



# EVERGREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear parent / guardian,

The Primary 3 (P3) level teachers would like to wish you a very happy new year! May 2018 be another year filled with love, joy and laughter. This year, your child will begin his/her P3 journey and as always, we will continue to work with you and your child in reaching his/her potential. We look forward to partnering you in this exciting journey with your child!

P3 is the start of many new things for your child. New friends, new teachers, a new classroom environment and even a new subject! As your child welcomes these changes, we are aware that it can be quite daunting as well. It is important that as adults we offer our continuous support and encouragement to our children. Some tips that you can incorporate in your interactions with your child are as follows:

- set reasonable goals with them
- highlight their strengths
- give importance to the learning process
- praise your child for their efforts in all that they do
- be present when conversing with your child
- look out for signs of distress especially in the first few weeks of school
- make time for fun and play

Please continue to encourage your child to read widely, both in English and their Mother Tongue language. We also need to raise their awareness on the importance of time management as well checking their work upon completion. In addition, we should inculcate our children the habit of reflection as it allows them to better process their experience and learning outcomes thus enabling them to continuously improve themselves.

We need to ensure the children look forward to coming to school. Only with such passion, engaged learning can take place. I strongly encourage you to work hand in hand with our friendly teachers who will always be ready to work with you to ensure that positive and purposeful learning takes place for our children.

## **Every Student, An Engaged Learner**

### **Level Theme and Motto**

For this year, the theme for the P3 Level will be "**Talents**" and our motto is "**Play Nice. Work Hard. Stay Kind**". We aim to allow the children to explore different skills in the different subject areas and through such activities we hope inculcate the right moral values in them. Some activities include, experimenting with plants, exploring ways of taking care of animals, exposing them to drama, creating art pieces and others. Through such activities, the students work with others allowing them to hone their social skills.

I have included a snippet on Joseph Schooling. He is a good role model for children to look up to.

### **Charting 15 years in the making of Singapore's finest swimmer**

2001: Over family dinner, a six-year-old Schooling has a chat with his relatives about his grand-uncle Lloyd Valberg, a former national high-jumper who was Singapore's first ever Olympian at the 1948 Games. The chat inspires Schooling to go to the Olympics.

2008: The Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) quartet, which includes Joseph Schooling, sets a new "C" Division record of 1min 54.12sec in the 4x50m individual medley relay. A month later, he meets the US Olympic swimming team – which his parents help to host – including his idol, Michael Phelps for the first time. He subsequently makes the decision to train in the US.

2009: Swimming for ACS(I) at the National Inter-School Championships for the final time before he leaves for the United States, Schooling times 57.55s in the 100m butterfly to finish about two body lengths ahead of his nearest rivals. Schooling's time smashes the national under-14 record, and also the "A", "B" and "C" Division records. The 13-year-old subsequently leaves home for the Bolles School in Florida, US, to study and train.

2011: Schooling is part of a 4x100 yards medley relay team that times 1:28.09 to smash the US age-group (15-16 years) record by almost six seconds in April. However, this achievement is not counted as a US record as Schooling is not a US citizen. He then sets three new Singapore national records – 100m butterfly (54.19sec), 200m butterfly (2:00.05), and 200 individual medley (2:05.07) – when he returns to Singapore to compete in the National Swimming Championships.

2012: Schooling makes his Olympic debut in London as the youngest member of Singapore's contingent. Just before his 200m fly heats, his swim cap and goggles are rejected for failing to meet Olympic regulations. Flustered, he finishes 26th overall (1:59.18) in the heats and does not qualify for the semi-finals. He does not advance from the 100m heats either, finishing in 35th (53.61s) and 26th (1:59.18) spot respectively. A disappointed Schooling says "Champions don't make excuses" and vows to bounce back.

2013: In March, Schooling times 54.71s to win the 100m fly final at the Speedo South Sectional Championships in Florida, beating 11-time Olympic medallist American Ryan Lochte who comes in second (55.20). Seven months later, he becomes the first athlete to be granted long-term deferment from National Service, which allows him to pursue his dream of winning an Olympic medal at the 2016 Olympic Games. Later that year, he wins six gold medals out of six events at the Myanmar SEA Games, setting four new Games records in the process.

*Read his story: <http://www.todayonline.com/sports/schooling-story>*

### **Value for Term 1**

*"The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence" - Denis Waitley.*

This term, the P3 level will focus on the importance of being responsible. As parents and teachers, we would like our students to take obligations seriously and to be accountable for their actions. We can inculcate responsibility in them by assigning age-appropriate tasks and to have teachable moments of responsibility. In addition, we should also affirm them when they have displayed acts of being responsible – no matter how small.

In our school, we advocate **"Think Good, Do Good, and Speak Good"** at all times. Students, must respect themselves, their peers, teachers and school property at all times. This is in line with our school motto, Pure in Act.