Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to a new term at FMS(P)!
Warm greetings to you at the start of this new term.

Passing of Mr Lee Kuan Yew
We started the term deeply saddened by the passing of our founding Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew. This morning I shared with the children that the peace, stability, harmony and prosperity we experience in Singapore are not by chance, but a result of the leadership and dedication of Mr Lee and his pioneer core team. I encouraged each child to play his/her part and contribute to the next 50 years of Singapore, so that we can preserve the legacy of our pioneer leaders and grow our country into the next lap of God's goodness. Fairfield has set up a Tribute Corner in our canteen for our students and members of the Fairfield community to express our respect for Mr Lee from Tuesday 24 March to Friday 27 March. Our students will be encouraged to write their tribute in class as they reflect on Mr Lee’s contributions to Singapore.

Raising a Responsible Child
As we start the second term of the year, I invite you to walk with us in developing our children into responsible people. Here are some ways:

- Our children should be responsible in their speech. We started the ‘GAT’ initiative just last term at Fairfield. GAT stands for Greet, Ask, Thank. Whether at the canteen buying food, or making purchases at the Bookshop, or interacting with our General Office staff, children are encouraged to use ‘GAT’. We hope that you will help them use ‘GAT’ when they make requests with family members or friends. We have given our children the names of all our non-teaching staff, including the cleaners who clean their classrooms, so that the children can address them by name.

- Our children should be responsible in their actions. We hope to see them take responsibility in bringing the necessary items for swim class, for CCA and for their day-to-day lessons. Please help them by not bringing down these items when they forget. They need to take responsibility and not pass the responsibility to someone else. We hope that they will also take responsibility to complete their homework by putting sufficient effort and doing their best.

Fund-raising and PERI Upgrading (Estimated time of completion – By end 2015)
I would like to thank all parents for supporting our fundraising efforts through the Methodist Walk. I am heartened that the contributions are still coming in as ‘little drops of water make a mighty ocean’. We still have a considerable way to go before reaching our target and I appreciate the Fairfield community coming together at a time like this to grow the next generation of Fairsians.

The upgrading works for the school are progressing well. Blocks F, G and H are already constructed and the internal works have begun.
The following measures below have been implemented since Oct 2013 and will be in action till end 2015. For the safety of our children, all pedestrians and motorists, we seek your co-operation to adhere to the measures.

a) Parents are not allowed to drive into the school compound from 7:00am to 4:30pm. At reporting time, please park your car at the HDB carpark across the school and walk your child over. At dismissal time, please park your car at the HDB carpark and walk across to pick up your child. There are ample carpark lots at the HDB carpark opposite the school.

b) Kindly refrain from stopping your vehicle or parking your vehicle where you will cause obstruction e.g. bus-stops, at the gates of FMS(P) and FMS(S).

**School Hours in 2016**

As mentioned at the Meet-the-Parents’ sessions in January, the school hours will be changed in 2016. The school hours will be extended to incorporate the extra periods required for Physical Education from Primary 3 to 6 and for Programme for Active Learning for Primary 1 and 2. More details will be provided in Semester 2 this year.

**Haze Management Measures**

The school has the following haze management measures in place to deal with the haze situation. With the return of the haze, the school will continue to stay vigilant and monitor the haze condition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air Quality Descriptors</th>
<th>Healthy Persons</th>
<th>Elderly, Pregnant Women, Children</th>
<th>Persons with Chronic Lung Disease, Heart Disease or Stroke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good to Moderate (100 and below)</td>
<td>▪ Normal activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unhealthy (101 to 200)</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Reduce</strong> prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Minimise</strong> prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Avoid</strong> prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very unhealthy (201 to 300)</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Avoid</strong> prolonged or strenuous outdoor physical exertion</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Minimise</strong> outdoor activity</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Avoid</strong> all outdoor activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous (Above 300)</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Minimise</strong> outdoor exposure</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Avoid</strong> outdoor activity</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Avoid</strong> outdoor activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FMS(P) CCA Achievements**

**School Team (Sports)**

Our young athletes have persevered and fought till the end, displaying values of resilience and teamwork. I would like to congratulate all of them for their hard work. Thank you, parents, for your continuous support and partnership with us in developing your children holistically.

