



OPERA ESTATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

48 Fidelio Street, Singapore 458436

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Ref No: OEPS/034/2024

31 January 2024

Updates: 2/2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

1. Lunar New Year

The school will be celebrating Lunar New Year on **9 February, Friday**. Students will learn more about Chinese customs and traditions through concert performances in the hall and deepening their understanding of the Lunar New Year through stories and hands-on craft activities in their classrooms.

As 9 February is the eve of Lunar New Year, please note that **dismissal for all students will be at 10.30 a.m.** Students are advised to bring a healthy snack for their snack break as all the canteen stalls will be closed.

Items to bring on 9 Feb

1. Small bag with water bottle
2. Healthy snacks
3. Writing and colouring materials
4. Glue (For P3s - P6s only)

2. Commemoration of Total Defence Day

We commemorate Total Defence Day (TDD) on 15 February annually to mark Singapore's fall to the Japanese in 1942. This day serves as a reminder that Singapore is defensible, is worth defending and that we ourselves must defend Singapore.

This year's TDD theme is "**40 years of Defence: Together We Keep Singapore Strong**" which focuses on the ways we can put Total Defence into action in our everyday lives. Every Singaporean has a part to play in our daily lives to ensure that Singapore is prepared for crises and disruptions and that we remain resilient and united as one people.

This year, the school will participate in the nation-wide TD40 water disruption simulation exercise on Thursday, 15 February. The exercise aims to prepare students for potential disruptions to our water supply due to any challenges that confront Singapore e.g. cyber-attacks, terrorism or economic crises etc.

The water-rationing exercise on 15 February will take place from 9.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Students will experience a simulated disruption to the water supply. Instead of washing their hands at the classroom sink (e.g., before and after snack break), students will wash their hands from a communal pail of water that is placed in the classroom. Please note that students will still be able to use the toilet facilities as per normal. They will also be able to wash their hands at the canteen sink during recess.

As part of Civil Defence and to prepare students and staff on what to do in the event of an emergency, we will also conduct an emergency lockdown drill on 16 February, Friday, between 8.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. within our school premises. The school gates would be locked during this exercise. Should there be inclement weather on that day, the exercise will be held on the next school day during the same time.

We will also engage our students on the importance of vigilance to upkeep the safety and security of Singapore. To know more about how to safeguard your child, you are encouraged to read the pamphlet "Protecting our Youth from Radicalisation and Extremism" on the Parents' Gateway Parenting Resources Repository (Cyber Wellness category).

3. Nomination for Teacher Awards

Inspiring Teacher of English Award

The Inspiring Teacher of English Award is a national award for English teachers in Singapore schools that acknowledges teachers who ignite a love for the English language and are effective in helping their students speak and write accurately. If your child's English teacher exemplifies the use of good spoken and written English, enacts learner-centred approaches during English lessons and chooses pedagogies appropriate to learners' needs, abilities and interests, please nominate him/her for this award. You may download the nomination form at www.goodenglish.org.sg. Nominations open on 1 February 2024 and you can submit the forms to the General Office by **25 March, Monday**.

Most Inspiring Tamil Teacher Award

The Most Inspiring Tamil Teacher Award recognises Tamil teachers in Singapore schools who have made significant contributions to the teaching and learning of Tamil. If your child's Tamil Teacher nurtures student's interest in Tamil by using innovative methods to make lessons more interesting and engaging; and demonstrates a keen interest in students' well-being and inspire students to be self-directed and engaged learners, please nominate him/her for this award. Nominations open on 15 January 2024 and can also be made online at <https://go.gov.sg/mitt2024nominationform> and <https://go.gov.sg/mitt2024nominationformel> by **1 April, Monday**.

Arif Budiman Malay Language Teacher Award

The Arif Budiman Malay Language Teacher Award (AGAB) is an annual award which recognises outstanding Malay Language teachers who have made significant contributions to the teaching and learning of Malay language in our schools.

The AGAB 2024 Organising Committee invites you to nominate outstanding Malay Language teachers from your school who are eligible and deserving of the award. We would be grateful if you could also help to encourage your staff, students and parents to submit their nominations. Nomination is open from 2 February 2024 to 1 April 2024.

Nominations can be done via the following URL <https://go.gov.sg/agab2024>. Kindly note that submissions for nominations will close on **1 April, Monday**.

4. Parents' Engagement and Form Teacher Interaction 2024

We would like to thank parents who had made time to attend our face-to-face and online Parents' Briefing and FT Interaction. The school has uploaded the Principal's address and curriculum information (EL, MA, SC & MT) on the school website. You may access information via the link <https://operaestatepri.moe.edu.sg/curriculum-briefing/>.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'TWL' with a stylized flourish.

Mrs Tan Wai Ling
Principal