



BENDEMEER PRIMARY SCHOOL • ISSUE 2 2019



VICE-PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

In the 1st issue of this newsletter, Mrs Tan-Lim Kim Gek shared with you the school motto and some of our school programmes. We are happy to share that we have completed our re-envisioning as a school involving students, staff and parents to position ourselves better in meeting future challenges and demands. The new school vision, mission and values (VMV) with the 3 strategic thrusts can be found on the next page.

Our department heads and teachers have been constantly reviewing the existing school programmes and introducing new ones to develop our students into virtuous individuals capable of contributing to society. We provide opportunities for our students to take ownership of their learning throughout life by deepening their skills and achieving mastery. Last but not least, we train our students to communicate effectively as well as to lead themselves and others. This is what makes Bendemeer Primary School different from others.

As we move forward in nurturing a passion for life amongst our students, we are fortunate to have many caring and enthusiastic parents on board engaging purposefully in conversation with our teachers and school to walk with our students in their journey to learn so that they can be adaptable and resilient. Life is filled with challenges and at each turn, we as parents and teachers would like to be there with our children to give the first applause for each attempt and effort made by them. It is about affirming and celebrating efforts and the desire to learn to be better. Every small step forward

will lead us to the destination of pride and satisfaction - We Can Achieve!

A strong home-school-community partnership is crucial to the development of a child. Quoting the African saying, "It takes a village to raise a child", a supportive home environment is the world's best nursery for the young child to deepen his roots and develop values. The school and community enable the child to uncover his/her strengths and talents and to groom them for tomorrow. Therefore, let us take time to acknowledge and celebrate the conscientious effort made by our children in wanting to be better each day!

Soon we will bid farewell to our graduating batch of Primary 6 students with a tinge of sadness as well as with pride knowing we have developed them to be confident, gracious, possessing a passion for lifelong learning, ready for their next phase of life and schooling. At the same time, we will be welcoming our next batch of young charges with their enthusiasm, raring to run their first lap in the primary education.

As the year-end holiday approaches, I wish one and all a meaningful and fun-filled holiday as you spend time with your loved ones. We also look forward to another fruitful year with you and our students.



Mrs Santhi Ravindran

VISION MISSION MOTTO VALUES THE 3 STRATEGIC THRUSTS

After months of hard work and discussions that involved staff, students and parents, we are proud to share with everyone our school's vision, mission, motto, values and strategic thrusts. As a school community, we aspire to bring out the best in every child guided by these statements.

SCHOOL VISION

A gracious community of passionate learners and confident leaders

SCHOOL MISSION

Nurturing and inspiring students to love learning, lead confidently, and make a difference in the lives of others

SCHOOL MOTTO

Today's Learners,
Tomorrow's Leaders

SCHOOL VALUES (ASPIRE)

Adaptability
Self-Discipline
Passion
Integrity
Resilience
Empathy

THE 3 NEW STRATEGIC THRUSTS

THRUST 1

Holistic Student Development

THRUST 2

Staff Development and Well-Being

THRUST 3

Partnership with Stakeholders

RUN FOR LIFE PROGRAMME @BENDEMEER PRIMARY SCHOOL



Students and teacher jogging together.

In line with the Ministry of Education's emphasis on nurturing lifelong learners to 'Learn for Life', our school started our Run for Life Programme this year. Through the weekly run, we hope that our students will be able to adopt a positive attitude towards running and choose running as a lifestyle choice. In addition, our students will also be able to acquire and maintain their health, enhancing fitness and as a result, enjoy and value the benefits of living a physically active and healthy life in the long run.

To make the Run for Life Programme more meaningful for all students and teachers, we have also started a 'Run to Tokyo' project, to simulate an Olympic torch relay starting with the lighting of the Olympic torch at Olympia, Greece, then to travel all the way to Singapore, where our school, Bendemeer Primary School is, and finally to bring the Olympic torch from Singapore to Tokyo, Japan, for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics Games, covering a total distance of about 14560km.



Teachers leading their respective Houses in their House cheers to encourage House spirit.

By Term 2, our students and teachers have covered a distance of approximately 10, 000 km. We are proud to announce that the Olympic torch has reached Singapore and it is making its way to Tokyo, Japan. To commemorate this achievement, we have specially custom made a set of collar pins for our students.