**Sports Achievement**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CCA</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Badminton</td>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Zonal Position – 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Zonal Position - 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Zonal Position – 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball</td>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Zonal Position – 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>Zonal Position – 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Zonal Position – 4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Uniformed Groups
Students from the Uniformed Groups have also done very well. Their annual events and progress are reported to their respective headquarters for appraisal.

FMS(P) is proud to announce that for the Boys' Brigade, Jeremy Tan (6E) is the recipient of the Tan Boon Chiang Medal, the Best Boy Award.

The Girls' Brigade has also done well in securing a Gold Award for the 7th consecutive year and has attained the Gold Sustained Achievement award in recognition of their efforts throughout the years.

Uniformed Groups’ Achievement (for assessment year 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CCA</th>
<th>Name of Award</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33J Boys' Brigade</td>
<td>JM Fraser Award</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Girls' Brigade</td>
<td>Company Award</td>
<td>Gold (Sustained Achievement Award)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Cross</td>
<td>Excellent Unit Award</td>
<td>Gold</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aesthetics School Team CCA
Our Handbells Ensemble was invited by the Ministry of Bellz to perform at the “Solid Gold, Handbell Music of Our Time” Concert at the Esplanade Recital Studio on 31st January 2015.

The Chinese Dancers also performed for West Coast GRC and Pioneer Constituency “Chingay @ Heartlands 2015” on 21st March 2015 at Telok Blangah CC.

The Choir School Team will be putting up a Combined Schools Concert, The Reason We Sing, on 10th April 2015, Friday, at Nexus Auditorium.

SNAC Version 3.1
To date, close to 85% of parents have signed up. As we will be using SNAC as the primary platform for communication, we would like to encourage those who have not signed up to do so. To sign up, please visit tiny.cc/fmspsnac and configure your mobile devices (ie. smartphones, tablets etc.) to receive the notifications by following the instructions in one of the attachments at the bottom of the website. Should you encounter any issues, please contact SNAC Technical Support at snac.support@apptitude.sg

Parents-in-Education (PiE)
Our school has been blessed with parents always willing to lend a hand at our events and programmes. My sincere appreciation to all our parent volunteers who have helped out in many of our school programmes such as the P1 Orientation, Chinese New Year Celebrations, Total Defence Day, P1 Games Day and Sports Carnival. Your contribution has enriched the learning of our children and your ideas and enthusiasm have added to the smooth running of our events. Thank you for your effort and time and your service administered in love and humility.

Finally, I wish all of you a blessed Easter and a fruitful term ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Chaillan Mui Tuan
Principal
Term 2 Programme Highlights
For Term 2 in 2015, we have lined up the following programmes:

- **Semester Assessment 1 for Primary 3 to 6 students**
  Please refer to the School Calendar for the SA1 dates. The hardcopy of the SA1 schedule will be provided for your acknowledgement. The Scope and Format will be posted on the school website for your reference to help you better assist your child/ward in his/her revision.

- **P2 Gymnastics**
  Gymnastics lessons have been on-going since Term 1. The aim of this programme is to develop in the children the fundamental skills required for further skills development across all aspects of the PE programme. These lessons are conducted by our PE teachers. The students will be required to plan a sequence in groups as part of their assessment. It will culminate with Gym Talent Day on 22 May 2015.

- **P3 Learn-to-Swim**
  A 10-session programme which is part of our Physical Education (PE) curriculum has started in Term 1 and will continue in Term 2 at ACJC swimming complex. The objectives are to introduce water confidence and enable our students to master basic water skills. Students are coached by qualified instructors and supervised by their PE teachers. The programme will conclude with a test and certificates of achievement will be issued accordingly. For advanced swimmers, their swimming strokes will be refined to gain greater speed and efficiency. There will be a swim carnival for the students at the end of the programme. This year, it will be conducted as 3 separate carnivals in Term 2. The school will provide the students and parents with more information closer to the carnival.

- **P4 Outdoor Education Programme**
  All Primary 4 students will undergo an outdoor experiential learning programme in the areas of rock climbing and field cooking. The objective of the programme is to develop every child holistically and to inculcate in them qualities such as determination, resilience and perseverance. These school-based sessions will be conducted in Term 2 Weeks 1 and 2 by qualified instructors and supervised by the form and PE teachers. Students have been informed of the exact date for their respective class sessions by their form teachers.

