



BEDOK GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

1 BEDOK SOUTH AVE 2 SINGAPORE 469317

TEL: 64425416

FAX: 64491491

Empowered Learners, Persons of Strength & Character

BGPS/01/21

5 January 2021

Dear Parents/ Guardians

1. Beginning of Year Message from Principal

New Year greetings from Bedok Green Primary School! After seeing the back of a truly extraordinary 2020, I am hopeful that 2021 will see better days for Singapore and for us in school as we finally move into Phase Three – Safe Nation! As we continue to exercise discipline and adhere strictly to the Safe Measurement Measures mandated by the Multi-Ministry Task Force, my staff and I will remain vigilant to ensure that students continue to learn and look forward to coming daily to school. There will be many interesting activities that students can look forward to in 2021 and I am excited about what Bedok Green Primary School will offer in the coming months.

Most significantly, we will be celebrating our 20th Anniversary this year in accordance with the theme *‘Grateful for our past, Empowered for our future’*. We have planned several exciting activities to commemorate this special milestone in our school’s history. Building on the work of my predecessors Mr Lee Yin Hin (2002 – 2008), Mrs Sita Singh (2009 – 2015), and Mrs Celine Ng Kim Choo (2016 – 2019), Bedok Green Primary School has grown from strength to strength and undergone positive transformation under the leadership of our past Principals. I am deeply honoured to continue the good work they have begun, and strive to ensure that Bedok Green Primary School remains true to our school philosophy of being a school where every child matters.

Our school philosophy has never been held more strongly than in the unique pandemic year that we had just experienced, in 2020. Through it all, we saw how every member of our staff rallied around to ensure that no child was left behind, and to ensure that learning continued to take place without compromise. This was most evident in the good PSLE results that we had sustained in comparison with previous years, but beyond our academic achievements, Bedok Green Primary School had continued to forge its own path in the region by having well-established school programmes and more crucially, a cohesive staff who will spare no effort to ensure that every child is cared for. As we move nimbly into 2021 and navigate our way with established procedures to ensure safe management measures in school, we are heartened, excited and driven to be even more innovative in our teaching and learning processes, to fulfil our school vision of Empowered Learners, Persons of Strength and Character.

After one year of school re-envisioning, big as well as small-group discussions with staff and stakeholders, we have established our three-year strategic plan that spells the approach to fulfilling our vision. Differentiated instruction for engaged learning will be a key area of focus to ensure that every child's learning needs can be met. We will also emphasise the importance of leadership, character and citizenship education, with the launch of our school-wide Leader in Me programme and supported by the development of habits to empower learning. All these will be upheld through the provision of a caring and supportive learning environment to ensure students' well-being and nurture students' strengths and interests, so that they will be empowered to learn and to succeed. In 2021, we will also be strengthening our school's Applied Learning Programme, Environmental Education@BGPS (or E2@BGPS), and our Learning for Life Programme, Sports and aesthetics To Reinforce character Values Education (or STRIVE). One of the highlights will be the launch of our new Makerspace for students to tinker with their fingers and be involved in recycling work as part of their learning about the environment.

Our school theme, 'EMPOWER@BGPS', stands for Equipping My Pupils to take OWnership and Embrace Resilience'. It seeks to be a rallying cry for all students to have greater autonomy and independence to discover their strengths and interests so that they will develop a passion for learning while inculcating a spirit of resilience in every aspect of daily school life. It is our desire that every child who passes through the gates of Bedok Green continues to develop holistically – cognitively, physically, aesthetically, socially and with sound, moral values. To emphasize this, all our classes will continue to be named after the values that we hold dear – Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Compassion, Bravery, Graciousness, Perseverance, and Synergy.

My teachers and I look forward to working with you and your child in the new school year. We warmly welcome all students for an exciting time of learning and growth, and specially embrace with open arms all new students who have chosen to make Bedok Green Primary School their second home. For our new Primary Ones, my teachers have specially planned a three-day orientation programme to help them set goals and adapt to school routines and expectations. I am sure that they will find the orientation beneficial as they make new friends and discover that Bedok Green teachers are caring and nurturing. Our Student Development Team has also crafted the themes for the various levels: P1/P2 - I love myself, my classmates and my school; P3/P4 - We are stronger together and P5/P6 - The sky is the limit. These themes aim to help students at the respective levels focus on their growth in that specific season of their lives, eventually empowering them to be the best versions of themselves.

