

1 August 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We recently held our Horizon Family Day 2023, on 21 July 2023, and we would like to express our sincerest appreciation for your active participation. The event successfully brought together the entire Horizon family – students, staff, parents and even extended family members. It was an amazing sight as we all basked in the familial vibes especially since the hiatus of this signature event in its physical form due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

HFD2023 was made possible with the dedication and hard work of our Parents-Connect! Team (Horizon's PSG) and Parent Volunteers, who spent months conceptualising and preparing for the event. While the event may not be the most perfectly designed carnival, we are certain that it came from our hearts and was designed to bring our families together in a fun-filled day. So, we thank everyone for your kind understanding if there were any shortcomings. We hope that you enjoyed the day nonetheless. We once again thank everyone for the support as we continue strengthening our school spirit, together with all, as one Horizon.

For the month of August, we are looking forward to an exciting month filled with events and meaningful experiences for our students. In this letter, we are delighted to share with you some updates and events planned:

1. National Day Celebration on Tuesday, 8 August 2023

Since our independence on 9 August 1965, Singapore has faced many unforeseen challenges, and together, we have overcome them. Through these challenges, we have learnt from our mistakes and grown more resilient. The theme for this year's National Day is "**Onward As One**", which calls upon Singaporeans to look forward confidently and move onward in building our shared future as one united people. "Onward" reflects a nation that is forward looking and resilient to any challenges that lie ahead. "As One" underscores the collective ownership of Singapore's future and the importance of inclusivity and unity.

This year, we are delighted to bring National Day celebration back on-site in Horizon Primary School. Our National Day celebration includes the National Day Observance Ceremony, All Children Exercise Simultaneously (ACES) workout, CCE (FTGP) lesson and National Day concert. ACES workout is part of our Move It Horizon! initiative where we celebrate National Day through sports.

The reporting time for students will be as usual at 7.30 a.m. and dismissal will be at 10.45 a.m. Students are encouraged to come dressed in red tee-shirt, school PE shorts and black school shoes on 8 August 2023. They are also encouraged to bring a small day pack bringing along a storybook, a mini Singapore flag, a water bottle and a pencil case.

We look forward to an enjoyable National Day Celebration in Horizon Primary School. Onward As One! Majulah Singapura!

2. National Day 2023 (Wednesday, 9 August 2023) and Day After National Day 2023 (Thursday, 10 August 2023)

Wednesday, 9 August 2023, is a public holiday as we celebrate Singapore's 58th birthday, while Thursday, 10 August 2023, which is the following day, is a scheduled school holiday to ensure sufficient rest for students and staff who took part in performances for the National Day Parade. Students do not need to report to school on both days.

3. Primary 6 PSLE Oral Examination on Tuesday, 15 August 2023 and Wednesday, 16 August 2023

The Primary 6 PSLE Oral Examination will be held on Tuesday, 15 August 2023, and Wednesday, 16 August 2023. Please note that Primary 1 to Primary 5 students will be engaged in Home-based Learning (HBL) on the above-mentioned two dates.

Our teachers have worked hard together with our Primary 6 students to prepare them for the upcoming oral examination. We wish our Primary 6 students well as they sit for their first national examination. Details of the examination will be provided to parents/guardians of Primary 6 students in a separate letter.

4. Home-Based Learning (HBL) for Primary 1 to Primary 5 Students on Tuesday, 15 August 2023 and Wednesday, 16 August 2023

The school will be conducting HBL on Tuesday, 15 August 2023, and Wednesday, 16 August 2023, to ensure continuity of learning for our students during the PSLE Oral Examination. HBL develops students' dispositions and skills needed for self-directed learning.

To ensure ease of locating the learning resources, all links and/or learning materials will be shared via the Singapore Student Learning Space (SLS) on <https://vle.learning.moe.edu.sg/login>.

Students are advised to check that they are able access their SLS accounts prior to HBL. If they encounter problems, please inform your child's/ward's Form Teachers. We will provide the necessary support for your child's/ward's HBL.

Should your child/ward encounter any difficulty during the HBL exercise, you may contact the SLS Technical Helpdesk at 6702 6513.