To make the Run for Life Programme more engaging and meaningful for all students, we also started including Jump Jam aerobic workouts, House cheering sessions and mass jogging in an inter-house format to incorporate healthy competition amongst the students from the 4 different Houses.

Through our Run for Life Programme, we hope that all students and teachers will reap not just physical, but also emotional and psychosocial benefits.



Students enjoying their Jump Jam aerobic workout session.



Design of 2-in-1 Collar Pin for Run to Tokyo Project



Students doing warm up in their Houses before the run.

HOUSE SYSTEM

In Bendemeer Primary School, the house system provides a platform for our students from different levels to interact and socialise as a 'house'. It helps to foster social mixing and build positive relationships between teachers and students as well as among students. Very importantly, it also helps to promote esprit de corps among our students and build a strong sense of belonging to the school.

As a new merged school, we are proud to introduce our four new 'Houses' namely the Red Rhino, Blue Manta, Yellow Cheetah and Green Eagle. These animals were chosen for their strong and impressive qualities such as adaptability, resilience, dexterity which are in line with our school values of adaptability, self-discipline, passion, integrity, resilience and empathy (ASPIRE).



ANNUAL GAMES DAY

This year's Annual Games Day took place on 5 July 2019 with students and teachers taking part in various games representing the four new houses. It provided a platform for our students to engage in friendly competitions and to exhibit our school values and the three core Olympic values of excellence, respect and friendship. Our students indeed played all games with passion, self-discipline and integrity. They abided by the rules and exhibited good sportsmanship by encouraging and cheering one another on. It was heartwarming to see our students put in great effort and aspire to do their best as they participated in all the gruelling games.



Our students engaging in friendly competitions.



Students and teachers representing the four houses marching into the hall.



Our school Leaders and Head Prefect opening our Annual Games Day.



Mrs Tan presenting the winner trophy to the house mistress of Blue Manta House, Ms Ng Huimin, and House captain, Babetricia (6.3).



Friendly handshakes before a game.

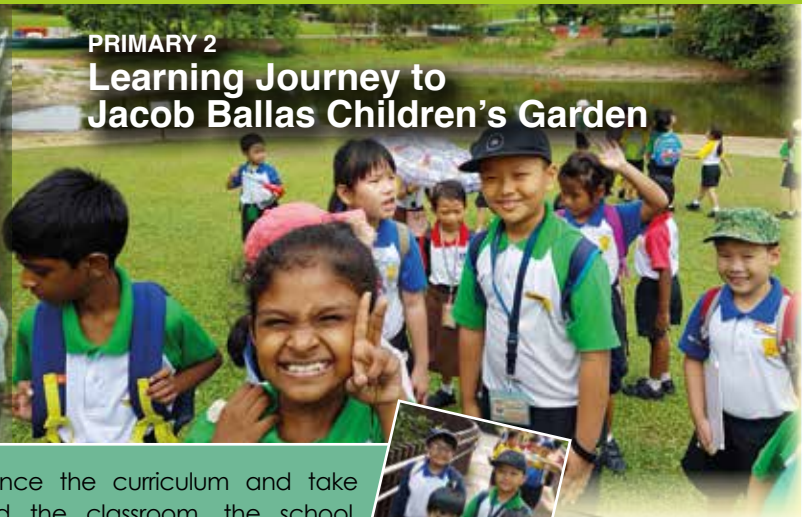


LEARNING JOURNEY

PRIMARY 1
Learning Journey to Singapore Zoo



PRIMARY 2
Learning Journey to Jacob Ballas Children's Garden



To further enhance the curriculum and take learning beyond the classroom, the school plans level learning journey to various places of interest. These learning journeys provide every student with real-world experiences. Whether the learning journey is to the zoo, places of worship or the wetland reserve at Sungei Buloh, with each experience, our students are able to create a connection between what is taught to them in school to the real world. For instance, the learning journey to Sungei Buloh allows students to learn more about and 'witness' Science concepts such as behavioural and structural adaptation in the real natural world of a wetland reserve; whilst the learning journey to different places of worship allows our students to become more empathetic, tolerant and respectful towards the different cultural and religious practices in Singapore.