Here's wishing you and your child 'A Happy New Year' and may 2021 be your best year yet. Should you have any feedback to help us improve in our processes or affirm our practices, you may write to us at bgps@moe.edu.sg or call us at 64425416.

Below are updates for your information:

2. Term 4 2020 Achievements

Our school was awarded the 2020 Restroom Association of Singapore's LOO (Let's Observe Ourselves) Platinum Star Award. The award is given to schools achieving the Gold Star Award and for having a recognized standard of restroom cleanliness for three consecutive years. Our sincere thanks to P3 Teachers, students and ambassadors, and especially to Mr Martin Ho and our Year Head for Middle Primary, Mrs Margaret Teo, for leading the endeavor!

Two teams comprising Primary 4, 5 and 6 students pitted their debating skills in the Primary School Debate Open (PSDO) Division 2 on 21 and 28 November. The interschool competition gave students a platform to showcase their oratorical skills. Both our teams, led by Mrs Jacinta Gomes and Mdm Nurul Huda, showed confidence in delivering compelling arguments. After 4 gruelling rounds, our P6 team emerged 3rd while our P4 and P5 team emerged 7th! Isabelle Ong Hui Xien (6RPS) and Wong Tian An (6RPS) were also among the top 20 students to receive the Good Speaker Award. Congratulations to both our teams! Thank you, too, to the teachers who led the students in the experience.

We also managed to help raise 'funds' comprising household and basic essentials items for the needy through two campaigns organized by South-East CDC. For the 3M-Moves campaign, the school contributed 24,850 minutes of physical exercise. This has helped us achieve our target of 15,000 products, estimated to benefit around 3,000 needy families and seniors in the South East District. While the Walk-for-Rice campaign is still ongoing, based on current progress, the school has already attained 1,534,200 metres of walking, which will contribute 5,114 bowls of rice to Charity! We believe such platforms enable our students to strengthen the social infrastructure to promote active citizenry. Such events not only helped the needy but also enforced the value of giving to those in need, contributing to a greater cause. Kudos to the PE Department for leading this effort!

3. Staff Movement

We are heartened to welcome the following teachers to the BGPS family; Senior Teachers Mr Chin Seng Choy Lance and Mdm Nurhana Hafiz, teachers Ms Felicia Ho Pei Shan, Ms Valerie Cheng Yuning, Ms Siti Zulaiha Bte Zainol, Ms Michelle Lee Jing Qi, Ms Shanthini Ramalingam, and NIE trainees, Ms Nur 'Aliah Binte Dafir, Ms Danielle Rachel Chong, and Ms Jubilee Lim.

We also thank Miss Seow Qi En, Mr Iskandar, Mr Kelvin Chan, Ms Nurshahidah, Mdm Sa'odah, Mr Thomas Ng and Mdm Wong Shu Yi for their contributions to the school and wish them all the best in their new postings and future endeavors.

4. Student Well-Being, Recess and Dismissal

As students transit into the new school year, our school will support their social, emotional and mental well-being by providing a caring and enabling school environment as well as through regular check-ins. There will be lesson packages to guide our students on the importance of continued vigilance to all in our fight against COVID-19.

Our staggered recesses and dismissals for the various levels will continue as follows.

Recess Timing	Class /Level	Dismissal Timing	Class/Level
9.00 a.m.	P1	1.05 p.m.	P1 GRA, P1 PSV, P1 SYN
9.15 a.m.	P2	1.10 p.m.	P1 INT, P1 RES, P1 RPS
9.30 a.m.	P3	1.15 p.m.	P1 RSL, P1 COM, P1 BRV
9.45 a.m.	P4	1.20 p.m.	P2
10.00 a.m.	P5	1.25 p.m.	P3
10.15 a.m.	P6	1.30 p.m.	P4
		1.35 p.m.	P5
		1.40 p.m.	P6

5. Parent Access Passes for 2021

To enhance the security of the school and ensure the safety of our students, we will issue a pair of 2021 Parent Access Passes to you as a means of identification for your convenience. These passes will be given to you through your youngest child/ ward (if you have more than one) in the school. Kindly ensure that you attach a lanyard to the pass. You may give the passes to your caregivers if they are picking up your child/ ward after school for the purpose of identification. The Parent Access Passes will also provide you or your child's/ ward's caregivers with speedier access into the school for school activities or meetings with teachers, as well as to the General Office or school bookshop. Please note that these passes will be issued for free only once this year and any subsequent replacement pass will cost \$3. 2020 Parent Access Passes cannot be in use once the 2021 Parent Access Passes are issued. Please display the pass clearly when you enter the school.

