



16 November 2016

## OPEN LETTER *November 2016*

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We are into the last week of the academic year for 2016. As the year draws to a close, it gives us great pleasure to thank one and all for being part of the Zhangde Family.

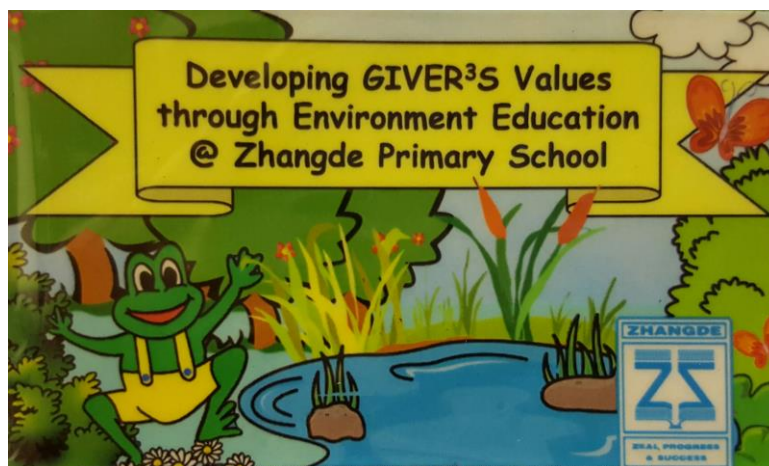
### ***Recent Achievements...***

#### ***1) Singapore Environment Council – StarHub School Green Awards (SGA) 2016***

The school has once again attained the Lotus Sustained Achievement Award in the Singapore Environment Council – StarHub School Green Awards (SGA) 2016. Administered by the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) and sponsored by StarHub, the SGA is aimed at educating and inspiring learners of all ages on issues such as waste minimisation, resource conservation and the greening of the school grounds. This award is designed as an environmental audit programme for all schools in Singapore. Students work together in teams to audit their school and submit results together with a report on their environmental efforts. Through this, students get to gain a better understanding on the environmental impact of their actions in school. In addition, students also engage or participate in various environmental programmes and/or activities to raise awareness about environmental issues within and/or to external communities and organisations.

This award would not have been possible without the consistent hard work put in by our environment leaders, environment club members, Science Department teachers, our school operational and support staff and last but not least, our parents who faithfully tended to our gardens weekly and assisted in the weekly collection of newspapers. Kudos to everyone!

In line with our school's Applied Learning Programme of *Developing GIVER<sup>3</sup>S Values Through Environment Education*, we will continue our efforts to further develop our ALP in 2017.



**Below are competitions which students participated in 2016 but had not been highlighted in previous Open Letters:**

**2) Raffles Institution Primary Mathematics World Contest 2016**

The following pupils took part in the Raffles Institution Primary Mathematics World Contest 2016 on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2016. They achieved the following results. Well done, Zhangde-rens!

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Award</b>
P5 Graciousness	Tang Yu Kai	Distinction
P5 Integrity	Justin Low En Kai	Distinction
P5 Integrity	Xander Lim Zheng De	Credit
P5 Integrity	Yong Chuen Jet	Credit
P6 Integrity	Aceline Leong Jun Ning	Credit
P6 Integrity	Ng Xin Yao	Credit

**3) SMOPS (Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools) 2016**

Thow Jia Le Caleb from P6 Graciousness participated in the Singapore Mathematical Olympiad for Primary Schools 2016 on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and achieved the Silver award. Well done, Caleb!

**4) Whampoa CC Taekwondo Poomsae Championship 2016**

In the championship held on 13<sup>th</sup> August, our students from the Taekwondo CCA participated in the Junior Division category. Well done, children! The detailed results are as follows:

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>	<b>Award</b>
1	White-Yellow	Muhammad Munawwar Bin Sheihu Abdul Khadar	P3 Graciousness	Bronze
		Bryan Lee Guo Wen	P5 Empathy	Bronze
		Lee Yu Deng Ethan	P5 Graciousness	Bronze
		Leong Yuh Hua	P5 Integrity	Bronze
2	Yellow- -Green	Norashikin Binte Masrifin	P3 Versatility	Bronze
		Yeo Du Jie Aaron	P4 Versatility	Bronze
		Tang Woon Yee	P5 Responsibility	Bronze
		Soon Jun Wen Keith	P5 Sincerity	Bronze
3	Yellow	Crystal Jade Tan	P3 Sincerity	Gold
		Danelle Kaylee Khoo Bacomo	P4 Integrity	Gold
		Nur Nely Sabrina Binte Muhammad Imran	P4 Versatility	Gold
		Elvin Kaulin Wong Xin Yu	P5 Empathy	Gold
		Goh Jia En Michelle	P5 Responsibility	Gold
4	Green	Bryan Lee Guo Wen	P5 Empathy	Bronze
		Toh Jia Liang, Joel	P5 Empathy	Bronze
		Elvin Kaulin Wong Xin Yu	P5 Empathy	Bronze
		Lee Yu Deng Ethan	P5 Graciousness	Bronze
		Ang Jun Jie Glenn	P5 Versatility	Bronze
5	Blue	Lee Yu Deng Ethan	P5 Graciousness	Bronze
		Leong Yuh Hua	P5 Integrity	Bronze

