



FAIRFIELD METHODIST SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

FMS(P) NewsLink

Term 2 / March 2009

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to a new term at FMS(P)!

In the first term of this year, I was privileged to have met up and interacted with many parents, not only during the 'Meet-the-Parents' sessions for Primary 1 to 6, but also at the 'Breakfast with Principal@FMS(P)' sessions with parents of Primary 3 and Primary 4 pupils. These sessions have been fruitful in building a common understanding between the school and parents and they have provided an opportunity for us to share our school policies and programmes. At the Breakfast sessions, we obtained feedback from parents on the proposed revised FMS(S) and FMS(P) affiliation policy. These sessions also gave us a platform to brainstorm and exchange ideas on some issues, such as developing the child in a holistic manner, raising the standard of Mother Tongue and assessing the learning of the child. I believe that the constructive ideas generated in an atmosphere of graciousness and respect as demonstrated during these sessions will go a long way in fostering closer links between the school and you.

Results of Survey on the change of school hours

With regards to the survey conducted during the 'Meet-the-Parents' sessions in Term 1, 52% of the parents surveyed supported the revised timing (7.30am to 1.20pm). While many have strong and valid reasons (such as sufficient sleep time for children and aligned school hours to parents' working hours) why the school hours should change, there is also a substantial group who believes that the school hours should remain the same, with equally valid reasons (such as transport and traffic issues as FMS(P) is situated in a belt of schools with staggered start times). As a school, we have decided at this point of time, considering that the survey results do not provide a strong enough mandate to change, that the school hours will remain the same at least till the end of the year. I will continue to urge all parents to ensure that your children have sufficient sleep and wake up refreshed in the morning and well in time for school.

New FMS (P) Website

The FMS(P) website is currently undergoing a revamp and the target completion date will be in early April 2009. The new school website will be more user-friendly and informative, providing a one-stop resource / information site for all stakeholders of the school. With the launch of the new website, we hope that it will connect you better with the school and keep you posted of events pertaining to the school. I would like to thank all parent volunteers who have provided input during the testing phase of the website.

Methodist Walk 2009

I would like to thank all of you for the support you have shown in this fund-raising event even in these difficult times. The total amount raised was \$74 130.50. All funds that have been raised will be given back to the school for its various programmes and enhancement of the physical environment. The Methodist Walk 2009 will be held this Saturday, 28

March 2009 at ACS (I). For those who have signed up, I look forward to meeting up with you then.

FMS(P) CCA Achievements

I am happy to announce the achievements of our pupils in Term 1 of 2009. In the area of Co-curricular Activities, our pupils have done well. While our pupils may not have won at every sport and division, I would like to congratulate all of them for their hardwork. Besides the skills they have honed, I am sure they have learnt the value of perseverance and teamwork. A big thank you to parents of all our pupils in the school teams and uniformed groups for your unwavering support. The achievements are as follows:

Sports

CCA	Gender	Division	Achievement
Badminton	Boys	Junior	Zone position - 3 rd
Basketball	Girls	Senior	Zone position - 4 th
Volleyball	Girls	Senior	Zone position - 4 th
	Girls	Junior	Zone position - 3 rd

Uniformed Groups (for assessment year 2008)

CCA	Name of Award	Achievement
33J Boys' Brigade	Best Juniors' Programme Company	
	JM Fraser	Gold
3 rd Girls' Brigade	Company Award	Gold
Red Cross	Excellent Unit Award	Silver

Schools Digital Media Awards 2009

Our school is the only primary school that attained the GOLD award in the Teachers' competition category for the School Digital Media Award (SDMA) 2009. A group of P4 (2008) NE Champions, together with Mrs Persis Koh and Mr Elfian, submitted the 10-minute winning-entry video entitled 'Mass exodus? No lah...enbloc!' for the annual SDMA competition which encourages teachers and students to make use of the appropriate medium to express and articulate their views. This video resource includes a skit and a series of interviews with residents and vendors at Dover Road. The interviews give viewers a sense of how people feel when their homes/ stalls/ shops go enbloc. The video serves to enhance the P5 Social Studies lesson on 'Housing'.

Finally, my sincere appreciation to all the parent volunteers who have helped out in our school programmes in Term 1 : P1 Orientation, Chinese New Year Celebrations, P1 Games Day, Sports Carnival, Fruit and Vegetables Day; and to the many other parents who have responded on an ad-hoc needs basis when we needed support and have often served with humility and love.

Yours sincerely,

Chaillan Mui Tuan
Principal

Term 2 Programme Highlights!

For Term 2 in 2009, we have lined up the following programmes:

- **P4 Outdoor Education programme**

To develop every child holistically and to develop qualities such as determination, resilience and perseverance, rock climbing and field cooking sessions will be organised for all Primary 4 pupils in Term 2. These sessions will be conducted by trained instructors in our school.

- **NAPFA for P4-P6**

The five item tests for the yearly NAPFA will be conducted in the afternoons of 28 April (P4A-G and P6A-E) and 30 April (P5A-G and P6F-J). The school views this as an integral part of the school's character development programme, therefore active preparation and participation in the NAPFA is important.

- **Public Concert at Victoria Theatre – 'STARS' on 28 and 29 July 2009**

This public concert will feature our 4 aesthetics groups (Chinese Dance, Choir, Band and Handbells Ensemble) and a small drama production. Training for various groups involved will be held in Term 2. We seek your support for this event.

- **EVA (Elite Visual Arts) Programme**

The EVA programme creates a platform for pupils who excel in the area of visual arts to receive individualised mentorship in developing their artwork. The sessions will see pupils through the main stages of: brain storming and project planning; idea development and detailed project design and the final execution of the artwork with emphasis on developing pupils' mastery of medium and processes towards a polished completion of their artistic creations. Their artwork will be submitted to the biannual 'Singapore Youth Festival' Arts Competition 2009.

- **Student Leaders' Investiture**

The theme for this year's investiture, 'The Good, The Bad & the Compassionate' focuses on the importance of being compassionate as student leaders of FMS(P). The student leaders who would be commissioned at the student leaders' investiture are chosen based on their exemplary conduct and their willingness to serve. It is our prayer that through the many opportunities given for the student leaders to hone their leadership skills, each child would be able to display the four traits of a FMS(P) student leader (having confidence, having initiative, being a team player and being willing to serve humbly) throughout his/her term of service in FMS(P).

- **Annual Health Screening for P1 – P6**

The annual health screening will be conducted by the School Health Services from 1 April (Wed) to 13 Apr (Mon). Health screening and immunisation activities for all pupils will be carried out during this period and we seek your assistance in submitting your child's health booklet and/or required documents for immunisation to your child's/ward's form teacher before the start of the screening.

- **Semestral Assessment 1**

Please refer to the School Calendar for the SA1 dates. More details, such as the time and duration of each paper and the format and coverage of each subject, will be sent to you nearer to the SA1. This is to help you better assist your child/ward in revision.

Acknowledgment-cum-Feedback Slip**(To be submitted to Form Teacher by all pupils by 31 March 2009)**

I, parent/guardian of _____ (name of child/ward) of Primary _____ (class), acknowledge the reading of FMS(P) NewsLink and the School Calendar for Term 2.

In addition, I would like to raise the following feedback:

I can be contacted through the following means to discuss the feedback I have raised:

- a. Handphone no.: _____
- b. Email address: _____

Name and Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

For official Use Only

- (i) Response by P / VP: _____
- (ii) Follow-up by: ☐ P / VP ☐ _____ HOD ☐ Subject / Form Teachers
- (iii) Date: _____