



Z H A N G D E P R I M A R Y S C H O O L

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31st October 2017

OPEN LETTER *October & November 2017*

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Warmest greetings from Zhangde Primary School! In a twinkle of an eye, the months of September and October flew past so quickly and we are now into the last week of October and moving towards November.

Children's Day 2017

This October marked a milestone in Zhangde's history with the whole school celebrating Children's Day at Delta Sports Complex on 5th October. It was also our 1st collaboration with ActiveSG whose aim is to promote a sporting lifestyle through schools and motivate each and every one of us to adopt a healthy lifestyle. The staff and students had great fun and were fully engaged through the myriad of activities that included the Lower Primary Sports Day and Sports Carnival for Primary 3 – 6 students held that morning. It was indeed a memorable day for all! We would also like to put on record our sincerest appreciation to the **90+ strong team of parent volunteers** who came forth to lend their support on the day of the event. The event would not have been a success without everyone's contribution!

Deepavali 2017

Deepavali was celebrated on 18th October this year. The school would like to wish all our Hindu and Sikh staff and students a blessed Deepavali!

Singapore Environment Council – StarHub School Green Awards (SGA) 2017



The school has once again attained the Lotus Sustained Achievement Award in the Singapore Environment Council – StarHub School Green Awards (SGA) 2017. 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 (ALP) of *Developing GIVER'S Values Through Environment Education*, we will continue our efforts to further strengthen our ALP in 2018 and provide students with a holistic school experience.

Singapore Red Cross International Bazaar

As part of our CCA-initiated Values-In-Action (VIA) programme, our Needlework Club teachers and students set up a stall at the Singapore Red Cross International Bazaar 2017 on Saturday, 23th September 2017. The Red Cross International Bazaar is a charity bazaar event to raise funds for Singapore Red Cross's local humanitarian services which are providing assistance to the vulnerable in our society. We are pleased to inform that our Needlework Club raised \$410 at the bazaar through selling handicrafts made during their CCA as well ceramic pieces made by our P6 students during their Art lessons. We hope that through this participation, our students learnt and exhibited the school value of Empathy through raising funds to uplift the lives of the less fortunate amongst us.

ZPS Celebrates the Achievements of Our Students!

Below are competitions which our students participated in 2017 but had not been highlighted in previous Open Letters:

1) ICAS English Language

A total of 267 P2 – P6 students participated in the annual competition held on 11th July. There were a total of 1 High Distinction, 24 Distinctions and 72 Credits. Well done, children! The detailed results are as follows:

Class	Name	Award
3 Integrity	Ang Sen Zhe, Micah	High Distinction
2 Graciousness	Rayston Tan (Chen Yuzhou)	Distinction
2 Empathy	Isaiah Loh Teng Yik	Distinction
2 Responsibility	Sharmaine Wong (Huang Liqi)	Distinction
2 Responsibility	Teo Hui En	Distinction
2 Resilience	Ho Wen Jie	Distinction
2 Resilience	Ong Zi Ning, Kylie	Distinction
2 Sincerity	Swethan Venkatesaan Naaidu	Distinction
2 Sincerity	Woo Jia En Josh	Distinction
2 Sincerity	Soong Yuan Jie Julian	Distinction
3 Graciousness	Isaac Loh Kei Loong	Distinction
3 Graciousness	Poh Kai Yi Ian	Distinction
3 Graciousness	Floria Lwin	Distinction
3 Integrity	Lee Jun Yee, Allen	Distinction
3 Integrity	Ashlyn Gani	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Ng Li Shan	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Lee Hong Xuan, Cedric	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Heng Gin Hern, Gladwin	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Caleb Chan Ren Kai	Distinction
4 Integrity	Leong Xian Zhu, Samuel	Distinction
5 Integrity	Danelle Kaylee Khoo Bacomo	Distinction
6 Graciousness	Kaylin Wee Jing Xuan	Distinction
6 Integrity	Seow Hui Zhi	Distinction
6 Integrity	Soong Yuan Qi Sophie	Distinction
6 Empathy	Chee Chun Wai, Gabriel	Distinction

2) ICAS Mathematics

On 25th July, a total of 315 P2 – P6 students participated in the annual competition. There were a total of 5 High Distinctions, 23 Distinctions and 60 Credits. Well done, children! The children who obtained High Distinctions and Distinctions are as follows:

