3rd February 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A Happy Lunar New Year in advance!

We are glad to see our pupils adapting to school well and while doing so, refreshed their friendship with their peers and their rapport with their teachers. Our pupils have also been enriched by varied learning activities like the P3 Leadership and Lifeskills camp, P4 PRAISE@MYSINGAPURA and are looking forward to the Chinese New Year Celebration this week.

**GMSP Celebrates**

**P3 Leadership and Lifeskills Camp**
The P3 Leadership and Lifeskills Camp was held on the 8th of January. The P3 pupils were seen to be exercising traits of self and team leadership. They had wonderful opportunities to meet challenges as a team, communicating with each other to find the best solution to the problem at hand. The pupils also had time to reflect on their learning at the end of each station. We would like to register our thanks to the many parent volunteers who took time to help out at the various stations, without which the camp would not have been possible.

**CCA pursuits**
**Basketball and Soccer**
The season has started for our Basketball and Soccer Boys. They are definitely fired up for their games and we wish our best for the teams going out! Press on, Boys!

**Athletics**
Our athletes took part in the Akira Swift Down Memory Lane Walk (1km) competition and did very well! Congratulations to the following boys who took part in the Boys Under 12 category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Pupil</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Placement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nithis Sriram</td>
<td>P5FA</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohamed Khairunazim</td>
<td>P4CH</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordon Koh</td>
<td>P5KI</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Badminton**
Our senior Badminton Girls continue where they left off last year and has stormed into the semifinal stage of the East Zone Badminton Championship. They will be facing tough opponents but we are sure that our senior Girls will give their best and overcome their opponents!

**ST1: Empowering Learners who Lead, Care & Serve**

**Chinese New Year Celebration**
The school will be having a Chinese New Year Celebration on Friday, 5th of February. Pupils are encouraged to come in their traditional costumes to add to the festivities. We have also invited the elderly from the Lion Befrienders to join us in the celebrations.

Do note that the school will operate as a **single session starting from 7.30am to 1.00pm**.

**Mass Student Leadership Workshop**
The mass student leadership workshop will be held on the 13th of February, Saturday. It is a workshop for P3-6 class committee members. Besides increasing their awareness and
understanding of the qualities of a GMS(P) student leader, the workshop will also convey and allow them to understand their respective roles and responsibilities. Pupils who are members of their class committees will be issued a consent form by the teachers soon.

**Total Defence Day Commemoration on 15th February, Monday**

Schools commemorate Total Defence Day on 15 February annually to mark Singapore’s fall to the Japanese in 1942. Total Defence Day (TDD) serves to remind our pupils that Singapore is defensible and is worth defending and we ourselves must defend Singapore.

This year the emphasis is on how each individual’s occupation can contribute to the various pillars of Total Defence namely, Military, Civil, Economic, Social and Psychological. We would be inviting speakers to share with the pupils more about their occupations and how each of their occupations contribute to the respective pillars. Booths would also be set up during the recesses to allow the pupils to create awareness of the various occupations and in this way, the school aims to bring about greater awareness in the pupils in the area of Education Career Guidance.

The pupils are encouraged to bring an item from home that can represent their dream occupation. We would like to encourage parents to explore with the children as to how they arrive at their choices and how their dream occupation will contribute to the Total Defence of Singapore.

**1 to 1 interaction time**

To build a positive teacher and pupil relationship in the class our teachers will begin scheduling their class pupils to be engaged in 1 to 1 interaction time shortly. This interaction time enables our teachers to know and understand each pupil in the class well so as to better cater to their needs. You can also encourage your child to share with his/ her teacher how his/ her learning needs can be better met.

**Sharing of School Values**

This month we explore the value of Honour God, School and Nation. We impress on the pupils that one such way is to honour each other as they THINK before they speak with one another. Please actively support us in growing our pupils to THINK in their words.

**THINK**

T – Is it True?
H – Is it Helpful?
I – Is it Inspiring?
N – Is it Necessary?
K – Is it Kind?

**School Insurance for pupils**

Please find attached at the end of the letter the Summary of Policy Coverage and Benefits from the Student Protection Plan that the school has purchased for all our pupils. This serves as information to you only and there is no further action required on your part.

**ST3: Engaging Partnerships for Support & Excellence**

**Road Safety and Traffic Management**

Your strong partnership with us is much needed to emphasise the importance of observing safety at road crossings and bus-stops to the pupils. We have briefed the pupils to observe good safety habits such as not running and dismounting from bicycles or scooters at road crossings. We have also highlighted the importance of queuing in an orderly fashion to board the school or public bus.

We would like to continue to be good neighbours to the residents around us and be mindful of their needs as well. As such we would like to seek your strong cooperation to help facilitate quick drop-offs or pick-ups at the carpark of Blk 120 so that the needs of the residents using the carpark can also be met.
Family Matters @ School’s Evidence-based programmes
To support parents in building a healthy relationship with their child, the school is offering the Positive Parenting Programme (Triple P) and Signposts. Through data collected by Ministry of Social and Family Development, these programmes are proven effective in improving children’s behaviour and reducing parenting stress. The programmes are open to all P3 and P4 parents.

By end of February, all P3 and P4 parents will be handed through your child a questionnaire package with a joint cover letter from Ministry of Social and Family Development and the school on more details on the programmes. The school hopes that all P3 and P4 parents will complete the questionnaire.

After completion, seal it in the enclosed envelope and return the sealed envelope to your child’s form teacher by 14 Mar 2016. With this information, the Ministry of Social and Family Development will recommend a programme that best meets your parenting needs. Thereafter, you will hear from Ms Surina Lim, our Family Matters@School coordinator on how to proceed further.

Partnering you
In our previous memo sent out to you, we have introduced the various platforms by which we reach out to our parents to work with them in providing a conducive home environment for their children’s learning.

Below are some upcoming events/activities for you to participate in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Dads for Life                      | 27 February 2016 (Saturday) 9am – 11am | Fathering Talk – Fathering for the Future  
The workshop seeks to help fathers understand the important role that they play in the personal and social development of their children, which entails life-long impact.  
Please see attached registration form. |
| Parents as Loving Supporters       | 5 March 2016 (Saturday)  9am – 1pm | You will get to meet the PALS members and other P1 parents like you. This is a great platform for networking, learning and to support each other to become more effective parents and partners in your child’s education.  
Programme Highlights  
1) Welcome families  
2) Family Challenges  
3) Getting involved with the PALS  
4) Fellowship over Lunch (Halal lunch provided)  
Registration forms have already been given out through the P1 form teachers. |

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Rina Liang  
Principal  
Geylang Methodist School (Primary)