



3 January, 2025

TERM 1 NOTE FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS – JANUARY 2025

A. GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents / Guardians,

"Soaring Together: A New Year of Growth and Discovery"

A Happy New Year to all. I hope you had a fulfilling year-end break with your family. My staff and I warmly welcome you and our students to a new school year, especially our primary 1 parents and students as you begin this exciting chapter of learning and growth.

As I assume the role of Principal at Concord Primary School, I am honored to join this vibrant and nurturing school community. First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to our former Principal, Mr. Tan Siew Tiong, for his dedicated leadership and vision. Under his guidance, the school has made significant progress, and I am committed to continue building on the strong foundation he has established.

I would also like to express my gratitude to our dedicated staff. Their tireless efforts, passion, and care have been instrumental in shaping the positive and supportive environment that Concord Primary School is known for. To our staff who have moved on to new chapters in their professional journeys, we thank them for their valuable contributions and the impact they have made on our school and students.

At Concord Primary School, we are deeply committed to our vision: Caring Hearts, Enriched Minds, Determined Spirits and they are the foundation of everything we do. They remind us that education is not just about academic excellence, but about nurturing well-rounded individuals who are compassionate, knowledgeable, and resilient.

Education is a shared journey, and parents are our invaluable partners. Our Motto: "Together We Soar to Greater Heights" emphasizes the importance of collaboration and community in achieving excellence. Your support, encouragement, and involvement play a vital role in shaping your child's experience at school. As we work together to create a warm and supportive environment, I am excited about the possibilities that this year holds for our students and look forward to partnering with you in their educational journey.

Here's to a meaningful and enriching year ahead!

Yours truly
Mrs Quek-Chua Leng Yin
Principal

B. WELCOMING NEW STAFF MEMBERS TO CPS

We would like to warmly welcome the following staff members to our Concord family. They are:

1. Mdm Salbiah Abas [Vice Principal (Academic)]
2. Mr Mohammad Hisham B Amat, Year Head (Upper Primary)
3. Mdm Norlita Bte Muhamad Sah, School Staff Developer
4. Mr Shahrulnizam B Padawi, HOD Mathematics
5. Mdm Tan Yoke Yin, HOD CCE
6. Mr Aidil Sharil Bin Solikin, HOD PE/Aesthetic/Music
7. Mr Sallahuddin Bin Yahya, Teacher
8. Mdm Siti Hajar Bte Abdul Hamid, Teacher
9. Mr Norhisham B Saadon, Teacher
10. Mdm Zhu Hong, Teacher
11. Mdm Junaidah Bte Senior, Teacher
12. Miss Heng Chwee Hong, Teacher
13. Mdm Lau Hui Wen, Teacher (with effect from Semester 2/2025)

C. THANKING OUTGOING STAFF MEMBERS

We would like to thank the following staff members for their dedicated service and wish them all the best in their future endeavours:

1. Mr Tan Siew Tiong, Principal
2. Mr Osman, HOD CCE
3. Mdm Toh Lee Hiong, School Staff Developer
4. Mdm Nithiya, SH ICT
5. Mr Yeow Jit Sin, Lead SEN officer
6. Mr See Kai Wen, Teacher
7. Mdm Ng Jia Hui, Teacher
8. Mdm Chua Yu Juan, Teacher

D. STUDENT HEALTH AND DAILY ATTENDANCE

(Mr Andrew Lee, Vice Principal [Administration])

The safety of our students is of utmost importance. We seek parents' understanding and assistance to keep schools a safe environment for students.

If your child is unwell, please ensure that he/she stays at home and seeks medical attention if necessary. If your child is recovering from respiratory-related illnesses, please encourage him/her to exercise social responsibility (e.g., by wearing a mask, minimising social interactions with big groups).

We appreciate your support and will continue to work with you closely. Let us all do our part to exercise personal and social responsibility and stay safe.

If your child is not reporting to school (even for non-health reasons), please inform the school via the following QR code. Both the Form Teachers and the General Office will be notified. The link to the electronic form (<https://go.gov.sg/cpschildabsence>)

can also be found in our school website under the "For Parents" section. We strongly encourage you to bookmark this form for future use.



<https://go.gov.sg/cpschildabsence>

E. ROAD SAFETY

(Mr Andrew Lee, Vice Principal [Administration])

The school's Traffic Management Plan can be found on the school website at the top navigation bar under "For Parents" > "Traffic Management Plan".

For parents driving in and out of the school, please exercise care and patience, especially during the morning peak hours i.e. 7am to 7.30am. The situation during this period is very challenging due to the many concurrent competing needs at the main gate junction - vehicles entering and leaving, pedestrians crossing, the need to optimise the traffic flow in tandem with the traffic light crossing along Choa Chu Kang Ave 4.