## ***Important Announcements ...***

### **5) *Parents Survey 2016***

As the school year is drawing to an end for 2016, the school is gathering feedback from our stakeholders on our school programmes and processes for our review and continuous improvement. Your feedback is very important to us as it provides us valuable insights into the impact of the programmes and processes that have been put in place in the school. We would appreciate it if you could complete the 2016 Parents Survey online by **Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> November** via the online form accessible at the following website: <http://www.mconline.sg>. Please note that the Login ID is your child's BC No. and kindly check the password from your child. Pupils with no access to the internet at home may collect a hardcopy of the Parents Survey form from the general office. For further clarifications, please contact the school Administration Manager, Ms Linda Lau, at Tel: 62740357.

### **6) *Online Travel Declaration for P2 to P6 pupils (November/December School Holidays)***

With the approaching November/December school holidays, you may be planning holidays to overseas destinations for the family. To help us safeguard your child's health and that of all children in the school, pupils are required to declare their travel plans whenever they leave the country during the holidays. We seek the cooperation of parents/guardians in ensuring this. Please submit your child's travel declaration online by **Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> November**, via the online form accessible at the following website: <http://www.mconline.sg>. Please note that the Login ID is your child's BC No. and kindly check the password from your child. Instructions on how to do so can be found on our school website accessible at <http://www.zhangdepri.moe.edu.sg/>. Pupils with no access to the internet at home may collect a hardcopy of the travel declaration form from the general office. Primary 1 pupils must complete and return the hardcopy travel declaration to the Form Teacher by Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> November. If you have not returned the form, please do so by **Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November**.

For further clarifications, please contact the school Administration Manager, Ms Linda Lau at Tel: 62740357.

### **7) *Annual Prize-Giving & Appreciation Day – Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> November***

The Annual Prize-Giving and Appreciation Day will be held on the last day of school, Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> November. The event will be conducted in our school hall from 9.00 am to 12.30 pm. In order for all participants and guests to witness the celebrations in comfort, we will arrange chairs for all. However, this will limit the number of participants and guests that we can accommodate. As such, this event will only be opened to our P6 pupils, prize recipients, performers and their parents. The rest of the P1 to P5 pupils **do not** need to come to school on this day. In order not to disappoint pupils who are not invited for the event, a full dress rehearsal of the performances will be held on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November during school hours.

### **8) *2016 STUDENT TRANSFER EXERCISE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS (STEPS)***

**What is STEPS?** The aim of STEPS is to facilitate the transfer of students who have relocated to another address, to schools nearer to their new residences. These students will be considered for available vacancies in a school subject to the following eligibility criteria:

- (a) The child is a Singapore Citizen or Singapore Permanent Resident;
- (b) The child is currently attending Primary 1 to Primary 5 in the year of application;
- (c) The parents/guardians have changed their residential addresses between 1 January 2015 and 18 November 2016 (both dates inclusive).

**Note:** All applicants for Primary 5 and 6 students in academic year 2017 will be posted to a school with vacancies for the level regardless of subject combination. The subject combination that a student takes at the receiving school is to be determined jointly by the receiving school and parents.

This year, the annual STEPS exercise will be conducted from 18 November to 16 December. The application period of the exercise in schools is from **21 to 23 November**. You may approach the school if you need assistance on the registration from 21 to 23 November from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. An information sheet on STEPS is attached with this Open Letter.

Parents of STEPS applicants will have an additional option to register their child/children via the STEPS Internet System (STEPS-IS) from **18 to 22 November** at <http://www.moe.gov.sg>. A step-by-step guide is available on the school website.

