

In Touch - Term 1 2017

Zhonghua Primary School – 6 Jan 2017

Principal's Address

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Wishing you and your family a Very Happy 2017 – May this be a very good and successful year for all of us. I hope you and your children have had some time to take a good break during the December holidays and are now ready to face the year ahead with a fresh and positive spirit.

2016 had been a proverbial year of “disruption”, as the media termed it. It looks like this will be the “new normal”.....the beginning of the VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous) environment that we anticipate our children’s future to be. But we are in a position of strength. Our world class Singapore Education system with its solid total and holistic curriculum, its support for student wellbeing and its focus on building strong staff competency will put us in good stead to ride the wave.

At Zhonghua, our approach will be aligned to that of MOE. We will be focussed on our mission to ignite the passion of learning in our children – to bring the Joy of Learning to our programme and to help our children learn not just for tests but also for life. We will also nurture the strength of our children’s character, helping to strengthen the Singapore Spirit in them and developing their resilience so they can build that Spirit of Entrepreneurial Dare needed for the future.

To complement our efforts, we need parents to work hand in hand with us, helping our children to stay focussed and work hard to achieve their targets, to guide our children in developing character that will help them to navigate through complexities and uncertainties and to allow our children room to explore and discover their strengths and interests.

Importantly, parents and the school need to find common ground as we work together to help our children grow and develop. We are a T.E.A.M: Together Everyone Achieves More. Should you have any matters that you need to discuss with us, our doors are always open. Looking forward to your partnership for 2017.

Sincerely
Mdm Rostinah Md Said
Principal

Administration Information for Parents

School Hours

Please be reminded that school curriculum hours are as follows:

Mon to Thu: 7.30am to 1.45pm
Fri: 7.30am to 12.45pm

All pupils are expected to be in school by 7.30am.

Parents can assist your children to be punctual by:

- helping them to understand the importance of being on time for school and for each lesson
- ensuring the necessary transport arrangements are made to ensure your child's safety and that he/she arrives to school on time
- ensuring that your child has time to eat breakfast before he/she comes to school

Please note the recess times below.

1st Recess: P1, P2 and P4 - From 9.45am to 10.15am
2nd Recess: P3, P5 and P6 - From 10.15am to 10.45am

School Expectations

The school is looking into strengthening the observation and demonstration of school values by all students. To do this, teachers will be engaging the students in learning about the meaning of and expected behaviour behind the school values, thinking and reflecting on their importance and providing opportunities for students to demonstrate the values and be affirmed for it.

Parents can assist the school by reinforcing the meaning of the values at home and providing opportunities for your children to demonstrate the values at home.

School Attendance

Regular school attendance is vital not only for a student's academic success, but also for holistic development. The school term and holidays can be found in the student's diary and the school's online calendar, both of which will be ready for use soon.

In the event of your child's absence from school, we would appreciate it if you could call in the morning to provide us with the relevant information. The office phone number is 6283 5413. Medical certificates should be submitted to the form teacher upon the child's return to school. If your child is sick, please ensure that he/she rests at home and returns to school when he/she is well.

Parents are kindly requested not to take your children out of school for holidays during term time. This is to ensure that your child will benefit from the whole-term programme that has been planned for him including post-exam enrichment programmes.

Please note that the school generally views absence covered by a medical certificate (MC) and for compassionate reasons (e.g. bereavement of close family member or related critical illness and emergencies) accompanied by a parent letter as valid reasons for absence. We will also consider a parent letter for a child's absence after an MC, as we understand that the child may not have fully recovered.

Absence for other reasons, like going for holidays, religious festivals or going overseas for family occasions or festivals would not be considered as valid reasons. This is especially important during exams and tests. We seek your understanding and support in this matter for the success of your child/ward.

School Attire

Pupils are to be attired in their full school uniform on all days that they do not have Physical Education (PE) lessons. On the days they have PE, they may wear their PE attire throughout the day. Girls should put on their pinafores on all school days.

Communication with the School

Your child's form teacher would have issued an introductory letter to you concerning class expectations, and preferred modes of communication.

Please refer to the Pupil's Diary 2017, which will be distributed next week, for updated information and other useful information about the school. Do communicate with us through the diary, phone calls or emails. If you wish to see anyone of us, kindly make an appointment at the General Office. We do appeal for parents' understanding, however, that to ensure safety of the children, teachers will not be able to leave their classes unattended during curriculum time to meet you.

The Pupil's Diary 2017 is a very important little book which pupils must learn to use correctly. They are expected to write the homework for the day and refer to it at home to ensure that they complete all the work expected of them. It is the child's responsibility to ensure that they take down what needs to be done in their diary. Parents may want to look at your children's diary from time to time and use it to communicate with teachers.

Online Calendar

Dates for important activities such as exams and learning journeys are updated on our school's online calendar. This can be accessed from the "For Parents" tab from our school website. Alternatively, you can view it directly via the following link:

<http://www.zhonghuapri.moe.edu.sg/for-parents/our-school-calendar>

Student Care Centre

We have a Student Care Centre (SCC) housed within our premises. Known as “Learning Studio”, it is run and managed by Zenitant Pte Ltd. The SCC provides after-school care services with priority given to families with needs. As we have a limited capacity, priority for admission will also be given to local citizens. For more information, please email them at learningstudio@zenitant.com.sg or call them at 6278-5367 / 6278-3028 / 8102-7268.

