertake green efforts in school and at home to demonstrate their commitment to respect our environment.

Responsibility: All pupils are to practise responsibility by taking care of themselves, taking care of one another and taking care of the school. Students who are responsible in taking care of themselves will make sure they come to school punctually and submit their assignments on time. Pupils who are responsible in taking care of others will go out of their way to help their peers. Pupils also have the responsibility to take care and maintain the cleanliness of the places that they use or visit.

Enthusiasm: All pupils are encouraged to be enthusiastic in their learning and have a positive mindset in all that they do. Pupils who are enthusiastic also participate actively in all class activities and school events.

3) **School Holidays in Term 1**

Please note the following School and Public Holidays in Term 1.

Date	Event	Remarks (if any)
Mon 30 January 2017	Chinese New Year	Public Holiday
Tue 31 January 2017	Chinese New Year	School Holiday

4) **Temperature Taking Exercise**

Temperature-Taking Exercise is conducted twice a year – once in term 1 and another in term 3. This allows us to maintain our readiness to reactivate the temperature taking regime in an event of a health-related emergency. Pupils are reminded to bring their thermometers to school on Friday, 6 January 2017 for the temperature-taking exercise. All pupils are to report to their respective classrooms by 7.20am. The temperature-taking exercise will start immediately after flag-raising.

5) **Principal's Briefing**

This is an informal session for you to meet with your child's form teacher and also a time to get to know the parents in your child's class. Pertinent information related to your child's level will also be shared by the Principal during the Principal's Briefing. The details of the above event are as follows:

Date	Time	Level	Programme	Venue
13 January 2017, Friday	5.00pm – 5.30pm	Parents of P1 & P2 pupils	Meeting with Form Teachers	P1 & P2 Classrooms
	5.30pm – 6.30pm		Principal's Briefing	Hall
19 January 2017, Thursday	5.00pm – 5.30pm	Parents of P3 & P4 pupils	Meeting with Form Teachers	P3 & P4 Classrooms
	5.30pm – 6.30pm		Principal's Briefing	Hall
	6.30pm – 7.00pm	Parents of P3 pupils only	Seamless Science Briefing	Hall
20 January 2017, Friday	5.00pm – 5.30pm	Parents of P5 & P6 pupils	Meeting with Form Teachers	P5 & P6 Classrooms
	5.30pm – 6.30pm		Principal's Briefing	Hall

6) **P5 Leadership Camp**

As part of the school's holistic development efforts, our Primary 5 pupils will be having a 3-day, 2-night residential camp in Camp Challenge Sembawang, from 11 January 2017 – 13 January 2017, Wednesday to Friday.

In this Leadership Camp, the pupils will develop their leadership skills through the process of working in teams in an outdoor setting. Through the process of collaborative learning, pupils will improve on their self-management, confidence, problem-solving and communication skills.

7) **P3 Swimming Programme**

The school will be conducting a swimming programme for all P3 pupils. This is a compulsory programme that is part of MOE's effort to ensure that every pupil is equipped with basic water survival skills. The 12-week programme will start on Term 1 Week 3, in the week starting Monday 15 January 2017. More details will be given in a separate letter to pupils concerned.

8) **Chinese New Year Celebration**

School hours on eve of Chinese New Year, Friday 27 January 2017 will be from 7.30am – 9.30am. The pupils will engage in a classroom activity in the first hour and view a Chinese New Year concert from 8.30am – 9.30am. Parents are cordially invited to the concert. Please be seated in the Hall Gallery by 8.20am if you wish to attend the event. Due to space constraints in the Hall, only 2 members from each family are invited.

All pupils are encouraged to wear traditional ethnic costume to school on that day. Alternatively, they may choose to wear their school uniform. For footwear, all pupils are to wear their black school shoes. They should not come to school in slippers, sandals or party shoes. Dismissal time on that day will be at 9.30am. The school bus service and Alphajoy have been informed of the early dismissal.

9) **Photo-Taking for Smartcard for P1 and P6 Pupils**

All P1 and P6 pupils will have their photographs taken for their Smartcard. Pupils are to be in their full school uniform on Tuesday 14 February 2017. Pupils should be neat and smart-looking for this photo-taking exercise.

10) **Safety and Security of Pupils**

a) **Arrival Procedures**

Only pupils are allowed to enter the school premises, when they arrive at school. This is in order to ensure the safety and security of all pupils.

