

29 April 2022

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Semester 1, Term 2 is coming to an end. We would like to take this opportunity to inform you of upcoming events/ activities that will be happening in the month of May. Please visit our school website (<https://www.horizonpri.moe.edu.sg>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/HorizonPrimary>) to keep yourselves updated on the latest news and events.

1. **Updates on COVID-19 SMM**

The school is grateful for the understanding and cooperation of parents, staff and students in the implementation of COVID-19 Safe Management Measures (SMM) during the pandemic to keep the school safe and our staff, students and their families well. As we transition to living with COVID-19, we would like to provide some updates of the school's SMM.

- Mask-wearing

Mask-wearing will continue to be required in school as a default. Unmasking is only allowed for PE, sports, singing, speech and drama. However, mask-wearing will be required during the singing of the national anthem and school song during flag raising ceremony in school.

- Safe distancing and capacity limits

Staff and students are not required to safe-distance during activities (mask-on and mask-off activities). There will also no longer be capacity limits for facilities in the school (e.g. Hall, Indoor Sports Hall and Canteen). The school will be planning for the gradual resumption of school events in 2022. We will take cognizance of the good practices in the past two years and adapt our approaches to the holistic development of students and engagement of parents/ guardians. More information will be provided closer to the events and activities.

Morning assemblies – The school will continue with its current arrangements for morning assembly. Students in Primary 1 - 3 will assemble in the school hall on even weeks, while those in Primary 4 - 6 will assemble in the school hall on odd weeks. When not assembled in the hall, students will continue to report to their classrooms for the singing of the national anthem and school song, and the recitation of the national pledge.

Recess – All students will be required to have their recesses at the canteen from **Wednesday, 4 May 2022**. Students will not be required to safe distance in the canteen, and they will also be permitted to sit with their friends from other classes. Students are reminded to continue practising good hygiene habits, e.g. hand-washing, and wiping down of table surfaces after eating. Students are to return to their classrooms after recess.

Dismissal – All students will be dismissed at 1.45 p.m. from **Wednesday, 4 May 2022**. The practice of staggered dismissal will cease. Do make the necessary arrangements to pick your children/ wards after school.

- Social responsibility

We seek parents/ guardians continued support to be socially responsible. Do seek medical treatment if your children/ wards are unwell. Keep them at home and allow them to recover before returning to school.

2. Public Holidays in May

- Labour Day

Labour Day falls on Sunday, 1 May 2022. The following Monday, 2 May 2022, will be a Public Holiday in lieu of Labour Day.

- Hari Raya Puasa

Hari Raya Puasa falls on Tuesday, 3 May 2022. It is a Public Holiday. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Muslim staff, students and their families Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

All students will report back to school on Wednesday, 4 May 2022.

- Vesak Day

Vesak Day falls on a Sunday, 15 May 2022. The following Monday, 16 May 2022, will be a Public Holiday in lieu of Vesak Day. We wish all our Buddhist staff, students and their parents a meaningful Vesak Day.

3. Measures to Mitigate Scams involving Communication Platforms

As a school, we are taking steps to tighten processes to prevent incidents just like the one that happened with OCBC Bank where users were sent an SMS with a fake link. Hence, we will be taking the following measures from 1 May 2022:

- Parents Gateway (for parents) and Student Learning Space (for students) will be used as official communication platforms for schoolwide announcements, requests for credentials and consent forms.
- All staff will no longer send clickable links via SMS and messaging apps such as WhatsApp and Class Dojo. Should they need to send parents and students clickable links, staff will communicate via Parents Gateway and Student Learning Space.

Should you encounter suspicious messages requesting for credentials and / or with clickable links via SMS and messaging apps such as WhatsApp and Class Dojo, please e-mail our HOD-ICT, Mdm Dayangku Nuurul Aida Fatima at dayangku_nuurul_aida_fatima@schools.gov.sg.

