



SBPS/25/032

16 May 2025

Open Letter from School Leaders 4/2025

Dear Parents,

1. Warmest greetings from Sembawang Primary School. From mid-Term 2, our students have been engaged in Non-Weighted Assessments (NWA) and Weighted Assessments (WA), alongside their participation in the National School Games. The term will conclude with an Experiential Learning Week (ELW) in Week 9, which includes two overseas learning journeys for 50 Primary 5 students.

2. At school, we strive to show students that "Learning is an Adventure" and we seek your partnership as we journey together. Thank you, parents.

New Staff to the Sembawang Family...

3. New Additions to the Sembawang Family. We extend a warm welcome to the following staff members who have joined our school:

- Miss Oh Shi Ying (Chinese Language Teacher)
- Miss Selina Chong Xinhe (Music Teacher) (with effect from 26 May)

Important Information...

Safety, Emergency Preparedness & Student Well-Being

4. Well-being of Students. The Ministry of Health (MOH) and Communicable Diseases Agency (CDA) are monitoring a recent increase in COVID-19 infections in Singapore. There is no indication that the variants circulating locally are more transmissible or cause more severe disease compared to previously circulating variants. The public is advised to observe precautionary measures and practise personal and social responsibility. Key measures include:

- Maintaining good personal hygiene such as frequent handwashing and covering one's nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.
- Minimising social interactions and unnecessary travel when unwell.
- Wearing a mask in crowded areas, or when displaying symptoms such as having a runny nose, sore throat, headache and/or fever.

Please visit <https://www.cda.gov.sg/public/diseases/covid-19> for more information.

5. Ceiling Fan at the Indoor Sports Hall (ISH). We are pleased to report that two High Volume Low Speed (HVLS) fans were installed and operationalised at the ISH on 18 April. These newly installed HVLS fans provide better air circulation and enhanced comfort for





students during morning assembly programmes, PE lessons and CCA activities. The school will continue to explore ways to enhance the learning environment.

Student Matters

6. E-Parent Teacher Conference (e-PTC). The school will be conducting the e-PTC via MS Teams on 29 and 30 May 2025, during which your child's Form Teachers will discuss your child's development with you. These days are designated Home-Based Learning (HBL) days. Students are not required to report to school on these days. Information on HBL activities will be provided in a separate notification.

7. Overseas Learning Journey (OLJ). The OLJ for Primary 5 students is part of our school's effort to provide authentic and experiential learning through immersion programmes with foreign counterparts and cultural visits to places of significance. The immersion programme centres on classroom interaction with foreign students, group games and student hosting of traditional childhood games such as chapteh and paper ball. This year, 50 students have been selected to participate in the upcoming OLJ to Bangkok, Thailand and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 19 May to 23 May 2025. We hope this short stint away from home will contribute to developing independence and resilience in our students.

8. CARE Package. In conjunction with Labour Day, our Parent Support Group (PSG) presented care packages to our non-teaching staff (office and support staff, including contract staff) in appreciation of their dedication and commitment to the school. The care packages comprised food items and other donations from students. Through this initiative, we aim to inculcate in our students the value of care for others and nurture character traits of kindness and inclusivity. See Figure 1.

Figure 1 – Our PSG Preparing the Care Packages



9. Book Week. Held from 14 to 17 April, the MK children engaged in various activities, including learning values from fables, enjoying storytelling by PSG members in outdoor settings, watching theatre performances and expressing thoughts through drama. The week concluded with each class presenting a performance at the Media Resource Library (see Figure 2).





Figure 2 – MK Book Week



Children immersing in different characters during the drama workshop



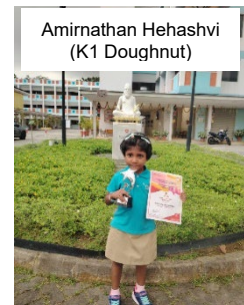
K2 Dolphin reenacting the story of The Two Goats



PSG member came as a Mystery Reader

Celebration of Successes...

10. 2025 Tirukkural Vizha Literary Competition. The competition was held at the Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre on 16 March. This event welcomed participation from kindergarten children aged 4 to 6 from across Singapore. As part of the competition, children were challenged to memorise and recite 10 Tirukkural verses, a form of classical Tamil text known for its profound moral and ethical teachings. In addition, participants were also expected to understand the meaning of each verse. Congratulations to Amirnathan Hehashvi who was among the prize winners.



11. Earth Day. The theme this year is 'Our Power, Our Planet'. The children explored the solar panels around them and learnt how solar energy can be converted to electricity (see Figure 3).

Figure 3 – Commemorating Earth Day on 22 April



Discovering that black boards retain more heat



Learning how calculators and solar cars will not function in the absence of sunlight



Learning how solar cars could move when placed under the sun

12. World Red Cross Day (WRCD). WRCD is commemorated to honour the unwavering spirit of voluntary service and compassion exemplified by Founder Henry Dunant. To mark WRCD 2025, SBPS Red Cross CCA participated in the celebration of the 73rd anniversary of Singapore Red Cross Youth, themed "Empowering Youth for Humanity", held on 12 April at Hougang Secondary School. Event highlights included welcoming new members through the Enrolment Badge Pinning Ceremony and celebrating achievements of Red Cross members.



Our Red Cross team and members were presented with several awards (see [Figure 4](#)). We thank our Red Cross students for serving with empathy and embracing the act of volunteerism.

