



FMS(P) NewsLink

Term 4 / September 2014

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to a new term at FMS (P)!

I hope you had a well-rested break with your child/ward during the holidays. All too quickly, we have reached the last term of 2014. Before we embark on this new term, allow me to share with you some of the highlights of Term 3:

National Day/ P3 Swim Carnival 2014

Our students had an exciting and enriching National Day and Swim Carnival this year. In line with this year's National Day's theme, *Our People, Our Home*, our students participated in simple yet meaningful classroom activities to celebrate our Nation's pioneers and relate different facets of life to Singapore, our Home. They played traditional childhood games such as five stones, pick-up sticks and chaptek. The lower primary students solved jigsaw puzzles to reveal iconic landmarks in Singapore while the upper primary students went on a journey from past to present that visited the key milestones in Singapore's development of transport, housing and playgrounds. Students also brought old-time snacks that reminded them of Singapore for shared consumption while the teachers introduced them to the founding fathers of the independent Singapore and their contributions. The finale was a community singing session where all voices united as one.

We would also like to thank all parents who volunteered at the Swim Carnival. This year, our P3 advanced swimmers also participated in a charity event; Waves of Hope Swimathon 2014. This is in partnership with the Rotaract Club (NUS) to raise funds for Sports Care, a beneficiary that helps underprivileged children. Your presence and your help have made the day's programme very meaningful and a resounding success.

Mother Tongue Language Fortnight 2014

The Mother Tongue Language (MTL) Fortnight 2014 was successfully carried out in Term 3 from 21 to 31 July. Throughout the two weeks, many activities were organized for students, with the objective of injecting joy into the learning of MTL. The Chinese department organized the P1 and P2 Speech and Drama Presentation where every P1 & P2 class put up their own skit. The P3 students had puppetry lessons whilst P4 students participated in a cultural camp and the P5 students had Conversational Chinese/Malay lessons. The Malay and Tamil departments also organized a variety of activities for the students, such as singing and a poetry recitation competition, food-tasting and the playing of traditional games.

Cultural Immersion Programmes

The Mother Tongue department organised a cultural immersion trip in June for 38 P5 students. The objectives of the trip were to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Chinese culture, her values and history and to provide an authentic Chinese language learning environment for our students through attendance of lessons in a local primary school.

In return, a group of 37 students and staff from Dongzhou Primary School visited us from 20 to 24 July. Besides being attached to some Primary 5 classes for lessons, the students

from Dongzhou Primary School also took in the sights of various places of interest in Singapore and got the opportunity to visit their buddies' homes and spent time with a typical Singaporean family for an authentic immersion experience.

Family@Fairfield

In July 2013, we launched Family@Fairfield, an initiative under MSF FamilyMatters@Schools. It is an intentional partnership between School, PiE and Dads@Fairfield to provide support for parents and families within the FMSP community.

Now into its 2nd year, Family@Fairfield has reached out to hundreds of parents through regular Mom's Networking Tea Sessions and Dads and Mums talks. The remaining talks for 2014 are in September and November. Do look out for the email notifications and join other parents in a journey of learning how to be better parents!

Teachers' Day 2014

A BIG Thank You to all who contributed in making our Teachers' Day celebration a really wonderful and enjoyable one for all staff members at Fairfield. Your lovely gestures have been much appreciated by us. Special thanks also go to the group of parents from our PiE (Partners-in-Education) who booked a movie theatre just for us to watch an entertaining movie in the afternoon!

A BIG Thank You also to the student leaders, led by our Prefectorial Board Executive Committee, who helped organize a successful Teachers' Day Concert. Under the mentorship of teachers in charge of the prefectorial board, the student leaders were instrumental in areas such as organizing auditions, being emcees and helping out at the backstage during the concert.