Drivers should also note that, when exiting the school main gate, they should pay particular attention to passing pedestrians and cyclists, especially those coming from the left.

Parents/Guardians may wish to consider using Gates 4 and 12 (which are besides Blk 446 and Blk 451 respectively) as alternative drop off points which also provide safe and sheltered access into the school.

Please be reminded to adhere to the speed limit (15km/h) when driving in the school compound and to also drop off your child/ward only at the designated area at the foyer.

F. CYCLING TO SCHOOL

(Mr Andrew Lee, Vice Principal [Administration])

Please note that cycling is a lifestyle choice and is not encouraged as a mode of transport to and from school for students.

Given the hazards that cyclists may encounter, the school is concerned about the safety of students who cycle to school. Besides having limited parking space in the campus, the school observed that some bicycles may not be properly maintained and some student cyclists do not wear safety gears e.g. helmets and lock their bicycles.

If you do permit your child to cycle to school, please remind your child to take the necessary safety precautions such as ensuring the bicycle is in good working condition, that they always wear protective gears and proper shoes (if there are

shoelaces, they should be properly tied), and they should not use their mobile phones or listen to music through earphones while cycling. The bicycle should only be parked at the designated rack beside the guard house and be removed at the end of each day. The school will not be responsible for the loss of, or any damage to, your child's bicycle.

G. REPORTING TIME AND ATTIRE FOR STUDENTS

(Mr Tay Soo Hong, HOD Student Management)

As part of our commitment to fostering a disciplined and respectful school environment, we would like to remind all parents/guardians of the following key expectations:

• Punctuality

Punctuality reflects respect and responsibility, and we seek your understanding and support in encouraging your child/ward to be on time for school and school-organised programmes/activities.

All students should arrive at school by 7.25 am. They must be in the classroom/hall for the National Anthem and pledge-taking, which begins promptly at 7.30 am. Students who are not present at this time will be marked late for school.

• School Attire

Students must always be neatly attired for school. Shoes should be white. Hairstyles must be neat, and fringes should not touch the eyebrows. Fancy hairstyles are not acceptable.

For detailed guidelines on student attire, please refer to pages 18, 19, and 20 of the **Student Handbook 2025**.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that your child/ward adheres to these expectations, which are integral to upholding our school values.

H. USE OF SMARTPHONES AND SMARTWATCHES

(Mr Tay Soo Hong, HOD Student Management)

To support a conducive learning environment, we seek your partnership in reinforcing the school's policy on usage of smartphones and smartwatches:

- **During School Hours:** Students are not allowed to use smartphones or smartwatches* during school hours, including recess, CCAs, and after-school programmes. This ensures minimal distractions and encourages active student engagement in school activities.
- **Before and After School:** Smartphones must be kept in lockers provided outside classrooms before school starts and can only be retrieved after school ends. Students are solely responsible for the safekeeping of their devices.
- **Designated Usage Areas:** After school hours, smartphones and smartwatches may only be used at the foyer outside the General Office and near the security guard post to maintain order and safety in school.
- **Examinations:** Smartphones and smartwatches are strictly prohibited during school and national examinations to uphold the integrity of assessments.

** Non-telecommunication devices like the POSB Smart Buddy Watch, which facilitates contactless payments in school, are allowed.*

By adhering to the above guidelines, we aim to instill self-discipline and responsible usage of technology in our students. For more details, please refer to page 14 of the **Student Handbook 2025**. We appreciate your support in shaping positive habits and values in our students.

I. USE OF PERSONAL DATA FOR SCHOOL'S PUBLICITY PURPOSES

(Mr Andrew Lee, Vice Principal [Administration])

Under the Personal Data Protection Act, photographs and video images of an individual are considered personal data. We would like to inform you that photograph(s) or video image(s) of students and parents/guardians of our school may be taken during school activities and events such as classroom lessons, CCA, school camps, or school concerts. The school may use and publish such photographs or video recordings in school publications, the school's website, social media channels, or other communication channels. The school may use and publish such photographs and/or video recordings in our school publications, official school website and other communication channels.

For your information, the above is also mentioned in page 11 of your child's **Student Handbook 2025**.

J. MOE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

(Ms Wong Siew Ling, Administration Manager)

The Ministry of Education (MOE) provides financial assistance to needy Singaporean students. The income criterion is \$3,000 or below (Gross Household Income) and \$750 or below (Per Capita Income). You may apply via the MOE website <https://www.moe.gov.sg/financial-matters/financial-assistance>.