Homework

To reinforce classroom learning, teachers may set daily and holiday homework for the pupils. Taking cognisance that students will need time to rest and bond with their family members, the amount of homework given would be regulated to ensure that it is not excessive.

Students who are not required to attend remedial classes, may be given slightly more homework to allow them to do self-directed learning. They may choose to do their homework in school before going home or before attending CCA.

Primary Education Review and Implementation (PERI) Facilities Upgrading @ ZPS

The PERI upgrading programme at ZPS, has been going on since December 2015 and expected to be completed in September / October 2017. This will provide the school with additional facilities to make engaged learning possible, both in academic and non-academic areas. The upgrading will result in:

- Redesigned Classroom, Subject Based Banding Room and Learning Support Rooms.
- Band Room, Dance Studio, Performing Arts Studio, outdoor running track, an Outdoor Experiential Learning Area, a Flexsi dynamic play area with specialised equipment and a purpose built Student Care Centre.

The bulk of the upgrading works in the classrooms have been completed by the end of the 2016 year-end school holidays. To date, approximately 60 percent of all works have been completed and works are progressing on schedule. While we will continue to strive to ensure safety and minimise the impact on students and staff, there would still be some short term inconveniences that will be unavoidable. We seek your understanding to support and encourage our children should they experience any discomfort. Please also share with us any concerns that could crop up from time to time.

Continued Closure of Rear Gate (With effect 15 December 2015) till Completion of PERI Upgrading

Please take note that access into school from the Lorong Chuan side, via the PUB walkway (beside the storm canal) and through the Rear Gate will still be closed until the PERI works are completed. The whole rear area has been hoarded up and controlled

by the contractor, as they are using it for construction works, heavy vehicle movement and material storage.

Additional Safety Arrangements during PERI Upgrading

As informed last year, an additional safety personnel is stationed at the pedestrian crossing between the school main gate walkway and the canteen to ensure safety of pedestrians. Safety water barriers/gate will be positioned on either side to limit vehicular access and will be controlled by a vehicle ground controller. Please advise your children to exercise extra caution when using the school pedestrian crossing.

Road Safety Matters

Please advise your child/ward to adhere to traffic rules and to cross safely at designated pedestrian crossings. They should always look both ways for oncoming traffic before crossing roads. A school attendant will be on duty to ensure that they cross safely at the zebra crossing outside the school during the arrival and dispersal times.

Security and Safety at Zhonghua Primary School

1. The **Opening Hours** for the Main (Vehicular) Gate, and Side Gate are as follows:-

Main (Vehicular) Gate: ZPS Main Gate (at Security Guard Post):- Monday to Friday:	6.00am to 7.30am
Side Gate (next to ZPS Main Gate/ Security Guard Post): Monday to Friday: Saturday:	6.00am to 7.00pm 8.00am to 1.00pm
Back Gate:	Closed till completion of PERI works

2. Before the start of school in the morning (before 7.30 am),
 - a. Parents who walk with their children to school are to drop them off at the Side Gate.
 - b. Parents who drive their children to school may drop the children off at the designated drop-off points in the school.
 - c. Pupils who commute by school bus will alight at the designated drop-off points as well.
3. From 7.30am, the Main (Vehicular) Gate will be manned by barrier control. Only the following vehicles are authorised to enter:-
 - a. Vehicles with School decals/labels
 - b. Goods delivery and maintenance vehicles

- c. Parents picking up sick children
 - d. Any other vehicles that are authorised by the school
4. **Car Parking:** For security reasons and due to limited parking space available in school, parents who wish to come into the school for an appointment or to buy books or school uniform will have to park their vehicles on one side of the drive-way leading to the school. If the driveway is fully occupied, parents are to park at the nearby HDB car parks.
5. **Visitor Pass:** All visitors are required to report to the Guard Post and sign-in, indicating the purpose of their visit. The security guard will then issue a Visitor Pass to the visitor and accompany him/her to the General Office/ Bookshop/ Uniform vendor for the intended purposes. **Visitors are requested to leave the school immediately after the stated purpose has been accomplished.**

The Visitor Pass must be visibly displayed at all times during your visit in school. Visitors must be accompanied by a member of staff during their visit and are not to wander around the school premises unaccompanied.

Canteen: As there is limited space and food sold at the canteen, and for our students' benefit, the canteen stalls are not allowed to sell food to parents/visitors. Parents are also kindly requested not to occupy seats at the canteen during our recesses.

6. To ensure **Safety during School Dismissal**, visitors are not allowed to drive into or enter the school premises during the following time slots:

Monday to Thursday: 1.00pm to 2.00pm
Friday: 12.30pm to 1.15pm

Parents can wait for their children outside the Side Gate near the Guard Post.

7. In the interest of safety, pupils are not allowed to leave the school unaccompanied during curriculum time. Pupils may leave the school early, in the company of an authorised adult e.g.; father, mother, grandparent, helper or guardian. The following procedures must be followed:-
- a) The authorised adult is to register at the security guard post and a Visitor Pass and Visitor Slip will be issued.
 - b) The authorised adult is to proceed to the General Office to fetch the pupil.
 - c) A form authorising the pupil to leave early will be issued and must be completed.
 - d) The slip at the bottom of the form will be detached and given to the authorised adult. This slip is to be handed to the security guard before the pupil is allowed to leave the school compound.
8. On **Rainy Days**, parents who are driving their children to school may get their children to alight at the porch outside the concourse. This place will be manned by school staff.

