

3 January 2025



**FERNVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
*Global Learners of Tomorrow*

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to school! We trust you had a refreshing break.

2025 is a momentous year as we commemorate our nation's 60<sup>th</sup> year of independence with SG60 celebrations, whilst also marking Fernvale's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To honour our school's milestone, we aim to instil in our students the importance of giving back to the community. We plan to engage them in meaningful activities at home, in school and within the wider community. Through these endeavours, we hope to provide our students with positive and enriching learning experiences.

I would also like to take this opportunity to update you on matters pertaining to staff and students, as well as inform you of the school events scheduled for Term 1.

## **1 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **1.1 Achievements**

A group of students participated in the Singapore Mathematical Olympiad 2024 which aims to enhance students' mathematical knowledge and sharpen their critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. We are proud to announce that Alia Branche Garces Torres (5 Graciousness) and Lionel Lam You En (5 Care) received Certificate of Achievement (Bronze) while Aaron Seow Jun Wei (5 Care) received the Certificate of Achievement (Honourable Mention).

For more details about our students' achievements, please refer to the Fernvale Times - our termly e-publication that highlights key student programmes and accomplishments throughout the term.

### **1.2 Staff Movement**

We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to Mrs Tay-Seah Teck Ping Junice (Head of Department/Mathematics), Mr Peck Chin Hee Gregory (Head of Department/Special Project), Miss Alexandria Kirsten Tobias, and Ms Cherie Ang Hui Er, who have been posted to other schools this year. We wish them all the best in their new postings.

Several staff members will be on extended leave due to personal reasons. These include Mr Long Tian Heng Michael (Master Teacher/Science), Ms Seah Hui Shian, Mrs Ho-Soh Wei Ying, Mdm Oliveira Angeline Alison and Ms Ma Sen Loo Theresa. Additionally, Mdm Low Pheck Shwan has retired, and we extend our sincere gratitude for her years of dedicated service. Mrs Jacquelin Yeo Chien Ling (Lead Teacher/Special Educational Needs) will be away this term to attend her milestone leadership programme.

We are pleased to welcome the following staff to the school:

Name	Designation
Mr Ramesh Mukundhan	Vice-Principal
Mdm Lim Shu Hui Jasmine	Head of Department/Mathematics
Mr Huang Weijin Vincent	Head of Department/21 <sup>st</sup> Century Competencies
Ms Ervinna Leong	Teacher/English and Mathematics
Mr Lee Oon Kee	Teacher/Music
Mdm Chuah Poh Ling Penny	Administrative Executive
Ms Nur Syazwani Binte Mohamed Salim	Student Welfare Officer

We are confident that the insights and experience of these staff will enhance our school programme.

## 2 SCHOOL CALENDAR, EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES

### 2.1 Public/School Holidays

Term 1 commences on **Thursday, 2 January 2025** and ends on **Friday, 14 March 2025**. Please take note of the public/school holidays during Term 1 as shown below. Students are **not required to report to school** on these days.

Date	Day	Public/School Holiday
29 - 30 January	Wednesday – Thursday	Chinese New Year
15 – 23 March	Saturday – Sunday	Term 1 School Holidays

### 2.2 School Programmes

Please take note of the programmes and activities that have been planned for the students in Term 1.

Level	Date	Day	Programme	Remarks
Primary 1 - 6	3, 6 January	-	Start It Right Programme	
	28 January	Tuesday	Chinese New Year Celebrations	Students are encouraged to wear their Chinese traditional costumes to school.  All students will be dismissed at 10.30 a.m.

	14 February	Thursday	Total Defence Day Commemoration	
Primary 2	11 March	Tuesday	Learning Journey (LJ) to Jacob Ballas Children's Garden	Classes are scheduled to go for their LJ on different days. More details will be provided later.
Primary 3	11, 13 March	-	Learning Journey (LJ) to Mandai Wildlife Reserve	
Primary 4	10, 11, 12, 14 March	-	Learning Journey (LJ) to National Gallery	Classes are scheduled to go for their LJ on different days. More details will be provided later.
	14 March	Friday	Learning Journey (LJ) to Kreta Ayer Heritage Gallery	Classes are scheduled to go for their LJ on different days. More details will be provided later.

### 2.3 Start It Right (SIR) Programme

The SIR programme aims to provide students with a positive start at the beginning of each semester. Besides checking in on the well-being of the students, the programme also offers a platform to strengthen teacher-student relationships. Additionally, the programme equips students with social-emotional competencies, enabling them to succeed both in school and in life.

## 3 STUDENT MATTERS

### 3.1 Student Attendance

All students are expected to be punctual on school days, **arriving at their designated assembly area (hall, parade square, or classroom) by 7.30 a.m.** If your child is absent from school, please provide either a Medical Certificate (MC) or a letter of excuse to the Form Teacher, when he/she returns to school.