K. PHOTOTAKING FOR PRIMARY 1 AND PRIMARY 6 STUDENTS FOR THE SCHOOL SMART CARDS (SSC) – 14 FEBRUARY 2025

(Ms Wong Siew Ling, Administration Manager)

MOE will be conducting the yearly photo-taking exercise for all students in Primary One (P1) and Primary Six (P6) for the purpose of generating the School Smart Card (SSC). The photo-taking will be conducted by SimplyGo Pte. Ltd. (SimplyGo)'s appointed vendor on behalf of MOE. The SSC serves as the student's identification card and can be used for concessionary travel on public transport and to borrow library books from the National Library Board and the school's library, amongst other usage.

The photo-taking session for our school is scheduled on 14 February 2025. Following the photo-taking, P1 students will get their SSCs by mid-March 2025, while the photos for P6 students will be used for the printing of Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary One in 2026. For P1 students, while pending the receipt of the SSCs, students can continue to use the Child Concession Card for free travel on public transport until 30 April 2025.

L. SEXUALITY EDUCATION IN THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM – THE GROWING YEARS

(Mdm Siti Khamsiah, SH CCE)

Sexuality Education lessons are conducted in the school for primary 5 and primary 6 students under the ambit of Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) with the following objectives:

- To help students make wise, responsible and informed decisions through the provision of accurate, current and age-appropriate **knowledge** on human sexuality and the consequences of sexual activity;
- To help students know themselves and build healthy and rewarding relationships through the acquisition of **social and emotional skills** of self-awareness, management of their thoughts, feelings and behaviours, development of empathy for others, possession of effective communication, problem-solving and decision-making skills; and

- To help students develop a moral compass, respect for themselves and for others as sexual beings, premised on the heterosexual married couple forming a nuclear family as the basic unit of society, through the inculcation of **positive mainstream values and attitudes** about sexuality.

The lessons are taught by only MOE-trained Sexuality Education teachers and cover the following dimensions:

- Physical: Physical sexual maturation and intimacy, the physiology of sex and human reproduction;
- Emotional: Sexual attitudes and feelings towards self and others;
- Social: Sexual norms and behaviour and their legal, cultural and societal implications; and
- Ethical: Values and moral systems related to sexuality.

Do visit the school's Sexuality Education webpage <https://www.concordpri.moe.edu.sg/for-parents/Sexuality-Education-P5-and-6/sexuality-education-p5-and-p6/> for more information.

M. CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

(Mdm Teoh Kah Min, HOD MTL)

The school will be celebrating Chinese New Year on Tuesday, 28 January 2025. Our students will have the opportunities to learn more about the Chinese customs and traditions through the festive-themed performances put up by the Mother Tongue Languages -

On the day of the Chinese New Year celebration, all students will report to school at 7.30am and be dismissed from school at 10.30am. The school bus vendor will be informed of the early dismissal on this day. There will be **no school on Wednesday, 29 January 2025 and Thursday, 30 January 2025**. School will resume for all students on Friday, 31 January 2025. As part of the school's effort to instil responsibility in our students, extended family holidays during this period will not be endorsed by the school.

To create moments of joy among the students and immerse in the festive mood, all students are allowed to come to school in their festive attire, with white school shoes and socks. The skirts or dresses for girls must be at least knee length and accessories are not allowed. Students should only bring a small bag containing water bottle, pencil case and a storybook.

On behalf of the school, we would like to wish all who are celebrating the Lunar New Year a Happy and Blessed Year of the Snake.

N. Total Defence Day Commemoration 2025

(Mdm Tan Yoke Yin, HOD CCE)

The school will be commemorating Total Defence Day on Monday, 10 February 2025. The commemoration will be held in the hall with an assembly programme that highlights the importance of staying united in the face of adversity. Reflective classroom activities and lesson packages will be conducted after the assembly programme to reinforce the message of together we keep Singapore strong.

O. Museum Based Learning Journeys
(Mdm Siti Khamsiah, SH CCE)

Cohort learning journeys form one of the key Student Development Experiences (SDE) for primary school students as part of the refreshed Character and Citizenship Education curriculum.

The museum-based cohort learning journeys support students' learning in National Education & Social Studies by deepening their understanding of the heritage and culture of Singapore beyond the classroom context.

Our Primary 3 to 6 students will be visiting the respective sites listed below. The museum-based learning experiences will be guided and facilitated by trained museum educators. Form Teachers of the classes and parent volunteers will be accompanying the students during the Learning Journeys.

