



Coral Waves



Dear Parents/Guardians of Coralites

1. Values Education

- 1.1 Parents are key partners in our school's Character Education and Citizenship (CCE) programme. One of the main objectives of CCE programmes is to inculcate the right values in our Coralites. In view of this, we would like to share with you how we celebrate and reinforce the school values through our **Coral Values Month** activities.
- 1.2 For the month of January, we celebrated the value of **Responsibility**. We view the value of **Responsibility** as an essential attribute that would aid in the social and academic development of our Coralites.
- 1.3 We have unpacked this value into three simple statements for the students so that they could easily understand, internalise and apply them in their lives. The statements are:
 - *I do all my work to the best of my ability.*
 - *I keep my promises.*
 - *I make no excuses.*
- 1.4 We hope that you will further reinforce this value of **Responsibility** in your child/ward. Some actions you can take are as follows:
 - Provide them timely reminders to check their school journal for homework and other tasks.
 - Assign them simple roles and responsibilities that they can carry out at home.
 - Reaffirm their efforts and actions with words of praises and compliments.

2. Total Defence Day (TDD)

- 2.1 Total Defence Day (TDD), which falls on 15th February, marks the British surrender of Singapore to the Japanese during World War 2. This annual event reminds us that the task of nation-building is not easy, and that we must work together to preserve our present prosperity and stability.

- 2.2 The theme for this year's Total Defence is "**Because You Played A Part**". TDD 2014 seeks to convey the message that we are able to enjoy what we have in Singapore today because of the determination and hard work of generations of Singaporeans who have stayed together, overcoming many challenges along the way and bringing Singapore forward to what it is today. As long as we remain united as one, we will succeed in building a secure and bright future for ourselves and our children.
- 2.3 In Coral Primary, we will commemorate **TDD on Thursday, 13 February** with an assembly programme where students will learn about Singapore's past and appreciate what we have achieved over the years. Students will experience civil defence activities during their recesses at the heritage learning centre.
- 2.4 The canteen will also be selling 'war food' such as sweet potatoes and tapioca to give our students an opportunity to taste them. Through these planned activities, we hope to enable our students to better understand at least one aspect of Total Defence (Social, Civil, Military, Economic, and Psychological) and also to understand the importance of playing their part in defending Singapore.

3. **Fire Drill Emergency Exercise on Friday, 28 February**

- 3.1 We would like to inform our parents/guardians that the school will be involved in an emergency evacuation exercise conducted by MOE. The simulation exercise will also involve the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) and Singapore Police Force (SPF).
- 3.2 This is part of the school's efforts to ensure that both the staff and students are aware of the evacuation procedures in case of any emergency.
- 3.3 The exercise will be held on **Friday, 28 February**. The exercise will be made known to residents living around the school nearer the date through a notification to the RC and CC. A banner will also be hung outside the school nearer the date.

4. **Photo-taking Session on Friday, 14 February**

- 4.1 There will be an **individual and class** photo-taking sessions for **P1 students** on **Friday, 14 February**. Your child/ward will need to be in **school uniform** for the photo-session on that day. Each P1 student will receive 4 passport sized photographs. The photos will be used for their report book and student's profile. The rest of the photos will be returned to your child/ward. Each P1 student will pay \$3 for the 4 passport sized photographs.
- 4.2 For the **P2 – P6 students**, there will only be **class photo-taking sessions** on that day.
- 4.3 The school will arrange with the vendor for your child/ward to purchase the class photograph when the sample copy is ready for viewing. Do note that your child/ward will have to pay for the copy he/she orders. The costs for the photographs are shown below:

Item	Cost
Laminated 5R photograph	\$3
Laminated 8R photograph	\$6

- 4.4 Please note that your child/ward need not order the class photo if he/she does not wish to purchase the photo. Please do not give your child/ward the money immediately. The school will inform your child/ward when to make the payment.

5. Training for P4 students on the Newsmaker

- 5.1 The Newsmaker is a software which gives students ample opportunities to practise their computer-based writing when compiling their news scripts. It provides students with an authentic, task-based approach to practise their language skills via role plays such as a reporter, a news anchor and a producer in their own news production. It also promotes self-directed learning among students as they need to take ownership and responsibility for their own learning.
- 5.2 All P4 students will go through a training session conducted by a vendor together with the English Language teacher on how to use the Newsmaker. After which, students will make a series of productions which include International Friendship Day, Singapore Good English Movement Week and other school events. The skills learnt this year will also enable our students to use it for other school events when they are in P5 and P6.

Please note the training sessions for your child/ward:

Date	Time	Classes
12 Feb	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	4O & 4R
19 Feb	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	4C

6. P1 & P2 Holistic Assessment

- 6.1 At Lower Primary, the school's key focus is building students' confidence and igniting a passion to learn. Thus, much emphasis is placed on the process of learning. In Coral Primary, we adopt a range of informal assessment tools, including written and performance tasks such as Reading Aloud, Show-and-Tell and Maths Trail for teachers to provide feedback to students and their parents on the students' mastery of concepts and skills as well as their strengths and areas for improvement. This can be seen through the students' artefacts and reflections in 'My Portfolio'.
- 6.2 Instead of heavy emphasis on year-end pen-and-paper examinations, we are also adopting 'bite-size' assessments that are well-spaced throughout the term to enable the Lower Primary students to experience success and have a positive transition to the Primary Education System.