### 3.2 School Attire

We would like to enlist the assistance of parents to ensure that your child wear the school uniform when they come to school. Students are only allowed to put on the PE attire on days when they have PE lessons.

### 3.3 Use of Smartphones / Smartwatches in School

As mobile ownership becomes prevalent, more students have access to smartphones

and smartwatches and are using them in school. These devices could be distracting for students during their time in school. To better support student's digital well-being and help them self-regulate digital device use, students are **not to use** smartphones and/or smartwatches, during school hours. This includes recess, CCA and after-school programmes such as supplementary, enrichment and remedial lessons. Students who bring such devices are to switch them off and to put them in lockers or school bags before school start time.

For urgent matters, parents can contact their child through the General Office.

## **4 PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS**

### **4.1 Home-School Partnership**

The Home-School Partnership sessions will be conducted virtually by each class on the following dates:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Level</b>
15 January	Wednesday	2.15 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.	Primary 6
16 January	Thursday	2.15 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.	Primary 2
		3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	Primary 3
22 January	Wednesday	2.15 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.	Primary 4
		3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	Primary 5

Through this session, we hope to develop a better understanding of your child so that we can partner you to provide the care and support for your child.

A separate letter with the meeting link and password will be issued by the respective form teachers. We strongly encourage all parents to attend the session.

### **4.2 Communication with Parents**

We remain committed to collaborating with parents to support and enhance your child's learning and development. To facilitate this, we will proactively communicate information about school events and provide updates on your child's progress through various platforms, including Parents Gateway, the Student Handbook, and email correspondence.

We kindly request your understanding that our teachers may not always be able to respond to queries immediately. Where possible, please contact teachers during school operating hours only. For urgent matters or requests, please reach out to the school's General Office for assistance.

## 5 SCHOOL OPERATIONS AND SAFETY MATTERS

### 5.1 School Dismissal Timing

Students will be dismissed at staggered timing to reduce congestion at the gates and ease students' movement. Please refer to the schedule below for the dismissal timing of the different levels:

Level	Time
Primary 1	1.25 p.m.
Primary 2 to Primary 4	1.30 p.m.
Primary 5 and Primary 6	1.35 p.m.

### 5.2 School Recess Timing

Please note the recess time for the different levels:

Level	Recess Time	Refresh Time
Primary 1, Primary 4 Care, 4 Joy, 4 Responsibility	9.05 a.m. – 9.35 a.m.	11.05 a.m.
Primary 2, Primary 4 Graciousness, 4 Integrity, 4 Resilience, 4 Respect	9.35 a.m. – 10.05 a.m.	12.05 p.m.
Primary 3	10.05 a.m. – 10.35 a.m.	12.05 p.m.
Primary 5	10.35 a.m. – 11.05 a.m.	9.05 a.m.
Primary 6	11.05 a.m. – 11.35 a.m.	9.05 a.m.

In between recess, students will be given time (Refresh Time) to have a small snack. We encourage you to prepare healthy snacks for your child. You may refer to the list below for the suggested snack items.

Snacks which are encouraged	Snacks which are not encouraged
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buns (e.g. red bean bun)</li> <li>Bread/Sandwich</li> <li>Cereal (small box)</li> <li>Vegetable sticks (e.g. carrot/cucumber)</li> <li>Dried fruit</li> <li>Energy Bar (e.g. muesli bar and oats bar)</li> <li>Fruit (e.g. apple and banana)</li> <li>Raisins</li> <li>Nuts</li> <li>Whole meal biscuits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fried Food (e.g. fried chicken)</li> <li>Rice, porridge, and noodles</li> <li>Sweets</li> <li>Chocolate bar/biscuits/cakes</li> <li>Tidbits (e.g. potato chips)</li> </ul>

We would also like to encourage your child to bring their water bottles daily to school.

### 5.3 Arrival and Dismissal Arrangements

To manage traffic and ensure the safety of all our students, we seek your cooperation with the following morning arrival arrangements:

- Students coming to school by car, please drive into the school and drop off your child at the school foyer between 6.45 a.m. and 7.30 a.m. To avoid holding up the traffic, your child should have their bag ready and alight from the car promptly when you stop at the school foyer. Please adhere to the traffic rules and instructions given by our staff and security guards on duty, drive safely within the school compound, and keep to the speed limit of 15 km/h.
- Students taking the public transport or walking to school should enter through either the Blue Gate (facing Block 405) or Orange Gate (facing Sengkang West Avenue). The Main Gate will not be accessible for students during morning peak hours due to traffic and congestion concerns along the pathway in front of the school.
- Students arriving after 7.30 a.m. should enter the school through the Main Gate.

During dismissal, please park your vehicle at the nearby HDB multi-storey car park and fetch your child from either the Orange or Blue Gate.

For the safety of the students, please refrain from dropping off or picking up your child along Fernvale Lane (outside the Main Gate) or Sengkang West Avenue (outside the Orange Gate).

