

Embracing Diversity

JULY 2019

Dear Parents and Partners,

In June, we celebrated the diverse talents and gifts in our midst at Swirl Concert 2019 – An Arts Presentation. With your continued support and contributions, alongside APSN Delta Senior School, Towner Gardens School (MINDS), and the staff and students of Ping Yi Secondary School, the event was a great success. Thank you and we look forward to more fulfilling partnerships in the next half of 2019!

Past School Events



In collaboration with APSN Delta Senior School and Towner Gardens School (MINDS), our school organised Swirl Concert 2019 – An Arts Presentation at the Esplanade Concert Hall on 25 June. The opening item was a drone swarming display followed by various student performing arts groups, talented students and alumni, staff and the Parents Support Group of Ping Yi Secondary who came together to put up a captivating performance.



During Swirl Concert 2019, NYAA presented the Certificates of Achievement to two outstanding students, Wong Hong Liang and Sharifah Roshani, and two teachers Mr Johnny Wee and Ms Selena Jew for their outstanding contributions at the Digital Wave in Education Programme in Seoul from 8 to 20 October 2018. The programme was voted The Best Programme of the Month by the Korea Communications Standards Commission when it was broadcasted in January 2019.

The Certificates of Achievement were signed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Chairman, NYAA Advisory Board, Mr Heng Swee Keat. They were presented by Guest-of-Honour, Ms Denise Phua, Mayor, Central Singapore District.



With the support and contributions of our staff, Parent Support Group and School Advisory Committee, the school held its annual Iftar, Ramadan Break Fast session, for selected Sec 1 students and their families to enjoy an array of Muslim food.



A selected group of students participated in the Special Olympics Asia Pacific Camp Confidante to promote social inclusion of youths with special needs. It was a series of workshop which started from 27 April, followed by pre-camp activities on 22 and 28 May. The camp was held at Sarimbun Scout camp from 4 to 6 July.



In May, the Craft and Technology Department had the opportunity to showcase some of our good practices at MOE EXCEL Fest 2019. These included creative Art Journaling, VR technology and rapid prototyping in enhancing student's learning experience.



On 5 to 6 July, our uniformed groups attended the Combined Uniformed Group camp, during which cadets did an orienteering trip to the Botanic Gardens, outdoor cooking and had an appreciation ceremony for the graduating cadets with a campfire.

Celebration of Success



L to R: Rocco Carlo Sterpin (Class 301), Mohamed Azlan (Class 511) and Dhandapani Kumaran (Class 301)

During the International Cricket League 2019, three of our very own cricketers Rocco Carlo Sterpin (Class 301), Mohamed Azlan (Class 511) and Dhandapani Kumaran (Class 301) were awarded the Man-of-the-Match award for their excellent all-round bowling and batting performance on 5 March 2019, 14 March and 16 May respectively. Well done, boys!



In June, selected students had a work attachment with My First Skool where they assisted pre-school teachers with their daily activities and interacted with toddlers. Another group of students had a work attachment with S.E.A. Aquarium at Resorts World Sentosa where they interacted with guests at different stations and shared with them about marine life conservation.

Parenting Tips: Preparing Our Children to be Vigilant Citizens

Should a terror attack happen here, Singaporeans must stand united and not allow the perpetrators to divide the nation and turn people against one another, said Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Home Affairs Sun Xueling in Parliament on 1 April 2019. "A key part entails being vigilant and reporting suspicious activity to the authorities early," said Ms Sun.

She pointed out that the Home Team has worked with partner agencies to enhance the preparedness of neighbourhoods, schools, workplaces and community organisations, so they know how to respond should an attack occur. Exercises have been conducted, including lockdown drills in schools.

Global terrorism is on the rise and Singapore is facing our highest level of terror threat in recent years. A terror attack is not a matter of if but when, and we cannot afford to remain complacent. The Home Team has been stepping up our fight against terrorism and more resources have been committed to strengthening our security forces. But the Government's effort alone is not enough. To safeguard our way of life everyone, including your child, has to play a part.

In the event of a terrorist attack, encourage your child to practise "Run, Hide, Tell".

