



# ZHANGDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025

**FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL**

MF/25/001

Dear Parents/Guardians

## **1. Happy New Year to all parents/ guardians and students of Zhangde Primary!**

Welcome back to school! I trust you've had a refreshing break and are ready to partner with our staff in supporting your child's education in the year ahead. This year, we remain committed to providing a nurturing, challenging, and inspiring educational environment for every student. We deeply value your partnership in this endeavour and look forward to working closely with you.

## **2. Goodbye & Welcome to our Vice Principals**

As we begin this new year, we would like to take a moment to acknowledge some changes in our school leadership team.

We bid a fond farewell to Ms Tay Hwee Lin, who has served as our Vice Principal from 2020 to 2024. Her dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to our students' growth have been invaluable. We are deeply grateful for her contributions to our school community and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Mr Chan Cheong Cheong as our new Vice Principal. Mr Chan brings with him a wealth of experience and fresh perspectives that will undoubtedly enrich our school. We look forward to the positive impact he will make in his new role.

Please join us in expressing our gratitude to Ms Tay and extending a warm welcome to Mr Chan.

## **2. 2024 PSLE Results**

We are thrilled to announce that 96.6% of our Primary 6 students have been successfully posted to Secondary Schools. Additionally, 14 of our students have achieved success in their Direct School Admissions. This is a testament to the hard work of our students, the dedication of our teachers, and the unwavering support of our parents. We are immensely proud of their achievements and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Congratulations to our Class of 2024! Your journey at Zhangde Primary School has come to an end, but we're confident that the values and skills you've gained here will serve you well in the exciting chapter ahead.

## **3. School's Vision, Mission, Values**

*Reference: Parent Handbook page 3*

Our vision of "Learning School, GIVER<sup>3</sup>S Heart" encapsulates our commitment to fostering not only academic excellence but also a spirit of generosity and compassion. We believe that true education goes beyond textbooks, nurturing students who are eager to learn and equally eager to give back to their community. Our aim is to cultivate lifelong learners with hearts full of empathy, ready to make a positive impact on the world around them. Through this vision, we strive to shape well-rounded individuals who are both knowledgeable and kind, prepared to face the challenges of tomorrow with wisdom and compassion.

#### 4. 2025 School Schedule

Reference: Parent Handbook page 6

##### School Hours

Level	Days	School Hours
P1 to P3	Monday	7.30am to 1.30pm
P4 to P6	Monday	7.30am to 2.30pm
P1 to P6	Tuesday to Friday	7.30am to 1.30pm

We've noticed in the last few years, a concerning trend of a small group of students consistently arriving late to school. We kindly remind all parents and guardians of the importance of punctuality. Arriving on time not only instils good habits in our children but also ensures they don't miss crucial learning opportunities at the start of the day. Late arrivals disrupt classes and can negatively impact both the student arriving late and their classmates. Let's work as a team to ensure every child starts their school day positively and prepared for learning.

#### Recess, Snack & Lunch Timings

Parents are advised to pack healthy snacks such as biscuits, fruits, sandwiches for your child.

Level	Recess	Snack Time	Lunch (Monday Only)
<b>P1 &amp; P4</b>	9.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.	12.00 p.m.	P4 & P6: 12.30 – 1.00 pm P5: 1.00 – 1.30 pm
<b>P3 &amp; P6</b>	10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.		
<b>P2 &amp; P5</b>	10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.	9.00 a.m.	

#### 5. 2025 Term 1 Calendar

Every student has received a hardcopy of the Term 1 Calendar on the first day of school. The softcopy can be downloaded from the School Website. Please refer to this for the programmes for the term. We encourage all parents to review the calendar regularly to stay informed about upcoming events and activities.