PRIMARY 3
Learning Journey to Jurong Bird Park



PRIMARY 5
Learning Journey to Botanic Garden



All in all, not only are learning journeys memorable for our students, they also make learning more enjoyable and meaningful for them. Our students are often energized by the excitement and anticipation of learning in an environment that is out of the usual school setting. Furthermore, through learning journeys, our students get to experience a more holistic and integrated picture of the information that, in the classroom may have only been presented in a textual and abstract way.

PRIMARY 4
Learning Journey to Places of Worship



PRIMARY 6
Learning Journey to Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve



PENANG OVERSEAS IMMERSION TRIP

Thirty Primary 5 students had a meaningful four-day overseas immersion trip to Penang, Malaysia in June. Through the experience, they interacted and bonded with students from Penang Chinese Girls' Primary School and had opportunities to immerse themselves in the arts and culture of Penang. Our students honed their leadership skills, developed independence and adaptability

throughout the trip. Highlights included viewing the beautiful wall murals along the Penang alleys, being mesmerised by the animals at Penang Butterfly Farm, taking the Georgetown UNESCO Cultural and Art Walking tour, exploring the Peranakan Museum and Tropical Spice Farm and watching the Nonya Cultural Show. It was indeed a memorable overseas learning journey.



Let's capture this beautiful moment!



Our students and staff at Entopia by Penang Butterfly Farm.



An up-close encounter with a scaly friend @ Entopia.



Let's solve this puzzle together!



Our students with students from Penang Chinese Girls' Primary

THE OTTER PROJECT

The Otter Project was started this year to give our students a voice in the school envisioning process. As part of the project, our student leaders went into the classrooms to seek their fellow schoolmates' inputs on what values they would like to see in a Bendemeer student drawing from the otter, an animal known for its keen intelligence and tenacity. The values of 'respect', 'teamwork' and 'resilience' were shortlisted from our students' inputs. Eventually, together with the values of 'Adaptability', 'Self-discipline' and 'Empathy', the value of 'Resilience' was officially adopted by the school.

Through the Otter Project, our student leaders were also given opportunities to gather ideas for school

improvement from their peers. Examples included the design of our school mascot, selection of songs for recess and snack break. In addition, our student leaders were also actively involved in crafting our Student Pledge which was recited at the end of each recess. The Student Pledge is a daily reminder for our students to stay committed to be a student of good character, respecting self and others and to learn together as one Bendemeer family.



Our School Mascot, the adorable and friendly Otter.



Student leaders going into a Primary 5 classroom to seek opinions from their schoolmates.



Students reciting the Student Pledge at the end of recess.

CYBER-SP[ACE]



Ms Cindy Ng with students at our Cyber-Sp[ACE].

Cyber-Sp[ACE] is a Cyber Wellness hub dedicated to advocate Cyber Wellness and to equip students with basic ICT skills. It is opened daily for students to learn more about Cyber Wellness principles such as respect for self and others during recess with electronic gadgets. Activities at Cyber-Sp[ACE] are managed and facilitated by Cyber Wellness Ambassadors and ICT monitors. The Cyber Wellness Ambassadors and ICT monitors play a crucial role in advocating good Cyber Wellness practices among their peers.



Students captivated by ICT gadget at Cyber-Sp[ACE].

SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL 2019 ART EXHIBITION



Our budding artists' art work was on display at the Singapore Youth Festival – Art Exhibition (2019) held at the National Museum of Singapore. These young artists drew their inspiration from the song 'Home' by Kit Chan. The song tells them about the river that runs through the city and gives it life. The vibrant art work shows our students' love for our home, our city, our Singapore.



Artists - From left to right: Rahul Kontriner (P1.5), Ng Jun Xian, Declan (P1.6), Yang Yihui (P1.6), Chan Wan Xuan (P1.6) and Leong Iris (P1.6) and Mr. Tomm Ho.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A two-day learning symposium was held in Term 3 for teachers to share and learn from one another. During the concurrent sessions, teachers had the opportunities to share, interact and learn from one another the latest trends in pedagogical practices as well as effective ICT tools that will enhance their lessons. We believe that this structured professional development has a positive impact on our students' learning.



Madam Phyllis Kwei's sharing on the Math Modelling process.



Teachers learning together during a hands-on session.

