



Da Qiao Primary School

A Flourishing School with Happy and Confident Learners

COMMUNIQUÉ – Term 1

2 January 2018

School Leaders' Message

Dear Parents/Guardians

We would like to welcome everyone back to the new academic year. We are heartened by the performance of the P6 cohort in the 2017 PSLE where most subjects achieved passes above the National Average and all our students proceeded to Secondary Schools and Specialised Institutions. Staying true to our philosophy 'Everyone Can Flourish', we will sustain our momentum of customising learning experiences to engage students and create opportunities for them to Grow, Strive and Excel in their flourishing journey.

To facilitate more curriculum time for students to experience the joy of learning and shift the focus towards the holistic development of students, we are pleased to share that from 2018, we will remove the Common Test component in Term 1 and 3 respectively. To create space for students to bond over what they enjoy, the school will also schedule a one-hour recess break (YOLO Recess) 3 times per term for free play and creative engagement outside the classroom.

The name of the merged school has been announced and we recognise the sentiments of the DQ community due to the strong attachment to the school. Moving ahead, we will work closely with Jing Shan Primary to preserve the history, heritage and culture of the school. In our preparation towards a seamless merger, the two schools have started to align our T&L practices on subject Schemes Of Work, booklists and assessment guidelines. We will also identify platforms for students and staff of both schools to forge shared experiences.

2018 will be an eventful year for all in the DQ family. We look forward to your continued belief in and support for the school. If parents have any further queries or concerns over the merger, please feel free to contact the School Leaders at 6458 8225 or the Chairman of the PSG, Mdm Gina Lai at 9759 1170. With your partnership, we will end 2018 on a high, where the best practices of 2 schools will be merged into a new eco-system that will benefit and better serve the students.

Mrs Joyce Ang (Principal)

Mr Azhar Mohamed Hussain (Vice-Principal)

Highlights

Snack Break

To promote better focus and engagement among students during lessons, Da Qiao Primary School will continue to implement a mid-day snack break during curriculum time. The break is meant for students who are hungry to snack on food items which are easily consumed (e.g. a box of raisins, an apple, 3 to 4 pieces of biscuits, etc.). Students will be allowed to consume their light snacks between 12noon and 12.30 pm during lesson time. We would like to encourage all parents to assist their children in packing healthy snacks which meet the criteria above.

Temperature-Taking Exercise (Friday, 5 January 2018)

There will be a temperature-taking exercise on Friday, 5 January 2018. Your child will have to bring his Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) to school for checking on 3 January and 4 January. Students can purchase new ODTs from the school bookshop at \$4.50 each if their current ODTs are faulty.

Important Dates

Major Events

19 January	Parents' Connexion
15 February	Total Defence Day / Chinese New Year Celebration
9 March	Games Carnival

Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) for P3 to P6 Students

CCAs for P3 to P6 students will start on Wednesday, 10 January during curriculum time. Please note that only students who are involved in representing the school for competitive events are required to attend extra CCA training in the afternoons. For these additional sessions, consent forms will be issued to parents.

Programme for Active Learning (PAL) and Life Skills Development Programme (LSDP) for Primary 2

PAL and LSDP consist of a range of enrichment that provides learning experiences to enhance students' life skills and strengthen peer relations. PAL and LSDP will be held during curriculum time on Wednesdays while the other levels have their CCAs.

Announcements

Safety Message

The safety and wellbeing of your child is our foremost concern. The school will educate and remind our students on the importance of personal safety and self-care. If your child commutes to school on his or her own, we would like to encourage you to take some time to discuss with your child the safest route to and from school. We strongly advise that P2 students be fetched by parents/guardians before/after school. All students are to observe the kerb drill and cross at designated points.

Parents' Connexion for P2 to P6 (19 January 2018)

You are cordially invited to attend the school's briefing for parents. This briefing will provide an overview of the key programmes and activities that your child will be involved in for the year. Parents' Connexion will be held on Friday, 19 January 2018 from 7pm to 8.30pm. Please indicate your availability in the Reply Slip attached and submit it to the Form Teacher through your child, latest by Wednesday, 10 January.

Total Defence Day & Chinese New Year Celebrations (15 February 2018)

The school will be celebrating Total Defence Day and Chinese New Year on Thursday, 15 February. **School hours will be from 7.30am to 9.30am.** Students will wear their school uniform on that day. Scheduled school holiday for the festive period will be from Friday, 16 February till Monday, 19 February.

Games Carnival (9 March 2018)

In line with the school's objective of promoting healthy living and physical wellbeing, the school will be organizing a Games Carnival on Friday, 9 March. We will provide more details closer to the event.

"Kindness Sticks" Campaign

To augment the effort of the school's community outreach and engagement programme, the "Kindness Sticks" campaign is initiated to serve the Ang Mo Kio community. Through the collaboration with Songhe Rice and SBS Transit, the school aims to raise 1000kg of rice which would be distributed to the less fortunate. More details will be provided at a later date. We look forward to your active participation with your child in this meaningful activity.