Class	Name	Award
3 Graciousness	Ang Cheng Xi Keiran	High Distinction
3 Graciousness	Darius Kwang Yi Fan	High Distinction
3 Integrity	Lee Jun Yee, Allen	High Distinction
4 Graciousness	Heng Gin Hern, Gladwin	High Distinction
6 Integrity	Yong Chuen Jet	High Distinction
2 Empathy	Chloe Lim Ze Suang (Lin Zixuan)	Distinction
2 Empathy	Isaiah Loh Teng Yik (Lu Dingyi)	Distinction
2 Versatility	Nai Bo Wen	Distinction
2 Resilience	Ong Zi Ning, Kylie (Wang Zining)	Distinction
2 Resilience	Gu Tongshuo Shaquille	Distinction
2 Resilience	Ho Wen Jie	Distinction
2 Sincerity	Swethan Venkatesaan Naaidu	Distinction
3 Graciousness	Isaac Loh Kei Loong (Lu Qilong)	Distinction
3 Graciousness	Kuek Xin Yee (Guo Xinyu)	Distinction
3 Integrity	Ang Sen Zhe, Micah	Distinction
3 Integrity	Shoun Nay Yee Ko Ko	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Ho Hong Yee	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Weng Jia Lin	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Lee Hong Xuan, Cedric	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Shantell Wong	Distinction
4 Graciousness	Tan Xiu Qian	Distinction
4 Integrity	Choo Jing Yu, Travis	Distinction
4 Integrity	Lim Wei Jie	Distinction
5 Integrity	Rowell Yee Yik Hin	Distinction
6 Graciousness	Mohamed Muzammil Bin Saibudeen	Distinction
6 Graciousness	Angeline Philo John Rajakumar	Distinction
6 Graciousness	Tang Yu Kai	Distinction
6 Integrity	Hoy Xin Long	Distinction

Important Announcements ...

3) MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) for 2018

Your child would have received the application form in early October. We are in the midst of processing the applications. You will be informed of the status of your application by mid-November. If you have not submitted your application form and all the supporting documents, please do so by **Friday, 3rd November**.

If your child has never been a recipient and you would like to find out more about this scheme, please feel free to contact our Administration Manager, Ms Linda Lau, or any of our office staff for assistance. You may reach them at Tel: 6274 0357 x 101.

4) Parent Survey 2017

As the school year is drawing to an end for 2017, 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 2017 Parent Survey online by **Friday, 10th November** via this link - <http://tinyurl.com/ZPSParentSurvey2017>.

Students with no access to the computer at home may collect a hardcopy of the Parent Survey Form from the general office.

5) *Online Travel Declaration for P2 to P6 students (November/December School Holidays 2017)*

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, students 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, 17th November**, via the online form accessible at the following website: <https://www.mconline.sg>. Please note that the Login ID is **zps + last 6 characters of 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/> under Announcements.

Students with no access to the computer at home may log on to MC Online via the MCO LMS app (available on both Google Play Store and iTunes) or collect a hardcopy of the Travel Declaration Form from the general office. Should your child forget his/her password, you may call MC Online helpdesk at Tel: 67775198 to reset the password.

Primary 1 students must complete and return the attached hardcopy travel declaration to the Form Teacher by **Friday, 10th November**. For further clarifications, please contact our Administration Manager, Ms Linda Lau at Tel: 62740357.

6) *School Admin Day – Wednesday, 8th November*

There will be **no school for all students** on Wednesday, 8th November. Your child will report to school as usual on Thursday, 9th November.

7) *P1 Orientation – Friday, 10th November*

The P1 Orientation will be held on Friday, 10th November from 2.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

8) *End of Year Meet-the-Parents Session – Tuesday, 14th November*

A letter will be given out to all parents with regard to this. We look forward to meeting you on Tuesday, 14th November. Do proceed to your child's form class to meet with the form teacher and the school hall to meet with the MT teacher respectively on that day.

9) *Annual Prize-Giving & Appreciation Day – Friday, 17th November*

The Annual Prize-Giving and Appreciation Day will be held on the last day of school, Friday, 17th November. The event will be conducted in our school hall from 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. 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 students, prize recipients, their parents and performers. The rest of the P1 to P5 students **do not** need to come to school on this day.

In order not to disappoint students who are not invited for the event, a full dress rehearsal of the performances will be held on Thursday, 16th November during school hours.

General Information...

10) Edusave Awards

Edusave Awards are given by the government annually to Singaporean students to enhance educational opportunities and motivate students 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.

11) Family Matters @ School Workshop

Coming up on **Friday, 3rd November from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m** is a workshop on **Cyber Wellness: Wait, 5 more minutes, please!** that would be conducted in English. A flyer has gone out earlier last week. Parents who are interested to attend the workshop should have registered online via <http://tinyurl.com/zpscyber> by **Monday, 30th October**. For parents without internet access, the reply slip on the attached flyer would have been submitted to your child's teacher by **Monday, 30 October 2017**.

12) Contribute to the Development of ZPS Heritage Curriculum and Gallery Project

As the school is currently working on building her Heritage Curriculum and Gallery which will document the milestones in Zhangde Primary School's history, and capture precious memories of the ZPS experience, we welcome all ex-students to contribute to the project in one or more of the following ways.

