

3 January 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Horizon family warmly welcomes all our students and parents to 2023! We are grateful and appreciative of our parents' support and look forward to your continued support and partnership to educate our students.

**1. Introduction by Principal, Mrs Ong Hui Khim**

First and foremost, I would like to thank the past Principal, Mrs Grace Leong, for her leadership and service to the school. I am honoured to be given this opportunity to join the Horizon family and build upon the good work of my predecessors who came before me. It is the hope of my staff and myself to cater to the diverse interests and needs of our students and realise our school's vision of Confident Individuals, Responsible Citizens.

The new academic year has begun and I sincerely thank you for your continuous support throughout the past years. It is really your partnership with the school and the teachers that learning continues to flourish in the school despite the challenging situations brought about by COVID-19.

Every child is different, with their own strengths, aptitudes, interests and personality. Your children will be poets, scientists, musicians, athletes, leaders, or any other profession which will contribute to the beauty of this world. Your children will also be friends, upstanders, philanthropists, helpers, motivators, comforters, or any other role that brings joy to others in any circumstance. In any role or profession your child will embark on in the future, it is their skills, values and passion which will sustain and guide them, not their exam scores. Thus, I encourage parents to emphasise on the process, celebrate small successes along the way, and help them along when the going gets tough, and never give up.

I look forward to meeting you during our school events and truly hope that you will continue to partner us to make the school a safe and effective place of learning, where everyone is socially responsible, resilient, and caring towards each other.

**2. Towards a Safe and Secure Horizon**

In the interest of student safety, the school will continue educating students about good road safety practices. We appeal to parents/guardians to reiterate the importance of road safety practices and be good role models of these practices to your children.

Parents are permitted to drop off and pick up their children at the school foyer. During dismissal, the vehicular entry gate will only be open when the school buses have departed the school. Do maintain the "Stop, Drop and Go" practice when alighting or picking up your child at the foyer. Do not park and wait at the foyer. This will inconvenience other parents. Should you need to park your car, car parks can be found at the neighbouring Multi-Storey Carparks at Edgedale Green and Punggol Spectra. Students can also use gates B and C as alternative points of access from Edgedale Green, Punggol Breeze and Punggol Spectra.

We would also like to remind parents to show consideration for other road users and to be respectful of LTA's road rules and regulations. Please do not,

- park 9 metres within a bus stop area ;
- park 6 metres within a junction ;
- park 3 metres within a fire-hydrant ;
- park 50 metres of a pedestrian crossing ;
- park abreast (double parking)
- park at entrances or exits of buildings.

### 3. Opening hours of School Gates

The opening hours of the school gates are as follows:

Gate A	Gate B	Gate C	Gate D (Only for MK@Horizon and KCare@Horizon)
6. 30 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. (Mon – Fri)	7.00 a.m. to 7.25 a.m. (Mon to Fri)		7.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. (Mon – Fri)
	1.45 p.m. to 2.05 p.m. (Mon to Fri)		
	3.15 p.m. to 3.35 p.m. (Mon)		
	3.45 p.m. to 4.05 p.m. (Tue & Thu)		
	6.00 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. (Mon to Fri)	6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. (Mon to Fri)	

For the safety and security of all, visitors to the school are required to enter the school at Gate A and sign in at the security post with a photo ID as proof of identity. Visitors will be issued with a pass, which they will have to wear at all times while in the school. Visitors' movements are restricted to the General Office and the ground level non-teaching areas, e.g. the book shop and dental clinic. Visitors to MK@Horizon and KCare@Horizon are to present their authorization pass to the security officer on duty as proof of identity before entry.

### 4. School Matters

The school is committed to nurturing our students into confident and responsible leaders. Together, in partnership, we will be able to provide the best possible learning experience for your children.

#### (i) **Attendance**

We strongly urge all parents/guardians to avoid travel during term time. Presence in school during term time ensures that your child/ward is not disadvantaged by missing out on curriculum content taught. In the event of his/her absence, a medical certificate from a doctor or letter from parents/guardians would need to be submitted promptly to the Form Teacher upon your child's / ward's return.

