



St. James' Church Kindergarten

"...where every child matters."

Starlight 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

Term 4 Calendar



**PUT THIS ON YOUR
CALENDAR**

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 – 2.30 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 English

Phonics

- Soft 'c', soft 'g', magic 'e'
- Reading and writing
- Spelling & dictation

Readers

- Goal!
- Laughing Hyena

Mini project

- From K2 to P1
The children will work on a series of activities that have been designed to help them transit more seamlessly into Primary 1 (P1). These include discussing their ideas of P1, going through a day in P1 and highlighting what is going to be new to them in a usual day at school. Also, children will get to share real case studies of conflicts and discuss possible ways of negotiating through them. Through dialogue and meaningful interactions, we hope to give your child the skills to help them better manage the challenges they may face when they enter P1.

Suggested home activities

- Select a simple children's story book and try to add a twist to the story. You may choose to change the ending, extend the story, or even add a new character to the story! Create a new story together by recording the sentences and getting your child to draw his or her favourite scene from the book.
- Take some photos of your child's new primary school environment and visit the school website to see if you find anything that may interest your child. Spend some time talking to your child about any excitement or possible apprehensions he or she may have. Going through the school website to familiarise your child with the school and documenting some photos during the P1 orientation programme could be helpful to ease the transition to P1 as well.
- Create an artwork or scrapbook of your child's memories of SJCK.

Curriculum

II Chinese

The emphasis in our Chinese programme is that children learn to listen to and understand simple phrases, speak it confidently, and recognise simple Chinese characters. To foster a love for the Chinese language, do continue to give your child opportunities to listen to songs, rhymes and stories.

Topics

- Shapes
- Road Safety

我们的华文课程以听、说为基础，在听、说的基础上帮助幼儿实现简单读、写。注重培养幼儿学习华语的兴趣，以及对华语的喜爱。选择与幼儿生活息息相关的主题，引导幼儿在自身的生活经验中学习。

第四学期我们有两个主题：《形状变变变》、《马路安全》，以下是我们给家长的一些简单建议，来配合幼儿的学习。

• 形状变变变

亲子活动：

请家长引导幼儿去发现生活中的“不同的形状”。

例如：厕纸筒、汽水罐是圆柱体，饼干、面包可以是三角形、正方形等，建议家长跟幼儿一起来做不同形状的饼干与面包，在生活中体验形状的乐趣，也可以让小朋友带到学校跟朋友一起分享。

• 马路安全

亲子活动：

请家长在日常生活中，在路上、在巴士上、地铁站等地方，与幼儿讨论交通工具的种类、名称，以及交通规则等。

请家长带幼儿一起参观地铁站，了解交通工具在生活中的作用。

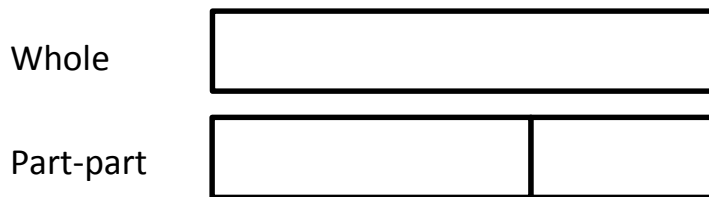
Curriculum

III Mathematics

- Addition & subtraction using whole-part model
- Story sums
- Time concepts
- Money concepts

Suggested home activities

- Have a family fruit feast. Explore the concept of addition and subtraction by placing the pieces of fruit in wholes and in parts.



- Create a few number stories on addition and subtraction. An example is provided below:
 - David has 8 stickers. He gives 2 stickers to his sister. How many stickers does he have left?
 - Invite your child to illustrate his/her number story to find out the answer.
- Make a clock face and invite your child to write in the numbers on the clock face. Then let your child know that he/she can go to the playground at a certain time, e.g. 5 o'clock. Get your child to show 5 o'clock on the clock face. Then allow your child to wait until 5 o'clock to go to the playground, checking against a real clock for the time.
- Take your child to the supermarket. Give him/her an amount of money, e.g. \$4, and allow him/her to choose some items to buy with the amount of money given. Then show him/her how to pay for the items and receive the change, if any.

General Information

Annual Concert

28 October 2017
MES Theatre at Mediacorp

"The Promise"

This year's concert "**The Journey**" 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 : \$ 1,124.75 / \$1,224.75 (inclusive of 7% GST)

(after deduction of \$300 deposit for children who were registered before January 2016 / \$400 deposit for children who were registered after January 2016)

- 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