Temperature Taking Exercise

As part of emergency preparedness and student health, all schools are required by MOE to conduct temperature taking exercise twice a year for staff and students. The first exercise will be conducted on **Fri 6 Jan 2017**. P1 and newly posted-in pupils will be issued a thermometer each before the exercise. All other students have been briefed to bring their previously issued thermometers (or bring a working replacement) and hand it to their form teachers one day before the exercise.

Student Insurance

The well-being of our students is a shared responsibility between the school and parents. All MOE Schools purchase the “Basic Student Protection Plan” (\$8,000 in total for in-Patient and Out-Patient benefits) for all of our students. For details and sub-clauses governing the coverage, please refer to the Summary of Policy Coverage & Benefits which had been disseminated to you via your children in school in the first few days of school. If you have not received it yet, please check with the Form Teacher or General Office for another copy.

Parents should purchase additional private insurance coverage should they feel the need for it.

Bus Transport Arrangements

We seek parents’/guardians’ co-operation to be punctual during pick-up and drop-off for the safety of our students; to not cause delay/inconvenience to others and to ensure that our students are not late for school. The following are important information:

1. Morning Pick-Up: Parents/guardians are requested to have their child at the pick-up point on time so as not to delay others and to allow the bus to arrive in school on time. If the child is late, the bus will move-off to pick the other children. Parents/guardians will then need to make alternative arrangements for their children.
2. Afternoon Drop-Off (from 1.45 PM daily, and 12.45 PM on Fridays):
 - Please inform the bus driver/aunty of the assigned adult/person arranged to meet your child / ward pupil at the bus drop-off point/time.
 - If the appointed person is late, the bus will move off to drop the rest of the pupils before dropping off your child back in school.
 - The bus company will inform parents/guardians about this. It would then be left to parents/guardians to make alternative arrangements for that trip back home.
 - In addition, please **call and inform the bus company/driver on days when your child will not be using the bus services for any/all legs of journey to and/or from school.**

3. CCA / Remedial School Bus Service in the Afternoon (4.15pm)

- For the benefit of pupils who participate in CCA and or remedial classes, we have made arrangements for a 4.15 pm school bus service with the authorised school bus operators.
- It will commence operations from **Mon 16 Jan 2017**. The service will be offered only from Monday to Friday (during school days). The bus will leave the school at 4.15pm sharp.
- Each pupil will pay a bus fare ranging from \$2.00 upwards, depending on the distance, and it will be collected upon boarding the bus.
- Pupils who want to use this service must register at the “booth” set-up in the Concourse between 4:00 and 4.10 pm.

Reminder on the Daily 10 Minute In-Class Snack Break after Recess

A gentle reminder that pupils will be given a 10 minute **in-class** snack break sometime between 12.00 noon and 12.15 pm, for Mondays to Thursdays, excluding Fridays which is a shorter school day.

The rationale for the break is to bridge the long time-gap between recess and lunch. Pupils are encouraged to bring healthy snacks from home for this break which should be of a type that is not messy and can be easily and quickly consumed in class, e.g. sandwiches, biscuits, soya bean drink or chocolate drink. Snacks will not be provided by the school.

MOE Financial Assistance Scheme and NEU PC Plus Programme

The Ministry of Education provides financial assistance to needy Singaporean students. Application forms are available from the school. You may complete the form and submit the form with the relevant supporting documents to the General Office.

The income criterion for consideration is \$2,500 or below for gross household income or \$625 or below for Per Capita Income (Per Capita Income = Total Household Income / No. of Household Members).

The school also help pupils from low-income households to own a new computer at an affordable price through IMDA's NEU PC Plus Programme. For details about the programme, you may approach the General Office or visit:

<https://www.imda.gov.sg/community/consumer-education/digital-inclusion/neu-pc-plus-programme>.

Photo-Taking for P1 & P6 Pupils for the School Smart Cards (SSC)

The Ministry of Education (MOE) will be conducting the yearly photo-taking exercise for all pupils in Primary One and Primary Six for the issue of the School Smart Card (SSC).

While P1 pupils will get their SSCs by end March 2017, the photo-images captured for the P6 pupils will be used for the printing of Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary One in 2018.

The photo-taking for our pupils will be conducted on **Monday, 13 Feb 2017** in school from 8.00am – 12.00 noon. Please ensure that your child come to school in full school uniform on that day.

Please note that this photo-taking exercise is for P1 and P6 pupils only.



A) ST1: Quality Teaching and Engaged Learning

PSLE 2016 Results

We are happy to inform that 100% of our pupils who took 4 Standard Subject Combination passed the 2016 PSLE and have been offered places in secondary schools. In addition 8 pupils were offered places via the Direct Schools Admission Scheme. We would like to encourage more P6 pupils to try for the DSA to Secondary schools of their choice in 2017.

