



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

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5th November 2018

OPEN LETTER *November 2018*

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 few weeks of November.

Deepavali 2018

Tomorrow, 6th November is Deepavali. We would like to wish all our Hindu and Sikh colleagues & students a Blessed Deepavali!

Children's Day 2018

We celebrated Children's Day at Delta Sports Complex on 4th October. It was also our 2nd year of 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!

Singapore Environment Council – StarHub School Green Awards (SGA) 2018



The school has attained the ***Vanda Miss Joaquim Award*** in the Singapore Environment Council – StarHub School Green Awards (SGA) 2018. 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 parent volunteers who faithfully assisted in the weekly collection of newspapers. Kudos to everyone! In line with our school's Applied Learning Programme of *Developing GIVER³S Values Through Environment Education*, we will continue our efforts to further strengthen our ALP in 2019 and provide students with a holistic school experience.

ZPS Celebrates the Achievements of Our Students!

Below are competitions which students participated in 2018 but had not been highlighted in previous Open Letters:

1) Singapore Primary Science Olympiad 2018

The **Singapore Primary Science Olympiad (SPSO)** is an annual national competition which has been organized by the NUS High School of Mathematics and Science since 2009. This competition, which is open to Primary 5 pupils in Singapore, comprises the Theory round and the Practical round. Below are the results of our students who participated on 20th July:

Class	Name	Award
P5 Graciousness	Shantell Wong	Bronze
P5 Graciousness	Ho Hong Yee	Certificate of Participation
	Kwan Jing Xun	
	Tham Feng Rui	
P5 Integrity	Ng Li Shan	
	Wang Haoying	

2) National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore (NMOS) 2018

On 23rd July, our team of P5 students participated in the NMOS organised by NUS High School of Mathematics and Science and achieved the following:

S/N	Name of Student	Class	Award
1	Tan Xiu Qian	P5 Graciousness	Silver
2	Choo Jing Yu, Travis		Bronze
3	Chua Ming Jun		
4	Shantell Wong		
5	Heng Gin Hern, Gladwin	P5 Integrity	
6	Lee Jun Rui		
7	Weng Jia Lin	P5 Graciousness	Honourable Mention
8	Leong Xian Zhu, Samuel	P5 Integrity	

Well done, children!

Important Announcements ...

3) MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) for 2019

Your child would have received the application form in mid 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 as soon as possible.

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 2018

As the school year is drawing to an end for 2018, 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 2018 Parent Survey online by **Friday, 16th November** via this link - <https://tinyurl.com/2018zpsparent>. The link will only go live on Thursday, 8th November.

5) Online Travel Declaration for P1 to P6 students (November/December School Holidays 2018)

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, 16th 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 Parents Survey form and 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. For further clarifications, please contact the school Administration Manager, Ms Linda Lau or Administrative Executive, Ms Joyce Tian at Tel: 62740357.

6) School Admin Day – Wednesday, 7th November

There will be **no school for all students** on Wednesday, 7th November. Your child will report to school as usual on Thursday, 8th November.

7) P1 Orientation – Friday, 9th November

The P1 Orientation will be held on Friday, 9th November from 2.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.

8) End of Year Meet-the-Parents Session – Tuesday, 13th November

A letter will be given out to all parents with regard to this. We look forward to meeting you on Tuesday, 13th 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, 16th November

The Annual Prize-Giving and Appreciation Day will be held on the last day of school, Friday, 16th 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, performers and their parents. 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, 15th 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) 2018 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 within the last two years i.e. since **1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018 (both dates inclusive)**.

Note: A student seeking a transfer to Primary 5 and 6 students in academic year 2019 will be posted to a school with available vacancies and offering the subject combination the student offered in his / her current school.

This year, the annual STEPS exercise will be conducted from 16 November to 14 December. You may approach the school if you need assistance on the registration from 19 to 21 November from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parents of STEPS applicants will have an additional option to register their child/children via the STEPS Internet System (STEPS-IS) from 10 am on 16 November to 11.59 am on 20 November at <http://www.moe.gov.sg/education/admissions/steps>

A step-by-step guide is available on the school website. An information sheet on STEPS is attached with this Open Letter.

School Matters – 2019

1) New Academic Year

The new academic year will begin on **Wednesday, 2nd January 2019**. All P2 – P6 students will need to report to the school hall in the morning at **7.30 a.m. sharp**. All P1 students will report to their classrooms instead. 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.

2) Purchase of Books and School Attire

The booklist for 2019 will be given to your child when they return their report books on Wednesday, 14th November. The dates and time for the sale of the books and school uniforms in school are as follows: Please refer to the schedules listed below for the year-end sales should you wish to make purchases on another day.