School Holidays in Term 4

Please take note of the following school holidays in Term 4:

- 19 September (Friday) : PSLE Listening Comprehension
(Only P6 students have to report to school)
- 3 October (Friday) : Children's Day Holiday
- 6 October (Monday) : School holiday in lieu of the Hari Raya Haji Public Holiday
- 14 - 17 October (Tues to Fri) : PSLE Marking Exercise - *ALL students will not report to school on these days*
- 6 November (Thursday) : Administration Day - *ALL students will not report to school on this day*

Temperature-taking exercise

Please ensure that your child brings his/her thermometer to school on **Thurs 18 Sep** as there will be a **Temperature-taking exercise**. These are measures put in place to eliminate the risk of any viral infection spreading within the school community, especially with HFMD cases on the rise. I hope that you will continue to encourage your child/ward to practise good personal hygiene and keep him/her away from school if he/she registers a fever or is unwell. It is also a good opportunity for the value of personal and social responsibility to be reinforced in our children.

End-of-Year Examinations

With the coming of the PSLE and Primary 2 to 5 Semestral Examination 2 (SA2) in Term 4, we seek your support in working closely with the school to consolidate your child's

learning for the year. While it is important that they put in the extra effort to prepare for the examinations in the weeks before the examination, it is also essential to be mindful of their well-being and ensure that they get sufficient rest, exercise and leisure activities. Please take note of the schedule of the end-of-year examination in the attached calendar.

Children's Day Celebrations 2014

Children's day is celebrated each year to recognise the uniqueness of each child and the potential he/she possesses. This year, our celebrations will be held on Thurs, 2 Oct. It will be a normal school day and dismissal will be as usual. Fri, 3 Oct will be a school holiday.

FMS (P) Achievements

Warmest congratulations to all students who have done well for the following inter-school academic and CCA competitions!

Academic Achievements

Our students achieved the following awards in the inter-schools Science competitions:

- **Raffles Science Olympiad (RSO) 2014**
Silver – 1 (Individual)
- **Little Professor 2014 organised by ACJC Math & Science Council**
Gold – 2 (Individual) Silver – 2 (Individual)
Bronze – 2 (Individual) Merit – 10 (Individual)
- **RGS Mathematics and Science Challenge 2014 organised by RGS**
9th Position – 1 (Individual)

CCA Achievements

The school would also like to congratulate the Basketball Junior Boys and Badminton Junior Boys for achieving the Top 16 positions in their respective National Inter-school competitions.

Parents' Survey

We seek your help and about 10 minutes of your time to complete a school survey. You will be receiving the link to this survey from admin@fmisp.sg by the 1st week of October. A deadline will be mentioned and we would be grateful if you could complete the survey by then.

My staff and I look forward to yet another fulfilling term with our pupils. Let us continue to work together to support our children in their learning.

Yours sincerely,



Chaillan Mui Tuan
Principal

Annex A - Term 4 Programme Highlights!**Sports Trip to Malaysia (7-9 Nov 2014)**

The FMS(P) School Teams (Sports) have been the school's pride and inspiration to our students. In this annual 3-day Overseas Sports Trip to Malaysia, selected P5 athletes from Badminton, Basketball and Volleyball School Teams will have the opportunity to compete with the Malaysian teams and gain valuable match experience.

Cultural and Internationalisation Programme to Siem Reap, Cambodia (20 - 25 Nov 2014)

This Cultural and Internationalisation Trip will see our Pri 5 students visiting Cambodia for a time of learning and interacting with the local communities. It is hoped that the students will be also be able to develop important life-skills and values such as resilience, compassion and having a heart of gratitude through the programme.

CCA Modules for 2015 (P2 to P5 students)

The selection for CCA Modules in 2014 will be opened to all P2 - P5 students in Term 4. All parents of P2 – P5 students will be given a letter and a list of available modules for 2014. The details and instructions of selection will also be included in the letter. The selection for P2 will be different from the P3-P5. A separate letter will be given to explain the selection process. Do note that all P4 to P6 students are strongly encouraged to have at least one CCA.

P3 - P6 Science Textbooks, Lab Activities, Files & Learning Logs

Please ensure that all Science learning materials bought and gathered over the 4 years from Primary 3 should be kept well and used for revision to prepare your child / ward for PSLE Science.