#### (ii) **Punctuality**

We emphasise the importance of being punctual when reporting to school and lessons. This practice is consistent with Habit 1: Being Proactive. All students are expected to be in their classrooms by 7.30 a.m. and will participate in the flag-raising ceremony at 7.35 a.m. In line with our School Value: Respect, let us all ensure that these respectful practices are adhered to.

**(iii) Attire**

We would like to instil a sense of pride and strong identity with Horizon Primary School, students are required to report to school in full uniform on all days unless there is P.E. Students in P1 and P2 do not need to be in their school uniform on the following days:

Day	Activity	For
Monday	PAL	Primary 1 students
Thursday	PAL	Primary 2 students

An attire check will be conducted on Tuesday, 10 January 2023. Please refer to page 24 of the Student Organiser for further details on school attire.

**(iv) School Hours**

School Day	School Hours	Remarks
Mondays to Fridays	7.45 a.m. to 1.45 p.m.*	Reporting time for all students: <b>7.30 a.m.</b> (Flag-Raising will commence at 7.35 a.m.)
	9.15 a.m. to 9.45 a.m.	Recess for Primary 1 & 4
	9.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m.	Recess for Primary 2 & 6
	10.15 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.	Recess for Primary 3 & 5
	12.15 p.m. to 12.45 p.m.	Quick Bites (QB) for all students (Teachers will allocate 10 min for QB while students are still engaged in teaching and learning.)
Mondays	2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.	1) Lessons for Primary 5 & 6 students taking Higher Mother Tongue 2) Lessons for Primary 6 students taking Foundation Science
Tuesdays	2.15 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.	Supplementary lessons for Primary 5 & 6
Wednesdays	7.45 a.m. to 9.15 a.m.	CCA Sessions for Primary 3 to Primary 6 students
Thursdays	2.15 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.	1) Small-Group Teaching (SGT) for Primary 3 & 4 (selected students only) 2) Supplementary lessons for Primary 6
	2.15 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.	E2K Mathematics & Science Programmes for Primary 4 & 5 (selected students only)

**5. Communication with Parents/Guardians**

Horizon Primary School values strong partnership with parents. Hence, we urge parents/guardians to be familiar with the different platforms that the school will use to communicate with you. A welcome letter will be sent out in Week 2 to inform you of your child's/ward's Form Teachers and subject teachers with their email addresses.

Should you need clarification about school programmes or have queries about school administrative matters related to your children, you can contact the school at 6753 5411 or email us at [horizon\\_ps@moe.edu.sg](mailto:horizon_ps@moe.edu.sg).

**(i) Student Organiser**

Every student will have a Student Organiser specially designed by the school. The theme for 2023 is "Connect. Collaborate. Create." As we move towards living with the pandemic, we would like our Horizon Stars to stay connected to what they have learnt, what they are learning and what they will be learning. This would then provide our students with a sense of purpose in the journey of lifelong learning. Our students will also collaborate and synergise with one another to create and explore possibilities together.

The organiser is a useful and creative tool for students to learn how to manage their daily lives. Students have to bring their organisers daily to record important information from the teachers. Please take time to go through it with your child daily. You may use the organiser to communicate with your child's teachers. Kindly advise your child to alert the teachers if you have written some notes for their teacher in the organiser.

**(ii) Parent-School Communication App – Parents Gateway**

Parents Gateway is a mobile app that provides a one-stop portal to keep parents informed about key administrative matters. The school will use Parents Gateway to provide timely announcements regarding school's events and activities. Parents will also be able to perform administrative functions using this mobile app, such as providing consent for their children to participate in school activities.

For more information on Parents Gateway, please visit: <https://pg.moe.edu.sg/faq>

**(iii) School Website**

Please visit our school website at [www.horizonpri.moe.edu.sg](http://www.horizonpri.moe.edu.sg) to access the school information, updates and important announcements. WE-CONNECT! letters are also available online on the school's website.