### 9) *Edusave Awards*

Edusave Awards are given by the government annually to Singaporean pupils to enhance educational opportunities and motivate pupils to excel in schools in academic and non-academic domains. The three broad categories of Edusave Awards are:

- a) Excellence in Character and Values
  - Edusave Character Award
- b) Excellence in Non-Academic Achievements
  - Edusave Awards for Achievement, Good Leadership & Service (EAGLES)
- c) Excellence in Academic Achievements
  - Edusave Scholarship
  - Edusave Merit Bursary
  - Edusave Good Progress Award

Please refer to the flyer for Edusave Awards for Primary Schools attached to this Open Letter for details.

### *School Matters – 2017*

#### 10) *New Academic Year*

The new academic year will begin on **Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**. All pupils will need to report to the school hall in the morning at **7.30 a.m. sharp**. We seek the cooperation of all parents to help us to instil in our pupils the value of punctuality. The school hours will be as follows:

**Monday – Friday: 7.30 a.m. to 1.45 p.m.**

#### 11) *Purchase of Books and School Attire*

The booklist for 2017 will be given to your child when they return their report books on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> November. The dates and time for the sale of the books and school uniforms in school are as follows:

##### a) **Books and Stationery**

Month	Date	Time	Remarks
November	11	3.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.	P1s only
	23	9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	P1s and P2s
	24	9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	P3s and P4s
	25	9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	P5s and P6s
	26	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	For all levels
	28, 29	9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	For all levels
December	1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 12, 19, 27, 28, 29, 30	9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	For all levels
	3, 10, 24	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	For all levels
	15, 16	9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	For FAS only
	17	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	

**b) School Attire\* (Uniform, Socks and Shoes)**

Month	Date	Time	Remarks
November	11	3.00 pm – 6.00 pm	P1s only
	25, 29	9.00 am – 2.00 pm	For all levels
December	15, 16, 29	9.00 am – 2.00 pm	For FAS and all levels

\*School attire may also be purchased from the Bookshop on the dates stated in (a) above.

Alternatively, you may purchase the school uniform at: -

Yangtze Kiang Tailor  
Blk 26, Teck Whye Lane,  
#01 – 180/182, Singapore 680026  
Tel: 67691260 / 67692053

Please note that pupils are required to wear black shoes. You may also buy the shoes from the open market. The shoes must be **plain black shoes** without fancy designs.

**c) Name Tags**

All students must have a name tag ironed on to their uniforms for easy identification. **The nametag should be placed just above the school badge.** If you have not purchased the name tags for your child, kindly proceed to the school bookshop to purchase them. The cost is \$4.00 for 6 pieces of name tags.

**12) Bus Transport Services**

The school has engaged Revolving Transport Pte Ltd to provide school bus services for our pupils. As we are nearing the end of the school year, we would like to inform parents of the following processes that we have put in place this year in discussion with the bus vendor.

For existing pupils taking the school bus in 2016

- You would have received the form from the bus vendor on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> October. Pupils should have submitted the form to the bus vendor or general office by **Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> November**.
- If the form is not submitted by **latest Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November**, it would be taken that parents do not wish to continue the school bus service in 2017.

For new pupils applying to take the school bus

All interested parents can come to the general office to collect a bus transport form. The form is to be submitted to the bus vendor or general office by **latest Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November**. The bus vendor will contact the parents and inform them of the pick-up time and location by mid-December 2016.

**13) Donation of Used Textbooks and School Uniforms**

In order to provide our children with an authentic opportunity to recycle, we would like to encourage them to donate the uniforms that they have out-grown as well as their used textbooks anytime from Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> November to Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November. We accept all textbooks which are in good condition, except Science books as the PSLE curriculum includes contents from P3 to P6. Thus, your child will need his/her Science textbook later. Kindly deposit the books at the tables located just outside the general office.

**Applicable to P6 parents only**

**14) 2016 Secondary One (S1) Posting Exercise**

Your child has been given the S1 Information Booklets. The booklets provide useful information for you and your child in choosing secondary schools. As part of our post-PSLE activities, we have also organised talks and workshops in collaborations with various secondary schools. We hope that through these activities, our P6 pupils are better prepared for the next phase of their lives.

For more information, parents and students may refer to the *SI Posting Exercise* (<https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/secondary-one-posting-exercise>) and *School Information Service (SIS)* (<http://sis.moe.gov.sg/>) websites.

### **15) More Opportunities for Secondary School Students To Develop Talent in Art and Music**

To enable more students to further develop their passion and talent in art and music, MOE announced on 27 May 2015, the extension of the Enhanced Art Programme (EAP) and Enhanced Music Programme (EMP) to seven more schools, and the appointment of three schools that will host the Art Elective Programme (AEP) or Music Elective Programme (MEP) as AEP and MEP centres. These AEP or MEP centres will accept students from other schools into their respective AEP or MEP.

