



PSG
BLANGAH RISE

PARENTS POST

Semester 1 2022



Hello from EXCO - PSG Action in Semester 1 We Are back!

by Lee Hoi Leong, PSG EXCO Vice-chair

A feeling that we as EXCO felt the most was that over the past two and a half years, due to the COVID-19 safe management measures, the bonding between the parents' community became more distant. We were unable to organise any physical activities in school where the parents' community can interact. We sort of see each other when some of us pick up our children, but with the mask we don't quite even recognise each other. Finally, with the situation improving, Singapore has opened up! We are very glad to be able to meet everyone again – supporting the school together for our children, and bond with each other.

In semester 1, we saw parents coming together to contribute to the school for our children. Beginning with helping to welcome parents of our new P1 students on the first day of school, PSG parents made decorations for the Chinese New Year and Hari Raya, giving the school an additional festive mood and increasing our children's cultural awareness. Parents with knowledge in sustainability put up posters for the World Water Day and Earth Day at school, to spread the mindset to protect our environment. Of special mention is a group of dedicated parents with "green fingers" who goes to the school weekly to tend to the school's blooming garden. Through their hard work, children have a wonderful green space to enjoy, as well as an environment to learn about biodiversity.

We were glad that there were several activities that we could get the parents community together, and more so learn together. In May

we had our first in-person conversation with BRPS Principal Mr Foo and school leaders. Over 15 parents turned up, and we had a chance to hear first-hand directions of the school. Parents in PSG were invited to be a part of the Hari Raya celebration in school, something that was not done in a long time. We also had our first "Learn Together" session, where one of our parents who is an expert in press flower craft shared her skills with other parents in a workshop. There are many hidden talents among us BRPS parents.

Produced by parents, for parents, this BRPS Parents' Post aims to keep you updated with key happenings in the BRPS parents' community and topics that parents would be interested in. We hope that you will enjoy reading this post. There will be more activities planned by the PSG for the second half of the year as well, and we look forward to having more of you joining us!



In conversation with school leaders. A long-awaited face-to-face session !



PSG Blooming garden team - Joy and Rica working hard and having fun!



Parents and child gardening session in June

BRPS Open House

28 May 2022

by *Daphne Goh, Parent Contributor*

It was the first open house since the COVID-19 pandemic. For many of us, this is the first time we set foot in the school, and the first time seeing the classroom and school environment.

The theme of this year open day is Green Fiesta. After an opening speech from Principal Mr Foo, we enjoyed a beautiful performance by our talented dancers from BRPS. There were series of exciting activities lined up for all the visitors. PSG was invited to open the Garden of Hope, which our PSG volunteers have put a lot of heart and sweat to advocate for sustainable living.

It was also such a pleasure to watch our student helpers/guides showcasing their enthusiasm and passion towards the school by giving their 120% effort to the given task. I heard many positive comments from the visitors that they were impressed by our students, who were helpful, fun, clear in providing instruction and demonstration in some of the activities. More importantly, they really enjoyed it too!

School has carefully crafted out various activities to present a holistic experience to all the visitors. From the school environment like blooming gardens, understanding the school virtues, art and crafts, literacy activities, interact with animals at the animal corner, interactive games as well as discover simple coding with the kid's favourite robot KUBO. We get to bring back souvenirs like small plants, beautiful bookmark and crafts.

For those who had joined us, hope you had the chance to tour around the blooming gardens as well. We welcome you to join us to maintain the gardens in the school compound, regardless if you have green fingers or have genuine interest for gardening. The school has plans to distribute our future garden produce to less fortunate communities around BRPS. We hope that through gardening, our students learn to plan, plant, bear the responsibilities towards our earth and give back to our society.

If you miss out this event, fear not! Join PSG and there will be many opportunities to get involve and contribute to the learning environment that our children are in.



Opening of Garden of Hope by PSG



Principal Mr Francis Foo, PSG volunteers and visitors touring the newly opened Garden of Hope



Parent volunteers and students at the Open House

"Move forward. Good things are up ahead."



Pressed flower art expert Fang Fang (bottom right) with PSG participants and School PSG Liaison Mdm Koh



Pressed flower bookmarks made by us!