**(iv) Facebook Page**

Horizon Primary School is on Facebook (FB) at <https://www.facebook.com/HorizonPrimary>. Through our FB page, we will provide timely updates regarding our school's events and activities e.g. students' first days of the school. In addition, we will also share important announcements and useful information for our parents on our FB page. Please like and follow our page on FB.

**6. Online Learning Platforms at Horizon Primary School**

At Horizon Primary School, ICT is used productively for quality learning in support of the curriculum. The following online platforms are accessible by your child / ward even when they are at home. More details will be communicated to P1 parents via Parents Gateway. For P2 to P6 students, their login details from the previous year are still valid.

**Singapore Student Learning Space (SLS)**

The SLS is an online platform with tools and curriculum-aligned resources for all students to learn anytime, anywhere, collaboratively and at their own pace. With the SLS, students can take greater ownership of their learning and pick up skills and habits that prepare them for lifelong learning.

Teachers will also use the SLS to complement classroom teaching and learning. Students will be assigned meaningful lessons to learn on their own and at their own pace. They will be able to learn collaboratively with their friends on SLS. SLS can be accessed from <https://learning.moe.edu.sg>.

### **KooBits**

KooBits is an online learning platform for students learning Mathematics. It contains tutorials, topical Math questions and solutions with models and diagrams. Students are encouraged to be problem-solvers through the various activities and competitions available on KooBits. KooBits can be accessed from <https://problemsums.koobits.com/>.

### **Ezhishi**

Ezhishi is a supplementary Chinese Language reading and learning resource for students learning Chinese Language. It consists of an online learning platform and bi-weekly magazines. It promotes self-directed learning and to arouse student's interest in learning Chinese Language. Ezhishi can be accessed from <https://www.ezhishi.net>.

Do note that students may access 2023 learning resources for SLS from the start of the year. For other learning platforms, they may access 2023 learning resources from 1 February 2023.

## **7. Student Matters**

### **(i) DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) Time before Flag Raising Ceremony**

To encourage our students to read widely, students are required to bring an **English Language book** on **Mondays to Wednesdays** and a **Mother Tongue Language book** on **Thursdays and Fridays**. The choice of books should be age-appropriate and vary across genres and content. Through this, we aim to develop a reading culture and a strong passion for reading in our students.

### **(ii) 2023 Class Timetable**

Students will be issued their class timetables on Friday, 13 January 2023, and we encourage our students to pack their bags based on the subjects indicated in their timetables. This ensures that your child/ward will have the necessary books and materials for his/her daily lessons and activities. In addition, this practice also results in students' school bags being maintained at a manageable weight.

### **(iii) Quick Bites (QB)**

Quick Bites provides students who have a long wait between their recess and lunch with the opportunity to have a snack in the interim. Between **12.15 p.m. – 12.45 p.m.**, students can have a healthy snack (e.g. a piece of fruit or a sandwich) which can be consumed in class within 10 minutes. However, P5 and P6 students taking Higher Mother Tongue and Foundation Science will not have QB on Mondays as they are scheduled for a lunch break before their lessons in the afternoon.

### **(iv) Co- Curricular Activity (CCA), Programme for Active Learning (PAL) and SwimSafer**

CCAs provide our students with the platform to develop their interest and talents, along with the opportunity to forge friendships and build character. Feedback from the students have also shown that they enjoy the CCA sessions as they get to bond with their teachers, peers and coaches/instructors. We are glad that we have been able to resume physical CCA sessions in 2022 safely and will continue to do so in 2023. Students can look forward to showcasing their talents and strive for excellence through the various competition platforms such as National School Games, Singapore Youth Festival as well as performances in school and external venues. More details will be provided on the CCA sessions in a separate letter.

Programme for Active Learning (PAL) in Horizon will commence on Monday, 9 January 2023, for P1 students and Thursday, 12 January 2023, for P2 students. Through PAL, P1 & P2 students learn values and build character through experiential activities across the four domains of Sports & Games, Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Outdoor Education.

In alignment to our PE curriculum and equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge in water safety, we will be having SwimSafer for our P5 and selected P6 students this year. For more details, kindly refer to the separate letters that have been sent out previously.