2017 PSLE Examination Calendar (Tentative)

Registration	Mon, 06 March – Mon, 27 March 2017
Oral Examination	Thu, 17 August – Fri, 18 August 2017
Listening Comprehension	Fri, 15 September 2017
Written Examination	Thu, 28 September – Wed, 04 October 2017
Marking Exercise	Thu, 19 October – Tue, 24 October 2017

Assessment for Learning

The school adopts a holistic assessment system which strikes a balance between formative (has no weighting) and summative (has weighting) assessments. We use a range of appropriate assessment methods and modes for different purposes, and provide qualitative and quantitative feedback to the pupils to support and guide their development. Evidence of pupils' progress in the different learning areas is reported via the following platforms: Parent's/Guardian's endorsement on test papers, progress report, holistic report card, pupils' portfolios (writing) and Parent-Teacher conferences.

The table below shows the summative assessments that your child/ward will sit for in the different terms. Pupils and parents will be informed of tests and exam schedules.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Primary 1	-	20%	30%	50%
		Bite-sized assessments		
Primary 2	10%	20%	30%	40%
	Bite-sized assessments			SA2
Primary 3 to Primary 5	10%	30%	10%	50%
	Class Test	SA1	Class Test	SA2
Primary 6	-	100%	-	100%
		SA1		SA2

Remedial Programme

Levels	Start from	Time
P2 to P6	Term 1 Week 6	From 2.15 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
P1	Term 2 Week 1	From 2.15 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Pupils will be selected based on their teachers' assessment of their needs for reinforcement. Parents will be informed if your children have been selected for the above programme by the individual subject teachers. We seek your support to ensure your child benefits fully from the programme.

For the safety of your child/ward, pupils who are selected for the Remedial Programme are not allowed to leave the school premises before the end of the activities. They are to wait in the school canteen after the 1.45 p.m. dismissal while waiting for their remedial lessons to start.

In addition to remedial lessons, some supplementary classes may also be organised to meet the needs of classes which have missed many lessons due to school and public holidays or for other good reasons.

To help our P6 pupils prepare for the PSLE Examinations, remedial lessons for P6 pupils will be carried out in the first week of the June holidays and on the first 3 days of the September holidays. All P6 pupils are expected to attend.

Academic Awards:

1) University of New South Wales (UNSW) International Competitions And Assessments For Schools

A total of 146 pupils participated in the 2016 UNSW ICAS (Mathematics). We would like to congratulate the following pupils who attained the following distinction awards.

Name	Class (2016)	Award
Sek En Zher Josh	P2 Respect	High Distinction
Jeric Kow (Gao Jie)	P2 Responsibility	Distinction
Dwayne Low Yee Kiat	P2 Responsibility	Distinction
Jodie Yap Wing Yan	P4 Diligence	Distinction
Chong Yi Shin	P4 Diligence	Distinction
Chong Tze Kiat	P4 Discipline	Distinction
Tan Huan Xi Gregory	P6 Diligence	Distinction

2) Good Progress Award for Chinese Language

The Chinese Language and Culture Fund has set up an award, named the 'Good Progress Award for Chinese Language', to encourage and reward Singaporean primary school students for their efforts in learning Chinese Language. The following students are the award winners in our school for their improvement made from 2015 to 2016. They have shown the greatest improvement in Chinese Language in their level:

P1/2016	Chung Xuan Xiang, Gillian Mae	(P1 Responsibility)
P2/2016	Trinh Tuong Vy Valerie	(P2 Respect)
P3/2016	Loke Yi Kai Joseph	(P3 Respect)
P4/2016	Gauthier Lim Kai Siong	(P4 Discipline)
P5/2016	Ang Rui En Gina	(P5 Respect)
P6/2016	Low Wenxi Ashlee	(P6 Diligence)

B) ST2: Nurturing Individuals Strong in Character

Physical Education &CCA

Height and Weight Measurement	<p>The School measures pupils' height and weight every term and tracks their BMI progress or regress. Food sold in the canteen is monitored every day and the teachers encourage pupils to observe healthy eating habits and to exercise at home. The School would like to partner parents in ensuring that their children continue to stay healthy when they are at home and during the school vacations. This is due to a large number of pupils whose weight goes up to the unhealthy range after a long holiday.</p> <p>The School Health Services also assesses pupil's health status every year. Pupils who need to seek medical attention due to being severely overweight are scheduled to visit the doctors at SHS. Parents' support is needed for pupils to attend these clinics</p>
P3 Swimming Programme	In collaboration with Singapore Sports Council, the National Water Safety Council has rolled out a 6-stage progressive swimming programme to help children of all ages and abilities develop water safety and swimming skills at their own pace through a positive

	<p>and fun learning experience. The school has planned a ten to twelve-week swimming programme in Semester 1 for all Primary 3 pupils. Through this programme, we hope every child who joins Zhonghua Primary School acquires basic swimming skills by the time they leave the school at the end of Primary 6.</p> <p>The programme will commence on the 3rd week of Term 1 starting Wed 18 Jan 2017. It will be conducted once a week, during curriculum time as part of our PE programme.</p>
Co-Curricular Activity (CCA)	<p>The School offers 12 CCAs ranging from Uniformed Group, Physical Sports, Visual and Performing Arts and Clubs and Societies. All pupils from Primary 3 to Primary 6 should have a CCA. Participation in CCA will be reported in the holistic report card at the end of the year</p> <p>CCA Selection trials for P3 will start in Term 1 / Week 3. Pupils in Primary 3 will be officially placed in their respective CCAs in Term 2. A separate schedule will be given to the P3 pupils.</p> <p>CCAs for pupils from P4 to P6 will begin in Term 1 Week 3, Tue 17 Jan 2017 at 2.15 p.m.</p> <p>CCA practices will be held on Tuesday afternoons from 2.15 p.m. Some CCAs may have extra days of practice to prepare for competitions or special activities. Teacher-in-charge will inform parents of their child's CCA days and time</p>

