



BENDEMEER PRIMARY SCHOOL • ISSUE 1 2019



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings to one and all!

2019 has been a great start for us as we merged Balestier Hill Primary School and Bendemeer Primary School to begin our journey as the new Bendemeer Primary School (BPS). Our new school crest together with our motto Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders encapsulates our belief that each of our students will strive to be a confident, self-directed learner with strong moral values, able to lead themselves and others.

We strongly believe that education at BPS is about nurturing the whole child. In the new BPS, we will continue to build on the good work of the previous two schools and develop the child to be the best that they can be. Besides learning in school and beyond the classroom, the school has a wide spectrum of activities ranging from Art, Sports, Values in Action (VIA) to adventure camps to develop our students morally, intellectually, physically, socially and aesthetically. In pursuit of our mission, we want to provide a learning environment where every staff member believes that all students can achieve high levels of learning, and every staff member is committed to the success of each student. Our dedicated teachers will continue to support the growth of each child in areas of academic learning and values education.

We applaud our students' efforts for their achievements in PSLE 2018. The results are a fine reflection of their hard work and determination to do their best. Supportive parents and committed teachers are key to our students' successes! Our Primary 6 graduands of 2018 certainly did themselves proud by improving on our school's average T-score and they were successful in entering the secondary school of their choice.

We also want to recognise the important contributions parents make towards a child's success in school. At BPS, we believe in engaging and building a strong relationship with home and the community. The close partnership between home and school is very important; as the saying goes, "it takes a whole village to raise a child".

Our niche areas in Sports are growing from strength to strength. Our Sepak Takraw Senior Team came in 2nd and the Track & Field Senior Team also came in overall 2nd for the National Inter-School Sepak Takraw and Track & Field Championships respectively. In fact, our young athletes did us proud by bagging a total of 3 Gold and 3 Silver and one of them even set a new record for the 100 metres hurdles event.

In our Outreach Programme to encourage environmental action, we were awarded the BCA Green Mark Gold+ Award for having an environmentally friendly and sustainable environment. All these were made possible through the sheer determination of our students, dedicated staff as well as relentless support of our parents, alumni and partners! We are indeed very heartened and thankful for the strong support received as we bring the school to greater heights!

As we journey towards the school's vision, "A gracious community of passionate learners and confident leaders", I would like to share this with my dear Bendemeer students.

I am honoured and proud to have this opportunity to be part of the Bendemeer family.

Like Martin Luther King Jr., I too have a dream...

I have a dream – that one day you will develop to your potential.

I have a dream – that one day you will make a difference.

I have a dream – that one day you can change the world.

With hope and commitment, let us work together towards making those dreams come true...for you my Bendemeer students,



MRS TAN-LIM KIM GEK

Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders!

NEW SCHOOL CREST



2019 is a significant milestone for all of us as it marks the inauguration of the new Bendemeer Primary School through the merger of Bendemeer Primary School and Balestier Hill Primary School. To start the new beginning, we have a new school crest that encapsulates our intentions, hopes and aspirations for our students. The school crest consists of four equal sections. Each feature of the section has its own distinctive meaning and significance. In the top left section is a globe that signifies that our students will develop critical thinking about global issues. The red lion on the bottom left section signifies a dynamic citizen rooted to our homeland, Singapore. The bottom-right section

signifies the students, staff, parents and community working together hand-in-hand to nurture our students to be the best they can be. The top right section is the acronym of our school Bendemeer Primary School. The shield is supported by our new motto – 'Today's Learners Tomorrow's Leaders' lauded on a banner. We believe that each of our students will strive to be a confident person, self-directed learner with strong moral values and to lead themselves and others for the glory of our nation. The four colours on the school crest are red, blue, yellow and white. Red signifies integrity and passion for learning, blue symbolises peace and harmony, white signifies courage and virtue, yellow stands for confidence and vibrancy.

LEARNING FOR LIFE PROGRAMMES (LLP)



Traditional Indonesian Horse Dance

Learning for Life Programme (LLP) comprises distinctive programmes that provide meaningful and authentic contexts where knowledge can be applied; values as well as 21st century competencies can be demonstrated by and strengthened in our students.



Our school has two Learning for Life Programmes (LLP) - Bendemeer's TEMPO (Towards Enhancement of Music and Performing Arts Opportunities), a performing arts programme as well as the Student Leadership Programme. Our LLPs focus on building students' characters and promote strong mastery of fundamentals through exposure to a wide range of experiences to build their social emotional competencies and to acquire sound values.



