

## From the Year Head's Desk

Term 2 Week 7

2 May 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Week 7! In this week's newsletter, we feature another 3 Upper Primary teachers. The first teacher has just embarked on his teaching journey, the second one has a wealth of experience teaching English Language, while the third teacher has a deep love for Science! Let's read on to find out more about them.

Hello, everyone! My name is Mr See Kai Wen and I am a beginning teacher. I graduated from the National Institute of Education last year This year, I am the form teacher of 5D.

Who inspired me to be a teacher? I was inspired by the teachers I have had the privilege to meet as I navigated through my student life. They taught with much enthusiasm and passion, which highly shaped my motivation to join the teaching fraternity.

I love to use stories and real-life examples in my teaching as these make the learning of Mathematics more relatable for my students. I believe in helping my students become curious about what they are learning. Creating a positive and constructive classroom culture helps my students be more engaged. This will open up their minds to achieving greater possibilities. Mathematical concepts can be abstract and hard to grasp sometimes. Hence I do my best to break information down into bite-size pieces for my students to digest at their pace. To see the 'eureka' moment on my students' faces when they finally grasp the concept really makes my day!

I used to be a hip hop dancer during my university days and still try to go to dancing classes from time to time now in my free time. Working out and sweating it out helps me de-stress and take my mind off work. The worst thing about being a teacher is that I will never be able to book cheap air tickets!





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Hi! I am Mdm Vijayletchumi d/o Periasamy. I am an experienced English teacher. Concord Primary School is the second school that I have taught. This year, I teach English Language to two classes, 6C and 4C.

I have always believed that teachers and students should have a trusted relationship. The rapport between the teacher and students is essential in a classroom to determine the enriching experiences both can get through the learning and teaching process.

Firstly, respecting students and listening to their concerns are necessary to build trust before going into teaching the academic subjects. Secondly, reflecting on teaching practices to enhance students' learning is another crucial aspect that I use as a powerful tool for sharpening my skills in teaching so that I can customize my lessons to suit my students' ability. Thirdly, teaching is not about giving answers but guiding students with steps to get the solutions. Lastly, I feel students learn better when they reflect on their mistakes. It is the learning process that counts, not the answers.

Giving opportunity to every child in the classroom through class discussions and allowing them to work as a team during collaborative work are examples of how I conduct my lessons to engage and encourage students during lessons. I always get asked how I have sustained my passion for teaching after 26 years in the education service. The answer is simple. Seeing the joy in my students when they can apply what I have taught, and ultimately achieving their desired academic goals is what spurs me on. I am honoured to have played a small role in value-adding to their learning.

Believe in yourself and others. That is and always be my teaching belief.

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Hello! My name is Mdm Christine Tan Shi Qi and I am the Level Head for Science in Concord Primary Schol. I started teaching in May 2014 and have enjoyed it ever since. I am also the form teacher of 6F this year.

It is important to show my students how Science is used in the real world. When students see the connections between what they are learning to their everyday experiences, it motivates them to find out more and deepens their understanding.

I enjoy sharing personal experiences and daily phenomena with my students as a lesson starter to spark class discussions. This is also how I model observation skills, curiosity and a love for learning to my students. I believe that students learn better by doing and reflecting on those experiences. Experiential learning can take the form of projects, investigations or hands-on experiments. They could also be an extension of activities, such as learning trails, farming and hydroponics.



During my stint at the Academy of Singapore Teachers, I had the privilege of working with different education stakeholders and agencies outside of MOE. I was able to interact closely with industry leaders in sustainable farming. These interactions broadened my perspectives and allowed me to share with my students how innovations in science and technology are applied in the real world.

The world would not be where it is today if people had not adopted scientific attitudes and mindsets to innovate and push new frontiers. This is why Science teachers have an essential job of inspiring students to become future leaders of Science and Innovation.

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We hope you have enjoyed reading snippets of the lives of these Concord teachers. Until we meet again in the next newsletter!

From the desk of: Mr Kumaran V (Year Head, Upper Primary) Mdm Nur Jihan Kahar (Assistant Year Head, Upper Primary)

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