

From the Principal's Desk

20 March 2017

Dear Parents / Guardian

The first quarter of 2017 has passed and we are now into Term 2. In the months past, there have been many changes in the global scene and disruptions are the new normal. In the school, we like our young ladies to see the opportunities that can arise from challenges and the “**Unlimited Possibilities**” that lie on the horizon. RGPS strives to ride the waves of change, and to instill in our young charges a ‘**CAN DO**’ spirit. As a school, we are cognizant of alignment of curriculum and school practices to the national agenda to prepare our young for the future and to broaden the definitions of success.

Change in School Assessment Policy

The school has reviewed the assessment practices and policies during our annual review. In line with the assessment philosophy that assessment is an integral part of learning and it is not a single-point data, and aligned to MOE’s direction to reduce excessive emphasis on academic result, we have decided that there will not be any make-up assessments implemented for all P1 to P5 assessments should the student be absent for a paper. In view of her well-being, it will not be beneficial to the child if she has to sit for an extra make-up paper upon return from medical leave. If her absence is supported by a medical certificate, this will be considered as a Valid Reason (VR) case and the mark for the subject will be pro-rated accordingly. The student can still take the paper as a practice after the assessment.

P5 CCE – VIA : Creative Problem Solving Skills

To give the P5 students greater autonomy and opportunity to serve the community (within and outside of school), time will be set aside during the CCE periods for them to come together to identify problems faced by the different community segments and come up with solutions to resolve them. They will also be taught creative problem solving skills which place emphasis on divergent and convergent thinking as they work collaboratively in groups. This will start in Term 2 to Term 4.

While we will provide a showcase of their projects, we are more interested in the students acquiring skills to look at issues & problem solve in a systematic manner. This will stand them in good stead in a volatile world. In addition, problem solving to make life better for another takes our children’s focus beyond themselves, and this anchors them to be good citizens.

Learn and Share Corner

Together with the donated books, games and musical instruments from the students and some shelves and tables from PVG, we have set up a *Learn and Share corner* in the lower canteen where the children can play, read and draw before and after school and during recesses. This space is created for children by the children, and has proven to be popular with the students.

We hope that the children will use this space to share and in time we will invite for more items to be donated again.

Personal Responsibility

Character education starts with small steps and this is true especially with being responsible for oneself. It means that children have to remember to bring what is necessary for the day to school; and if they forget, to be responsible to own up to their teachers and accept the consequences. In this light then, we will not be bringing items to the classes to them nor disrupting lessons via intercom to ask the children to pick up their items from office.

At most parents / guardians can leave the items in the office and the children will have to come by to pick them up on their own accord. It may seem hard but the children will learn to take ownership of their own belongings and not depend on others. For children who forget to bring their wallet for the day, they are advised to come to the office and we will provide snacks for them.

Let us work together to bring up a resilient group of young ladies.

School Achievements Jan – March 2017

I am very proud of all our students who have taken part in competitions in Term 1. They have kept the school flag flying high because they displayed excellence, perseverance and good sportsmanship. We celebrate the success of those who won and the effort of all who gave their best. My appreciation goes also to the parents and teachers for their support of the girls.

1	Basketball	<i>South Zone Championships 2017</i> Senior Girls – 2 nd
2	Badminton	<i>South Zone Championships 2016</i> Junior Girls – 1 st Senior Girls – 1 st
3	Girls ' Brigade	<i>Company Award</i> – Gold

Absence during school term

I would like to reiterate that absence during school term for reasons like early / extended vacation are not considered as valid reason. It is important for our young charges to be in school every day when school is in session; and for parents / guardians and the school to be sending the same signal to them. I would appreciate that such requests be sent to my email address at yue_yoke_mun@schools.gov.sg

As for ad-hoc absence due to violin, ballet or other external exams, do work directly with the teachers.

Term 2 promises to be an exciting term with many activities for the children to learn and grow – Games Carnival, Healthy Eating Week, P4 Aesthetics Tour, etc. Let us encourage them to embrace learning like what one student told me – “ I don’t like Mother Tongue but I still pay attention in class; and I know one day I will grow to like it’. This positive attitude that effort will overcome difficulties is a mindset we want our young ladies to have.

Have a fantastic Term 2.

.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Yue Yoke Mun
Principal