



PASIR RIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Monthly Letter to Parents for February

It's been a month since the beginning of the new year and we are happy to see that our Pasirians have all settled well into the rhythm of school routines.

Here are some key updates for the month of February:

❖ Morning School Reporting

Students should be with their class (in the classroom or parade square/hall) by 7.30 am so that they can settle down by the time the flag-raising commences at 7.30 am and start the day well. We seek parent/guardian's support in ensuring that your child/ward arrives in school punctually. The Discipline Team will engage and work closely with parents/guardians of students who are frequently late to support and work towards on time school reporting.

❖ Chinese New Year School Celebration and Holidays

The school will be celebrating Chinese New Year on Friday, 9 February, from 7.30 am to 10.30 am. To add a festive air to the occasion, students are encouraged to come to school in their festive attire with school shoes and socks **or** PE attire with school coloured polo/PE T-shirt. Students only need to bring their pencil case, colouring materials and water bottle in a small bag for the day. There will be a short snack break and students are to bring their own snack as the canteen stalls will be closed on that day.

Students can look forward to an array of activities planned during CCE Mother Tongue lessons, Form Teacher Guidance Program (FTGP) and recess during the week of celebration. Your child/ward will receive a red packet (hongbao) with orange-flavoured sweets and a note from the teachers passing on their New Year well wishes and blessings to the children on the day of school celebration.

Do make the necessary arrangements to pick your child/ward from school punctually. The school bus operators have been notified of the early dismissal time.

Please note that Monday, 12 February and Tuesday, 13 February are public and school holidays respectively. **Students will report back to school only on Wednesday, 14 February.**

❖ Total Defence Day

Each year, we commemorate Total Defence Day on 15 February, the day Singapore fell to the Japanese in 1942 and to remind us about the importance of Total Defence in protecting our sovereignty as a nation. It remains relevant today, in the face of the ever-evolving threats and challenges that Singapore faces. 2024 marks 40 years of Total Defence (TD40) in Singapore. The focus for TD40 will be on Singaporeans' readiness and resilience in the face of crises and disruptions.

As part of our commemoration of TD40, our students will experience an energy disruption simulation in school on 15 February 2024, during which, electricity will be turned off school-wide for an hour. This TD40 exercise aims to prepare students for potential disruptions to our energy supply, given Singapore's reliance on fuel imports. In such a situation, electricity may have to be prioritised for more critical areas. Therefore, households and organisations, including schools, may have to endure disruptions in their electricity supply.

Following the exercise, students will reflect on their experience and share their thoughts with their classmates and teachers.

To help our students understand the importance of Total Defence Day and its significance to our lives as Singaporeans, students can look forward to a range of activities planned during recess, Form Teacher Guidance Programme (FTGP), CCE/MTL and Social Studies periods.

Parent/Guardian may wish to engage your child/ward in sharing his/her experience and reinforce the important notion that everyone has a part to play in Singapore's Total Defence effort. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Subject Head CCE, Ms Bai via bai_yu@schools.gov.sg.

- **Arif Budiman Malay Language Teacher Award 2024**

The Arif Budiman Malay Language Teacher Award (AGAB) is an annual award which recognises outstanding Malay Language teachers who have made significant contributions to the teaching and learning of Malay language in our schools. It is jointly organised by the Malay Language Council, Singapore, the Malay Language Teachers' Association, Berita Harian and the Malay Language Learning and Promotion Committee.

This award recognises Malay Language teachers who:

- instil knowledge, skills and interest in the learning of the Malay language, literature and culture in and beyond the classroom;
- show care and concern for the needs and well-being of their students;
- display dedication and commitment to the pursuit of excellence in the teaching and learning of the Malay Language in the classroom and beyond.

Nominations are open from 2 February and will close on 01 April 2024. Online nominations may be made via <https://go.gov.sg/agab2024>

- **Most Inspiring Tamil Teachers' Award 2024**

The Most Inspiring Tamil Teacher Award is an annual award presented by Tamil Murasu, the Tamil Language Learning and Promotion Committee, and the Singapore Tamil Teachers' Union.

This award recognises Tamil Language teachers who:


- have made significant contributions to the teaching and learning of the language;
- nurture students' interest in Tamil Language by using innovative methods to make lessons more interesting and engaging; and
- demonstrate a keen interest in students' well-being and inspire students to be self-directed and engaged learners.

Nominations are open from 15 January to 01 April 2024. Nominations can be made online at <https://go.gov.sg/mitt2024nominationformel>.

We encourage parents/guardians and students to nominate our language teachers for the two above mentioned awards to affirm the work that they do, and to encourage them to continue inspiring and motivating their students.

We wish all students and parents a Happy and Prosperous Lunar New Year and Happy Holidays!

Yours sincerely,



Ms Liza Rahmat
Principal