A	Quotes about your ZPS memories	<i>Email: zhangde_ps@moe.edu.sg Please include your name, graduation year, attachments and/or URL links of your photographs and videos, etc.</i>
B	Photos with captions (eg. class photos)	
C	Videos	
D	Artefacts	<i>Please contact us at (65) 62740357 x 101 or email to zhangde_ps@moe.edu.sg to make the arrangements for your contributions.</i>

Please note that your contributions may be printed in our school publicity materials and displayed in the school. For more information, please visit the school website at <http://www.zhangdepri.moe.edu.sg/>.

School Matters – 2018

13) New Academic Year

The new academic year will begin on **Tuesday, 2nd January 2018**. All students 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 students the value of punctuality. The school hours will be as follows:

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

14) Purchase of Books and School Attire

The booklist for 2018 will be given to your child when they return their report books on Wednesday, 15th November. The dates and time for the sale of the books and school uniforms in school are as follows:

a) Sale of Books and Stationery

Month	Dates of Sale	Time of sale	Remarks
November	10	3.00 pm – 6.00 pm	P1s only
	22	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	P1s and P2s
	23	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	P3s and P4s
	24	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	P5s and P6s
	25	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	For all levels
	27, 28	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	For all levels
December	1, 4, 11, 14, 15, 18, 19, 26, 27, 28, 29	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	For all levels
	2, 16, 23	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	For all levels
	7, 8	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	For FAS only
	9	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	

b) Sale of School Attire* (includes Uniform, Shoes and Socks)

Month	Dates of Sale	Time of sale	Remarks
November	10	3.00 pm – 6.00 pm	P1s only
	24, 28	9.00 am – 2.00 pm	For all levels
December	7, 8, 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, Singapore 680026

Tel: 67691260 / 67692053

Please note that students 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) Sale of 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.

15) Bus Transport Services

The school has engaged Revolving Transport Pte Ltd to provide school bus services for our students. 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 students taking the school bus in 2017

- You would have received the form from the bus vendor on 30th October. Students should submit the form to the bus vendor or general office by **Friday, 10th November**.
- If the form is not submitted by **latest Friday, 24th November**, it would be taken that parents do not wish to continue with the school bus service in 2018.

For new students 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, 24th November**. The bus vendor will contact the parents and inform them of the pick-up time and location by mid-December 2017.

16) 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, 16th November to Friday, 24th 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

17) 2017 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 students are better prepared for the next phase of their lives.

For more information, parents and students may refer to the *S1 Posting Exercise* (<https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/secondary-one-posting-exercise>) and *School Information Service (SIS)* (<http://sis.moe.gov.sg/>) websites.

Value of the Term (VOTT) – Sincerity

(Sharing by the Mother Tongue Department on 16th October 2017)

Calendar of Events for October & November

Please refer to Annex 1 for the calendar of events from end October to November.

Concluding Remarks...

This Open Letter is also dedicated to all our graduating P6 students. 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 GIVER³S 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 two excerpts from the book, *The Leader, The Teacher and You* by Mr Lim Siong Guan. May they provide you with nuggets of wisdom!

Blind on A Beautiful Day

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign that said: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat. A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote several words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words. Soon, the hat began to fill up. A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon, the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognised his footsteps and asked: "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?" The man said: "I wrote only the truth. I said what you said but in a different way." What he had written was: "Today is a beautiful day and I cannot see it." THE first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign told people they were so lucky that they were not blind. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective? There are at least two lessons we can learn from this simple story.

The first is: Be thankful for what you have. Someone else has less. Help where you can.

The second is: Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently. There is always a better way!

As enunciated in Apple's 1997 Think Different commercial: "The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do."

Doing Out of the Box

WHEN my first granddaughter was just over a year old, I saw her trying to take a small tube of toothpaste out of its box. Her little fingers did not have the strength to grip the tube to pull it out. She was very frustrated and shook the box around. Suddenly, when the box was upside down, the toothpaste tube fell out. Now that she had gotten it out, she decided she wanted to put it back in. So she put the box upright, and put the tube in. Then what did she do? She turned the box upside down and made the toothpaste tube fall out again. She then put it back into the box. What was happening? She was having fun learning a new way to take something out of a box!...

But I was learning something important also...WE can learn by copying what others do. It is a good way of learning. But it also means we will always be behind them. If we want to be ahead, we must also learn by trying new ways, by experimenting, by "shaking things about" and watching what happens. The point is to Learn by Doing. Don't just talk. Don't just think. Do!

Confucius, the great Chinese teacher and thinker who lived from 551 BC to 479 BC, taught something important about learning by doing. He said: "I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand." Do you find this to be true in your life? It is only when you do something that you really understand what you actually have to do, how to do it, and why you are doing it.