- **Primary 5 Camp**
  To foster camaraderie and teamwork, inculcate the school values of respect and resilience and build self-confidence, the school has organized a 3-day-2-night camp for all Primary 5 students. At this Adventure Camp, students will have the unique opportunity to participate in challenging and exciting activities. Camp activities will include high and low rope obstacle courses, orienteering, raft building, kayaking, night walks and group games. All the activities will be conducted by qualified instructors. Primary 5 teachers will be staying with the students throughout the camp. There will be a pre-camp briefing session for our students on camp preparation and safety precautions.

- **NAPFA for P4 and P6**
  The 5 static stations of the NAPFA will be conducted on the afternoon of 30 April 2015 for all Primary 4 and 6 students. Students will be assessed on their 1.6 km run during the students' respective PE lessons between 13 April and 23 April. Students who are involved in Oral on a particular day will have their NAPFA run scheduled on another PE day. The school views this as an integral part of the school’s character development programme, therefore active preparation and participation in NAPFA is important.
• **SYF Updates**
  Our school EVA (Elite Visual Arts) School Team will be participating in the **SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL 2015 ART EXHIBITION**. We will be submitting 3 pieces of artwork for the event on 8th April 2015.

• **Aesthetics Day (28 May 2015)**
  Unique to Fairfield, Aesthetics Day is a day whereby **all** students will get an opportunity to perform on stage to an audience. Organised by the Aesthetics Department, it aims to nurture confident and cultured Fairsians who are appreciative of the Arts, Aesthetics Day will showcase our students’ musical talents through performances and their artistic talents through an exhibition at the end of Term 2.

• **Cultural Immersion Programme (30 May to 05 June 2015)**
  The Mother Tongue department will be organising a 6-day cultural immersion trip to Shanghai, Hangzhou and Haimen from 30 May to 05 June 2015 for 30 selected Primary 5 students. The objectives of this trip are:
  - to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Chinese culture, values and history
  - to provide an authentic Chinese Language learning environment for our students through their attendance during lessons at Dongzhou Primary School
  - to promote interaction and foster friendship between our students and their peers from China
  - to inculcate important life-skills and values such as self-reliance, independence and collaboration

• **School Health Visit (8 Apr 2015 to 21 Apr 2015)**
  A letter on the Annual School-Based Health Screening will be issued to all parents in the 1st week of Term 2.

  Parents of Primary 1 students will also receive a booklet from HPB on “School Health Service – Health Check and Immunisation for Primary 1 Pupils”. Parents/Guardians are to complete the **Medical Information Form (green form) & Consent Form for Immunisation (purple form)** and put the completed forms into the Child’s Health Booklet before submitting it to the form teacher from 27 Mar 2015.

  Parents of Primary 5 students will also receive a booklet from HPB on “School Health Service – Health Check and Immunisation for Primary 5 Pupils”. Parents/Guardians are to complete the **Consent Form for Immunisation (pink form)** and put the completed form into the Child’s Health Booklet before submitting it to the form teacher from 27 Mar 2015.

  With effect from 2015, Child’s Health Booklets for all other levels – Primary 2, 3, 4 and 6 are **not required** to be submitted to the School Health Team.

• **Sale of School Uniform and T-shirts and Popular@FMSP Sales Date**
  To facilitate the purchase of school uniform and T-shirts, Yangtze Kiang Tailor and Popular@FMSP will be opened and selling the items at the school canteen on the following dates in Mar to Jul:
  - 28 Mar 2015 (Sat)  9am to 12pm
  - 25 Apr 2015 (Sat)  9am to 12pm
  - 27 May 2015 (Wed)  9am to 3pm
  - 20 Jun 2015 (Sat)  9am to 12pm
  - 25 Jul 2015 (Sat)  9am to 12pm
• **Use of School Smart Cards (SSC) for concessionary travel - Primary 1 students**
The School Smart Cards will be issued to Primary 1 students by Apr 2015. Parents are to check the photo and details printed on the SSC and inform the school immediately if there is any discrepancy. To start using the SSC for concessionary travel, students are required to activate the card at the TransitLink Ticket Office/TransitLink Concession Card Replacement Office/Passenger Services Centre located in the MRT Stations/Bus Interchanges by topping up the value of the card. The minimum top-up value is $5.