Pupils would need to be dropped off outside the school premises except for those arriving in school buses. Pupils could enter the school via the side gate (next to the bus stop on Ang Mo Kio Street 52) or the back gate (located opposite Blk 585).

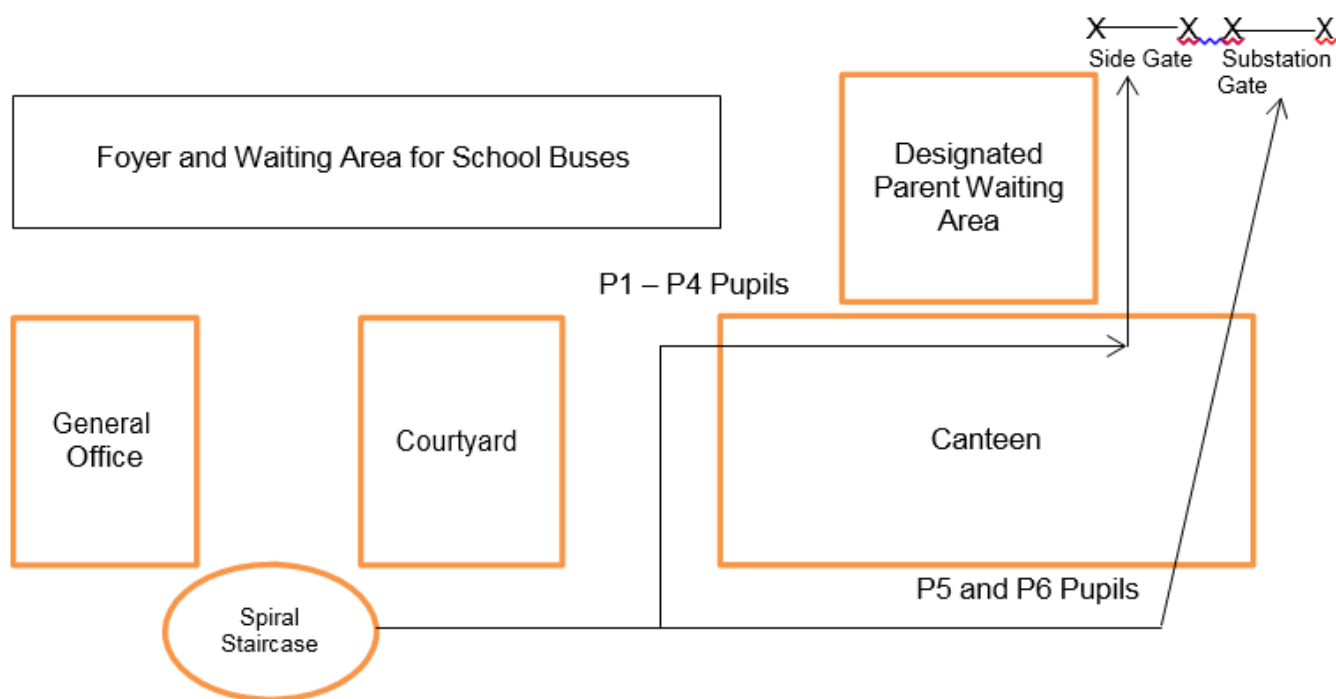
Provision would only be made to allow parents/guardians to drop off their child/ward within school premises when it rains. In the interest of safety, please note that any vehicle exiting the school's main gate on a school day will not be allowed to make a right turn onto Ang Mo Kio Street 52 between 7.00am – 7.30am on school days.

Please assist to reinforce road safety rules to your child/ward. Your child/ward is to cross the road only at designated pedestrian crossings.

**b) Dismissal Procedures**

The school has cordoned a section of the walkway (marked by barricades and yellow lines on the floor) outside the canteen and designated it as Parents' Waiting Area for parents/guardians picking up your child/ward 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.

Parents who drive should utilise the nearby carparks (Blk 596, 588 and 590) during the school dismissal hours while waiting for your child to be dismissed from school.



**c) Information for Drivers**

The school would like to remind drivers not to park your vehicle within 9 m of the bus stop. Drivers are reminded to stay out of the bus bay and the red box just before the bus stop. When dropping off a passenger, drivers should stop their vehicle before the red box marked on the road and the passenger should disembark briskly, to avoid the obstruction of traffic.