Figure 4 – Achievements by Red Cross Students

Award and Recipients	
	First Aid Championship (Gold Award) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heng Jane Ling - 6 Curiosity (received on behalf of team) ▪ Lim Li Tong - 4 Gratitude ▪ Joyce Ling Xuan - 5 Integrity ▪ Sophie Teo - 5 Integrity ▪ Chong Li Han - 6 Curiosity ▪ Elaine Chen Xiang Yi - 6 Curiosity ▪ Reina Lee Jia Xin- 6 Curiosity ▪ Pang Yu Tong - 6 Resilience
Ambassador of Blood Competition 2025 (Overall Best) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joyce Ling Xuan - 5 Integrity 	Director's Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pang Yu Tong - 6 Resilience 

13. Istana Open House 2025. Our Chinese dancers braved heavy downpour and challenging conditions to present a beautiful Nonya dance at the Istana Open House 2025, held on 13 April. We thank our dancers and the accompanying teachers for their dedication (see [Figure 5](#)).



14. 16th Goodtalk Global Village Children & Youth Bilingual Speech Conference. The conference, in support of Singapore's Speak Mandarin Campaign, encourages students to improve their Mandarin and appreciate multiculturalism through bilingual speech. Six students from our P4 and P5 Higher Mother Tongue classes participated in the conference, held from November 2024 to January 2025 (see [Figure 6](#)). Congratulations to all our participants for their dedication and impressive achievements!



Figure 6 – Achievements by Our Students



Results of Preliminary Competition

Front row (L to R)	Joyce Lee Ying Xuen (5I)	First Prize
	Tan Jou Xin (4I)	First Prize
Back row (L to R)	Ahavah Ho Zi Ling (5I)	Second Prize
	Zeng Zimeng (5Re)	Third Prize
	Du Zelin (5Re)	Third Prize
	Alyssa Hor Qianyi (4I)	Second Prize



Finals. Joyce Lee Ying Xuen (Silver award) and Tan Jou Xin (Bronze award) partnered Chinese students to deliver bilingual speeches on the topic of “Century.”

15. **Canberra Day 2025.** Canberra Day 2025, held on 13 April, was celebrated as one of several SG60 events, where our Indian dancers showcased their graceful moves during the stage performances segment (see [Figure 7](#)). We were heartened to see many of our students at the carnival despite the inclement weather.



16. **Partnership with Kindergarten.** As part of the school's ongoing publicity efforts and to enhance student learning and development, the school hosted approximately 400 K2 students from 15 kindergartens between 7 and 29 April. The structured programme included a school tour and a *Lunch with Buddy* activity, where lower primary students guided the younger children through school routines and shared their experiences (see [Figure 8](#)). This initiative not only familiarised the K2 students with the primary school environment but also provided service-learning opportunities for our students. The increasing number of requests from kindergartens beyond Sembawang reflects the success of this programme, and we are continuously looking into ways to strengthen it.



Figure 8 – Interacting with K2 Students



17. **Hari Raya Celebrations.** We celebrated Hari Raya on 16 April with an assembly programme comprising a Malay dance performance by our Malay Dancers, introduction to traditional Malay games Siapa Cepat and Dia Dapat, concluding with an in-house Hari Raya music video featuring students and staff. The event aimed to deepen appreciation of Malay culture and traditions (see Figure 9).

Figure 9 – Hari Raya Celebrations



18. **International Friendship Day (IFD).** IFD serves as a meaningful platform to foster mutual understanding, respect and appreciation for the diverse cultures and communities that make up our society and the world at large. We commemorated IFD on 9 April 2025 with an assembly programme comprising an interactive drama on encouraging positive social interactions across communities and in school, aimed at promoting values of mutual respect and working towards positive social impact. Traditional games try-outs were also organised during recesses (see Figure 10).

Figure 10 – Students Trying Out Traditional Games During IFD



Up-coming Major School Events in Term 2...

19. **Camp with Dad.** The first edition of Camp-with-Dad, scheduled from 17 to 18 May, will be attended by 53 father-child pairs from P4 to P6 levels. This 2-day, 1-night camp is designed to strengthen the bond between fathers and their children through a series of engaging activities, including cooking, tele-matches, tent-pitching and campfire. With the school's support in providing facilities and equipment, the PSG team with two Senior Teachers will ensure an unforgettable experience for the participants.

**Miscellaneous...**

20. School as Polling and Counting Centre. The school was designated as a polling and counting centre for General Election (GE) 2025. Preparation at the school commenced on 1 May (Labour Day) and continued from the afternoon of 2 May to Polling Day (3 May). We carefully deliberated various options to provide continuous yet optimal learning on 2 May (Friday), considering that the canteen stalls were closed on 2 May due to polling station setup. We thank parents for your understanding and partnership in ensuring the safety of your child, given the early dismissal at 11.00 a.m.

21. Celebrating Staff's Efforts. As we work closely together to support your child, there may be occasions when our staff have gone the extra mile and made someone's day or have made a positive impression during their interactions with you. We hope parents could spare a moment to express your appreciation and share with us via the link [here](#). This will allow us to affirm and celebrate their efforts, as well as encourage the entire team.

Concluding Remarks...

22. Our aim is to ensure that students find learning an adventure, embrace the school values, stay happy and work towards a healthy mind and body.

23. We would like to take this opportunity to wish our Buddhist families a Happy Vesak Day celebrated on 12 May 2025, and all families a fabulous June holiday.

Yours in education,

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