

# **BLANGAH RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school term! I hope the March school break was good for you and your family.

The last couple of years have shown that we live in an increasingly VUCA world (ie one that is volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous). This is the world our children will inherit, and the kind of future challenges they will need to overcome. One of our biggest existential challenges is climate change. This is why the Singapore Green Plan 2030 was launched on 10 Feb last year, anchoring on the five pillars of City in Nature, Sustainable Living, Energy Reset, Green Economy and Resilient Future.

Preparing our students for the future, our school's Leader for Life programme is focused on creating environmental awareness and action through student leadership and engagement with the community. A series of activities have been lined up this term, which we hope will not only awaken virtues such as Responsibility, Care, Cooperation, Respect and Service, but also encourage the development of positive habits for action.

Firstly, there will be 3 days where we want to take time to raise awareness about key environmental concerns – World Water Day (22 March), Earth Day (22 April) and International Day for Biodiversity (22 May).

Secondly, a group of our teachers who are passionate about the environment have also come together to produce a story book about how environmental issues can have an impact on our lives. They have been working in collaboration with NParks and NLB in the production of the book which is targeted to be launched before the end of the term. So, do keep a look out for it!

In our continuing efforts to grow our green space in the school, we will be creating a sustainable skyrise greenery area located between the school hall and ISH. This area will consist of a mini forest, edible garden island, rain garden and a flowering and butterfly garden. It will feature a rain harvesting system to provide an alternative source of water to promote a sustainable environment as well as a solar panel to support an auto-irrigation system. The area will provide gardening opportunities for our students to be aware of how they can contribute to creating a more sustainable environment using innovative ways of harnessing energy. In the process, students will also develop 21st century competencies such as collaboration, communication, critical thinking and citizenship as they work with our community partners and parent support group. The skyrise greenery area is also targeted to be completed by the end of the term.

Through these and other forthcoming efforts, we hope our children will be imbued with a sense of ownership and responsibility for the environment they live in – because our future will be dependent on this.

# 1. Upcoming Events in Term 2

| DATE                             | EVENT   | REMARKS  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 22 March                         | Commemoration of World Water Day                    |  |
| 22, 24 March and<br>28 March     | P3 Broadcast Journalism                             | 2 pm to 4 pm   |
| 22, 24, 29 March<br>and 31 March | ALP – P5 (5S): Code for Fun                         | 2 pm to 4.30 pm  |
| 22 to 25 March                   | P2 Young Photographers Programme                    | During curriculum<br>hours. Please refer to<br>letter sent via Parents<br>Gateway on 9 March.  |
| 23 March<br>6 and 27 April       | Delta House Practice                                |  |
| 24 and 31 March                  | P6 Camp   | 2 pm to 3.30 pm  |
| 25 March<br>8 and 29 April       | Gillman House Practice                              |  |
| 30 March<br>13 April<br>4 May    | Keppel House Practice                               |  |
| 28 March to<br>22 April          | ALP: P1 Robotics during PAL Lessons                 |  |
| 28 March to 8 April              | ALP: P2 ERLA during PAL Lessons                     |  |
|                                  | ALP: P4 ERLA during Science Lessons                 |  |
| 1 and 22 April<br>6 May          | Redhill House Practice                              |  |
| 22 April                         | Commemoration of Earth Day                          |  |
| 5, 7, 12 April and<br>14 April   | ALP – P5 (5T): Code for Fun                         | 2 pm to 4.30 pm  |
| 7 April                          | P4 Camp   | 2 pm to 3.30 pm  |
| 15 April                         | Public Holiday – Good Friday                        |  |
| 18 to 29 April                   | ALP – P3 Robotics during Math Lessons               |  |
| 18, 19 and 21 April              | P5 Young Photographers Programme                    | After curriculum hours. Please refer to letter which will be given later via Parents Gateway.  |
| 26 to 29 April                   | P4 Young Photographers Programme                    | During curriculum hours. Please refer to letter which will be given later via Parents Gateway.   |
| 2 May                            | Public Holiday – Labour Day                         |  |
| 3 May                            | Public Holiday – Hari Raya Puasa                    |  |
| 4 to 6 May<br>9 May              | P3 Young Photographers Programme                    | During curriculum hours. Please refer to letter which will be given later via Parents Gateway.   |
| 16 May                           | Public Holiday – Vesak Day                          |  |
|                                  |   |  |
| 18 May                           | P4 Mother Tongue Language Camp                      | During curriculum time   |
|                                  | P4 Mother Tongue Language Camp<br>Inter-House Games | During curriculum time 2 pm to 5 pm (TBC)**  |
| 18 May                           |   | , and the second |