### 5.4 Temperature-Taking Exercise

There will be a temperature-taking exercise on **Wednesday, 15 January 2025**. Please ensure that your child/ward brings a working oral digital thermometer (ODT) on that day.

## 6 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### 6.1 Photograph-Taking Session for School Smart Card (SSC)

MOE will be conducting the yearly photo-taking exercise for all students in Primary 1 (P1) and Primary 6 (P6) for the purpose of generating the School Smart Card (SSC). The photo-taking will be conducted by SimplyGo Pte. Ltd – the appointed vendor on behalf of MOE. The SSC serves as the student's identification card and can be used for concessionary travel on public transport and to borrow library books from the National Library Board and the school's library, amongst other usage.

The schedule for the photo-taking session for the school is as scheduled

Level	Day
Primary 1	Monday, 6 January 2025
Primary 6	Tuesday, 7 January 2025

Following the photo-taking, P1 students will get their SSCs by mid-March 2025, while the photos for P6 students will be used for the printing of Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary 1 in 2026. For P1 students, while pending the receipt of the SSCs, students can continue to use the Child Concession Card for free travel on public transport until 30 April 2025

All P1 and P6 students are required to be dressed in their school uniform for the photo-taking session. Please also ensure that your child's hair is neat and tidy.

If your child is unable to attend the photo-taking session, the school will either arrange for him/her to have his/her photo taken on another day or request the parent to submit a softcopy photo to the school.

## 6.2 Annual School Health Visit

Health Promotion Board (HPB) will be conducting the annual school health visit at the school from **Monday, 20 January 2025 to Monday, 3 February 2025**. During this visit, age-appropriate health screening and/or immunisation services will be provided for your child as required. All **Primary 5 and 6 students** are to wear **PE attire** for the health screening.

All parents must use SingPass and access the Child Consent Portal (<https://go.gov.sg/hpb-ccp>) to update your child's medical information and provide consent for immunisation and health screening. Immunisation will only be administered to your child if required. For parents who do not have a SingPass account or encounter submission error, please contact the school at 63153051 or [fernvale\\_ps@moe.edu.sg](mailto:fernvale_ps@moe.edu.sg)

To facilitate the health visit, all **Primary 1 and Primary 5 students** are to submit their Health Booklets to the Form Teachers by **Wednesday, 8 January 2025**.

Parents are to make their own arrangements with the bus operators if they require this service.

## 6.3 Updating of Emergency Contact and Medical Information

MOE would like to request for an update of your information and your child's information via the Student Details Form (SDF) for the purpose of providing educational services to your child/ward in MOE schools.

Please submit the information through the SDF portal which can be accessed via this URL: <https://pg.moe.edu.sg/forms/sdf> or the QR code below. Parents may login to the SDF portal using your Singpass account to submit your information and information of your child. Authorised Caregivers can only submit your own information.



Please complete the submission by **Tuesday, 31 January 2025**.

The SDF portal will be accessible till the last day of Term 4 for you to provide timely updates of your information and/or your child's information.

**6.4 Transport Arrangement for After-School Programmes and CCAs**

The school bus operator, JNB Travel, will be providing additional trip daily (except on Wednesdays) for students involved in after-school programmes and CCAs. This service is only for students who are taking the school bus. The pick-up time is at 4.30 p.m. and the bus driver will collect \$5.00 per trip when your child boards the bus.

**6.5 Revision of Canteen Prices**

Due to rising costs, the canteen food prices will be adjusted to reflect the underlying expenses and allow stallholders to maintain a sustainable business. Starting **Thursday, 2 January 2025**, all bento sets will be priced at \$2.30, and selected à la carte items (such as buns, breads, and drinks) will see an increase of \$0.10 to \$0.20. These adjustments will be applied proportionately across all stalls.

To support families with financial need, the school meal programme allowance for students on the MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (MOE FAS) will be increased from \$2.90 to \$3.20.

**6.6 Student Protection Plan**

NTUC Income has been appointed by MOE to provide Group Personal Accident Insurance for all students. The policy coverage includes medical expenses incurred due to accident **in school and during school activities**.

You may submit your claims online and check the claims status through Income Insurance's online claims portal (<https://studentgpa.incomegroupins.com.sg>).

**6.7 Use of Videos and Photograph**

We would like to inform parents that photographs and/or videos of students and their work may be taken by the School during school activities and events (e.g. classroom lessons, CCA, etc). The School may use and publish such photographs or video recordings in school publications, the school's website, or other media platform. Should you have any concerns regarding the use of photograph(s) and/or video(s) taken by the school, please direct them to the General Office.

We look forward to a year filled with growth, learning, and memorable moments. Together, we can make this academic year a successful and enriching experience for your child/ward. If you have any queries or need further information, please feel free to contact our school office at 63153051 or email us at [fernvale\\_ps@moe.edu.sg](mailto:fernvale_ps@moe.edu.sg).

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Enlu', written in a cursive style.

Mr Enoch Lau  
Principal