Bangara Dance

Bendemeer's TEMPO

Bendemeer's TEMPO (Towards Enhancement of Music and Performing Arts Opportunities), is customized to develop our students' interest and sensitivity as well as hone their musical potential through the broad-based music and performing arts programmes. It is aligned to MOE's Music curriculum and syllabus. It also aims to provide talented students with opportunities to further pursue and hone their talents. Through our programme, we hope to develop well-rounded children who are able to display basic musicianship, understand and exhibit the basic elements of dance and movement and who also have an appreciation for the Arts.



Angklung



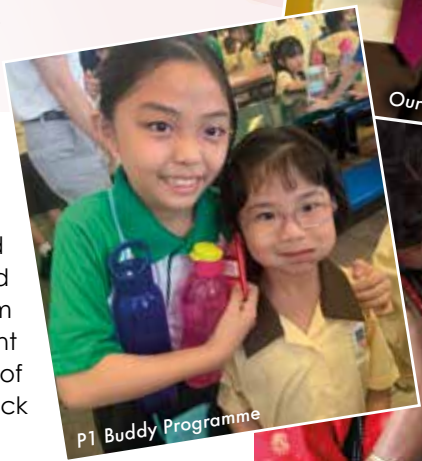
GarageBand



Our student leaders

Student Leadership Programme

In line with our school motto of "Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders", we believe that every child is a leader. The Student Leadership Programme is a six-year programme which aims at developing our students into confident leaders with inquiring minds and strong moral values. This programme spans across the 6 levels and students are equipped with effective communication and leadership skills so as to allow them to mature into responsible, resilient and caring individuals capable of leading others and contributing back to society.



P1 Buddy Programme



Our student leaders at work

PREFECTORIAL BOARD

The prefects are the voices for our students' community and they will lead the rest of the students to promote a caring and conducive school culture through nurturing and sustaining positive relationship. The prefects go through a stringent selection process before they are officially appointed.

Once selected, these student leaders undergo special training which further hones their leadership skills and equips them with skills in managing conflicts and fostering better relationships within the student community.



Our prefects taking the Prefects' Oath



Prefectorial Board 2019



Our junior prefects walking in proudly



Mrs Lily Wong putting on the prefect pin for our Head Prefect, Anshika Saxena.

Prefects' Investiture 2019

Bendemeer Primary School celebrated the appointments of our prefects during the Prefects' Investiture that was held on 18 February 2019. The investiture began with the prefects walking smartly into the school hall with pride. The ceremony also witnessed the introduction of the Executive Committee (EXCO) prefects.

Otter Project

Otters are adorable and highly sociable animals known for their positive energy and intelligence. Though playful and mischievous at times, the otters are also known for their ability to focus and work together as a team. Relying on their keen intelligence and tenacity, otters are able to rise to a challenge and nothing is impossible for them until it is done!

In our school, we have decided to adopt otters, which are commonly sighted in our neighbourhood, as our mascots to inspire our students to be as resilient and positive as these lovely animals. We even have a special Otter Project which is helmed by our EXCO prefects. It gives our students a voice in the school envisioning. Our senior student leaders planned and sought their fellow schoolmates' inputs in the selection of new school values as well as in the design for our new school mascots.



EXCO prefects introducing the Otter Project to the students



EXCO prefects gathering responses from their fellow schoolmates

NICHE CCAs

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

There are three different types of Niche CCAs, namely Sports and Games, Performing Arts and Clubs in Bendemeer Primary School. For Sports and Games Niche CCAs, our school offers Floorball, Rope-Skipping, Sepak Takraw, Track and Field and Wushu. For Performing Arts Niche CCAs, our school offers Concert Band, Chinese, Malay and Indian Dances. Finally, for Niche Clubs, we have Art and Robotics Clubs. Niche CCAs are for students who have been selected and they will be trained for both internal and external competitions and performances.

Niche CCAs: Sports and Games



Floorball

Floorball is an indoor sport which originated from Sweden and has gained popularity in countries like Singapore, Australia, Canada and Japan. It is a fast and exciting game that promotes end-to-end plays with quick transitions and fluid game play. Through the game, we hope to foster strong bonds among team members as well as a competitive spirit.

Rope Skipping

Rope skipping is an activity popular with both children and young adults. It may be used as a cardiovascular workout, similar to jogging or bicycle riding. It also helps to improve students' dynamic balance, efficiency in movement, speed and agility.



Sepak Takraw

Sepak Takraw is a popular sports in Bendemeer Primary School. The game helps our students to develop excellent eye-foot coordination, leg strength and flexibility. It also provides a platform for our students to acquire good sportsmanship and to learn to work and cooperate as a team.

