



# **NORTHLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## ***Firm Foundations, Future Learnings***

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8 January 2018

Letter to Parents: 7/2018 (P1 Students) (Updated for website)

Through: The Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Happy New Year to you and your family! I hope that your child is well-settled into the new academic year.

### **1) FOSTERING A STRONG AND PRODUCTIVE PARTNERSHIP**

In order to enjoy success in school, our students need support from both the home and school. A strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. My level teachers and I are looking forward to a productive partnership with you in order to bring out the best in our students. Let us work together so that your child can achieve his/her highest potential.

By now, you would have received a letter from your child's Form Teacher, informing you of the items to bring to school daily and the relevant administrative matters.

We seek your guidance and support in your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience
- 2) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- 3) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 4) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- 5) Informs you and/or the teacher if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject

It is important to teach our students to take responsibility for their own belongings. We believe that a more proactive way of helping our students take responsibility for their own belongings starts from home. Parents can help our students learn this by inculcating the habit of checking for the items they need to bring to school every day. As per our practice last year, we would like to remind parents to refrain from delivering items to your child when he/she forgets to bring them to school unless they are critical ones, such as wallets, bus pass, medicine, spectacles or house keys. Students must learn to think on their feet and find their own solutions on those occasions when they have forgotten to bring an item to school.

### **2) YEAR HEAD BRIEFING**

As a follow-up to the Principal's Letter to Parent (Ref No. 1/2018), we would like to remind you of the Year Head briefing to be held on **11 January 2018 (Thursday)**. ***However, there is a slight change in the schedule. Please refer to the revised schedule overleaf.***

## Revised Schedule

Date	Level	Time	Venue
Thursday, 11 Jan 2018	P1	3.00 pm to 3.30 pm (P briefing) 3.30 pm to 4.00 pm (YH briefing) 4.00 pm to 4.30 pm (with MT teacher) 4.30 pm to 5.00 pm (with FT/Subject teachers)	School Hall School Hall Classroom Classroom
	P2	3.00 pm to 3.30 pm (P briefing) 3.30 pm to 4.00 pm (YH briefing) 4.00 pm to 4.30 pm (with MT teacher) 4.30 pm to 5.00 pm (with FT/Subject teachers)	School Hall PAL room Classroom Classroom

***The Principal's briefing will be held in the Hall and the list showing the venues for the Year Head briefing and meet-up with the respective teachers is also attached.***

Venue P1 Classrooms (Level 1)	Form Teacher (4.30 p.m. to 4.40 p.m.)	English Language (4.40 p.m. to 4.50 p.m.)	Mathematics (4.50 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.)
1A (B01-03)	Mdm Nur Suhaila Lydia	Mdm Nur Suhaila Lydia	Mdm Nur Suhaila Lydia
1B (B01-02)	Mdm Pauline Cheong	Mdm Pauline Cheong	Mdm Pauline Cheong
1C (B01-01)	Mrs Goh Xin Hwei	Mrs Goh Xin Hwei	Mrs Goh Xin Hwei
1D (A01-03)	Mrs Poh Kexin	Mrs Poh Kexin	Mrs Poh Kexin
1E (A01-02)	Mrs Jilyn Tan	Mrs Jilyn Tan	Mrs Jilyn Tan
1F (A01-01)	Mrs Natalie Wong	Mrs Natalie Wong	Mrs Natalie Wong
1G (E01-03)	Mrs Chong Cheng Cheng	Mrs Chong Cheng Cheng	Mdm Menhanah
1H (E01-02)	Ms Melissa Hiang	Ms Melissa Hiang	Ms Melissa Hiang

The Year Heads would like to create a more interactive session with you during the upcoming briefing. However, due to time constraints, we would like to invite you to pose any questions pertaining to the level that you might have. Please scan the QR code below and we will try our best to address your queries during the briefing. We look forward to your attendance.



### **3) SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

We would also like to inform parents of some school policy and procedures pertaining to:

#### **Bringing of mobile phones to school**

While we strongly discourage students from bringing mobile phones to school, we understand that there might be an urgent need for your child to bring it on a case-by-case basis. However, we would like to reiterate that students are bound by the strict rules and regulations on the use of the mobile phones as specified in the Student Handbook. We would like to inform parents that the mobile phones will be confiscated should there be any misuse and violation of rules pertaining to its usage. We seek your understanding in this matter.

### **4) ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES FOR SEMESTER 1**

To support the school's Strategic Thrust 1 of Providing Holistic Education, the school will be organising a variety of enrichment programmes for your child.