Ms Sulasteri demonstrating to teachers how ICT tools were used to engage students in a PE lesson on dance and movement.



Staff and students mingling with our elderly guests.

VALUES-IN-ACTION

As part of our Values-in-action (VIA) programme, the school organised a staff-student VIA event. The elderly from Xin Yuan Community Care and Lion's Befrienders were invited to our school on 31 May. Our elderly guests were treated to a wonderful time of fun and entertainment whereby they got to watch our concert band and dancers from the various ethnic groups in action. They also took part in activities such as craft work, singing and games which were specially organised for them by our staff.

It was an opportunity for our staff and student leaders to contribute back to the community which is in alignment to our school's vision and mission of building a gracious community of passionate learners and confident learners who will make a difference in the lives of others.



Let us complete this piece of craftwork together.



Exercise time for all!

BUNDLES OF JOY

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TEACHERS AS THEY WELCOME A NEW ADDITION TO THEIR FAMILY!



Mrs Bhilare and Baby Jai Andre



Mr Ali and Baby Alesha Qaisara



Madam Nur Khadijah and Baby Safurah



Madam Melody Heng and Baby Oliver



Madam Elis and Baby Grace.



Mr Roy Ngai and Baby Reia



Madam An Qinglin and Baby Kyler

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP 2019 PSG EXCO

Be active and be part of your child's school life. We strongly encourage all parents to join our Parent Support Group (PSG) as it allows you to create a positive impact on your children's learning experience in the school. You may either complete the PSG Application Form available from the school website or obtain the form from our General Office.

We are pleased to introduce the executive committee members of our school's Parent Support Group (PSG).



CHAIRMAN
Mr Danny Ho



VICE-CHAIRMAN
Ms Seriwati Salim



VICE-CHAIRMAN
Ms Bee Lay Chua



SECRETARY
Ms Leila Bundang



SECRETARY
Ms Badhar Nisha



MEMBER
Ms Shruti Mathur



MEMBER
Ms Doan Thi Anh Tuyet

STRATEGIC THRUST 3: PARTNERSHIP WITH STAKE HOLDERS



PSG members@Teachers' Day Concert



Our cheerful students, teachers and school leaders all ready to send our Hari Raya Puasa greetings to our neighbours!

HARI RAYA PUASA FESTIVE COMMUNITY PROJECT

On 27 May 2019, a group of our student leaders and teachers, accompanied by our school leaders, distributed Hari Raya Puasa greeting cards and 'ketupats' to the business operators in our neighbourhood. These festive gifts were specially prepared by our students during their Art lessons. This project not only allows us to extend our festive greetings to our friendly neighbours, it also helps to promote a sense of community and neighbourliness between our school and its community.



Distributing greeting cards and 'ketupats' to our neighbours.

KOLAM AYER HERITAGE TRAIL @ KALLANG RIVER

On 30 May this year, a group of students participated in the Kolam Ayer Heritage Trail along Kallang River. The trail was collaboratively organised by the Kolam Ayer Community Centre, Bendemeer Secondary School and Bendemeer Primary School.

Through this trail, our students gained a better understanding of the Kallang River and its roles in the community from past to present. Our students also learnt to appreciate this distinctive river as part of the Singapore Water Story, its features, purpose and our responsibilities to take good care of it.



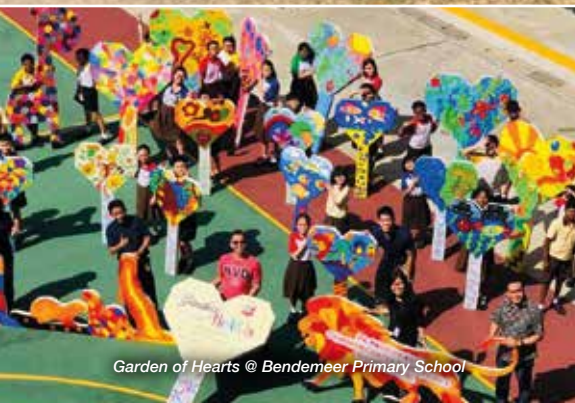
Our students working in groups to fix a puzzle.