6. Road Safety

To ensure the safety of our students, parents who drive are allowed to enter the school through Gate 2 to drop the child off at the school porch in the morning and to fetch him/ her after school (entry only after 2 p.m. to allow the school buses to leave). For the safety of your child and in ensuring smooth traffic flow, please refrain from dropping your child off or fetching him/ her along

Bedok South Avenue 2. Visitors who drive should also enter the school via Gate 2 and our security officers will direct you to available parking lots, if any.

Please note that Gate 1 will continue to remain closed for renovation and safety reasons. Students can enter and leave the school via Gates 4 and 5. Visitors must enter the school via Gate 4 to register with our security officer on duty. We have deployed security officers at Gates 2 and 3 to ensure that students walking along Bedok South Avenue 2 from New Upper Changi Road cross safely to Gate 4 at the start of every school day. Students who walk to school will be able to enter the school using the side gate near the main gate, Gate 4 and Gate 5. Please note that the gates are only open during these timings:

	Gate Opening Time
Gate 4	6.30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Gate 5	6.45 a.m. to 7.25 a.m.; 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

If you fetch your child on foot, you are advised to wait near Gates 4 or 5 during dismissal. You can also fetch your child from the Student Care Centre in the evenings at Gate 4.

We seek parents' help to reinforce good road safety behaviour such as using the pedestrian crossing and avoiding jaywalking. Do remind your child to practise the kerb drill before crossing – "look right, look left, look right again, ensure all vehicles have stopped, raise the hand high up and cross the road briskly". If your child cycles to school, do ensure that he/ she is familiar with safe cycling rules and is a competent cyclist. Your child is also required to wear a helmet.

7. Student Attire and Appearance

Students are expected to dress neatly and smartly in clean uniform and shoes when they report to school. Students who come to school outside of curriculum hours including weekends and school holidays must be in their school uniforms or PE attire and school shoes. Please note that skirts must be of knee length and any modification to the school uniform is strictly not allowed. Students in need can approach the General Office for more information on financial assistance for school uniforms. Full-length mirrors have also been installed at Gates 4 and 5 for students to do a quick check on personal bearing upon entry, as part of their personal responsibility as a student.

8. Personal Property

Students should not bring valuable items and a lot of pocket money to school. \$2.00 per day is adequate for a meal during recess. We seek parents' support in encouraging your child/ ward to demonstrate responsible behaviour towards his/ her personal belongings. Students are to label their personal items – e.g. school bag, school uniform – shirts, skirt, T-shirts and shorts, water bottles,

pencil case, etc. We hope parents will reiterate the values of care and responsibility in your child to help minimize incidents of lost items.

9. Homework Policy

Homework is given as a platform for students to review, reflect and research on concepts learnt to reinforce their learning and for students to be stretched in their potential. We will maintain homework for continuous improvement.

10. Arrival of School Buses and Peak Period Traffic

Our school buses will arrive in school between 6.30 a.m. to 6.55 a.m. We strongly encourage parents to avoid dropping their children off during this peak period to avoid causing traffic congestion. Parents who drive are advised to drive safely into the school. We would appreciate it if you could abide by the instructions provided by school personnel who are on duty to direct traffic for the safety of all.

11. Children who are Unwell

If you need to pick up your child when he/ she is unwell or for any emergency, please report to the General Office. Parents picking children who are unwell are allowed to drive into the school via Gate 2 and park near the school porch. You will need to inform the security guard and present your Parent Access Pass. Please note that students are not allowed to go home on their own before the school's official dismissal time.

12. Absence from school

Whenever your child is absent, you need to submit a medical certificate (MC) or a letter to explain the absence. We strongly discourage parents from taking the child out of school during term time, unless there is a valid reason. There will be no make-up assessment/ test/ exam if a student misses any of these.

13. Health-related Matters & Individual Student Record Details

We will exercise vigilance in monitoring our students' health by conducting daily temperature-taking. Please ensure that your child/ ward has a thermometer that is clean and in working order daily. If your child's/ ward's thermometer is not working, a new one (\$4.90) is available in school or from any pharmacy. Batteries for the thermometers can also be purchased from the bookshop. All P1 students will be issued with a new thermometer on the first day of school.