A) Sale of Books and Stationery

Month	Dates of Sale	Time of sale	Remarks
November	9	3.00 pm – 6.00 pm	P1s only
	21	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	P1s and P2s
	22	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	P3s and P4s
	23	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	P5s and P6s
	24	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	For all levels
	26, 27, 30	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	For all levels
December	3, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, 26, 27, 28	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	For all levels
	1, 15, 22, 29	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	For all levels
	6, 7	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	For FAS only
	8	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	

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

Month	Dates of Sale	Time of sale	Remarks
November	9	3.00 pm – 6.00 pm	P1s only
	23	9.00 am – 2.00 pm	For all levels
	30	9.00 am – 2.00 pm	For FAS and all levels
December	6, 7, 28	9.00 am – 2.00 pm	
	29	9.00 am – 12.00 pm	

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

Alternatively, you may purchase the school attire 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.

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 crest.** 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 4 pieces of name tags.

3) *Bus Transport Services*

The school had engaged Revolving Transport Pte Ltd to provide school bus services for our students.

For existing students taking the school bus in 2018, you would have already received a form from Revolving Transport Pte Ltd regarding your confirmation to continue the service. Please return the forms to the school bus vendor latest **by 30 November 2018**.

For new students applying to take the school bus, parents may come to the General Office to collect a bus transport form. The form is to be submitted to the school bus vendor or General Office latest **by 30 November 2018**. The bus vendor will contact the parents and inform them of the pick-up time and location by mid-December 2018.

4) *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, 15th November to Friday, 23rd 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

5) *2018 Secondary One (S1) Posting Exercise*

Your child has been given the S1 Information Booklet. 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 *S1 Posting Exercise* (<https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/secondary-one-posting-exercise>) and *School Information Service (SIS)* (<http://sis.moe.gov.sg/>) websites.

6) *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/>.

Value of the Term (VOTT) – Sincerity

(Sharing by the PE & Aesthetics Department on 29 October 2018)

Calendar of Events for November

Please refer to Annex 1 for the calendar of events for 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 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 a few inspirational quotes. May they inspire you as much as they have for me!

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.
~Confucius~

Hardships often prepare ordinary people for an extraordinary destiny.
~C.S. Lewis~

Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.
~Mahatma Gandhi~

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!

Carpe Diem (Seize the Day)

This Open Letter will also be my last Open Letter. I will be rotated to head St Stephen's School on 15th December. I am very sad to say good-bye to the many people I have had the privilege of meeting and working with over the past seven years. For me, Zhangde Primary School has been a place where we emphasized the importance of sharing and supporting each other while looking for positive learning opportunities for everyone and collaborating with the whole school community to realise the school's vision of *Learning School GIVER³S Heart*. This is an exceptional school nestled in Tiong Bahru that will continue to exemplify the very best in education! I feel very fortunate to have been part of the Zhangde Family and I will always cherish the time spent at this school learning with all of you! Thank you for making an impact on my teaching vocation. I will miss the exceptional people I have met over the past seven years and will always treasure the many fond memories of the students, staff and parents!

The new Principal will be Mrs Rita Dass. She is moving from Zhenghua Primary School where she has been a Principal for the past seven years. She is a very experienced school leader. I know that you will make her feel welcome and will continue to give her your fullest support.

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!

Warmest Regards,

Miss Loh Sing Huay
Principal

Day	Date	Activities	Students Involved	Time
Mon	05-Nov	P3 SDR / Subject Remedial Lesson	P3 SDR students	2.15pm - 3.45pm
		P4 SDR / Subject Remedial Lesson	P4 SDR students	2.15pm - 3.45pm
Tues	06-Nov	Public Holiday: Deepavali		
Wed	07-Nov	No School Day – School Admin Day		
Thurs	08-Nov	Learning Journey for P2 students	P2 LSP students	Curriculum Time
		P3 SDR / Subject Remedial Lesson	P3 SDR students	2.15pm - 3.45pm
		P4 SDR / Subject Remedial Lesson	P4 SDR students	2.15pm - 3.45pm
		P4 Theatre Experience	P4 students	2.30pm – 5.30pm
		Rope Skipping Extra Training	Rope Skippers	2.15pm – 4.15pm
Fri	09-Nov	P1 2019 Orientation	Selected students	2.30pm – 5.30pm
Sat	10-Nov	BB Parade 25	BB Boys	7.30am - 9.30am
		GB Camp (commence on 5pm, Fri 9 Nov)	GB Girls	7.30am - 9.30am
Sun	11-Nov	GB Camp	GB Girls	Dismiss at 12pm
Mon	12-Nov	Learning Journey for P1 students	P1 LSP students	Curriculum Time
Tues	13-Nov	Meet-the-Parents Session (No school on that day. Parents are to see the teachers at the designated time.)		
Wed	14-Nov	Choir Rehearsal	All Choir members	2.15pm – 4.15pm
Thurs	15-Nov	P6 Graduation Day & P1 – P5 Promotion Day	All students	Curriculum Time
Fri	16-Nov	Annual Prize-Giving & Appreciation Day	Selected students	8am - 12.30pm
Sat	17-Nov	BB Parade 26	BB Boys	7.30am - 9.30am
Wed	21-Nov	Annual Sports Camp	Selected Sports CCA students	8am - 5pm
Thu	22-Nov	Annual Sports Camp	Selected Sports CCA students	8am - 5pm
Fri	23-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