The EAP and EMP are **two-year programmes** offered to upper secondary students enrolled in EAP/EMP schools. The programmes provide greater opportunities for students with a keen disposition and ability in art and music to develop their talent, leading to the GCE O-Level Art/Music or Higher Art/Music examinations. Students will also benefit from exposure to the arts and creative industries in the form of master-classes with artists/musicians and studio sessions and visits by practitioners. **Primary 6 students who are interested in the EAP and EMP are advised to include these schools among their six choices when selecting their secondary schools. The list of schools offering the EAP or EMP in 2017 is:**

<b>List of EAP and EMP Schools Year</b>	<b>EAP (Enhanced Art Programme)</b>	<b>EMP (Enhanced Music Programme)</b>
Existing EAP/EMP schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CHIJ Katong Convent</li> <li>• Nan Chiau High School</li> <li>• Naval Base Secondary School</li> <li>• Ngee Ann Secondary School</li> <li>• Orchid Park Secondary School</li> <li>• St Andrew's Secondary School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School</li> <li>• Chung Cheng High School (Main)</li> <li>• St Margaret's Secondary School</li> </ul>
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jurong West Secondary School</li> <li>• Meridian Secondary School</li> <li>• New Town Secondary School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yuhua Secondary School</li> </ul>

### AEP/EMP Centres

The AEP and MEP are **four-year programmes** offered to students enrolled in AEP/MEP Schools. The programmes aim to develop well-rounded leaders who are supportive of the Arts, and focus on in-depth and critical learning to deepen students' conceptual understanding of Art/Music, leading to Higher Art/Music at GCE O-Level. Since 2016, National Junior College (AEP), Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) and Dunman High School (for MEP) will extend their respective four-year secondary level programmes to students in non AEP/MEP schools. Primary 6 students who display or demonstrate art/music talent are encouraged to select the AEP/MEP schools among their six choices. The list of schools offering the AEP or MEP is as follows:

<b>List of AEP/MEP schools at Secondary Level</b>	
Schools with AEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bukit Panjang Government High School</li> <li>• CHIJ (Toa Payoh) Secondary</li> <li>• Hwa Chong Institution (High School)</li> <li>• National Junior College (<b>AEP CENTRE</b>)</li> <li>• Nanyang Girls' High School</li> <li>• Victoria School</li> <li>• Zhonghua Secondary School</li> </ul>

Schools with MEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anglo-Chinese School (I)* (<b>MEP CENTRE</b>)</li> <li>• Catholic High School (Secondary)</li> <li>• CHIJ St Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary)</li> <li>• Crescent Girls' School</li> <li>• Dunman High School (<b>MEP CENTRE</b>)</li> <li>• Methodist Girls' School (Secondary)</li> <li>• Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)</li> <li>• Raffles Institution</li> <li>• Tanjong Katong Girls' School</li> <li>• Temasek Junior College</li> </ul>
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### **Eligibility and Application Procedure for external students to AEP/MEP Centres**

Primary 6 students who are not posted to AEP/MEP schools may apply as external students at the three centres for the respective programmes by submitting their application through their secondary schools in January 2017. Shortlisted students will be required to attend a selection exercise. Successful students will then commence their AEP/MEP lessons at the respective centres beginning Term 2 of 2017. All 3 centres will accept students of both genders. Further details on the application procedure will be available via the MOE AEP (<https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/other/art-elective-programme/>) and MEP (<https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/secondary/other/music-elective-programme/>) websites by end December.

### ***Calendar of Events for November***

Please refer to Annex 1 for the calendar of events for the last 2 weeks of November.

### ***Concluding Remarks...***

This Open Letter is also dedicated to all our graduating P6 pupils. It is indeed hard to imagine that the little boys and girls who joined us six years ago have blossomed and will soon be ready to embark on their next phase of growth and development. We wish them well and hope that they will always keep close to their hearts the teachings of the GIVER<sup>3</sup>S values that we have taught them.

**Our dear Primary 6 Zhangderens**, remember to express your gratitude to all the teachers and non-teaching staff that have impacted you in the years that you have been at Zhangde Primary School. Your family members have also played a crucial role in developing you to be fine boys and girls of character.

I would like to leave you with a few quotes from the late SR Nathan. May his words of wisdom and life experiences continue to inspire you!