7. P4, P5 & P6 Continual Assessment 1 (CA1)

- 7.1 We hope that our parents/guardians will work in partnership with the school in ensuring that our students are physically and mentally prepared for CA1. **When your child/ward is ill, please do not send him/her to school even during examination.**
- 7.2 **We also do not encourage the practice of sending your child/ward who is unwell to sit for an exam and then bring him/her home immediately after the paper.** Your child/ward will not be able to perform at his/her best. It is essential that your child/ward has a good rest at home. If your child/ward has missed the examination, he/she would be assessed/promoted based on his /her overall performance for the year.
- 7.3 The schedule and coverage for the Continual Assessment 1 for P4, P5 and P6 students are attached in the Annexes for your reference.

8. P5 & P6 The Growing Years (GY) Programme 2014

- 8.1 The Sexuality Education Programme was the Ministry of Education's (MOE) response to the challenges of changing social trends and values in Singapore that have made an impact on the attitudes and behaviour of our youth. Children need to acquire the knowledge, values and habits which will allow them to develop healthy and responsible relationships as they grow up. While parents/guardians play the primary role in their children's sexuality education, schools have a complementary role to play in providing pupils with objective and reliable information on sexuality as part of a holistic education. As such, this programme is compulsory for all P5 and P6 pupils.
- 8.2 Parents/Guardians who would like to withdraw their children/wards from the programme, have to submit the opt-out form. The opt-out form can be downloaded from our school website > Home > Useful Links > For Parents > Sexuality Education. Please submit the opt-out form via your child/ward to the Form Teacher by **Monday, 10 February**.
- 8.3 In primary schools, the Sexuality Education Programme is presented with the help of a VCD entitled 'Curious Minds'. The sessions will be facilitated by our trained teachers who will facilitate focused discussions on the issues raised in the VCD. For more information, please visit our school website > Home > Useful Links > For Parents > Sexuality Education.
- 8.4 The school will be conducting the workshop for all P5 students at the end of each term and all P6 students at the end of each semester. Please refer to **Annex A** for P5 & P6 parents/guardians.

9. P1 Curriculum Briefing Cum Classroom Experience

- 9.1 The school strongly believes that building a positive and an effective partnership with parents will bring out the best in every child. The briefing by the Principal, Miss Chong Siew Fong, will allow parents/guardians to have better understanding of the key focus of the Lower Primary Education and the academic and non-academic programmes for their child/ward. This will then enable both the school and home to better support and further enrich our students in their learning journey.
- 9.2 As part of the programme, parents/guardians will join their children/wards in the classrooms. In this Classroom Experience segment, the teachers will conduct and explain in detail how some lessons are carried out for e.g. Strategies for English Language Learning and Reading (STELLAR), Maths Manipulatives Programme and also clarify certain expectations to further enhance your child's/ward's learning.
- 9.3 We hope to seek the understanding of our parents/guardians that we can only accommodate **up to 2 adults** per child/ward in the classrooms due to space constraints.
- 9.4 We also seek the understanding of our parents/guardians to send their child/ward to the school foyer by 7.50 am in preparation for the classroom experience segment.
- 9.5 Details of the P1 Curriculum Briefing Cum Classroom Experience are shown below. Please indicate in the Acknowledgement Slip of your attendance for the session.

Date:	Saturday, 8 March 2014	
Time:	8.00 am – 10.30 am	
Programme:	P1 Curriculum Briefing by our Principal, Ms Chong Siew Fong	School Hall
	Classroom Experience	P1 Classrooms

10. Parents' Briefings

- 10.1 The school will be organizing Parents' Briefings on **Saturday, 8 March 2014**.
- 10.2 More details on this event including the registration for the briefings conducted by our teachers will be given in a separate letter to parents.

11. Cyber Wellness Tips

<h1>CYBER WELLNESS</h1>		EMPOWERING PARENTS
<i>How to Handle Inappropriate Contents?</i> There are currently a number of limitations to filtering softwares. However, new websites are being constantly created and existing websites may shift to another web address. Consequently, there are no guarantees filtering software will be able to block inappropriate content from your children.		
1. Educate your child/ward on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">☺ Types of inappropriate content online;☺ Click on links and pop-ups from known and credible sources only.	2. If your child/ward encounters inappropriate content, advise them to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">☺ Close the web browser or message window;☺ Report the matter to you or their teachers immediately.	3. Establish rules on the kinds of websites that your child/ward can access. 4. Place the family computer in a common area so that your child's/ward's internet activities can be easily monitored. 5. Install filtering and parental control software to remotely monitor your child's/ward's online activities.

Mdm Asrinah Asahari
Vice Principal



Coral Primary School

Parental Reply/Acknowledgement Form (to be submitted to Form Teacher **by Monday, 10 February**)

Name of Student: _____ () Class: _____

(Please tick in the box)

A. P4 – P6 Continual Assessment 1 (CA1) Schedule and Topics to be Tested

- I have taken note of the CA1 schedule and the topics to be tested.

B. P1 Curriculum Briefing cum Classroom Experience on Saturday, 8 March

(Please tick and indicate accordingly)

- I will **not be attending** the P1 Curriculum Briefing Cum Classroom Experience on 8 Mar.
- I will **be attending** the P1 Curriculum Briefing Cum Classroom Experience on 8 Mar.

Number of adults attending: 1 adult / 2 adults (Please circle)

Name and Signature of Parent / Guardian