Semester 1 / CCA Schedule 2017

Week / Day	Event	Remarks
T1W3 / 17 Jan (Tuesday)	CCA Session 1	
T1W4 / 24 Jan (Tuesday)	CCA Session 2	
T1W5 / 31 Jan (Tuesday)	No CCA	Chinese New Year (School Holiday)
T1W6 / 7 Feb (Tuesday)	CCA Session 3	
T1W7 / 14 Feb (Tuesday)	CCA Session 4	
T1W8 / 21 Feb (Tuesday)	CCA Session 5	
T1W9 / 28 Feb (Tuesday)	CCA Session 6	No CCA on Thursday (2 March)
T1W10 / 7 Mar (Tuesday)	No CCA	
Term 1 Break (13 March – 19 March 2017)		
T2W1 / 21 Mar (Tuesday)	CCA Session 7	
T2W2 / 28 Mar (Tuesday)	CCA Session 8	
T2W3 / 4 Apr (Tuesday)	CCA Session 9	
T2W4 / 11 Apr (Tuesday)	CCA Session 10	
T2W5 / 18 Apr (Tuesday)	NO CCA	SA1 Oral Exam Week
T2W6 / 25 Apr (Tuesday)	NO CCA	SA1 Exam Week
T2W7 / 2 May (Tuesday)	NO CCA	SA1 Exam Week
T2W8 / 9 May (Tuesday)	NO CCA	Marks Processing Week
T2W9 / 16 May (Tuesday)	NO CCA	Prep for House Practice
T2W10 / 23 May (Tuesday)	NO CCA	Prep for Sports Carnival Day

Singapore Youth Festival (Art & Crafts) & National School Games

The Singapore Youth Festival (SYF/Art & Crafts) & National School Games is organised by the Ministry of Education to celebrate the diverse arts & sports talents of our youths in their co-curricular activities (CCA). Our pupils from the Art CCA will be participating in the SYF.

The National School Games will start from mid-January. Our pupils from the football, sepak-takraw and volleyball teams will be participating.

Date	Sport	Division
19 Jan – 24 Feb	Volleyball	Junior & Senior Div (Zonal)
7 Mar – 14 Apr	Volleyball	Junior & Senior Div (National)
20 Jan – 10 Mar	Football	Junior & Senior Div (Zonal)
30 Mar – 28 Apr	Football	Junior & Senior Div (National)
30 Jan – 10 Mar	Sepak Takraw	Junior & Senior Div (National)

Pupil Management

Observation of School Rules	At Zhonghua Primary School, we believe that discipline forms the bedrock of a pupil's development and growth. With good discipline, effective teaching and learning can take place to develop the potential in every pupil. The school rules have been established to inculcate good habits, values and behaviour. They reflect the school's expectations in terms of acceptable standards of behaviour, attendance, punctuality, attire and appearance. These school rules and regulations can be found in the Pupil's Diary. Pupils are expected to follow the school rules at all times when on the school grounds or when representing the school in official events.
Student Leadership Structure	Pupil leadership development in Zhonghua Primary School aims to develop our pupils to lead self and others. In support of the school vision of every pupil a leader, opportunities are provided to pupils to take on a leadership role at least once a year at the class level on a rotational basis. Leadership roles at the class level include class monitor, subject monitors, group leaders and sports leader. Pupils who display potential are selected to take on leadership roles at the school level such as prefects and CCA leaders. Structured and on-the-job trainings are provided to equip pupils holding different leadership roles with leadership competencies and to reinforce social and emotional competencies which are essential for them to be effective leaders of self and others.
Buddy System	As part of our culture of care, the school has a Buddy System which aims to ease new pupils into the school culture and environment. During the first two weeks of the new school year, every P1 pupil is paired with a P4 buddy. The P4 buddies take care of their P1 juniors during recess time, introducing to them the types of food on sale in the canteen

	and showing them how to purchase food. On top of that, they also teach their P1 juniors the school routines and show them the school facilities. New pupils at other levels are also paired with a buddy from their form classes. These buddies provide support in helping their new classmates be familiarised with the class and school routines, school facilities and activities. More importantly, the buddies are peers that the new pupils can turn to for help when they encounter any challenges when assimilating into the new school environment.
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Character and Citizenship Education (CCE)

Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP) & 1-1 Teacher Pupil Dialogue sessions	FTGP provides time for form teachers to have quality interactions with their pupils and for them to help pupils strengthen social and emotional competencies. During FTGP, form and co-form teachers will deliver social and emotional learning (SEL) lessons and engage in one to one dialogue sessions with individual pupils to interact with them. In addition, the session enables form & co-form teachers to understand the profiles of their pupils so they can provide necessary support.																					
Values-In-Action (VIA)	VIA activities are conducted to provide platforms for pupils to demonstrate care, to take an active part to better the lives of others, to have a strong sense of civic responsibility, to stay rooted to Singapore and to be informed about Singapore and the World. We have planned the following VIA for our pupils: <table border="1" data-bbox="566 1332 1444 1928"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Domain</th> <th>VIA programme</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Primary 1</td> <td>School</td> <td>Welcome to Zhonghua! (Making of bookmarks)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Primary 2</td> <td>Family</td> <td>I'm a Great Helper! (Helping out at home)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Primary 3</td> <td>School</td> <td>Let's Keep Our School Clean (Buddy Clean Workshop)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Primary 4</td> <td>Community</td> <td>Fun hour @ St Luke's (Visit to St Luke's Eldercare - Serangoon)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Primary 5</td> <td>Nation</td> <td>Doing our part for Singapore (Educating our juniors on the importance of water conservation)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Primary 6</td> <td>Nation</td> <td>Contributor towards Nation Building (Service Learning @ Zhonghua)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Level	Domain	VIA programme	Primary 1	School	Welcome to Zhonghua! (Making of bookmarks)	Primary 2	Family	I'm a Great Helper! (Helping out at home)	Primary 3	School	Let's Keep Our School Clean (Buddy Clean Workshop)	Primary 4	Community	Fun hour @ St Luke's (Visit to St Luke's Eldercare - Serangoon)	Primary 5	Nation	Doing our part for Singapore (Educating our juniors on the importance of water conservation)	Primary 6	Nation	Contributor towards Nation Building (Service Learning @ Zhonghua)
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Pupil Wellbeing

To strengthen the Quality of School Experience for our pupils and ensure individual pupils get enhanced attention from their teachers, the school has embarked on the Year Head System. This system allows for a more holistic understanding of individual pupils in the context of his/her performance in various academic subjects as well as non-academic aspects such as pastoral needs and enables the school to provide targeted support.

The following Year Heads will be working closely with the HODs, teachers and parents to look into the development and well-being of the pupils in their respective levels.

Primary 1 and 2	Primary 3 and 4	Primary 5 and 6
Year Head: Mdm Nuriah Abdullah Assistant Year Head: Mr Azman	Assistant Year Heads: Mdm Farhanah and Mrs Chan Hong Wei	Year Head: Mdm Yasmeen Yusoff Assistant Year Heads: Mr Peck Yong Xiang and Ms Chloe Pang

Non-Academic Awards and Recognition

Friends of Singa 2016 - Projects chosen to be displayed (Most heart-warming community service projects)	In 2016, the FOS team organized a Parents' Appreciation cum Charity Donation project as well as writing appreciation cards to thank our school cleaners. Our school's Friends of Singa 2016 project was selected to be featured in the Friends of Singa exhibition and programme booklet under the category, "Most Heart-Warming Community Service Projects". The exhibition was held at Cathay Cineleisure Orchard, Atrium from 11-13 November 2016.
SEC-Starhub School Green Awards (SGA) 2016	The school participated in the Singapore Environment Council - StarHub School Green Awards (SGA) 2016 at the end of September. The award is designed as an environmental audit programme for all schools in Singapore. Zhonghua Primary School was awarded the Lotus Sustained Achievement Award . It is the 5th year running, the school has achieved the highest level of award, the Lotus Award and has also maintained the level of Sustained Achievement Award for the 3rd time.
North East District Environment Award 2016	The school participated in the North East District Environment award 2016 at the end of August. This award by the North East Community Development Council (NE CDC) and National Environment Agency – recognizes community-led efforts in the creation and execution of sustainable programmes to create a Clean and Green North East District. Zhonghua Primary School has been awarded the Gold Award (3rd prize) for the above award in the school category.

<p>Indian Dance Performance at the Ministry of Health</p>	<p>Our Indian Dance CCA received accolades for their wonderful performance during the the Ministry of Health’s Annual Deepavali Celebration. This was held on 16 November 2016. This event was graced by the Minister of Health and other Public Office Holders.</p>
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C) ST3: Developing a High Performing and Engaged Team

Staff Learning and Development

<p>School Planning Seminar 2016</p>	<p>The Staff Planning Seminar 2016 which was conducted over 3 half-day sessions focussed on the school’s direction for 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the Singapore Spirit among our pupils on 16 Nov 2016. - Fostering the Joy of Learning and Entrepreneurial Dare in our School Programme on 24 Nov 2016 - Building Teamwork among Staff to promote Innovation and to bring the Joy of Learning to our pupils on 25 Nov 2016. <p>To build Teamwork among Staff to promote Innovation and to bring the Joy of Learning, a staff teambuilding activity, a Team Symphony activity was organised. Staff took up different musical instruments and worked in synergy to produce a unique piece of music. The activity allowed every staff to appreciate each other’s roles and responsibilities in the team, leading to an understanding that it takes many different roles, strengths, talents and personalities to produce extra-ordinary, creative and meaningful results.</p>
<p>Staff Learning & Innovation Activity</p>	<p>To further strengthen our endeavour to promote the 3 aspects of the school’s direction in 2017, the staff also embarked on a Learning and Innovation activity at USS on 25 Nov 2016 in the afternoon. The staff completed an Amazing Race at USS based on the theme ‘Teamwork to promote Innovation and Joy in Learning’. Using innovations in USS to complete task items, the staff reflected on what they can learn from USS to bring about Entrepreneurial Dare and the Joy of Learning in our school programme.</p>