• **2015 Primary One Registration Exercise for Admission to Primary One in 2016 - Phase 1**
All students who have siblings who are Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents, born between 2 January 2009 and 1 January 20010 (both dates inclusive) will be receiving a letter and a copy of the Application Form from the school in Term 2.

• **NEU PC Plus Programme**
An IDA-initiated assistance programme for computer ownership with broadband access (NEU PC Plus Programme) is available for application through the General Office. Should you require more information, visit [http://www.ida.gov.sg](http://www.ida.gov.sg), and search for "NEU PC Plus Programme".

• **NSW Test Dates**
An email invitation to register was sent out earlier. For parents who have registered, kindly go to our website [http://tiny.cc/fmspnsw](http://tiny.cc/fmspnsw) before 23rd March and take note of the test dates.

• **mySG Trail: Celebrating Education in Singapore**
To celebrate Singapore’s Jubilee Year, our students and teachers have created a trail along Dover Road for participants to appreciate how education in Singapore has evolved over the past 50 years. We will like to invite you to join us on this trail. Please visit [http://tinyurl.com/fmspmysg](http://tinyurl.com/fmspmysg) for registration.
TERM 2

Just A Minute - Fairfield believes in working alongside with the parents of our students with the hope of achieving best outcome for the children. We will feature an article each term with some parenting tips, our main aim is to equip and empower our parents so that the parenting journey can be a joyous and successful one.

Every Parent, a Supportive Partner

Retired principal, Mrs Jenny Yeo, shares her experience of working with supportive parents, and the benefits yielded from successful partnerships.

“In your 41 years of service as an educator, have you met parents who are supportive partners in your schools?” a friend asked.

My thoughts immediately went to the encouraging letter from a student’s parents:

“We write to thank you for Melissa’s six years at your school. It ended on a high note in year 2009 when she broke the school’s PSLE records…she attributed her outstanding results to all her beloved school teachers…The encouragement that Melissa received from your dedicated teachers have made her believe in herself and spurred her to challenge her own limitations again and again…More than anything else, we would like to thank you for the fun that Melissa had during her time at your school…Your school is a holistic neighbourhood school focused on making each heartland child a dazzling diamond…”

I felt encouraged and affirmed that the school was on the right track. It reinforced my belief that I was touching young lives and making a difference! But I was also mindful of their unstinting support that played a big part. They had full confidence in the teachers, provided constructive feedback, supervised Melissa’s homework and came for “Meet the Parents” sessions to work closely with the teachers.

At MOE’s Work Plan Seminar (WPS) 2014, Minister Heng Swee Keat emphasised the important role of supportive parents.

If a teacher has touched your heart with his or her dedication and passion, how about showing your appreciation through a note or by saying a word of thanks? This will go a long way in cheering teachers and school leaders on. It motivates them to do better in their task of developing the full potential of a student. When providing constructive feedback, use the right tone and approach, focus on the problem rather than the person, and solve it together as partners.

Teachers hope that parents will trust them and believe that they want the best for their students.

Parents can support teachers in these ways:

1. Spending quality time with children
   Talking to your children makes you aware of what they are experiencing in school and better able to support the teachers.

2. Reading to or with children
   Reading is proven method of learning, so developing a love and habit of reading will help them learn.

3. Supervising their studies
If children are in primary school, support the teachers by ensuring that they do their part at home, such as learning their spelling or multiplication tables.

4. Monitoring their character development
Support the school’s holistic approach by encouraging your children to participate in co-curricular activities (CCAs). Make sure they do their part, such as practising music instruments if they are in the Band or Chinese Orchestra.

5. Being part of the Parent Support Groups (PSGs)
By doing so, you will go beyond supporting your own child and contribute to a larger group of pupils in the school. Parent volunteers also have the opportunity of building rapport with teachers.

South View Primary School benefitted from a strong partnership with the PSG. For example, working with Tamil teachers, the parents organised cultural events and learning journeys to share about Indian dance and music, reinforcing students’ learning and piquing their interest in the language. Parent volunteers and teachers also started the Football CCA. Despite not having a professional coach, the team clinched the title of National Soccer Champion within three years! It is testament to what we can achieve with strong support from a PSG.