<sup>\*\*</sup> Details will be shared later

#### 2. Assessment

## Removal of Mid-Year Examination (MYE) for Primary 4

To give more time and space for students to further develop their 21st Century Competencies and engage in more student-initiated learning, there will be no mid-year examination for Primary 4 this year. This is in line with our efforts to shift away from an over-emphasis on examinations and nurture an intrinsic joy of learning.

In view of the change, there will be *two bite-size weighted assessments* instead. The table below shows the weighting of the assessments for each subject:

| Subjects               | Weighting |        |        |        |
|------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Subjects               | Term 1    | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 |
| English Language       |           |        |        |        |
| Mother Tongue Language | NA        | 15%    | 15%    | 70%    |
| Mathematics            | INA       |        |        |        |
| Science                |           |        |        |        |

More information will be provided via the Primary 4 Term 2 Level letter.

## Mid-Year Examination (MYE) Schedule for Primary 6

| Date   | Day  | Subject  | Time                                       | Duration                 |
|--------|------|--|--|--------------------------|
| 20 Apr | Wed  | Oral – EL  | 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm                          | NA                       |
| 21 Apr | Thur | e-Oral – MTL   | 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm                          | NA                       |
| 26 Apr | Tue  | English Language Paper 1:<br>Standard<br>Foundation      | 8.00 am - 9.10 am<br>8.00 am - 9.10 am     | 1 h 10 min<br>1 h 10 min |
|        |      | Mother Tongue Paper 1:<br>Standard                       | 11.00 am - 11.50 am                        | 50 min                   |
| 9 May  | Mon  | English Language Paper 2:<br>Standard<br>Foundation      | 8.00 am - 9.50 am<br>8.00 am - 9.20 am     | 1 h 50 min<br>1 h 20 min |
|        |      | Listening Comprehension:<br>Standard<br>Foundation       | 11.00 am - 11.45 am<br>11.00 am - 11.45 am | 45 min<br>45 min         |
| 10 May | Tue  | Mathematics:<br>Standard (Paper 1)<br>Standard (Paper 2) | 8.00 am - 9.00 am<br>11.00 am - 12.30 pm   | 1 h<br>1 h 30 min        |
|        |      | Mathematics: Foundation (Paper 1) Foundation (Paper 2)   | 8.00 am - 9.00 am<br>11.00 am - 12.00 noon | 1 h<br>1 h               |
| 11 May | Wed  | Mother Tongue Paper 2:<br>Standard<br>Foundation         | 8.00 am - 9.40 am<br>8.00 am - 8.40 am     | 1 h 40 min<br>40 min     |
|        |      | Listening Comprehension:<br>Standard<br>Foundation       | 11.00 am - 11.45 am<br>11.00 am - 11.45 am | 45 min<br>45 min         |
| 12 May | Thur | Science:<br>Standard<br>Foundation                       | 8.00 am - 9.45 am<br>8.00 am - 9.15 am     | 1 h 45 min<br>1 h 15 min |
| 13 May | Fri  | Higher Mother Tongue:<br>Paper 1<br>Paper 2              | 8.00 am - 8.50 am<br>10.00 am - 11.20 am   | 50 min<br>1 h 20 min     |

#### 3. Updates on Safe Management Measures (SMMs)

In line with the national implementation of streamlined COVID-19 SMMs, we will also be revising our SMM processes as follows:

#### Dismissal Timings

From <u>Wed 23 Mar onwards</u>, we will no longer stagger the dismissal timings for our classes. **All classes will be dismissed at 1.30 pm at the same time**.

