



EVERGREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

31 WOODLANDS CIRCLE SINGAPORE 738908. TEL: 6368 7705 FAX: 6368 8084

Notification No: 161 / 2018

11 September 2018

Primary 6 Term 4 2018 Level Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On behalf of the P6 level teachers, I sincerely welcome your child back to Term 4. We hope that your child had an awesome one-week holiday. This term, we will be expecting exciting activities and we seek your continuous support in your child's holistic development.

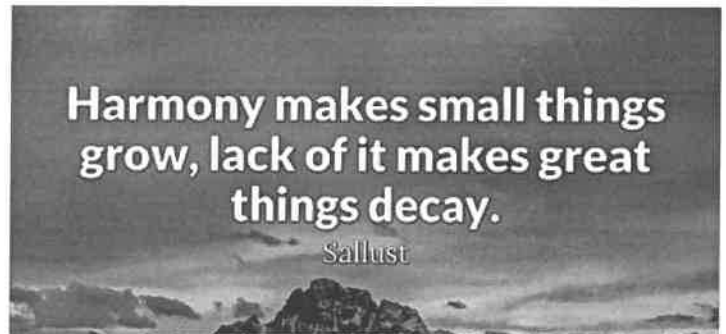
(1) Every Student, An Engaged Learner

Value of the Term

Harmony

Harmony is when you feel happy. Harmony is when people are all getting along well together. Harmony is when people are respectful to one another. Harmony is the flow of life.

This term, we focus on harmony. There are various benefits a child can enjoy by building strong relationships with others. If tended well, one can find long-lasting security and an immense sense of belonging to a group. With such needs fulfilled, he/she will then be motivated to achieve his/her fullest potential based on the Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Hence, we hope that you will help your children learn to build harmonious relationships with whom they interact with.



In Annex A, I would like to share some tips with you about how you can help your children get along with others.

Post-PSLE Activities

Exciting Activities Lined Up

With PSLE ending in early October, we should not perceive it as an end to a child's primary school education journey. We aim to continue to develop the many strengths and interests of our students in the non-academic domain. As such, there is an array of exciting post-PSLE activities lined up for the level! We can look forward to engaging publicity talks by several secondary schools, preparation for our graduation ceremony, visits to homes for the elderly, overseas learning journey to Malacca and more! Students are therefore required to be in school as per normal.



Absence from School

Your Child's Attendance Matters

We would like to appeal to you **not** to take your child out from school during term time so as to ensure that he/she is fully engaged in learning. If your child is absent from school during curriculum time because of medical or other valid reasons, please furnish either **a medical certificate** or **a letter**.

We have also noticed that some students are leaving for vacation during the last week of Term 4. We advise parents to travel with their child/ward only after **15 November 2018** and to refrain from travelling during curriculum time even when the SA2 examination/PSLE is over. It is important that students remain in school. This is to ensure that your child will not miss any activities planned for him during the post-exam period or the Level Celebrations that are unique to the respective levels. Education is holistic and does not end with the examinations. Hence, parents/guardians are to consult the form teacher or Year Head/Assistant Year Head for advice in advance if you intend to take your child out of the country during curriculum time.

Every day
COUNTS! 

**School success starts
with attendance**

Early Dismissal

Term 4 Week 10

In preparation for our award ceremony and to facilitate school review/planning, please note that **all students will be dismissed from school at 1 p.m. in Term 4 Week 10 from 12 November to 14 November 2018.** Do make the necessary pick-up or transport arrangements. As such, there will not be any snack break for that week.

On 15 November 2018, it will be our school's Achievement Day. As such, only prize winners need to report to school. In addition, on 16 November 2018, it is our school's Staff Learning Day. Students are not required in school.

(2) Every Parent, A Supportive Parent

Motivating Your Child

Encouragement

Motivation drives us to achieve our goals. We are in the final lap of the PSLE revision. Besides spending time with your child revising the syllabus to boost his/her motivational level, we would like you to write a note of encouragement to him/her in Annex D. It is a part of our effort to encourage our students to continue to do their best.

Please return the note together with this letter's acknowledgement slip. We will present it to your child in the classroom.

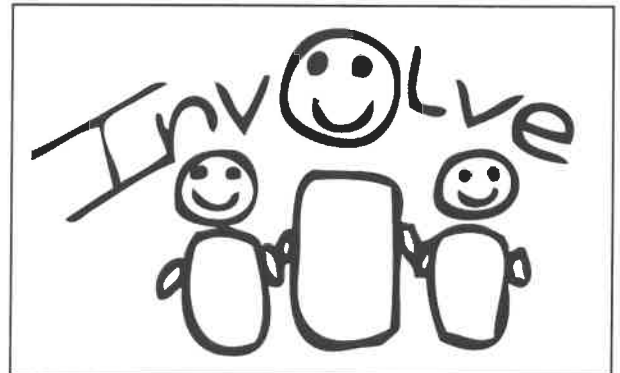


Choosing A Secondary School After PSLE

Involve Your Child

"Look beyond factors like cut-off points or popularity when choosing a secondary school," say experts.