#### 6. Parent Engagement Sessions Schedule

Your presence at these sessions is important. Please note the following dates and details:

Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Reason for mode of engagement
❖ 4.00pm – 5.30pm: P4 Parents (F2F)	New form teachers. Sharing of year-end subject-based banding matters.
❖ 4.00pm – 5.00pm: P2 Parents (Online virtual meeting)	Same form teachers. Continuation of programmes.
❖ 4.00pm – 5.00pm: P6 Parents (Online virtual meeting)	Same form teachers. Continuation of programmes.

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> January

❖ 4.00pm – 6.00pm: P3 Parents Math & Science Hands-on Workshops (F2F)	New to middle primary. Support by staff for hands-on workshops.
❖ 4.00pm – 6.00pm: P5 Parents (F2F)	New to upper primary. Sharing on PSLE matters.

## 7. Communication with Parents

*Reference: Parent Handbook page 33*

We will continue to update parents on school matters via our official communication platforms:

1. Parent Handbook 2024-2025:

- Distributed to every family last year and to our 2025 Primary 1 students at Orientation
- The next edition will be printed in 2026

2. School Website: <https://zhangdepri.moe.edu.sg>

- From The Principal's Desk (updated termly)
- Students' Calendar (updated termly and hard copies will be distributed to students)
- Zhangde Instagram (please follow)

3. Parents Gateway Mobile App:

- Essential for school and MOE communications to all parents
- Download guide available on the School Website

Please ensure you have access to these platforms to stay informed about school matters. The Parents Gateway Mobile App is particularly important for receiving timely updates from both the school and MOE.

## 8. Appointments with School Staff

*Reference: Parent Handbook page 33*

We kindly request that you observe the following guidelines when scheduling appointments with our school staff.

1. Please note that our officers begin their workday at 7:15 am and continue throughout the day, engaging in various activities such as:
  - Supporting after-school and out-of-school programmes
  - Marking work assignments
  - Preparing lessons
  - Attending workshops and meetings
  - Other school-related activities
2. Our staff, including teachers, school counsellors, Special Education Needs Officers, and the Student Welfare Officer, are available for appointments on weekdays after 1.30pm and before 4:00 pm.
3. Weekends, public holidays and school holidays are reserved for our staff's personal and family commitments.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a balanced work environment for our dedicated staff while ensuring they remain accessible to address your concerns.

## 9. 2025 Class Allocation

Our students have been allocated to their classes for 2025 in accordance with the guidelines for student movement provided by the Ministry of Education (MOE). In this process, we have carefully considered, academic outcomes, non-academic factors and the different needs of our students. We have persevered to do our best in ensuring that each student is placed in a

class that best meets their individual needs. This thoughtful allocation aims to create an optimal learning environment for all. We sincerely appreciate your understanding and ask for your continued support in guiding your children as they adjust to their new classes for 2025.

## **10. Character and Citizenship Education**

*Reference: Parent Handbook page 14*

As we start the school year the school values will be focused on responsibility and resilience. As a school family, we'll be weaving these important qualities into the fabric of our students daily lives. Responsibility empowers our students to take ownership of their actions and decisions, both in their studies and personal conduct. Resilience equips them with the mental strength to persevere through difficulties and bounce back from setbacks. We encourage parents to reinforce these values at home by providing opportunities for your children to take on age-appropriate responsibilities and by supporting them in overcoming obstacles. Together, we can nurture a generation of responsible and resilient young people ready to face the future with confidence.

## **11. 2025 Assessment Matter Update**

*Reference: Parent Handbook pages 28-32*

In line with MOE direction, mid-year examinations for all levels have been removed. This is to allow students to focus more on their learning. The school will continue to use ongoing bite-sized assessments to identify learning gaps and build on students' strengths. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for the details.

## **12. 2025 P3 Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Exercise (information from GEP Branch)**

The tentative schedule for the GEP Screening Exercise is on 21 August 2025. P3 students shortlisted after the GEP Screening Exercise will attend the GEP Selection Exercise tentatively on 14 and 15 October 2025. The GEP Screening and Selection Exercise will be based on the Primary 1 to Primary 3 English Language and Mathematics Syllabuses.