#### Classroom seating

Exam-style seating is no longer required for curricular lessons, and our teachers will be organizing the seating arrangements appropriately in their classrooms to better support and enhance their students' learning.

#### Parent-Teacher-Child-Conference (PTCC)

This term's PTCC will be held face-to-face on 24 and 25 May, and we will provide more details for the sessions nearer the time.

We continue to remind students and parents of the need to be socially responsible as we transition to living endemically with Covid-19.

- Students are required to bring their Trace Together (TT) tokens to school each day.
   Parents please help ensure that you child's TT tokens are working.
- Students should continue to exercise personal hygiene habits and keep common areas clean by wiping down surfaces where necessary.
- Those who are unwell should stay at home and seek medical treatment if necessary.
   Students should test ART negative each day if they are on Health Risk Notice (HRN) before coming to school.

# 4. Learning for Life Programme (LLP) Commemoration of World Water Day

World Water Day is commemorated on 22 March every year. It is an annual United Nations Observance, started in 1993, that celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2 billion people currently living without access to safe water. The theme for 2022, "Groundwater: Making the Invisible, Visible" is to heighten our awareness of groundwater, which is a hidden treasure that enriches our lives as most of the liquid freshwater in the world is groundwater. As climate change gets worse, groundwater becomes more critical.

At BRLC, we commemorate Singapore World Water Day through a series of activities – assembly talk and classroom activities. To enhance learning, recess activities such as learning stations at the mini library and book flood corner on the theme 'Water' in the main library are organised. Exhibits created by our parents from Parent Support Group (PSG) are displayed at the school's 'Community Space' to educate students on the importance of using water wisely and cherishing our water resources.

The ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic is a reminder of the importance of water – not just for drinking, but also for personal hygiene and protecting public health. The commemoration makes a good reminder for each of us to play our part to make every drop count.

#### **Commemoration of Earth Day**

Every year, we commemorate this annual event with assembly talks, class activities, recess activities and Project Green Awareness in Action (GAIA). For Project GAIA, we will be collaborating with Sembwaste (Ezi Recycling) and Clean Up! @ Southwest in our recycling efforts. The project is designed to raise students' awareness and sensitivity to environmental challenges. It provides an authentic platform for students to explore environmental issues and take action to improve the environment around them.

In view of the present COVID-19 situation, Form Teachers will conduct assembly talk for all students on 19 Apr. Students will have the opportunity to participate in recycling challenges such as setting up their class recycling corner as well as using bread packaging tags, ice

cream sticks and used newspapers to turn recyclables into useful products or toys to promote upcycling. While recycling is one of the best ways to reduce environmental impact and repurpose old materials, upcycling is a way to creatively reuse and recycle waste, to turn or by-products into new materials that are of higher quality. To raise the awareness of Earth Day, selected ones will be made into posters and videos for students and residents.

## **International Day for Biodiversity**

22 May marks the International Day for Biological Diversity. To celebrate Singapore's natural heritage and engage our students in learning about our flora and fauna, BRLC will be participating in a series of 'Biodiversity Week for Schools' activities organized by NParks from 16th to 22nd May. In conjunction with this event, the school will be launching her publication of a book for young readers, 'The Green Dragonflies and Their Swampy Friends'. This is produced by a team of teachers with a keen interest in raising environmental awareness, story writing and photography. Leveraging their passion through the story, they hope to raise awareness in the young about how environmental issues have an impact on their lives. The story is aimed to educate them on having to make a conscious choice by taking positive actions in caring for the environment.

We wish you a purposeful and healthy Term 2 ahead!

Yours sincerely,

Francis Foo Principal