Attached in this letter is a brief write-up of the enrichment programmes and activities. It includes information about the cost of these programmes and activities, when they are conducted and other details for students to take note of. The school will co-pay for most of the programmes/activities to support the students' learning.

The payment for Singapore citizens and non-citizens is different as Singapore citizens may tap on their Edusave Fund Account to pay for the programmes/activities. In addition, the school will subsidise students on the Financial Assistance Schemes (FAS) for most of the programmes/activities.

The Consent Form for participation in these activities is also attached. This must be signed and returned to your child's Form Teacher by **10 January 2018**. We look forward to his/her participation and active involvement in these programmes.

Thank you in advance for your unwavering support in giving your child an enriching school experience. Should you need any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at [ganesan\\_arumugan@moe.edu.sg](mailto:ganesan_arumugan@moe.edu.sg)

We look forward to a very positive and productive year together.

**Mr Ganesan Arumugan**  
**Year Head (P1 Level)**

## **1. P1 Learning Journey to the Singapore Zoo (Compulsory)**

The English Language and Mother Tongue Language Departments will be organising a learning journey to the Singapore Zoological Gardens on Tuesday, 27 March 2018 for all P1 students during curriculum time.

The objective of the learning journey is to provide the students with an opportunity to learn and apply the languages within an authentic context.

Things to bring for the learning journey are as follows:

- light meal and water (food is not provided)
- a raincoat or a poncho
- insect repellent/ mosquito patch
- hand sanitizer/ wet wipes
- a plastic bag
- caps/hats

Transport will be provided to ferry students from school to the Singapore Zoo and back. The reporting and dismissal timings for school are as per normal. Please ensure that your child has a good breakfast before coming to school.

If your child is a 'Friends of the Zoo' member, admission is free. Hence, no payment is needed. Please indicate on the reply form (by deleting the payment) and submit the membership card to the Form Teacher before the trip.

Cost: \$12.00 (payable by Edusave)  
\$2.40 for students on FAS (payable by Edusave)  
Free for 'Friends of the Zoo' member

## **2. Subscription to KooBits ProblemSums (An Online Maths Learning Portal) (Compulsory)**

Northland Primary School is adopting ***KooBits ProblemSums***, a popular Mathematics learning website specially designed to help students become a master of problem sum skills on their own. Your child is encouraged to use it at home for independent learning.

Developed by a group of passionate educators, KooBits ProblemSums offers the following learning benefits:

- More than 80,000 problem sums with detailed solutions
- More than 20,000 mechanical sums and foundation maths questions
- Video tutorials to teach your child
- Online draw-model tools to help record down your child's workings
- Intelligently improve your child's weak areas through individually customised homework
- Engaging maths challenges and other fun maths related activities to motivate your child
- Parents can assign homework for their child and monitor his/her progress through reports
- Accessible via PC, Mac, iPad, Android and Windows tablets with internet connection.

Subscription Cost:           **\$7 nett**  
  **\$1.40 (FAS Students)**  
Subscription Period:       **1 January to 31 December 2018**

### **3. Pongal Heritage Experience for P1 to P6 Tamil students only.**

Programme Objective:

To create an awareness of how the Pongal festival is celebrated in Singapore and for students to have a hands-on experience on activities planned by the organisers. Students will also be able to watch a performance by authentic Indian performers such as Slit and Poi Kaal Kuthirai dancers and Parai Isai to create awareness of our Indian traditional arts form.

Date: 19 January 2018 (Friday)  
Venue: Hastings Road (Students will depart from school)  
Time: 1.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. (Event slot at venue is 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.)  
Cost : No Payment required.

### **4. P1 Aesthetics Learning Journey – Catch a Play! (Compulsory)**

#### **- The Nightingale**



The Aesthetics Department is organising a Learning Journey for the P1 students to watch a play presented by SRT's The Little Company. *The Nightingale* is a joyful burst of song that reminds us to appreciate and value the world around us.

Enchanted by the lilting birdsong of the plain-looking, brown Nightingale, the Emperor of China captures and keeps her in a gilded cage for his daily entertainment.

But soon, along with her freedom, the beautiful voice of the Nightingale is lost and she is replaced by a singing mechanical bird.

Will she survive her days in captivity? Will she ever fly freely again? What happens when the mechanical bird fails? Join the Emperor and the Nightingale as they discover true friendship.

With catchy rhymes and clever dialogue, it is a 'trill-ing' show that will definitely captivate young audiences!