Parents can refer to the Choosing Your Secondary Schools booklet issued by the Ministry of Education to all Primary 6 pupils. It lists a school's location, niche programmes and co-curricular activities (CCAs), on top of the range of PSLE T-scores of pupils in various streams in schools.



It is crucial to involve your child in the decision-making process so that they take charge of their own learning. When they are given respect and some level of autonomy, they are more likely to make better and informed choices that are aligned with yours. Hence, do start the discussion on school choices with your child right from the start. Let him/her be the one actively seeking the schools he/she is interested in and offer suggestions from a parental point of view.

In Annex B, I would like to share an article with suggestions on how you can involve and help your child to choose a suitable secondary school.

3) Every Teacher, A Caring Educator

Connecting with Us

We Care

At Evergreen Primary School, we care. Our level teachers seek to work closely with you continuously. You are strongly encouraged to contact or email your child's form teacher if you have any concerns and require clarifications. Do be patient with us and give us some time to look into your concerns and we will respond to you as quickly as possible. You can also contact me (woo_sye_lai@moe.edu.sg) regarding matters pertaining to the level or even share with me the good work of your child's teachers.



Please refer to the following Appendices for more information.

- Annex A: *Getting Along With Others*
- Annex B: *Choosing A Secondary School After PSLE*
- Annex C: *Activities and Events for Term 4*
- Annex D: *Note of Encouragement*

Kindly acknowledge the receipt of this letter and return the acknowledgement slip to your child's form teacher by **14 September, Friday**. Thank you.

On behalf of the P6 Level,
Yours sincerely,

Mdm Woo Sye Lai
Assistant Year Head (Internal)
cc. Mrs Rabia Shahul (P) and Mrs Pearlyn Wai (VP)

Getting Along With Others: Parenting for Social Intelligence

People who are able to get along well with others do better in academic, personal, and professional dimensions of their lives. What can parents do to help their children develop positive social connections, and build a strong foundation for happy productivity? Here are eight suggestions:

1. **Be encouraging.** Celebrate your child's interests, personality, efforts, and accomplishments. This will help her gain the self-knowledge and self-confidence that will help her do well in social situations in playgrounds, schools, extracurricular activities, and later, in colleges and workplaces.
2. **Teach tolerance.** Help your child appreciate his strengths and accept his weaknesses. Show him that everyone has their own unique pattern of abilities, so he/she learns to welcome individual differences and diversity.
3. **Explore interests.** We are more likely to be at our best in every way, including socially, when we're doing something we love. Help your child find opportunities to interact with people who share his interests. (This is especially important with kids who are shy or socially awkward.)
4. **Welcome problems as learning opportunities.** When you or your child encounters an obstacle or challenge, avoid looking for someone to blame, and instead focus on being resilient and on moving forward in a positive way.
5. **Solve problems together.** Effective problem-solving skills are an important part of social success. Show your child through your own attitudes and behaviour how to deal respectfully and collaboratively with issues with other children. Help him/her build a network of support, including ample opportunities to play, talk, listen, and share because that is when they learn important social skills.
6. **Teach safe social media habits.** Does your child understand both the positive possibilities and the destructive dimensions of social media? Make sure he/she knows how to handle cyber-bullying, whether it is directed at oneself or others, and to avoid questionable online interactions.
7. **Be available.** Problems with relationships are both unavoidable and a healthy part of growing up. Your child is more likely to thrive if he/she feels that he/she can talk to you about what is going on in his/her social life, without judgement, blame, lecturing, or recrimination.
8. **Model kindness, thoughtfulness, and good conflict-resolution skills.** Work towards a positive family atmosphere where each member of the family feels liked, respected, listened to, and loved.

Adapted from: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/going-beyond-intelligence/201509/getting-along-others-parenting-social-intelligence>

Choosing A Secondary School After PSLE: Involve your kid in selection process

"Parents can shortlist schools with their children before the results are out," said parenting coach, Jason Ng.

"There is no need to limit the child before the results are out," said Mr Ng, who recommends picking schools for various ranges of expected scores for their child.

It is important to involve children in the decision-making. Ms Anita Shankar, another parenting coach, said, "When children are given respect and some autonomy, they are more likely to make better and informed choices that will be aligned with the choices of the parents."

A way of doing this is to discuss school choices with the child from the start.

Mr Ng said, "Do not start the discussion without the child and then just tell the child what their options are. Let the child be the one actively selecting which schools he or she is interested in, and offer suggestions from a parental perspective."

The "greatest disservice" parents can do to a school is to pass negative comments about it, said Mrs Stefane Lee, year head for Primary 2 and 5 at Meridian Primary School. "The discussion should focus on how the school environment, programmes and CCAs suit the child's needs and ability... whether the parents and child share the vision of the school and how they can help build the good name of the school."

This includes choosing a school where a child feels he can contribute or take part actively in programmes or CCAs, especially if he is inclined towards areas like the arts, environment or language, she said.

