

2 January 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Horizon family warmly welcomes all our students and parents to 2024! 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

Welcome back to another exciting school year! It is with great joy and enthusiasm that I extend my warmest greetings to each and every one of you.

This year marks a momentous occasion as we joyously celebrate the 15th anniversary of Horizon Primary School. Do look forward to an exciting year ahead filled with activities and celebrations!

As we open our doors to a new school year, I am filled with optimism for the incredible journey that awaits us. Our school is not just a building; it is a community of learners, dreamers, and achievers. Together, we create an environment where knowledge flourishes, friendships blossom, and ambitions take flight. Let's embrace every opportunity for growth, to challenge yourselves, and to support one another in this shared quest for excellence. May this school year be filled with discovery, inspiration, and a sense of accomplishment. Welcome back, dear boys and girls, to a year of endless possibilities and memorable experiences.

2. Towards a Safe and Secure Horizon

We seek parents' support to keep schools a safe environment for students. If your child is unwell, please ensure that he/she stays at home and seeks medical attention if necessary. If your child is recovering from respiratory-related illnesses, please encourage him/her to exercise social responsibility (e.g., by wearing a mask, minimising social interactions with big groups). We appreciate your support and will continue to work with you closely. Let us all do our part to exercise personal and social responsibility and stay safe.

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.

We encourage parents to turn off your car engine instead of leaving it idling while waiting for your child/ward.

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 school by 7.30 a.m. and will participate in the flag-raising ceremony at 7.35 a.m. Students are to report to their classrooms on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, while reporting to the Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays. 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 Primary 1 and Primary 2 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, 9 January 2024. 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: 7.30 a.m. to the respective venues: 1) Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays – Classroom 2) Tuesdays and Thursdays – Hall (<i>Flag-Raising will commence at 7.35 a.m.</i>)
	9.15 a.m. to 9.45 a.m. 9.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. 10.15 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.	Recess for Primary 1 & 4 Recess for Primary 2 & 6 Recess for Primary 3 & 5
	12.15 p.m. to 12.45 p.m.	Quick Bites (QB) for all students (<i>Teachers will allocate time for QB while students are still engaged in teaching and learning.</i>)
Mondays	2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.	1) *Lessons for Primary 3, 5 & 6 students taking Higher Mother Tongue 2) *Lessons for Primary 6 students taking Foundation Mathematics/Science
Tuesdays	2.15 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.	*Small-Group Teaching (SGT) for Primary 3 to 6 (selected students only)
Wednesdays	7.45 a.m. to 9.15 a.m.	*CCA Sessions for Primary 3 to 6 students
Thursdays	2.15 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.	*Small-Group Teaching (SGT) for Primary 3 to 6 (selected students only)
	2.15 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.	*E2K Mathematics & Science Programmes for Primary 4 & 5 (selected students only)
Fridays	2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.	Primary 3 & 4 Mother Tongue Support Programme (Tamil Language)
	2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	Primary 3 Mother Tongue Support Programme (Malay Language)

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.

(i) Student Organiser

Every student will have a Student Organiser specially designed by the school. In line with our 15th Anniversary, the theme for 2024 is "Leading With Hearts, Serving With Purpose". As our students equip themselves with the 21st Century Competencies, we wish for them to be leaders of themselves as well as to serve others in the community, with the right purpose and values. The cover page for the school organiser this year is designed by Sandriel Koh from Primary 6 Innovator.

The organiser is a useful tool for students to practice the 7 Habits and learn how to manage their daily lives. Students will have to bring their organisers daily to record important information. Please take time to go through it with your child daily. You may also 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 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 FB page to be updated on our school's events and activities.

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 parents via Parents Gateway.

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 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 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. It can be accessed through <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. It can be accessed through <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. It can be accessed through <https://www.ezhishi.net>.

Do note that students may access learning resources for SLS from the start of the year. For other learning platforms, they may access 2024 learning resources from 1 February 2024 onwards.

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) 2024 Class Timetable

Students will be issued their class timetables on Friday, 12 January 2024, 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.

(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 shown that they enjoy the CCA sessions as they get to bond with their peers from other classes, teachers and coaches/instructors. Students will get the opportunity to showcase their talents and strive for excellence through various competition platforms such as National School Games (NSG), Singapore Youth Festival (SYF), World Robot Olympiad (WRO), as well as performances in school and external venues. More details will be provided by the CCA teachers during their CCA sessions.