It will be a normal school day for all students. They will leave the school at 9 a.m. and return at about 12 noon. Do remind your child to bring along a jacket/cardigan.

***Day and Date: Wednesday, 21 March 2018***

***Cost : \$10 (subsidised cost for all P1 students- payable by Edusave)  
\$2 for students on FAS (payable by Edusave)***

**5. “Dandelion, books & more” for Chinese Mother Tongue students only**  
**(Strongly Recommended)**

In an effort to enhance pupils' acquisition of the Chinese Language, the Chinese Mother Tongue Department is pleased to inform you that P1 and P2 students will be subscribing “Dandelion, books & more” as their supplemental reading programme. The objectives of this reading programme are as follows:

1. Inculcate the reading habit among students.
2. Provide platform for parents to read with their children using online customized reading resources. (please refer to the details below)

**9 issues per year**

- ★ 1 issue monthly (excl. Jun, Nov and Dec)
- ★ 1 handpicked picture book rented to each student monthly
- ★ 9 collectible story cards
- ★ Reading passports
- ★ Unique account for each student to access online resources, including:
  - Audio book
  - Bilingual story discussion guide for parents
  - Post-reading activity for students
- ★ Unique account for each teacher of subscribing level to access online resources, including:
  - All resources for parents
  - Teaching resources for teachers
- ★ Collection of reading passports and students' works for feedback and awarding of badges
- ★ **【FREE】** 1 x demo workshop for parents of subscribing level
- ★ **【FREE】** 1 x end-of-year reading carnival

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Cost: \$54.00 (For 9 issues, 1 issue monthly, including other benefits listed above)

## **Magazine Subscription (Optional)**

Reading is a critical building block to strengthening the command of a language. It also enlivens the mind and widens the horizon. As such, the English Language Department aims to develop our students to be passionate readers.

We are sure that as a parent, you are just as enthusiastic to see your child read well. We have selected two magazines, Story BOX and Adventure BOX, for your consideration.

**Story BOX**, a 'Parents' Choice' Gold Award winner, is specially designed for budding readers.

Within its 54 pages, you will find:

- a 25-page, illustrated, book-length, story in a variety of writing styles
- stunning photographs of the animal world
- science content and activities to draw out children's natural curiosity about science
- numeric and literacy skill activities

**Adventure BOX**, a 'Parents' Choice' Silver Medal winner, is a perfect choice for the newly independent readers. Within its 68 pages, you will find:

- an exciting 44-page chapter story which exposes children to discover different genres of literature (action, suspense, adventure, drama and humour)
- fascinating topics and interactive activities about the natural world
- word searches and games to stimulate children's reasoning
- comic strips about mischievous heroes and wacky scenarios to promote creativity

Visit [www.nurturecraft.com](http://www.nurturecraft.com) for more information on the magazines. Should you have any queries, please contact Ms Lynn Teh of Nurture Craft at 91441054/ 90059644 or email her at [lynnteh@nurturecraft.com.sg](mailto:lynnteh@nurturecraft.com.sg).

Cost: \$65.00 for 7 issues by cash or cheque (**payable to 'Nurture Craft International Pte Ltd'**)

Please submit the reply slip and the payment to the vendor who will be at the **school canteen** on **Monday, 15 January 2018 and Tuesday, 16 January 2018 from 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**NORTHLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION  
REPLY SLIP**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Magazine Title	Recommended Level	Subscription Rate	Mode of payment <i>(please tick (✓) the appropriate box)</i>
Story BOX	P1 to P2	\$65 for 7 issues	<input type="checkbox"/> cash
			<input type="checkbox"/> cheque (cheque no: _____)
Adventure BOX	P2 to P4	\$65 for 7 issues	<input type="checkbox"/> cash
			<input type="checkbox"/> cheque (cheque no: _____)

*(For payment by cheque, please write the student's name, class and contact number on the back of the cheque.)*

**NORTHLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
 CONSENT FORM FOR PARTICIPATION IN LEVEL ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES  
 REPLY SLIP**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's ID No: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: Primary 1 \_\_\_\_\_

This is to inform the school that my child will be participating in the activities/programmes listed below.  
 (Please tick  accordingly)

No	Name of Activity/Programme (Compulsory)
1	P1 Learning Journey to the Singapore Zoo
2	Pongal Heritage Experience for Tamil Students
3	P1 Aesthetics Learning Journey
4	Subscription to KooBits ProblemSums

No	Name of Activity/Programme (Optional)	Please tick for YES
4	"Dandelion, books & more" for Chinese Mother Tongue students only	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_