Staff Recognition

Outstanding Contribution Award (OCA) 2016	<p>The school congratulates the following Winners of the Outstanding Contribution Award (OCA) 2016:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="624 376 1439 640"><thead><tr><th data-bbox="624 376 963 450">Individual OCA Award</th><th data-bbox="963 376 1439 450">Team OCA Award</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td data-bbox="624 450 963 488">Mr Peck Yong Xiang</td><td data-bbox="963 450 1439 488">EAS Team supporting EOs</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="624 488 963 526">Mr Liew Yong Chew</td><td data-bbox="963 488 1439 526">Partnership Committee</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="624 526 963 600">Mrs Kavin</td><td data-bbox="963 526 1439 600">Environmental Education (EE) Committee</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="624 600 963 640">Mrs Sharon Teo</td><td data-bbox="963 600 1439 640">PE Department</td></tr></tbody></table>	Individual OCA Award	Team OCA Award	Mr Peck Yong Xiang	EAS Team supporting EOs	Mr Liew Yong Chew	Partnership Committee	Mrs Kavin	Environmental Education (EE) Committee	Mrs Sharon Teo	PE Department
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Mr Peck Yong Xiang	EAS Team supporting EOs										
Mr Liew Yong Chew	Partnership Committee										
Mrs Kavin	Environmental Education (EE) Committee										
Mrs Sharon Teo	PE Department										
Official and Internal Appointments	<p>We congratulate the following officers on their official appointment by MOE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr Nelson Chong as HOD/ICT- Miss Liang Lifang as HOD/Mathematic- Mdm Chloe Pang as Level Head/Science <p>To provide developmental opportunities for our staff to build up their professional capacity, the school has created platforms for staff to take up key positions or to intern at Exco or as Teacher Leaders. We are glad that the following teachers have risen to the challenge to learn and develop themselves by taking up the various appointments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mrs Sharon Seah (ST, Cluster Maths Mentor)- Mrs Wendy Ng (School Maths Mentor)- Mr Nazrul (SH/CCE, Internal Appointment)- Mrs Chan Lee Fong (LH/Maths, Internal Appointment)- Mdm Rafidawati (ST/EL, Internal Appointment)										

Staff Wellbeing

Farewell to Outgoing Teachers	<p>We bid farewell to Mrs Lee Peck Har (HOD Mathematics), Mrs Sharon Teo (HOD CCE), Ms Candice Lim and Ms Nurfarazila who have joined Townsville Primary School, MOE/Communications Division, MOE/Guidance Branch and Xishan Primary School respectively. And also to Mrs Sukumaran who has just retired from Service and to Mr Clement Chan and Ms Hiang Cheng Woon who are now pursuing their teacher training at the National Institute of Education (NIE). We wish them all the best in their future endeavours!</p>
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Welcome to New Teachers	We would also like to welcome new teachers joining us: Mr Nelson Chong (HOD ICT), Ms Lim Mew Chew, Ms Leong Shi Ern, Mr Melvin Cheng, Mdm Tan Bee Juat, Ms Hannah Foo, Mr Kasmuri B Hambali and Mr Abdul Ra'uf s/o Ibrahim Sulaiman.
Best Wishes to Our Teachers	We wish the following teachers plenty of happiness and all the best as they welcome/await the arrival of their newborns: Mdm Yasmeen, Mr Justin Ang and Mdm Chloe Pang

D) ST4: Engaging and Collaborating with Partners in Education

Partnership with Parents

Parent Symposium 2017	To better engage the parents in providing a holistic education for the pupils, the school has organised a Parents' Symposium on 3 Jan to 5 Jan 2017. Activities in the symposium included P1 curriculum briefings for various subjects, a Math & English Lower Primary Workshop for Parents and a Cyberwellness workshop to equip parents with the necessary skills in guiding their children in using the internet and social media. Other activities included a workshop on supporting your child with Dyslexia and Building Resilience in your child. 2 parenting workshops on Transiting from Preschool to Primary school and Helping your child to succeed in school were well received by parents. The response for the 3-days Parents Symposium has been very encouraging indeed.
Invitation to join our Parent Support Group	We would like to invite the parents of our pupils to become members of the Parent Support Group. You can volunteer your services at our many school events namely Chinese New Year celebrations, International Friendship Day, Sports Carnival, Racial Harmony Day and National Day. The teachers will also appreciate your help for learning journeys. Interested parents will need to register with the Parent Support Group via the school website or obtain the registration form from the General Office. You will then be contacted by the parent leaders when your help is required. Parents will be briefed on your roles and responsibilities prior to the event by parent leaders/teachers-in charge of the event. We look forward to your support.