We strongly encourage all parents/guardians to have your child/ward ready with their school bag seated on the left passenger side to facilitate a quick drop off and to arrange for an appropriate time to pick your child/ward up **without having to park along the road** to wait for them.

The school recommends two alternative drop-off/pick-up points in the interest of road safety for everyone. The first one is located at Blk 522. There is a driveway and a porch that is located at the block. The pupils can then use the pedestrian crossing at the traffic lights located on Street 52, in front of the school and enter via the side gate. Parents are reminded not to park your

car at the driveway as it would obstruct other cars behind which are waiting to drop-off.



The second one is located at Blk 588. There is a driveway and porch that is located at the block. The pupils can then use the sheltered walkway that leads to the school's side gate.



#### d) Visitor Registration

We would like to highlight and remind you of Visitors Procedures as communicated on pages 10 and 13 in the Pupil Handbook. All visitors, including our pupils' parents/guardians, will have to register themselves with the Security Officer at the Guardhouse (located at the main gate) if they are visiting the school for specific official matters.

Visitors to the school will only be allowed to enter through the Main Gate as multiple points of entry into the school may compromise the safety and security of the school premises and your child. All visitors will only be allowed to wait at the General Office to meet with staff of the school. Movement within the school compound beyond the General Office **MUST** be accompanied by designated school staff.

Parents who wish to see any staff after school dismissal are to follow the same procedures as above. They are advised to avoid the peak dismissal hours and to make appointments to see the staff so as to minimise disruption of school dismissal procedures. In the case of parents/guardians coming to pick up or to pass food items to their child/ward during dismissal, please stay within the Waiting Area marked by barricades along the boundary next to the Canteen or the Waiting Area under the shelter at the Back Gate. For parents/guardians coming to pick up their child/ward from Alphajoy, please stay within the Waiting Area at the Security Counter in the foyer.

The school would like to advise parents/guardians that you will only be allowed to come into the school to buy books from the bookshop between 8.00am – 9.00am, 11.00am – 1.00pm and 2.00pm – 3.00pm from Monday to Friday.

#### e) Absence

For safety reasons, for the day(s) of your child's/ward's absence, we expect him/her to submit

- a medical certificate covering the period of absence or
- a letter from the parent/guardian to explain the reason for absence

upon the child's/ward's return to school. Please do not send your child/ward to school if he/she is not well.

11) **Collated Activities and Assessment Plan for Term 1**

We will distribute the collated activities, as well as the Assessment Plan for Term 1, for parents' information by the end of next week. We hope the detailed collation will provide all parents with a good idea of what your child is experiencing across all subjects in the ten weeks this term, so that you can better support your child at home. We will inform by letter if there are any changes due to unforeseen circumstances.

12) **Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Selection Exercise 2017**

The tentative date for the GEP Screening Exercise for P3 pupils is on 23 August 2017, Wednesday. Shortlisted pupils from the Screening Exercise will be invited to participate in the GEP Selection Exercise on 19 and 20 October 2017, Thursday – Friday.

13) **Modes of Communication**

You should have received a letter from your child's form teacher. If you have any enquiries for any of your child's teachers, you may use the Student Handbook as a platform to provide feedback to the teachers. Alternatively, you may email the school at [jsps@moe.edu.sg](mailto:jsps@moe.edu.sg) or call the school office at 6456 6305. The school hours are from 7.30am – 6.00pm, Monday – Fridays. The school's latest announcements, briefing slides and school calendar will be updated on the school website at [www.jingshanpri.moe.edu.sg](http://www.jingshanpri.moe.edu.sg). Photographs of school events will be shared with you via the school's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/jingshanpri](http://www.facebook.com/jingshanpri).

14) **Parent Support Group (PSG)**

Parents play a vital role in the development and education of their children. Research has shown that the greater the support that families provide for their children's learning, the more likely their children will do well in school and beyond. Both school and parents will benefit from working closely with one another. While parents are primarily responsible for the development of their children, this can be more effectively done with the support of the school and community. In fact, research shows that a tight partnership between schools and parents boosts student achievement, reduces absenteeism, increases positive student behaviour, and gives parents confidence in supporting their children's schooling.

As such, the school would like to invite parents to join the PSG. For parents who wish to do so, kindly complete the attached application form and drop it in the PSG Box located outside the General Office.