We would like to thank all parents and guardians for supporting your child's/ward's holistic development through our programmes.

**(v) Gifted Education Programme Identification Exercise 2023 for P3 Students**

The Gifted Education Branch of the Curriculum Planning & Development Division carries out an exercise to identify students for the Gifted Education Programme (GEP) annually. The tentative schedule for the two stages of the GEP Identification Exercise 2023 is as follows:

Stage	Date
GEP Screening Exercise	17 August 2023 (Thursday)
GEP Selection Exercise (Only shortlisted students will be invited)	17 & 18 October 2023 (Tuesday & Wednesday)

A separate letter will be given to the P3 students nearer to the date of the GEP Screening Exercise.

**(vi) Usage of photographs on school official platforms**

Photograph(s) or video recording(s) of your child/ward captured during any school events/programmes may be published within the school website, the school's official social media platforms (e.g. Facebook), as well as the school's official publications or publicity collaterals (e.g. yearbook). From time to time, some photographs would also be reposted on MOE's social media platforms (e.g. Facebook and Instagram) as MOE's effort in sharing good school practices.

**8. Chinese New Year Celebrations**

The school will be having a Chinese New Year Celebration on Friday, 20 January 2023. The reporting time for the students will be as usual at 7.30 a.m. and dismissal time will be at 12.45 p.m. on that day. Students may come to school dressed in Chinese ethnic attire with school shoes or P.E. attire.

Please note that Monday, 23 January 2023, and Tuesday, 24 January 2023 are Public Holidays. All students will report back to school on Wednesday, 25 January 2023.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Chinese students and families a happy and prosperous Lunar New Year!

**9. Calendar of Events (Term 1)**

Please refer to the attached annex for Calendar of Events for Term 1. We are confident that you will be active partners with the school by supporting your child/ward in the school's activities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Let us work together for a fulfilling year ahead!

Your partner-in-education

Mrs Ong Hui Khim  
Principal

**Calendar of Events for Term 1, 2023**

<b>Date/ Time</b>	<b>Event/Activity</b>	<b>For</b>
<u>Week 3</u> 18 Jan and 19 Jan (Wed & Thurs)	Photo-Taking for Primary 1 & Primary 6 students for the School Smart Card for 2023*	Primary 1 & Primary 6 students
20 Jan (Fri)	Chinese New Year Celebrations* (Early dismissal at 12:45pm)	All students
<u>Week 4</u> 23 Jan (Mon) & 24 Jan (Tues)	Chinese New Year Public Holidays	All students
<u>Week 5</u> 31 Jan (Tues)	Primary 6 Parents' Engagement Session with Briefing on PSLE Matters*	Parents of Primary 6 students
2 Feb (Thurs)	Primary 4 Parents' Engagement Session with Briefing on Subject-Based Banding (SBB) Matters*	Parents of Primary 4 students
<u>Week 6</u> 7 Feb (Tues)	Primary 5 Parents' Engagement Session*	Parents of Primary 5 students
9 Feb (Thurs)	Primary 3 Parents' Engagement Session*	Parents of Primary 3 students
<u>Week 7</u> 14 Feb (Tues)	Primary 2 Parents' Engagement Session*	Parents of Primary 2 students
16 Feb (Thurs)	Primary 1 Parents' Engagement Session*	Parents of Primary 1 students
<u>Week 8</u> 20 Feb (Mon) to 23 Feb (Thurs)	Primary 4 Learning Journey to Geylang Serai*	All Primary 4 students
<u>Week 9</u> 28 Feb (Tues) to 2 Mar (Thurs)	Primary 5 Learning Journey to Science Centre Singapore*	All Primary 5 students

<u>Week 10</u>		
7 Mar (Tues) to 9 Mar (Thurs)	Primary 3 Learning Journey to Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve*	All Primary 3 students

\* Details of event/activity will be given closer to the event date.

**Note:**

Events listed here are accurate as of Tuesday, 3 January 2023. Should there be any change or cancellation of events due to unforeseen circumstances, the school will inform you through writing and updates on the school's website.