Pressed flower earring creation by Fang Fang



Unboxing Pressed Flowers to BRPS

by Joy Malata, Parent Contributor

Amazing talent! Wow! Great! - These were some of the words from the enthusiastic participants of the "Pressed Flower Art" activity of PSG which was held on 9th May. This fun-filled activity was facilitated by Shi Fang Fang, a member of PSG and parents of Judith in 4O and Jolyn in 1T. They all came from the beautiful land of China. This was the first parent co-learning session that PSG organised, and we were very happy to have Fang Fang sharing.

Inspired by Ralph Waldo Emerson who once said, "the earth laughs in flowers" - Fang Fang fondly recalls that her family loves plants and plants in turn heal the family. Her mother was always a flower lover. When she was a little girl, there were beautiful and various flowers planted in their house all year round. In spring, flowers bloomed in the garden, by the door, and on the wall. Her classmates loved to come to her house, it was so easy to spot their house - a house with most flowers and plants. Her mother has been the major influence since she was a little girl, she enjoys flowers as much as her mother did.

She fell in love at first sight with pressed flower art in 2012. She felt so euphoric over this. Subsequently, for the past decade, she has continued learning new knowledge and kept on improving her skills in Pressed Flower Art. In this big family of Pressed Flower Art, there are many excellent teachers from all around the world; she and her family always share and learn from each other. She traveled to Japan and Russia successively to participate in Academic Exchanges. She has also apprenticed herself to a master and enhanced her skills. With all the efforts, in 2019, she finally completed the Pressed Flower Art Teacher Certification Course by Mdm Kate, the President of WWPFG, and became a certified Pressed Flower Art Teacher.

In order to make Pressed Flower Art more accessible to the public, she designed various DIY courses and materials to ensure that all participants are able to create beautiful pressed flowers which last longer. In the session, she shared some of her works, such as earrings using pressed flowers and bookmarks she created to be distributed for the BRPS open house. After that, we learned from her how to create a bookmark with pressed flowers. We truly enjoyed this experience and look at the beautiful bookmarks that we made.

Beyond the craft of pressed flower art, we also learned from her essential spirits of the art. She shared that "Let the beauty of nature brings every student a moment of peace and joyous.", and "Oshibana, Pressed Flower Art isn't only to prolong the beauty of flowers but gives a new life in another form, a unique life of art."

Do you have some skills that you would like to share with other parents in PSG? Or are there things that you want to learn together? Let us know! Looking forward to future co-learning sessions together.

Family Spotlight

by Sarah Lien, Parent Contributor

This little corner aims to feature a family in the BRPS family each time, so that we will all know each other better. For this edition, as one of the members of the Parents Post team, I would start the ball rolling by featuring my family. Hope that you will know more about us!



What languages are spoken in your home?

We predominantly speak English, but the kids and Will know Chinese, and Will speaks Cantonese with his parents.

What is something that your family enjoys doing together?

We love swimming, traveling, and recently tried out canoeing as a family (see photo attached). That was an adventure. In terms of travel, some of our favorite places are Hong Kong, Sydney, Phuket, San Francisco Bay area, Taipei, and US Gulf Coast area.

What is your favorite memory or thing about BRPS?

Our favorite memories are the product of the teachers at BRPS. They make sure students of different learning paces get the right amount of help. The teachers are also very patient with students. They do not get upset or frustrated when one of the students does not understand something. They also spend time outside of school hours to facilitate student co-curricular activities. As a family, we appreciate this dedication from the teachers.

What does a dream holiday look like for your family?

The kids really want to go somewhere cold because they have never experienced snow. We would love to go to Europe as a family and see snow-covered mountains, go sledding, and drink hot chocolate.

THE LIEN FAMILY

- Will – Dad
- Sarah – Mom
- Gail – P5 Sapphire
- Heidi – P3 Topaz
- David – P1 Topaz

Hope that you enjoyed reading this edition of the Parents' Post!
If you have any feedback or if you would like to join the BRPS PSG Family, email us at **brpspsg@gmail.com**, or access the form via the link below or the QR code on the right.

<https://forms.gle/PVTPQHKSuBWRj8Sr5>

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