## **12. Closing of Art and Environment CCA in 2025**

After careful and extensive deliberation, the school has made the difficult decision to close the Art Club and Environment Club CCA due to resource limitations. We would like to inform you of the following:

1. Affected students and parents were notified of this closure in November 2024.
2. To ensure a smooth transition, these students have until the end of January 2025 to explore and try out other CCAs that align with their interests.
3. Students will then be able to make their choice of a new CCA based on these experiences.
4. We want to assure you that art experiences will continue to be an integral part of our art lessons, ensuring students still have opportunities to develop their artistic skills and creativity.
5. Similarly, environmental education and activities will be incorporated into our science lessons, allowing students to continue engaging with environmental issues and sustainability practices.

We sincerely appreciate the understanding of parents and students regarding this impending closure. We are committed to supporting all affected students in finding new CCAs that

nurture their talents and passions, while ensuring that art and environmental education remain key components of our curriculum.

### 13. School Fees

*Reference: Parent Handbook pages 8-9*

The revision of school fees by MOE continues as per announcement in 2023. The standard and 2<sup>nd</sup> tier miscellaneous fees had merged into a single tier since 2024. The same miscellaneous fees of \$13 applies to students of all nationalities. The revised school fees with effect from 1 January 2025 is summarized below:

Monthly Charges	Singapore Citizen Student	Singapore Permanent Resident Student	International Student with Student Pass/ Dependent Pass	
			International Student (ASEAN)	International Student (Non-ASEAN)
School Fees	\$0	\$305	\$570	\$985

### 14. Student Care Centre (SCC)

Big Heart Student Care is our vendor providing after-school care services for Zhangde students. Please note the following:

1. At the end of the school day, students enrolled in SCC will go directly to the Centre.
2. If there are any changes to dismissal arrangements, it is important that you notify both:
  - a) The respective Form Teachers
  - b) The SCC Supervisor

This ensures that all relevant staff are aware of any changes to your child's usual routine, maintaining their safety and proper care.

For any queries about the Student Care Centre services or enrolment, please contact the center supervisor.

### 15. Road Safety and Orderliness

*Reference: Parent Handbook page 35-36*

The traffic flow is very busy at the start and end of the school day. We appreciate all parents being gracious and patient, waiting in line and following our ground staff's coordination for the safety of our students and staff.

#### Start of School Day:

- Parents driving to school to drop off children in the mornings, please remain in your vehicles.
- Move off once your children have alighted.

#### End of School Day:

- Parents waiting to fetch children home during peak hours are strongly advised to park at nearby HDB car parks.

#### Dismissal Arrangements:

1. Gate 3: For dismissal of P1, P2 and P3 students
  - Only parents of P1, P2, P3 students will be allowed into the limited Parents' Waiting Area.
  - Please do not bring pets into the parents' waiting area.
2. Gate 2: For dismissal of all other students

We kindly remind all parents and guardians that these measures are in place to ensure the safety and smooth flow of traffic around our school. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### 16. Safe Management Measures for Visitors

*Reference: Parent Handbook page 35-36*

To ensure the safety and security of our school community, we have the following measures in place:

1. All visitors must register at the Security Counter upon arrival.
2. After clearance, visitors will be issued a visitor sticker.
3. The visitor sticker must be displayed prominently at all times while on school premises.

We appreciate your cooperation in adhering to these safety measures. They help us maintain a secure environment for our students and staff.

### **17. Best Wishes from Zhangde Family!**

In closing, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and partnership. As we embark on this new school year, we are excited about the opportunities and experiences that lie ahead for our students. Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable, and we look forward to working closely with you to ensure their success and well-being. Together, we can create a nurturing and stimulating environment where every child can thrive and reach their full potential.

Should you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you and your child every step of the way.

Here's to a fantastic year of learning, growth, and achievement!

***Mrs Rita Dass, Principal***