Track and Field

The Track-and-Field CCA was started in 2019. It comprises events such as running, jumping, and throwing. It is an effective way to increase students' cardiovascular fitness as well as maintain a healthy weight. Through track-and-field, our students will develop a passion for exercise and healthy habits that will stay with them for life.



Wushu

Wushu was set up in Bendemeer Primary School in 2007. It aims to cultivate students' interests in Wushu as well as to develop discipline and perseverance among students as they master the moves and routines involving fists and weapons.

Niche CCAs: Performing Arts

Concert Band

Established in 1984, the Bendemeer Primary School Concert Band has blossomed to a strong team of 140 members, under the tutelage of our esteemed band director, Mr Quek Boon Hui, assisted by Mr Jonathan Lim.

Our concert band has won numerous accolades such as "Concert Band of the Year" in 2000; the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Gold with Honours award in 2010 and 2012; and Certificate of Distinction award at the SYF Arts Presentations in 2014, 2016 and 2018. In 2012, it also clinched Gold award at the Hong Kong Winterband Festival.

It has also been invited to perform at the Istana, the Esplanade, the Botanic Gardens and Singapore Zoological Gardens. Furthermore, members of the school band also participate actively in both overseas and local music exchange programmes.



Malay Dance

The school engages a professional dance instructor, Mr Elfi Ismail, from Artiste Seni Budaya Group to train our Malay Dance members. Under his guidance, members learn the five basic steps of Malay dance namely Asli, Inang, Masri, Zapin and Joget to become graceful dancers.

Our dancers are given opportunities to showcase their talent to their peers as well as the public during the Annual Prize Giving Day as well as National Day Observance Ceremony organized by Kallang Community Centre.

Indian Dance

The Indian Dance Club was formed in 2007 with a group of Primary 2 students. Currently, we have a total of 30 members from Primary 3 to Primary 6. Indian dance club is a platform for students to showcase their talent in the performing arts. Members are exposed to National Competitions such as the Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) every two years. They are also given opportunities to perform in both school events and events organized by external agencies. During training, members are exposed to contemporary, classical and Bollywood styles of Indian dance.

Chinese Dance

Chinese Dance members are taught basic techniques of Chinese Dance. The instructors and teachers-in-charge provide opportunities for students to improve their skills through teachers' feedback and peer evaluation.

Chinese Dance members perform during school events such as Chinese New Year concert, National Day Celebrations and Annual Prize Giving Day.



Niche CCAs: Clubs & Society



Art Club

The Art Club was formed in 2019 to provide opportunities for our students to experience drawing and painting, 3D Sculpture & Assemblage. Members also take part in Festive Cultural Design Competition, Museum Education, T-Shirt Design, Singapore Youth Festival Art Exhibition and other activities.

Robotics Club

The Robotics Club offers students hands-on experiences in robot building and programming algorithm. Students start off with using NXTs for programming and progress to project works. Students gain knowledge in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, electronic engineering and computer science. Through Robotics challenges, students can display their creativity, resilience, discipline and presentation skills. They gain friendships through their passion in the CCA and build team spirit.



CCA ACHIEVEMENTS

SPORTS & GAMES NICHE CCA

Our school's Sports and Games Niche CCA athletes represented our school in the National School Games and other competitions. We are proud to share their achievements as follows:

Niche CCA	Name of Team / Student (Class)	Achievement
Sepak Takraw	Senior Boys Team	2 nd for National Sepak Takraw Championships 2019
Wushu	Tan Kai Xin Jeslyn (5-5)	Junior Girls 3 rd for National Wushu Championship 2019 - 1 st International Nanquan (Southern Fist)
Floorball	Senior Boys Team	3 rd in the group stage for National Floorball Championship 2019
Track & Field	"A" Division Boys	2 nd for National Track & Field Championship 2019
	Adaikkappan Sachin (6-3)	1 st for National Track & Field Championship 2019 - 300 Metres & 600 Metres
	Ashif Khan (5-2)	1 st (New Record) for National Track & Field Championship 2019 – 100 Metres Hurdles 2 nd for National Track & Field Championship 2019 - 200 Metres
	Adaikkappan Sachin (6-3) Ashif Khan (5-2) Joash Sebastian Raju (6-2B) Nigel Goh U-Min (6-1A)	2 nd for National Track & Field Championship 2019 - 4 x 100 Metres Relay & 4 x 300 Metres Relay
	Nigel Goh U-Min (6-1A)	8 th for National Track & Field Championship 2019 - 100 Metres
	Cura Mikaella Jasmine Ricafrente (6-1B)	6 th Position for the Akira Swift Goh Teck Phuan Memorial Age Group Cross Country Championship 2019 Under 12 - 1 km category
	Cura Mikaella Jasmine Ricafrente (6-1B)	8 th Position for the Singapore Sports School Invitational Meet 2019 Long Jump
	Sherlyn Tay (5-5)	9 th Position for the Singapore Sports School Invitational Meet 2019 Shot Put
Rope Skipping	Wang Zhan Feng (5-2) Kumaresan Sivaram (5-2) Braxton Chan Hao Junn (5-3) Arichandran Sarudhan (5-4)	Junior Boys 5 th for National Rope Skipping Championship 2019 – Speed - Double Dutch