We are all here to build the next generation. Parents and schools are key building blocks, so let us work hand in hand, strengthen this partnership and support each other as we help our children to be confident and useful citizens of tomorrow!

*Names have been changed to protect the identity of the students*

This article was first published on Schoolbag.sg (https://schoolbag.sg/), an education news site, on 22 Jan 2015. You can access the article at (https://schoolbag.sg/story/every-parent-a-supportive-partner). Mrs Jenny Yeo is a retired principal of South View Primary School. She is now a consultant associate in Ministry of Education for Parent Engagement. Mrs Yeo is also an alumnus of Fairfield. We thank her for allowing us to reproduce her article in this edition of Newslink.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
<td>SG50 Trails Internal #1 (6G)</td>
<td>P4 Rock Climbing</td>
<td>CCAM(Wed1)</td>
<td>UG(7)</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>P6 Science Reinforcement Prog</td>
<td>P4 Rock-Climbing</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
<td>SG50 Trails Internal #4 (6D)</td>
<td>MT Remedial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30-Mar-15</td>
<td>31-Mar-15</td>
<td>01-Apr-15</td>
<td>02-Apr-15</td>
<td>03-Apr-15</td>
<td>04-Apr-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>P6 Science Reinforcement Prog</td>
<td>P4 &amp; P6 SA1 Oral (pm)</td>
<td>CCAM(Wed4)</td>
<td>UG(10)</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>P6 Science Reinforcement Prog</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
<td>P4 &amp; P6 SA1 Oral (pm)</td>
<td>CCAM(Wed3)</td>
<td>UG(9)</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>P6 Science Reinforcement Prog</td>
<td>Swim Carnival (am)</td>
<td>CCAM(Wed5)</td>
<td>UG(11)</td>
<td>CCAM(Thu4)</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>P6 Science Reinforcement Prog</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
<td>P3 &amp; P5 SA1 Oral (pm)</td>
<td>P1 SC LJ @ Zoo</td>
<td>P3 to P6 Oral Day 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>P6 Science Reinforcement Prog</td>
<td>P1 SC LJ @ Zoo</td>
<td>P3 &amp; P5 SA1 Oral (pm)</td>
<td>P1 SC LJ @ Zoo</td>
<td>NAPFA 5 Stations (P4 &amp; P6)</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>P6 Science Reinforcement Prog</td>
<td>P4 &amp; P6 SA1 Oral (pm)</td>
<td>P3 &amp; P5 SA1 Oral (pm)</td>
<td>CCAM(Thu5)</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sch Team Trg</td>
<td>Prefects, CCA Leaders Training #2</td>
<td>Prefects, CCA Leaders Training #1</td>
<td>Primary 5 GYS</td>
<td>P3 SS LJ</td>
<td>P3 SS LJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>EL Fiesta</td>
<td>EL Fiesta</td>
<td>P6 SC SBWR LJ</td>
<td>P6 SC SBWR LJ</td>
<td>Aesthetics Day</td>
<td>Meet the Parents (MTP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Holiday (30 May - 28 Jun 15)**

- Vesak Day
- Public Holiday
- PS Cultural Immersion Trip to Shanghai
- Science Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve Learning Journey
- Social Studies Learning Journey

**S C H O O L  H O L I D A Y**

- 08-Jun-15
- 09-Jun-15
- 10-Jun-15
- 11-Jun-15
- 12-Jun-15
- 13-Jun-15

- 15-Jun-15
- 16-Jun-15
- 17-Jun-15
- 18-Jun-15
- 19-Jun-15
- 20-Jun-15

- 22-Jun-15
- 23-Jun-15
- 24-Jun-15
- 25-Jun-15
- 26-Jun-15
- 27-Jun-15

- P6 Remedial
- P6 Remedial
- P6 Remedial

**Legend**

- CAM (Wed1) = CCA Module (Wednesday Session 1)
- UG(Wed1) = Uniformed Group (Wednesday Session 1)
- MT = Mother Tongue
- P6 SC SBWR LJ = Science Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve Learning Journey
- SS LJ = Social Studies Learning Journey

Last updated: 24/03/2015