Sale of School Uniform and T-shirts and Popular@FMSP

To facilitate the purchase of the school uniform and T-shirts, books and stationery items, Yangtze Kiang Tailor and Popular@FMSP will be opened from 9am to 12pm on the following dates from September to December 2014:

- Saturday 27 September
- Saturday 25 October
- Saturday 27 December

Annex B

16 September 2014

Dear Parents/Guardian,

ROAD SAFETY OF STUDENTS

We would like to seek your cooperation to work with the school in ensuring the safety of students coming to and leaving school. This is especially important as young children may not have the skills required to use roads properly and do not always fully appreciate the dangers presented. Their small physique also makes them less visible to motorists.

This letter reiterates the road safety policies of the school:

- a. Reduce vehicle speed and stay alert for pedestrians in the school zone.
- b. Cooperate with traffic marshals to ensure overall safety and smooth traffic flow.
- c. Let your child alight only at the designated drop-off point.
- d. Be advised not to violate traffic rules by driving recklessly or making illegal manoeuvres such as turning into the school from the outer lane(s) of the road.
- e. Do not horn indiscriminately.
- f. Help your child alight from the car as quickly as possible.
- g. Reinforce correct road safety behaviour such as using the pedestrian crossing, and avoiding jaywalking or using a handphone while crossing.
- h. Remind your children to practice 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 the safety of everyone, enforcement action will be taken against motorists who violate traffic rules. We thank all parents and guardians who have been the role models for our children.

On behalf of SPF and LTA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Tuan'.

Mrs Chaillan Mui Tuan
Principal



Just A Minute - Fairfield believes in working alongside with the parents of our pupils with the hope of achieving the best outcome for our children. We will feature an article each term containing 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.

BUILD TO LAST

Greetings and best wishes to you, dear parents, as we enter into the last term of 2014.



Established in 1888, FMSP celebrated her 126th year of providing solid, all-rounded and holistic education for the children coursing through her gates in August! She is over a century old! Just imagine the kind of odds like world wars, financial crises and change of governments (just to name a few) that she had to overcome and to take in her stride. In an ever changing, fast paced world, FMSP has pressed on and not compromised on her founding ethos to give every child, not just a good start, but the *right* start. And it is not merely for one or two generations but for generations upon generations of children! What a legacy!

I cannot help but to ponder what then is the legacy we give to our children?

It is prevalent these days to see both parents working long hours and young children stuck in over-stretched schedules. Many families today are often under-connected and in our everyday 'busyness', it's so easy to forget that our lives are but just a blip in time. Often, the children get short-changed on things that really matter and life goes speeding by in deadly routines. I see this kind of over-commitment as the quickest route to the destruction of the family.

The family is the child's first and basic school. Fathers and mothers are the primary educators and sculptors of their lives. As parents, have we abdicated and given up the chance and privilege to role model for our children? Have we out sourced this responsibility to maids, relatives or childcare, school or church? Or worse, have we abandoned them to the internet trolls? Will we halt and reverse this dangerous drift?

According to The Thalmud, **'when you teach your son, you teach your son's son'**. If we are able to understand what we are building into the lives of our children goes beyond their academic results, we will certainly want to ensure that we get our own values and lives right. We may even have to review some of our priorities, get rid of certain bad habits and wrong mind-sets that we have ourselves so that we can be effective role models for our children. Leave a legacy for your children and your children's children. Our legacy goes beyond financial inheritance and memories. Our teachings and values are legacies which will be passed down through the generations and be a blessing that is enjoyed by each succeeding generation. Will your children and grandchildren enjoy a legacy from your coaching, counselling, mentoring, sowing and friendship? A parent who runs the race well and finishes strong results in this - 'Her children rise up and call her blessed' (Proverbs 31:28) and 'His children are blessed after him' (Proverbs 20:7).

Credit: Focus on the Family and Parents for Life

[Article contributed by our Partner-in-Education, Mrs Esther Chan.]

