



# St. James' Church Kindergarten

"...where every child matters."

## Dew Drops Newsletter

*From the Principal's desk*

Term 4

We have now arrived at the final term of the academic year. It's amazing to watch the growth that has taken place in the children in the course of the year. Remember what the first week was like, especially for the Pre-Nursery children? Well, it is very different now and your children are happily settled into school life. For the parents whose children are in K2, there will be mixed feelings as your children come to the close of their preschool years.

We are indeed very blessed by all your support during the Project Work period. This is the third year that we were involved in ECDA's "Start Small, Dream Big" initiative to raise awareness of how children can contribute in tangible ways to the community in Singapore. Through your generous giving, we managed to raise close to \$ 12,800 from our three campuses, and this money will be channeled to President's Challenge 2017 and other charitable organisations. Our children have become more aware that there are people in Singapore who do not have many of the things we take for granted.

### **Teachers' Day Celebration**

This year's Teachers' Day Celebration was a memorable one. We truly appreciate and are very grateful to all the parents who coordinated this event. We are indeed touched by your well-wishes and hard work during the celebration. We also want to thank all those who contributed towards the lunch and gifts for the staff. Thank you once again to all the wonderful parents. We have never felt more special and blessed.

### **K1 & K2 Annual Concert & K2 Graduation Ceremony**

It's time again for the annual concert. This will be a grand and special occasion for all, especially for the K2 children who will be graduating. Let's look forward to this memorable event!

### **Awards**

Congratulations to Alexandra Fesselmeyer of Starlight 5 (Harding) for being one of the finalists in the 31st Plain English Speaking Awards (PESA) competition!

Congratulations to Alexandra Fesselmeyer of Starlight 5, Tang Shijie of Starlight 6 and Katherine Quek of Starlight 7 from our Harding campus for making it to the finals of the 11th YMCA Mandarin Speaking Awards (MSA) competition!

Congratulations to Keagan Scott Ng of Starlight 1 (Leedon) and Melody Er of Starlight 4 (Harding) for making it into the finals of the 2017 Nationwide Ocean Conservation Art Competition!



I was pleasantly surprised to be among 27 recipients from various industries who were presented with the inaugural SkillsFuture Fellowships on 2 August 2017. The SkillsFuture Fellowships recognise and support Singaporeans who have displayed skills mastery in their respective fields as well as personal commitment to mentorship and the skills development of others.

Clara Yeong, Principal of SJCK (Leedon) and Joanna Koh, Vice-Principal of SJCK (Harding) are among 25 early childhood leaders selected for the 2nd cohort of PRINCIPAL MATTERS programme based on their openness to change, passion for self-improvement and commitment to a long-term career in early childhood education. This leadership development programme funded by the Lien Foundation adopts an experimental, multi-disciplinary approach that gives participants overseas exposure to best practices, as well as diverse learning opportunities with mentors and leaders outside the early childhood education sector.

Finally, we would like to share with you a poem that we hope will encourage you in your parenting journey.

*I'm a Hummingbird Parent\**

*I hover nearby, but not over my kids.  
I remain distant enough to let them explore and learn to solve problems.  
I teach them skills, mainly by example.  
I zoom in only when their survival is threatened.  
My goal for them isn't a risk-free childhood,  
but a resilient life.*

*\*<http://blog.childrenandnature.org>*

*Jacqueline Chung* (Dr)  
Senior Principal & Academic Director

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# Term 4 Calendar

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## Public & School Holidays

- Children's Day : 6 October 2017
- Deepavali : 18 October 2017
- Post Concert Holiday : 30 October 2017

## Special Events

*\*More details will be given closer to the events, so do look out for them!*

### 1. Children's Day Celebration

- Date : Thursday 5 October 2017  
Time : Regular school hours  
Attire : School uniform

### 2. \*Annual Concert Full-dress Rehearsal (K1 & K2)

- Date : 26 October 2017 (Session 1) – No classes for Session 2  
27 October 2017 (Session 2) – No classes for Session 1  
Time : 8.15 am – 2.30 pm  
NO CLASSES for Pre-Nursery & Nursery children

### 3. \*Annual Concert (K1 & K2)

- Date : Saturday 28 October 2017  
Times : 10.00 am – 12.00 noon (Session 1 Concert)  
2.00 pm – 4.00 pm (Session 2 Concert)

### 4. \*Year-end Excursions

- Date : 6 November 2017 (Session 1) – No classes for Session 2  
7 November 2017 (Session 2) – No classes for Session 1  
Time : 8.15 am – 1.30 pm

### 5. Year-End Class Party (last day of school for Pre-Nursery, Nursery & K1)






- Date : Wednesday 15 November 2017  
Time : Regular school hours  
Attire : Party clothes