<p>Family Matters Workshops and Other Workshops for Parents</p>	<p>The school will be organising various activities for parents to promote effective parenting under the banner of “Family Matters”. Academic Subject Workshops for EL, Maths, Science and MTL are also being planned. More details will be given nearer the dates.</p>	
<p>Teacher-Parent Conferencing Sessions</p>	<p>The school values its partnership with parents and will be arranging for two conferences with parents this year for all the levels. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to attend the different sessions which serve different objectives. A letter will be issued to parents/guardians closer to the date.</p>	
	<p>Parent-Teacher Conference (PTC)</p> <p>Thursday, 2nd March 2017 (2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.)</p> <p>Friday 3rd March 2017 (1.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.)</p>	<p>This one-to-one session will allow parents/guardians to learn more about the progress that their child/ward has been making in school in both academic and non-academic areas. It will also allow parents/guardians and teachers to discuss how they can work together to help pupils perform at their best in school.</p>
	<p>Parent-Child-Teacher Conference (PCTC)</p> <p>Friday, 26 May 2017 (8.00 am to 4.00 pm)</p>	<p>In this one-to-one session, pupils will take the lead in communicating with their parents/guardians and teachers their learning progress and areas for improvement, and the support they would like from them. You and your child/ward are required to attend this meeting.</p>

Partnership with Educational Partners

The school continues to work with various community partners to help us enhance the quality of our education programmes and in supporting our pupils in terms of their development and wellbeing. We thank our partners and look forward to further collaboration with them in the coming terms.

Community Partners	Support Programmes with ZPS
Heartware Network	Tuition programme commencing in Term 2, 2017
YAYASAN MENDAKI	15 hours of mentoring session with the YIA mentors
SINDA	Project Teach small group tuition
Serangoon Junior College CCA – Community Champions Council	Support programme for pupils with learning needs from Term 2, 2017
Serangoon Moral Family Service Centre	The FSC provides social assistance and Straits Times School Pocket money fund (SPMF) to needy pupils and their families
Food from the Heart	Through the Food Goodie Bag Programme, 30 families are assisted from the start of 2017

Partnership with the Community

Yoga @ ZPS

A series of 12 yoga lessons will commence on Thursday, 12 Jan 2017. You, your family members, relatives and neighbours are all welcome. The details are as follows:-

Time	:	7.00pm to 9.00pm
Venue	:	School Hall on Level 2
Registration Fee	:	\$10
Lesson notes	:	\$5 (Optional)
Registration Dates	:	At 6.30pm on 12 Jan, 19 Jan and 9 Feb Jan 2017
Things to bring	:	Exercise Mat, a Towel and a Bottle of Water

The instructors are from Nikam Guruji Yoga Kutir. Registration is on a first-come-first-serve basis, up to a maximum of 100 participants. Participants must be at least 12 years old.

Foreign Educational Visitors

Visit by delegates from Khadijah School (Surabaya, Indonesia)

On the 13 Oct 2016, a group of principals and teachers from Khadijah Primary School visited the school. The objective of the visit was to know more about the Singapore education system and how teaching and learning takes place at Zhonghua Primary School. The guests also visited some classes to witness the teaching and learning that goes on. They were taken on a tour to show the facilities available in a Singapore Primary School.

**Zhonghua Primary School - Calendar of Events
2017 Term 1**

Day	Date	Description
Tuesday to Thursday	3 Jan to 5 Jan 17	Parent Symposium 2017
Friday	6 Jan 17	Temperature Taking Exercise
Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays	Start: 12 Jan 17 End: 23 Jan 17	P6 - Literature Alive! (Introduction to the SHORT STORY)
Thursdays	Start: 19 Jan 17 End: 09 Mar 17	P5 - Using Drama for Writing
Mondays & Thursdays	Start: 12 Jan 17 End: 02/02/17	P4 - Storytelling
Thursdays	Start: 19 Jan 17 End: 09 Mar 17	P3 - Readers' Theatre
Wednesdays	Start: 18 Jan 17 End: 12 Apr 17	P3 SwimSafer Programme (Curriculum Time)
Friday	27 Jan 17	Chinese Lunar New Year Celebrations
Monday	30 Jan 17	Public Holiday – Chinese Lunar New Year
Tuesday	31 Jan 17	School Holiday – Chinese Lunar New Year
Monday	13 Feb 17	Photo-taking for P1 & P6 students
Wednesday	15 Feb 17	Total Defence Day
Monday	20 Feb 17	Class Test – English (P3 to P5)
Tuesday	21 Feb 17	Class Test – Mother Tongue Language (P3 to P5)
Wednesday	22 Feb 17	Class Test – Mathematics (P3 to P5)
Thursday	23 Feb 17	Class Test – Science (P3 to P5)
Friday	24 Feb 17	Class Test – Higher Mother Tongue Language (P5)
Tuesday	28 Feb 17	P2 Outdoor Learning Experience (Curriculum Time)
Monday	06 Mar 17	P3 Learning Journey – Zoo Trail
Thursday	9 Mar 17	P4 Learning Journey – Garden By the Bay
Monday to Friday	12 Mar to 17 Mar 17	Term 1 School Holidays

(See back page for Notes to Parents/Guardians)

Notes to Parents/Guardians:

1. The information given in the calendar is correct at the time of printing. Should there be any changes to the dates above, a letter will be issued to inform parents of the changes.
2. Parents are kindly reminded not to take their children out of school during term time including the days after SA1. This is to ensure that your children will benefit from the whole term programme that has been planned for them.
3. Should there be any CCA or remedial lessons and other school activities which are carried out during the school holidays, parents will be informed of such arrangement in advance. The school will also ensure that pupils are given protected time to rest and enjoy the holidays with their families.