RUN

- Move quickly and quietly away from danger using the safest route
- Do not surrender or attempt to negotiate

HIDE

- Stay out of sight, be quiet and switch your phone to silent mode
- Lock yourself in and stay away from the doors

TELL

- Provide information to the Police by calling 999, SMSing 71999 or using the SGSecure App
- Provide details about the attackers and their location

Adapted from <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/stand-united-in-face-of-terror-attacks-sun-xueling-christchurch-11399566> and <https://www.sgsecure.sg/>

Road Safety Tips for Pedestrians

Following the safety tips below will enhance your safety as a pedestrian.

Dos

- Always cross the road at designated pedestrian crossings, overhead bridges, underpasses or zebra crossings.
- Always **be alert for inattentive drivers** even at signalised crossings.
- Always be alert for any oncoming vehicles.

Don'ts

- Don't run across the road.
- **Don't use your mobile devices while walking, especially when crossing the road.**
- Don't cross in front of a stationary vehicle or between stationary vehicles.
- Never cross when the 'red man' lights up or when the 'green man' is flashing.

A Safety Reminder for Drivers

To protect students walking into school, please do not make right turns to Chai Chee Street when driving out from the school gate from 6.30 – 7.45 am.

Adapted from <https://www.police.gov.sg/resources/traffic-matters/safety-tips/road-safety-for-pedestrians>

Working Together to Prevent Dengue

In recent weeks, there has been a surge in dengue cases in Singapore. With the warmer months ahead, we can expect the number of cases to rise further unless immediate actions are taken by everyone in the community to remove mosquito breeding habitats. The National Environmental Agency (NEA) has stepped up its public communications efforts and outreach across Singapore. A collective national effort is critical to keep the dengue situation under control.

What the school is doing

We have stepped up efforts to detect and destroy potential breeding sites. Our school cleaners and operations staff, in addition to their daily cleaning routines, have been briefed to be on the lookout for potential breeding grounds and to remove disposed receptacles that may contain stagnant water. Our pest control contractors have also been tasked to intensify inspections and 'search and destroy' efforts. In addition, we have increased the frequency of mosquito fogging. Our staff are also assisting to look out for potential mosquito breeding grounds and ensure proper housekeeping too.

We will be going through the 5-step Mozzie Wipeout with your children to remind them of things each one of us can do. We hope that they will stay vigilant and play their part in keeping the dengue situation under control.

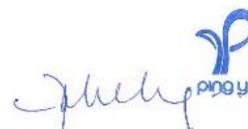
What you can do too

We would like to encourage you to take the opportunity to help your child stay vigilant by practising the following dengue preventive measures:

- Practise the "5-step Mozzie Wipeout" with your child at home to reduce dengue transmission, so that we can keep everyone safe in the community.
- If your child is showing symptoms suggestive of dengue, he/she should see the GPs early to be diagnosed. Your family may also wish to use mosquito repellents especially if your home is in a dengue cluster, to minimize mosquito bites and the possibility of dengue transmission.

Calendar of Events (Term 3)

| Term 3/Week | Date | Event/Activity |
|-------------|--|---|
| 5 | Tuesday 30 July | NYAA Ceremony |
| | Monday 29 July – Wednesday 7 August | N-Level Preliminary Examinations |
| 5-6 | Tuesday 30 July – Friday 2 August | GCE N-Level MTL Oral Examination |
| 6 | Thursday 8 August | National Day Celebrations & Sports Carnival |
| | Friday 9 August | National Day |
| 7 | Monday 12 August | Hari Raya Haji observed |
| 7-8 | Friday 16 August – Wednesday 21 August | GCE O-Level EL Oral |
| 8 | Thursday 22 August | GCE O-Level Science Practical Examination |
| | Friday 23 August | Meet-the-Parents Session (Sec 4NA/NT) |
| 8-10 | Monday 26 August – Wednesday 4 September | O-Level Preliminary Examination |
| 10 | Thursday 5 September | Sports Carnival |
| | | Teachers' Day Celebrations |
| | Friday 6 September | Teachers' Day Holiday |



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