Some secondary schools will also be holding open houses for Primary 6 pupils after the PSLE results are released. At these events, parents and children can check if a school is the right fit by gauging their level of comfort when interacting with students and staff of the school. They should also find out more about the school's culture and programmes to help students adjust to the new environment, added Mrs Lee.

When it comes to academics, it is important that the child is comfortable with the school's standards.

Research done on the "Big Fish, Little Pond Effect" shows that students may do better in a less popular - or what researchers term a "less selective" - school.

Madam Kalyani Vara, year head of Primary 5 and 6 at Anchor Green Primary School, said that while students motivated to enter a school with higher academic standards may do well as they are "prepared to do the necessary to excel", those who aimed high and failed to reach their goals would have their self-esteem and confidence affected.

"It all depends on each pupil's threshold," she said.

A good indication of whether a child can handle academic stress is how he or she coped in the PSLE.

Ms Pamela See, an educational and developmental psychologist from Th!nk Psychological Services, said, "That would give parents some tips on how their child manages stress and how that, in turn, affects his well-being."

Parenting coach Mr Ng's Secondary 1 son had two main options last year - St Joseph's Institution or Victoria School.

While he vouched for the former, his son wanted the latter. He said, "My decision with him was very simple. You made a choice. You must bear with the consequences." His son chose Victoria School.

Mr Ng said, "I am happy he worked very hard this year and did very well. I would rather he take ownership of his own choice than to blame me for not doing well in the school that is not of his choice."

Mrs Lee said pupils should not be disheartened if they do not get into the school of their choice. They should remember that they have an important role to play in shaping the culture of a school. "Whenever our pupils ask us which secondary school is good, my typical answer is 'The school that has you.' If they give their best, treat others as best as they can and celebrate learning, their school will be the best school anyone can want," she said.

What to Consider

Considerations when choosing a secondary school:

CHILD'S PERSONALITY, STRENGTHS AND INTERESTS

Opt for schools with an environment, ethos and culture that resonate and best suit a child's personality and learning style. Schools also have distinctive programmes that nurture a child's strengths and interests - or even improve an area of weakness.

AFFILIATED SCHOOLS

There are 27 secondary schools affiliated to primary schools with links to religious and clan associations. Pupils of such primary schools who want to continue education in the affiliated secondary school must indicate that school as their first choice.

ACADEMIC FIT

Parents can opt for schools that take in students who have a similar academic standard to that of their child's, while taking their child's ability to cope with stress or to set and achieve goals on his or her own into account.

DISTANCE BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME

Proximity of the school to home would reduce daily commuting time for the child.

O LEVELS/INTEGRATED PROGRAMME (IP)

Some students are more suited to the more structured framework of the O levels, while those who are self-directed in learning might prefer the Integrated Programme that skips the O levels and leads to the A levels or other diplomas.

SPECIALISED SCHOOLS

Specialised schools like the School of the Arts, the Singapore Sports School or the School of Science and Technology, Singapore serve students who believe they have the talent and potential to grow in their mastery of a field such as aesthetics, sports, mathematics or science. These schools are designed to provide students with maximum opportunities to excel in those fields.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Pupils in mainstream schools with mild special educational needs, such as dyslexia or Autism Spectrum Disorder, may want to check if the secondary schools have the experience and resources to support students with similar types and levels of need. Some schools differ in the degree to which they are resourced with Allied Educators (Learning and Behaviour Support).

Adapted from: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/education/involve-your-kid-in-school-selection-process>

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS – TERM 4

	Programme/Event/Activity	Date	Remarks
1)	PSLE Listening Comprehension	14 Sept 2018	Only P6s need to report to school.
2)	PSLE EL Paper 1 & 2 PSLE FEL Paper 1 & 2	27 Sept 2018	Refer to PSLE Entry Proof.
3)	PSLE MA Paper 1 & 2 PSLE FMA Paper 1 & 2	28 Sept 2018	Refer to PSLE Entry Proof.
4)	PSLE MT Paper 1 & 2 PSLE FMT Paper 1	1 Oct 2018	Refer to PSLE Entry Proof.
5)	PSLE SC PSLE FSC	2 Oct 2018	Refer to PSLE Entry Proof.
6)	PSLE HMT Paper 1 & 2	3 Oct 2018	Refer to PSLE Entry Proof.
7)	Children's Day	5 Oct 2018	School holiday.
8)	PSLE Marking Exercise	15 to 18 Oct 2018	Students need not report to school.
9)	Deepavali	6 Nov 2018	Public Holiday.
10)	Results Processing Day	7 Nov 2018	Students need not report to school.
11)	P6 Graduation Ceremony	13 Nov 2018	TBC
12)	Achievement Day	15 Nov 2018	Only prize-winners need to report to school.
13)	Staff Learning Day	16 Nov 2018	Students need not report to school.

Nov/Dec Holiday is from 17 Nov to 31 Dec 2018.

School will resume on 2 Jan 2019.

Note of Encouragement

Dear _____,



Yours,

EVERGREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Acknowledgement Slip
Primary 6 Term 4 2018 Level Letter

I have noted the contents of this letter.

Name of Child/Ward: _____

Class: Primary 6 _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date