Fairfield Methodist School (Primary) Calendar Term 4

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	15-Sep-14	16-Sep-14	17-Sep-14	18-Sep-14	19-Sep-14	20-Sep-14
1	Sch Team Trg	Supp/Remedial	CCAM (Wed4)	CCAM (Thu3) Sch Team Trg	PSLE LC No School for P1-P5 students	Dads and Mums Talk
	22-Sep-14	23-Sep-14	24-Sep-14	25-Sep-14	26-Sep-14	27-Sep-14
2	Sch Team Trg	Supp/Remedial	CCAM(Wed5)	PSLE (EL) CCAM(Thu4) Sch Team Trg	PSLE (Maths) Supp/Remedial	
	29-Sep-14	30-Sep-14	01-Oct-14	02-Oct-14	03-Oct-14	04-Oct-14
3	PSLE (MT) P3&4 SA2 Oral (pm)	PSLE (SCI) P3&4 SA2 Oral (pm)	PSLE (HMT)	Children's Day Celebration Sch Team Trg CCAM(Thu5)	Children's Day	UG Primary 6 Post-PSLE Camp
	06-Oct-14	07-Oct-14	08-Oct-14	09-Oct-14	10-Oct-14	11-Oct-14
4	Hari Raya Haji Public Holiday (in-lieu)	SA2 Oral Day 1 [P2 (am) & P5 (pm)]	SA2 Oral Day 2 [P2 (am) & P5 (pm)]	SA2 EL P1 & LC Primary 6 GYS (am)	SA2 MT P1 & LC SA2 Oral Day 3 P2-P5 (am) Primary 6 GYS (am)	
	13-Oct-14	14-Oct-14	15-Oct-14	16-Oct-14	17-Oct-14	18-Oct-14
5	Sch Team Trg	PSLE Marking Exercise No School for All Students				
	20-Oct-14	21-Oct-14	22-Oct-14	23-Oct-14	24-Oct-14	25-Oct-14
6	SA2 EL Paper 2	CL Training	Deepavali Public Holiday	Kindergarten Visit (Hosted by P6)	SA2 Maths Kindergarten Visit (Hosted by P6)	
	27-Oct-14	28-Oct-14	29-Oct-14	30-Oct-14	31-Oct-14	01-Nov-14
7	SA2 MT Paper 2	SA2 Science	SA2 HMT Paper 1 & 2	Sch Team Trg		
	03-Nov-14	04-Nov-14	05-Nov-14	06-Nov-14	07-Nov-14	08-Nov-14
8	Sch Team Trg		Moms Tea Manga Drawing (P3-P6)	Admin Day	P1 Orientation (2pm) Sch Team Overseas Trip (7-9 Nov 14)	Sch Team Overseas Trip (7-9 Nov 14) Dads and Mums Talk
	10-Nov-14	11-Nov-14	12-Nov-14	13-Nov-14	14-Nov-14	15-Nov-14
9	HD Rehearsal (am) Sch Team Trg	P4 Financial Literacy (am)	HD Rehearsal (am) P4 Financial Literacy (am) Charity Sale	Honours Day Parents' Appreciation Lunch Charity Sale Sch Team Trg	Thanksgiving Service P6 Grad Night	
Term IV School Holiday (15 Nov - 31 Dec 14)						
S C H O O L H O L I D A Y	17-Nov-14	18-Nov-14	19-Nov-14	20-Nov-14	21-Nov-14	22-Nov-14
				Cambodia Trip	Cambodia Trip	Cambodia Trip
	24-Nov-14	25-Nov-14	26-Nov-14	27-Nov-14	28-Nov-14	29-Nov-14
	Cambodia Trip	Cambodia Trip				

Legend

CCAM (Thu3)	CCA Module (Thursday Session 3)
UG	Uniformed Group
MT	Mother Tongue
HD	Honours Day
GYS	Growing Year Series

*Pupils' calendar
Updated 15 Sep 2014*