#### ***Sincerity & Empathy***

*It does not matter whether you are young or old, rich or poor.  
Your every act of kindness and generosity will impact someone,  
often in ways we may not be able to imagine.*

#### ***Zeal, Progress & Success***

*...there will always be noise in the environment, you can't stop it.  
You don't do it because you want to leave a legacy.  
You do the best you can."*



### ***Resilience & Versatility***

*Our choices will determine Singapore's future in the 21st century.*

*If we are fearful and reluctant to adapt to new challenges,  
we will lose ground amidst a changing world, and*

*Singapore will become a nation divided by wealth, race and religion.*

*But if we respond boldly and creatively to our challenges,  
we will make Singapore secure and prosperous, harmonious and cohesive –  
a country that Singaporeans are proud of and love,  
and that other nations respect and admire.*

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Remember that it's through life experiences that you strengthen your character and build resilience. Here's wishing all of you every success in your future endeavours.

May you continue to always give and do your best and embrace all learning opportunities that come your way! ***Carpe Diem (Seize the Day)***

As we bid farewell to our graduating pupils, it's also timely to recognise a group of parents who have contributed whole-heartedly to the school. They will be 'graduating' with their children. Thank you, parents! Your presence will be greatly missed!

Do help us to continue to reinforce our GIVER<sup>3</sup>S values at home. Have a most meaningful and blessed time with your child this holiday.

Here's wishing all of you good health always and we look forward to meeting you again in 2017!

Warmest Regards,

Miss Loh Sing Huay  
Principal



| Day        | Date          | Activities                                      | Pupils Involved                        | Time            |
|------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Mon</b> | <b>14-Nov</b> | P5 Level Talk Rehearsal                         | Selected P5 pupils                     | 2.15pm - 3.45pm |
|            |               | Cyber-wellness Ambassador Training              | P4/5 CW Ambassadors                    | 2.15pm - 3.30pm |
|            |               | Badminton Extra Practice                        | Selected Badminton players             | 2.30pm - 4pm    |
|            |               | Indian Dance Extra Practice                     | Selected Indian Dance Pupils           | 2.30pm - 4.30pm |
| <b>Tue</b> | <b>15-Nov</b> | Meet-the-Parents Session                        | All teachers                           | 8am - 5pm       |
| <b>Wed</b> | <b>16-Nov</b> | Basketball Extra Practice (Boys)                | Selected P3-P5 Boys Basketball players | 2.30pm - 4.30pm |
|            |               | Chinese Dance Extra Practice                    | Selected Chinese Dancers               | 2.15pm - 4.15pm |
| <b>Thu</b> | <b>17-Nov</b> | P6 Graduation Day / Promotion Day               | All pupils                             | Curriculum Time |
|            |               | Badminton Extra Practice                        | Selected Badminton players             | 2.30pm - 4pm    |
|            |               | Indian Dance Extra Practice                     | Selected Indian Dance Pupils           | 2.30pm - 4.30pm |
| <b>Fri</b> | <b>18-Nov</b> | Annual Prize-Giving & Appreciation Day          | Selected pupils                        | 8am - 12.30pm   |
| <b>Sat</b> | <b>19-Nov</b> | BB Parade 26 - EOY Outing                       | BB Boys                                | 8.30am - 4.45pm |
|            |               | Li Ning Invitational Badminton Championship     | Selected Badminton players             | 7.15am - 2.30pm |
| <b>Tue</b> | <b>22-Nov</b> | Annual Sports Camp 2016 (Day 1)                 | Selected staff & pupils                | 8am - 5pm       |
|            |               | Volleyball Extra Practice for P2 pupils         | Selected P2 pupils                     | 2.15pm - 4.15pm |
| <b>Wed</b> | <b>23-Nov</b> | Annual Sports Camp 2016 (Day 2)                 | Selected staff & pupils                | 8am - 5pm       |
|            |               | Volleyball Extra Practice for P2 pupils         | Selected P2 pupils                     | 2.15pm - 4.15pm |
| <b>Thu</b> | <b>24-Nov</b> | Annual Sports Camp 2016 (Day 3)                 | Selected staff & pupils                | 12.45pm - 5pm   |
|            |               | 5th National Young Shutterbugs Competition 2016 | Selected Infocomm Club Members         | 7.15am - 5pm    |

*Information is updated and correct at the time of printing.*

Legend:

G – Graciousness      V – Versatility      Rt – Respect      Re – Resilience  
I – Integrity      E – Empathy      Ry – Responsibility      S – Sincerity