Remember that it is 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 in so doing, embrace all learning opportunities that come your way!

Carpe Diem (Seize the Day)

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As we bid farewell to our graduating students, 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 GIVER³S 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 2018!

Warmest Regards,

Miss Loh Sing Huay
Principal

Day	Date	Activities	Students Involved	Time
Mon	30-Oct	SA2: Science (P3 - P5)	All P3-P5 students	Curriculum Time
		P6 iDA Code for Fun Prog (Advanced) 5 (Group 1)	P6G, 6I & 6S students	8.15am - 10.15am
		P6 iDA Code for Fun Prog (Advanced) 5 (Group 2)	P6V, 6E & 6Ry students	11.15am - 1.15pm
Tue	31-Oct	P3 SDR / Subject Remedial Lesson	P3 SDR students	2.15pm - 3.45pm
Wed	01-Nov	P3 NE LJ to Mdm Tussauds & Images of S'pore	P3G & 3Ry students	Curriculum Time
		Choir Extra Practice	All Choir members	2.15pm - 4.15 pm
		Floorball Extra Practice	P3-P5 Floorball boys	2.15pm - 3.45pm
		Rope-Skipping Extra Practice	Sch Team Rope Skippers	2.15pm - 4.15pm
		Wushu Extra Practice	Sch Team Wushu members	2.15pm - 4.15pm
		Active Kids Programme	Selected students	2.15pm - 4.15pm
		SP-BP Mentoring	Selected P5/P6 students	3.30pm - 5pm
Thu	02-Nov	P3 NE LJ to Mdm Tussauds & Images of S'pore	P3I & 3S students	Curriculum Time
		P3 SDR / Subject Remedial Lesson	P3 SDR students	2.15pm - 3.45pm
		OutReach Programme (JUST4U)	Selected P5-P6 students	2.15pm - 4pm
Fri	03-Nov	P3 NE LJ to Mdm Tussauds & Images of S'pore	P3E & 3V students	Curriculum Time
Sat	04-Nov	BB Parade 25	BB Boys	7.30am - 9.30am
		GB Meeting 24	GB Girls	7.30am - 9.30am
Mon	06-Nov	Outram Sec Sch Financial Literacy cum Open House	All P6 students	Curriculum Time
		P2 SEAB Math Skills Check	P2 students	Curriculum Time
		P3 SDR / Subject Remedial Lesson	P3 SDR students	2.15pm - 3.45pm
		Cyberwellness Ambassador Training (Term 4)	Cyberwellness ambassadors	2.15pm - 3.30pm
Tue	07-Nov	P2 SEAB Math Skills Check	P2 students	Curriculum Time
Wed	08-Nov	No School Day – School Admin Day		
Thu	09-Nov	P2 PAL Programme Lesson 7 to Jurong Bird Park	P2Re & 2S students	Curriculum Time
Thu	09-Nov	P2 SEAB Math Skills Check	P2 students	Curriculum Time
		OutReach Programme (JUST4U)	Selected P5-P6 students	2.15pm - 4pm
Fri	10-Nov	P1 Orientation	Selected students	2.30pm - 5.30pm
		Toy Buffet - Discover the Magic in you	Selected students on FAS	2pm - 5pm
Sat	11-Nov	BB Parade 26	BB Boys	7.30am - 9.30am
		GB Meeting 25	GB Girls	7.30am - 9.30am
Mon	13-Nov	Choir Rehearsal	All Choir members	3pm - 5pm
Tue	14-Nov	Meet-the-Parents Session (No school on that day. Parents are to see the teachers at the designated time.)		
Wed	15-Nov	Choir Extra Practice	All Choir members	2.15pm - 4.15 pm
		Rope-Skipping Extra Practice	Sch Team Rope Skippers	2.15pm - 4.15pm
		Wushu Extra Practice	Sch Team Wushu members	2.15pm - 4.15pm
Thu	16-Nov	P6 Graduation Day	All P6 students	Curriculum Time
Fri	17-Nov	Annual Prize-Giving & Appreciation Day	Selected students	8am - 12.30pm
		Choir Performance	All Choir members	7.30am - 10am
		GB Meeting 26 - EOY GB Camp	GB Girls	Report 5pm
Sat	18-Nov	BB Parade 27	BB Boys	7.30am - 9.30am
		GB Meeting 26 - EOY GB Camp	GB Girls	Whole Day
Sun	19-Nov	GB Meeting 26 - EOY GB Camp	GB Girls	Dismiss 12pm
Wed	22-Nov	Annual Sports Camp	Selected Sports CCA students	8am - 5pm
Thu	23-Nov	Annual Sports Camp	Selected Sports CCA students	8am - 5pm
Fri	24-Nov	Annual Sports Camp	Selected Sports CCA students	1pm - 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