### 6. \*K2 Graduation Camp

- Dates : Thursday & Friday, 16 & 17 November 2017  
Time : 8.30 am to 3.30 pm

# Curriculum

## I **Vygotsky's Key to Learning** ([www.keytolearning.com](http://www.keytolearning.com))

 <b>Artographics</b>	<p>Cultivates the essential skills required both for writing and creative artistic expression. Develops “art vision” and introduces different symbolic tools – composition, rhythm and colour.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduce substitution (representing real objects and events by drawing and painting).</li> <li>- Introduce abstract artistic composition.</li> <li>- To use colours as symbols for expressing mood.</li> </ul>
 <b>Construction</b>	<p>Develops mathematical language and goal directed behavior. Children analyse the structure of objects, plan, articulate their plans and execute them using building blocks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To enhance knowledge and understanding of different types of roads and paths.</li> <li>- To introduce strategies for connecting building blocks to increase the width of a path.</li> </ul>
 <b>Expressive Movement</b>	<p>Develops emotional intelligence, non-verbal communication skills, creativity and productive imagination through body movement, gestures, facial expressions and music.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To extend comparative and sequencing skills (compare the sizes of at least six solid 2D objects).</li> <li>- Demonstrate that mixing different proportions of white and a colour creates different shades.</li> </ul>
 <b>Sensory Mathematics</b>	<p>Develops the ability to analyse the external, visual qualities of objects using sensory standards such as colour, shape and size. It builds the foundation for the development of mental abilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To enter into the emotional and imaginative world of a story through movement.</li> <li>- To perform expressive actions when listening to the words of an action song or rhyme.</li> <li>- To copy the teacher’s changes of expressive action.</li> </ul>
 <b>You-Me-World</b>	<p>Offers young children the opportunity to learn about themselves as physical, emotional and social beings. They learn about the natural and material world, about living things and inanimate objects, and about relationships between people. They are encouraged to explore, to empathise and help others learn.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop knowledge and understanding of plants.</li> <li>- Develop knowledge and understanding of the materials we use to make everyday objects.</li> <li>- To develop the ability to ‘read’ a simple symbolic message.</li> <li>- To develop a sense of time.</li> </ul>

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# Curriculum

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## II Language & Sensory Play Experiences in English

- Colour Explorations
- Mark-Making

In *Colour Explorations*, we hope to expose the children to the colours around them. In *Mark-Making*, children will make marks using different tools and implements on different medium, and will be encouraged to talk about the marks they have made. Through these hands-on activities, we believe the children will develop a heightened awareness of their senses and learn to articulate their thoughts more effectively.

## III Language Play Experiences in Chinese 华文

- Shapes 形状
- Transportation 交通工具

The children will learn more about shapes and transportation through stories, songs, rhymes and meaningful hands-on activities that revolve around the themes. We encourage you to continue to expose your child to Mandarin in fun and enjoyable ways so that he/she will develop a love for the language from young.

If you have any related resources (i.e. books, interesting transportation toys etc.) on shapes and transportation that you would like to share with the class, do let your child's teachers know. Your child can do a short Show-and-Tell with his/her peers in class.

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# Suggested Home Activities

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- Talk to your child about different types of vehicles. Name the different vehicles, e.g. cars, taxis, buses. Talk about how the vehicles are the same or different. Are the vehicles used for different purposes?
- Visit the children's section of the library. Look for books and magazines related to transportation. Read to and with your child about the different types of transportation.
- Visit a fire station or police station to catch a glimpse of a real fire engine or police car. Maybe, you may even get to sit in one! Take a picture and share it with the class!
- Wash your car together with your child, or go to a car wash together with your child. Enjoy watching the water and soap bubbles as they go down the window.
- Play with toy cars and vehicles. If you can, design your own mini town with roads, signs and houses!
- Make your own special vehicle out of recycled materials like cardboard boxes, and let your child have fun riding in it!

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# General Information

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## Annual Concert

28 October 2017  
MES Theatre at Mediacorp

## "The Promise"

This year's concert "The Promise" sets out to be yet another highly entertaining as well as meaningful one. The K1 and K2 children will be receiving order forms about the invitation passes for the concert. We would also like to extend an invitation to the rest of the families of the Pre-Nursery & Nursery children to watch the concert. Do check with the office regarding availability of concert passes.

Do also take note of the following information regarding the Annual Concert.

There are NO CLASSES for the Pre-Nursery & Nursery children on these days:

**26 & 27 Oct (Thursday & Friday)**

Full-dress rehearsals (which involve all the teachers)

### Partial refund of 2018 book fees

If your child is continuing with us in 2018, and you would like to reuse your older child's books, please collect the 2018 book list from the office.

You must bring in the full set of relevant books (labeled with your child's name and 2018 class) to the office on the dates stated in the book list and you will be given a refund via bank transfer.

# General Information



## Every Friday is Fruit Day

We would like all children to bring some fruit to supplement the meal time on Fridays. The fruit should be pre-cut (if necessary) and easy to consume.



## Daily Temperature-taking

- Take child's temperature BEFORE child arrives in school.
- Paste sticker (or masking tape) indicating child's temperature on uniform.
- Children with a fever ( $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) are to be kept away from school.
- Children who are sick should not board the bus or arrive in school only for us to discover that they are unwell and have to be sent home. By that time, they may already have infected other children.
- If your child is unwell (fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, vomiting, diarrhoea and other infectious diseases), please keep him/her away from school.

## Term 4 Fee

Due date : **15 September 2017**

Amount : **\$1,556.85** (inclusive of 7% GST)

- Make cheque payable to **St. James' Church Kindergarten.**
- Write child's name and class at the back of the cheque.
- Please do not send us post-dated cheque.
- Please make payment by **15 September 2017.**

GIRO/Baby Bonus deduction: **15 September 2017**

- Please ensure that there are sufficient funds in the account.
- For unsuccessful deductions, a bank charge of \$5.00 applies.

A late payment fee of \$30.00 (inclusive of GST) is levied each week for outstanding fee after 15 September 2017. Receipts will be issued upon successful deduction of term fees paid via Giro / CDA a/c in week 4.



*".....where every child matters."*

### Our Vision

A preschool where every child experiences high quality education, is developed into a well-rounded individual, and demonstrates godly character

### Our Mission

To provide an environment that offers high quality and holistic early education and to nurture values based on Christian principles

### Our Core Values

Respect  
Nurture  
Godly character