



OPERA ESTATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

48 Fidelio Street, Singapore 458436

Tel: 6241 0417, Fax: 6449 3042

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1 March 2024

Updates: 3/2024

Dear Parents / Guardians,

1. Staff Updates

We would also like to take this opportunity to bid our Vice Principal (Admin), Mr Chng Siew Chye a fond farewell. Though he was with us for a short while, we are grateful for his contributions to the school. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

2. Nomination for Teacher Awards

As shared on 31 January 2024 in the 2/2024 updates, the following staff awards are still open for you to nominate deserving teachers.

Award name	Description	Submission method and deadline
Inspiring Teacher of English Award	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.	Download the nomination form at www.goodenglish.org.sg and submit the form to General Office by 25 March, Monday.
Most Inspiring Tamil Teacher Award	This award recognises Tamil teachers in Singapore schools who have made significant contributions to the teaching and learning of Tamil.	Online nomination at https://go.gov.sg/mitt2024nominationformel and https://go.gov.sg/mitt2024nominationformel by 1 April, Monday.
Arif Budiman Malay Language Teacher Award	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.	Online nominations one at https://go.gov.sg/agab2024 by 1 April, Monday.

3. Annual Health Screening

Health Promotion Board (HPB) School Health and Dental Services conducts annual health screening, immunisation and dental services for Primary School students. The annual health screening will be held from **Monday, 8 April to Tuesday, 16 April**. There will be a non-screening day on Wednesday, 10 April due to Hari Raya Puasa public holiday.

The types of health screening include vision and hearing screening, growth and development assessment and medical check-up. These services ensure the protection of your child's health and early detection of health issues.

- To find out more on the types of health screening the various levels will be going through, please access the link here:
https://www.healthhub.sg/live-healthy/365/health_screening_for_primary_school
- To find out more on the types of dental services provided, please access the link here:
https://www.healthhub.sg/programmes/15/school_dental_programme.
- If your son is in P1 and/or your daughter is in P6 this year, we urge for your collaboration in preparing him and/or her regarding the check-up by a doctor for specific conditions. Should you wish to decline that particular medical condition screening done for your son and/or daughter in school, please inform HPB @ HPB_Mailbox@hpb.gov.sg

4. Language Week

The school will be conducting its annual Language Week in Term 2 from Monday, 18 March to Friday, 22 March. The theme for this year is “Reading Comes Alive!” Besides promoting a reading culture in the school, this programme aims to enhance the joy of language learning through a variety of exciting and interactive activities organised for the students throughout the week.

Character Day

One highlight of Language Week is the Character Day, which is held on 19 March, Tuesday. Students are encouraged to come to school dressed up as characters from books. Students who dress up are encouraged to bring along the book of the character they are dressed in as they will be required to introduce their characters to their classmates during English or Mother Tongue lessons.

Guidelines:

- The character should originate from a book and not a movie
- The attire should be modest and appropriate
- School shoes are to be worn
- No face paint or make-up allowed
- No weapons or props that might cause injury of any kind
- Students can bring their PE attire to change if there is PE/PAL on that day
- If your child does not want to wear a costume, he/she should be in his/her school uniform

Students will be given a Reading Choice Board with a myriad of activities for them to engage in independently. They are encouraged to complete at least three reading activities in the Reading Choice Board to claim a token. Students will be briefed on the details closer to the event.

5. World Water Day and Earth Hour

We will be commemorating World Water Day and Earth Hour on **Monday, 25 March**. Through an assembly talk by Green Champions, students will learn about Singapore’s Water Story and the importance of conserving water in daily living. As part of Earth Hour, we will also turn off all lights in school for 30 minutes on Monday, 25 March as a pledge to act towards environmental sustainability.

6. Attitude of Gratitude (AOG) for Family (March holidays)

As part of our Attitude of Gratitude programme, we are carrying out the Values In Action @ Home Project to encourage our students to show their appreciation to their family members. For this project, they will be given a task sheet with a list of chores to do over the March holidays. We hope that by doing these chores, they will value what their family members do for them and realise they have a part to play at home.

We need your support to allow your child/ward to do the chores listed and endorse when it is completed. It would be more meaningful if you can be around to supervise your child/ward personally when he/she is performing the tasks. Please share with us your thoughts and observations in the task sheet and submit the worksheet to the Form Teacher after the March holidays.

We thank you for partnering the school to teach our students the importance of showing their attitude of gratitude for others.

7. International Friendship Day 2024

We will be commemorating International Friendship Day (IFD) on 1 and 2 April. The theme of IFD 2024 is "Singapore in Asia". Through this commemoration, students will recognise the importance of building and strengthening friendships with our neighbouring countries and celebrate the region's diversity and vibrancy. To foster better understanding of countries around Singapore, students can look forward to CCE-FTGP IFD lessons and hands-on activities in the classroom.