GARDEN OF HEARTS

Our Art Club took part in the 'Garden of Hearts' project which was an initiative presented by the People's Association – Passion Arts in commemoration of Singapore's Bicentennial. Our students' and teachers' art work captured our hopes and dreams for our community and nation.

Our art work on display near Kallang MRT Station.



Garden of Hearts © Bendemeer Primary School



Our artists at work.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY

International Friendship Day (IFD) was commemorated in Term 2 through the theme, "Connected Communities". Commemorative activities included an assembly performance highlighting the importance of friendship, harmony and teamwork and the conduct of IFD lesson packages during Character & Citizenship Education (CCE) lessons. Cultural booths were set up by our

parent volunteers to provide an authentic 'international' experience for our students who had the opportunity to learn more about the cultures, traditions and languages of some of our ASEAN countries such as Myanmar, Vietnam and Nepal. Song dedications were made by students to thank their classmates and teachers for their friendship.



Interconnectedness starts with a "Hello" and our students learning to say "Hello" in different languages.



Students dedicating songs to thank their teachers and friends for their friendship.



Parent volunteers sharing information about their countries.

RACIAL HARMONY DAY

We commemorated Racial Harmony Day (RHD) in Term 3 to mark the anniversary of the 1964 racial riots. The spirit of racial harmony was captured through the wearing of traditional costumes, daily exchange of greetings in the various Mother Tongue languages, role-modelling as Racial Harmony ambassadors and the conduct of RHD lesson packages during Character & Citizenship Education (CCE) lessons. The winning design for RHD's national Orange Ribbon message tag is Liu Kewei of Primary 5-1. Through such rich activities, our students learnt that in Singapore, people are treated equally regardless of their race and religion and have an appreciation for the different cultures that make up Singapore.



Ang Ku Kueh making at the RHD booths.



Winning design for Racial Harmony Day 2019 Message Tag.

Inspired by: Liu Kewei (P5, 2019) Bendemeer Primary School



Liu Kewei (P5.1)



Playing card games while learning to be sensitive to individual differences.



2 Rac Harmony Ambassador



Our P4 RH Ambassadors shared messages to promote racial harmony. Students from all levels reflected and voted for the value which they felt was most important in maintaining racial harmony.

GRACIOUSNESS @ PLAY...IT'S MAGIC!!

This year, we celebrated Children's Day with a BANG! We brought in a carnival to the school and a magic show too! Our students were treated to an array of games like 'Ball the Clown', 'Colour-Matching' and 'Ring the Ball'. In addition, there were three huge bouncy inflatables which were the highlight of the event. Each student was also given a class photograph as this year's Children's Day gift. It was an occasion for our students to be gracious while they play. They were advised to queue up and wait patiently for their turn at every station and to cheer one another on. It was certainly a memorable event for all!



Excited students at the Hungry Hippo station.



At the 'Clown the Ball' station.



Our gracious F1 racers!



Happy students with their prizes at the Redemption Booth.



With Spiderman at the photo booth.



Tricky Patrick Magic Show.



Students scaling the huge bouncy inflatable.

KINDERGARTEN VISIT

This year, a total of 275 children from 15 kindergartens visited our school together with their parents and teachers. Our student leaders were able to hone their leadership skills by leading their little charges on a school tour. Our excited guests also got to experience what it was like to be in a Primary 1 class.



Student leaders introducing our eco-garden to the kindergarten children.



Student leaders with our enthusiastic guests at the Cyber-Sp[ACE].



Kindergarten children trying out our school canteen food.



Classroom experience with our P1 students.

OVERSEAS VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

This year, we played host to educators from the Philippines, China and the United Kingdom (UK) who were here to learn about our education system, how we maximise the use of school facilities to create learning space for our students and our leadership programme. At the same time, our UK visitors also conducted a workshop on assessment for learning for our teachers and fellow educators from the South 5 cluster schools.

Our student leaders played host to our visitors from the Philippines during the school visit. It was indeed an enriching experience for both our teachers and students.



UK visitor interacting with our students.



Learning about Assessment for Learning from our UK counterparts.



Our student leaders showing our young visitors from the Philippines the art work at our Art Gallery.



Our student leaders taking their Filipino counterparts on a school tour.



UK visitors at our heritage corner.



Our school leaders and teachers with our Chinese visitors.



Our Chinese visitors looking at our school facilities.