Primary 3 - Geylang Serai Heritage Gallery: Tales of the Emporium

Primary 4 - Kreta Ayer Heritage Gallery: Culture Archives

Primary 5 - Indian Heritage Centre: Sites and Sounds of Little India

Primary 6 - Asian Civilisations Museum: Asian Adventures

P. Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Identification Exercise 2025
(Mr Kumaran V, Year Head [Middle Primary])

Every year, the school conducts on behalf of the Gifted Education Branch (GEB), the annual GEP Identification Exercise for Primary 3 students who have registered to participate in GEP Screening Exercise. Please refer to the table below for the tentative schedule provided by MOE.

Stage	Date	Participants	Papers
GEP Screening Exercise	21 August 2025 (Thursday)	Primary 3 pupils <u>Note:</u> It is not compulsory for P3 pupils to take part.	English Language Mathematics
GEP Selection Exercise	14 & 15 October 2025 (Tuesday & Wednesday) <u>Note:</u> Week of PSLE Marking Exercise (13 - 15 Oct)	Only P3 pupils shortlisted by GEB after the GEP Screening Exercise.	English Language Mathematics General Ability

The school will send out registration forms to all P3 pupils for the GEP Screening Exercise in July 2025. It is not compulsory for the pupils to take part.

The GEP Identification Exercise aims to identify suitable pupils with high intellectual potential. Test-preparation activities could inflate pupils' scores and not reflect their actual potential. Pupils who are not ready to handle the intellectual rigour and demands of the Gifted Education Programme will struggle with the enriched curriculum and not benefit fully from it.

Q. Learning Platforms for Students

(Miss Norishah Anwar, HOD ICT [Covering])

(i) Student Learning Space (SLS)

The SLS is one of MOE's key initiatives that aims to encourage students to take greater ownership of their learning through meaningful use of technology. It is an online platform where students have access to quality learning resources that enable them to carry out their learning beyond the confines of the classroom, and at their own pace.

All Primary 1 to Primary 6 students have been provided with a SLS account to facilitate their learning beyond the classroom. Students can log in to SLS using their SLS or MIMS Account Username and Password, which can be found on page 25 of their **Student Handbook 2025**. Parents and students may access the school website for more information on login-related matters concerning the SLS and Frequently Asked Questions.

If your child/ward is unable to log in to the SLS Portal, please complete the online form at <https://go.gov.sg/concordsls>. Alternatively, you may inform your child's/ward's Form Teacher. We will try our best to respond to you within 3 working days.

(ii) Student iCON

Student iCON is a suite of Google apps that helps to better support students' learning and collaboration with others. All Primary 1 to Primary 6 students have been provided with an individualised email account. This is a managed service leveraging Google Mail as part of Google Workspace. The Student iCON email will be used throughout your child's/ward's general education school life (i.e., until the end of secondary school/JC).

Student iCON can be accessed from <https://workspace.google.com/dashboard>. Students may log in to Student iCON using their MIMS Username and Password, which can be found on page 25 of their **Student Handbook 2025**. Please note that the MIMS Username is also the student's iCON email address.

If your child/ward is unable to log in to Student iCON, please complete the online form at <https://go.gov.sg/concordsls>. Alternatively, you may inform your child's/ward's Form Teacher. We will try our best to respond to you within 3 working days.

R. School's Calendar of Events

(Miss Norishah Anwar, HOD ICT [Covering])

The school has uploaded the Calendar of Events for Term 1 and updated dates of school closures on the school website (<https://www.concordpri.moe.edu.sg/>) under the 'For Parents' section. We strongly encourage you to refer to the calendar and dates of school closure, and take note of your child's programmes for the term. These may include learning journeys and niche CCA-related activities.

S. Parent Teacher Meeting (P1 students only)

(Mrs Lau Bee Ha, Year Head [Lower Primary])

The school will be engaging primary 1 parents on 13 March and 14 March 2025 for the Parent Teacher Meeting. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend the session to better understand their child's progress and level expectations. The sessions will be held either online or face to face.

- 1) Date : 13 March & 14 March 2025
- 2) Time : 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Further details will be provided via Parent's Gateway by your child's Form Teacher nearer to the date of the session.

T. Maintaining an acceptable schoolbag weight

By the end of the first week of Term 1, the teachers would have collected most of your child's books to be kept in the classroom. Certain textbooks will remain with him/her for ease of reference and revision.

Now is also a good time to check if your child's schoolbag is of an acceptable weight. Here are some tips to aid you:

1. The weight of the child's bag should not be more than 15% of his/her weight;
2. If the bag is heavy for you, it is too heavy for the child;
3. Check the bag periodically to ensure that your child brings only what is necessary.

Prepared By:



Mrs Jenny Kam
Vice-Principal (Academic)

Endorsed By:



Mrs Quek-Chua Leng Yin
Principal

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Nelson Mandela