5. Gifted Education Screening Exercise for Primary 3 Students on Thursday, 17 August 2023

The Ministry of Education is carrying out the identification of students for Gifted Education Programme (GEP) 2024. The identification exercise is carried out for Primary 3 students in two stages – Screening and Selection. The Screening Stage will be held on Thursday, 17 August 2023. Shortlisted students will be invited to the Selection Stage which will be held on Tuesday, 17 October 2023, and Wednesday, 18 October 2023.

Kindly refer to the letter – *Gifted Education Programme (GEP) 2024* – issued on Monday, 17 July 2023 for more information and respond by Friday, 4 August 2023 to give consent for your children's/wards' participations in the Screening Exercise. We would like to thank the parents/guardians who had already responded.

Please be reminded that Thursday, 17 August 2023, is a regular school day. All Primary 3 students are expected to attend school, including students who have opted not to participate in the Screening Exercise.

6. (a) Teachers' Day Lunch on 25 August 2023

Teachers' Day falls on Friday, 1 September 2023, the first Friday of the month of September. It is a school holiday and all students **do not need** come to school on that day.

This year, while the celebration is held on 31 August 2023, we are holding our Teachers' Day lunch on the 25 August 2023. Students will be dismissed from school at 12.15 p.m. on 25 August 2023. Please make the necessary transport arrangements for your child/ward.

6. (b) Teachers' Day Celebration on 31 August 2023

On 31 August 2023, where we hold our Teachers' Day Celebration, school will function from 7.45 a.m. to 12.15 p.m., with a series of activities and celebration. Students may show their appreciation to their teachers with handmade cards or gifts. Likewise, on this day, please make the necessary transport arrangements for your child/ward.

7. English Language Fiesta on Thursday, 31 August 2023

We will be holding English Language Fiesta on Thursday, 31 August 2023 in conjunction with Teachers' Day Celebration. Through this event, we hope to show appreciation for the English Language and celebrate the love for reading. All students and staff are encouraged to dress up as a book character on that day. Exciting activities have been planned for the students that day. More information will be provided in a separate letter nearer the date.

8. Horizon Alumni Homecoming 2023 on Thursday, 31 August 2023

In the spirit of having our former batches of students return to rekindle bonds and express their appreciation to their teachers, we are holding our Horizon Alumni Homecoming 2023 on 31 August 2023, from 1.15 – 2.45 p.m., immediately after our Teachers' Day Celebration and dismissal of our current students. The school will be open to welcome old boys and girls from 1 p.m. onwards. This would be our second year holding this event, after the success we saw last year with around 400 old boys and girls returning for the reunion. Should your child/ward be an old boy or girl of Horizon, do get them to join us on this day. More details on registration for this event will be made available via our school's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/HorizonPrimary/).

9. Idling of Car Engines while Parked at the Foyer

Horizon Primary School endeavours to inculcate and teach its students the right values and behaviours to be responsible citizens who care for others and the environment. Parents play an important role in modelling these values and behaviours as they are their children's first teachers and lifelong learning companions.

The school has observed parents leaving the engines of their vehicles idling while they are stationary and parked at the school's foyer in the late afternoons and evenings. This pollutes the environment and adversely affects the health and well-being of students waiting at the foyer.

- We would like to remind parents to use the foyer appropriately, i.e., for pick-and-go purposes.
- Should you require to park your car while dropping off and picking up your child you may use the available car park lots in the late afternoons and evenings. If there are no parking lots available, you may park at the drop-off bays at the foyer.



- Regardless of where you park your car, you are required to turn off your car engine¹.

Do work with us to impart the school values and model the right behaviour to our students.

- Respect – Showing respect for school policies and the rule of law in Singapore.
- Integrity – Knowing right from wrong and doing the right thing.
- Care – Demonstrating care and concern for others and the environment.
- Excellence – Being exemplary in our conduct.

Thank you, parents/guardians, once again for your continued support. Let us continue to create meaningful and joyful learning experiences for our children.

Your partner-in-education,

Mrs Ong Hui Khim
Principal

¹ Under the Environmental Protection and Management (Vehicular Emissions) Regulations, it is an offence for the driver of a motor vehicle to leave the engine of a vehicle idling while it is stationary, for reasons other than traffic conditions. The rationale is to minimise pollution.