4. Annual School Health Check by HPB from 18 May 2022 to 27 May 2022

The School Health Service (SHS) team from the Health Promotion Board (HPB) will be conducting the annual medical check-ups and immunisations for your child/ ward in Term 2 Week 9 & 10 from Wednesday, 18 May 2022 to Friday, 27 May 2022.

The SHS team will conduct the following medical checks for your child/ ward:

- Conduct a general body check-up (All levels)
- Administer immunisations to your child/ ward (Primary 1 and 5)
- Conduct simple eye tests to check for common eye conditions like short-sightedness (Primary 1 - 4)
- Measure the height and weight to monitor the physical growth and development of your child/ ward (All levels)
- Conduct hearing tests (audiometry) to ensure your child/ ward can hear sounds within a normal range of hearing (Primary 1 only)

Separate letters will be provided to parents of Primary 1 and Primary 5 students via Parents Gateway with more details about the immunisation closer to date.

5. P1 to P6 Home-Based Learning Day on Friday, 20 May 2022

School Admin Day will be on Friday, 20 May 2022. All students are not required to come to school as the school staff will be involved in processing of students' results and reports. School-based student care services will continue to function full day on that day.

E-learning is part of the teaching and learning strategies used in Horizon Primary School. The school's e-learning portal enables students to enrich and enhance their knowledge in the various subjects through the use of ICT.

To ensure continuity of learning during School Admin Day on Friday, 20 May 2022, the school will be conducting Home-Based Learning (HBL) Exercises. Through these exercises, students will develop self-directed learning skills that will enable them to be independent learners. At the same time, it ensures that our students are well prepared in the event that they are required to learn from home.

For students with no computer or internet access at home, parents are strongly encouraged to find alternative venues for their children to access the SLS on that day.

Students are advised to access their online learning accounts prior to the HBL exercise to ensure that they do not face difficulties when gaining access to the portal on that day. If they do encounter problems, please do let your child's/ ward's Form Teacher know. We will provide the necessary support for your child's/ ward's HBL.

6. P6 Booster Programme (1) from Monday, 20 June 2022 to Thursday, 23 June 2022

The school will be organising the above programme to support our Primary 6 students in their preparations for the assessments in Semester 2 with the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) being the end in mind. More details of the above programme will be sent to you via Parents Gateway at a later date.

7. P4 Camp on Wednesday, 22 June 2022 and Thursday, 23 June 2022

The P4 Outdoor Adventure Camp is one of the key highlights of our students' learning experiences in Horizon Primary School. Students will have the opportunity to learn life skills through outdoor education as well as build strong bonds with their teachers and peers through the camp activities. We are pleased to inform you that we will be having a 1-day P4 Outdoor Adventure Camp for our Primary 4 students.

- Wednesday, 22 June 2022 – P4 Innovator, P4 Reflector, P4 Inquirer & P4 Discoverer
- Thursday, 23 June 2022 – P4 Thinker, P4 Creator, P4 Inventor & P4 Explorer

A separate letter has been sent to parents/ guardians of Primary 4 students via Parents Gateway. We thank you for your support and look forward to inspiring our students to "Dare to Dream!" through the P4 Outdoor Adventure Camp.

8. Meet-the-Parents (Virtual) Session (MTPS) on Friday, 24 June 2022

MTPS Session has always been valuable platform for our teachers to engage parents/ guardians and establish partnership with you in your child's/ ward's learning and progress. This year, the above session will continue to take place through video conferencing. Do take the opportunity to share your concerns with your child's/ ward's form teachers and discuss strategies to support him/ her. More details will be sent via Parents Gateway.

9. Travel Plans for Mid-Year Holidays

Parents/ guardians whose children/ wards have the intention to travel during the mid-year school holidays are required to make travel declarations of their upcoming travels. **A nil return is not required** for parents/ guardians whose children/ wards are not travelling. Travel declarations can be made in Parents Gateway [Go to Services > Declare Travels].

Thank you for standing by Horizon Primary as supportive partners. Let's work together to help our children enjoy school every day!

Your partner-in-education,
Mrs Grace Leong
Principal