They will also watch a play titled "Momotaro", a popular Japanese folklore put up by our very own Opera Drama Club. During recess, students can also look forward to participating in games and activities at various country booths set up by Parent Volunteers from the Opera Parents Club.

8. Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC)

To foster strong collaboration with parents, we will be conducting e-PCTC for P2 to P6 levels which will be held on **24 May, Friday** via an online platform. Each session will last approximately 15 minutes.

For P1 level, the PCTC will be conducted face-to-face on **24 May, Friday**.

More details will be provided at a later date.

9. Vaping is a Serious Offence

E-vaporisers are illegal in Singapore. Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, the possession, use or purchase of e-vaporisers carries a maximum fine of \$2,000. It is also an offence to import, distribute, sell or offer for sale e-vaporisers and their components. Any person convicted of such offences is liable to a fine of up to \$10,000, or imprisonment of up to six months or both for the first offence, and a fine of up to \$20,000, or imprisonment of up to 12 months or both for the second or subsequent offence. All prohibited tobacco items will be seized and confiscated.

MOE takes a firm stand against vaping. Vaping is categorised as a serious offence. When students are caught using or in possession of e-vaporisers, the prohibited product will be confiscated and their parents will be informed. The schools will report the offender to HSA and also manage vaping-related offences through existing disciplinary frameworks. These include taking school-based disciplinary actions, such as suspension or caning (for boys). Students caught vaping will also be placed on cessation support programmes where counsellors will guide them through their cessation journey to effect long-term behavioural change.

Parents have an important part to play in their children's education. There are resources and relevant information that parents can access on Parent Hub. Parents are encouraged to have a serious conversation with their children about vaping to prevent it from becoming a life-long habit. More information about the harms of vaping is available on Parent Hub at <https://go.gov.sg/parent-hub-vaping>.

10. Travel Declaration

To ensure that schools continue to be a healthy and safe environment for all, we require parents/guardians to make **a travel declaration for your child/ward if he/she will be travelling** for the holidays.

To make a travel declaration for your child/ward via Parents' Gateway (PG), go to [SERVICE > DECLARE TRAVELS].

- Please declare your child/ward's travel plan(s), indicating both the country and city of travel, and any city of transit, by **8 March, Friday**. Only one parent is required to make the declaration.

If your child/ward is **not travelling** during the holidays, **no action is required**.

When planning your travel, please refer to <https://www.ica.gov.sg/enter-transit-depart> for more information and updates. If there is a change in travel plan(s) after declaration, please submit a new travel declaration via PG if there is a change in travel destination or inform the school if the travel plan(s) is/are cancelled.

11. Calendar of Activities (Term 2)

The key activities for Term 2 can be found on the next page.

We hope that your child/ward will have an enjoyable break during the March holidays from **Saturday 9 March to Sunday, 17 March**.

We will see your child back in school on **18 March, Monday**.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Tan Wai Ling
Principal

Calendar of Activities 2024 Term 2		
Date	Events/Programme	Level
18 Mar (Mon)	School re-opens for Term 2	All Levels
18 Mar (Mon) onwards	Resumption of CCA <i>*More information will be given by the respective CCA teachers-in-charge.</i>	P3 to P6
18 Mar (Mon) to 22 Mar (Fri)	Language Week <i>*Character day on 19 March, Tuesday</i>	All Levels
25 Mar (Mon)	Commemoration of World Water Day and Earth Hour	All Levels
29 Mar (Fri)	Good Friday (Public Holiday)	All Levels
1 Apr (Mon) to 2 Apr (Tue)	International Friendship Day celebration	All Levels
8 Apr (Mon) to 16 Apr (Tues)	Annual Health Screening	All Levels
9 Apr (Tues)	Eve of Hari Raya Puasa <i>*Early dismissal for Muslim students and staff @ 10.30 a.m.</i>	All Levels
10 Apr (Wed)	Hari Raya Puasa (School Holiday) <i>*School and Student Care Centre will be closed</i>	All Levels
15 Apr (Mon)	Hari Raya Puasa Celebration in school	All Levels
22 Apr (Mon) to 17 May (Fri)	Learning Reviews	P6
1 May (Wed)	Labour Day (Public Holiday)	All Levels
6 May (Mon) to 10 May (Fri)	Weighted Assessments	P3 to P5
17 May (Fri)	Motivation and Study Skills Workshop	P6
24 May (Fri)	Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC) E-learning Day <i>*All students do not need to report to school</i>	All Levels
25 May (Sat) to 23 Jun (Sun)	Term 2 School Holidays	All Levels
24 Jun (Mon)	School re-opens for Term 3	All Levels