Programme for Active Learning (PAL) in Horizon will commence on Monday, 8 January 2024, for Primary 1 students and Thursday, 11 January 2024, for Primary 2 students. Through PAL, Primary 1 & Primary 2 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 with our PE curriculum and equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge in water safety, we will be having SwimSafer for our Primary 4 and Primary 5 students this year. For more details, kindly refer to the separate letters that have been sent out last week.

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 2024 for Primary 3 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 2024 is as follows:

Stage	Date
GEP Screening Exercise	15 August 2024 (Thursday)
GEP Selection Exercise (Only shortlisted students will be invited)	15 & 16 October 2024 (Tuesday & Wednesday)

A separate letter will be given to the Primary 3 students nearer to the date of the GEP Screening Exercise.

(vi) Learning Journey to Kreta Ayer Heritage Gallery for Primary 4 Students

As part of the refreshed Character and Citizenship Education curriculum, the Primary 4 students will be embarking on a one-day learning journey to Kreta Ayer Heritage Gallery between Tuesday, 23 January 2024 and Friday, 2 February 2024, from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

This learning journey is one of the key Student Development Experiences for primary school students to deepen their understanding of the heritage and culture of Singapore beyond the classroom context, specifically, the contributions of our forefathers to nation building. This museum-based learning experience will be guided and facilitated by trained museum educators using various artefacts in the heritage gallery. In addition, students will also take part in a precinct walk in Kreta Ayer, where students will be encouraged to observe some traditional trades and architectural designs that are preserved till today. More details will be provided in a separate letter nearer to the event.

(vii) 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 part of MOE's effort in sharing good school practices.

Should you have any concerns regarding the use of your child's/ward's photographs on school official platforms, you may send an e-mail to HOD ICT & MRL, Mdm Nuurul at dayanku_nuurul_aida_fatima@schools.gov.sg.

8. Parents' Engagement Session

As the saying goes – "It takes a village to raise a child". In Horizon, we are committed to the holistic education of our students in partnership with parents. We have arranged a series of Parents' Engagement sessions for parents with children at the respective levels via Zoom on the following dates:

Level	Date
Primary 2	30 January 2024
Primary 3	25 January 2024
Primary 4	18 January 2024
Primary 5	23 January 2024
Primary 6	16 January 2024

More details pertaining to these engagement sessions will be shared with you separately.

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, 2024

Date/ Time	Event/Activity	For
<u>Week 1</u> 2 Jan (Tue)	Primary 1 Parents' Engagement Session	Parents of Primary 1 students
<u>Week 3</u> 16 Jan (Tue)	Primary 6 Parents' Engagement Session with Briefing on PSLE Matters*	Parents of Primary 6 students
18 Jan (Thur)	Primary 4 Parents' Engagement Session with Briefing on Subject-Based Banding (SBB) Matters*	Parents of Primary 4 students
<u>Week 4</u> 23 Jan (Tue)	Primary 5 Parents' Engagement Session*	Parents of Primary 5 students
25 Jan (Thur)	Primary 3 Parents' Engagement Session*	Parents of Primary 3 students
23 Jan (Tue), 24 Jan (Wed) & 26 Jan (Fri)	Primary 4 Learning Journey to Kreta Ayer*	Selected Primary 4 classes
<u>Week 5</u> 30 Jan (Tue)	Primary 2 Parents' Engagement Session*	Parents of Primary 2 students
1 Feb (Thur) & 2 Feb (Fri)	Primary 5 Learning Journey to Indian Heritage Centre*	Selected Primary 5 classes
2 Feb (Fri)	Primary 4 Learning Journey to Kreta Ayer*	Selected Primary 4 classes
<u>Week 6</u> 9 Feb (Fri)	Chinese New Year Celebration (Early dismissal at 10.45 a.m.)	All students
<u>Week 7</u> 12 Feb (Mon)	Chinese New Year Public Holiday	All students
13 Feb (Tue)	Chinese New Year School Holiday	
<u>Week 9</u> 26 Feb (Mon) to 28 Feb (Wed)	Primary 4 Museum-based Learning Journey*	All Primary 4 students
29 Feb (Thur) to 2 Mar (Sat)	Primary 5 Outdoor Adventure Camp*	All Primary 5 students
<u>Week 10</u> 5 Mar (Tues) & 6 Mar (Wed)	Primary 5 Learning Journey to Indian Heritage Centre*	Selected Primary 5 classes

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

Note:

Events listed here are accurate as of Tuesday, 2 January 2024. 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.