We would like to encourage parents to conduct temperature-taking at home before your child/ ward heads to school. If your child/ ward is unwell, please take him to see the doctor and keep him at

home to recuperate and fully recover before returning to school. We appreciate your co-operation in this matter, for the well-being of your child/ ward and others in the school. We will remind our students about this regularly as part of our efforts to encourage social responsibility.

To ensure that your child's contact information and health information is kept up-to-date, your child will be issued his Individual Student Details Report (ISDR) on Tuesday, 5 January 2021. We seek Parents/ Legal Guardians' assistance to verify the information printed on the ISDR. This includes changes in contact details and address, after-school arrangements, family details and Medical/ Special Education Needs (SEN) conditions. Please also inform the school on any custody and/ or child protection order (CPO), if any, for your child. Parents need to update the individual schools separately if you have children in different schools. This is necessary as custody and CPO may differ for different children. Kindly update your contact details, fill out the health declaration form, update your child's/ ward's medical records and return them together with the ISDR to the form teacher by Friday, 8 January 2021. In addition, your child's form teacher will also check with you to find out if there is any update on your child's official residential address and/ or contact details.

As part of our student well-being efforts, MOE has purchased insurance to provide free basic coverage for our students to insure them in case of accidents. Your child will be given a copy of the policy coverage and benefits for your information and retention. In the event of any claim, please approach the general office or your child's form teacher for assistance.

14. Non-Tamil Indian Language (NTIL) Weekend Centre (WEC)

Our school will continue to be an NTIL WEC this year. The community group will provide more details for students to register for Hindi classes in January separately.

15. Collaborative Tuition Programme (CTP) and Mendaki Tuition Scheme (MTS)

In our school's efforts to support our students in their academic progress, we will start the Collaborative Tuition Programme (CTP) in collaboration with MENDAKI for identified students (students who meet the eligibility criteria for CTP) from February 2021. The classes will be conducted on weekdays. We strongly encourage parents to sign up for this should your child require this extra support.

The CTP was introduced as part of the collaborative effort with the other Self-Help Groups (SHG). The scheme is jointly organised by Chinese Development Assistance Council (CDAC), The Eurasian Association (EA), Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA) and Yayasan MENDAKI with the aim of improving students' academic performance. More details on CTP will be given in January 2021.

Our school is also conducting Mendaki Tuition Scheme (MTS) programme for Malay Muslim students on Saturdays. The registration for MTS is online @ mts.mendaki.org. Please contact Ms Tety Sulaiman, our Admin Executive, at 64425416 if you have inquiries on CTP or MTS.

16. Parents Gateway

Our school uses Parents Gateway as the main platform to communicate school information, schedules or announcements to parents. Parents Gateway is a mobile app specially designed for parents. Developed by MOE and GOVTECH, the app allows parents to engage with schools, receive information and perform a range of administrative functions such as submitting travel declarations and giving consent for learning journeys. All eligible parents are expected to be onboard Parents Gateway and no printed letters will be issued to parents.

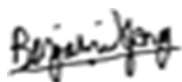
As such, we would like to remind a small number of parents who have not downloaded the Parents Gateway mobile app to do so on your mobile phone (available on iOS and Android platforms only) and perform a simple one-time onboarding process by Wednesday, 6 January 2021. Please refer to Annex A for a step-by-step guide. If you are unable to download and install Parents Gateway, kindly call the school Admin Executive at 64425416 for assistance.

17. P1 and P6 Photo-Taking Exercise for 2021 School Smart Cards (SSC)

Please be informed that the photo-taking exercise for the issue of School Smart Cards for Primary 1 and Primary 6 students will be held on Wednesday, 6 January 2021. Students must be in school uniform for the photo-taking exercise. Primary 1 students will get their SSCs by end-March 2021. The photos for Primary 6 students will be used for the printing of Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary 1 in 2022.

Please refer to our school website ([/www.bedokgreenpri.moe.edu.sg](http://www.bedokgreenpri.moe.edu.sg)) regularly for the school calendar and updates.

Thank you.



Mr Benjamin Yong
Principal

Reply Slip

To: The Principal, Bedok Green Primary School

I have received the letter dated 4 January 2021 (ref: BGPS/001/21) and have noted the information in it. Thank you.

Name of child: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Name of parent/guardian: _____ Signature: _____