Senior Floorball Team



Our junior boys won 5th position in National Rope Skipping Championship 2019 for Double Dutch Speed Event.



Congratulations to Jeslyn Tan. She achieved the 3rd position in the Junior Girls 1st International Nanquan (Southern Fist) event.



Bendemeer Primary is 2nd in the National Sepak Takraw Championships 2019 (Senior Division).



Congratulations to our 'A' division boys for getting 2nd position in their division!



Our Track-and-Field team together with Mr Rani (VP), Mrs Yap (HOD PE/CCA) and their teachers-in-charge.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS COGNITIVE DOMAIN

Wits & Words (English)

Five of our Primary Six students participated in Wits & Words - a national debate competition. It was a good learning experience for our students as they learnt about crafting arguments and analysing topics from different perspectives.



Our students taking part in Wits & Words. Second row (L-R): Alex Peniel Raj, Jayden Ryan Gurung, Wilson Kho Cher Hao, Eliza Puteri. First row (R): Lauren Sarasa Shoji

Spelling Bee (Tamil)

Four of our students took part in Spelling Bee (Tamil) held at St. Gabriel's Secondary School. It was a valuable learning experience for them and they were able to apply what they have learnt in the classroom during the competition.



Certificates were presented to Shoubhit, Samiksha, Jayasakthi and Muhammad Jasim for participating in Spelling Bee (Tamil)

STAFF@ BENDEMEER PRIMARY SCHOOL

For many months prior to the merger of Bendemeer Primary School and Balestier Hill Primary School, committed educators and staff from both schools had worked conscientiously and collaboratively to prepare both school communities to come together as one school.

Activities were organised for the staff from both schools to get to know one another as we embarked on an exciting new journey towards serving the newly merged Bendemeer Primary School in 2019. Through staff bonding sessions, teambuilding activities and workshop, staff got to learn more about their working profiles as well as that of their fellow colleagues.



Solving a puzzle together



Brainstorming for ideas



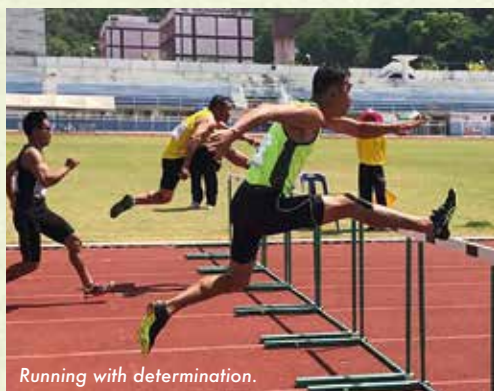
Teachers participating in teambuilding game



Thinking hard to come up with an effective plan



Teachers enjoying themselves as they worked together



Running with determination.



Mr Jason Wong, our victorious record breaker!

Staff Achievement

On 9 March 2019, Mr Jason Wong Mun Kong, our Operations Manager, took part in the 24th Thailand Masters Athletics Championship organised by the Thai Veteran Athletics Association. He came in first place in the 100m hurdles race setting a new record time of 15.47 seconds.

School Advisory Committee

The School Advisory Committee (SAC) is a key partner in Bendemeer Primary School. It plays an important role in supporting the school in our pursuit of excellence for our students. Our SAC members take a keen interest in our students' welfare, holistic development and their overall growth. Their assistance and support come in various forms, for example, financial contributions to support our students and programmes. Our SAC comprises the following distinguished members:

- Chairman** : Mr Tang Wen Yeow
- Secretary** : Mrs Tan-Lim Kim Gek
- Treasurer** : Mr Bob Lee PBM
- Members** : Mr Cheng Aik Hem
Mrs Helen Soh
Mr Lim Sah Bah
Mr Loo Chin Nong PBM
Mr Vishnatha Ramasubramanian
Mr Yiew Siew Mong



Our SAC members



Coming together as one big happy family.



Working towards a common goal



Teachers having fun working together



Weekly staff meeting

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

The School's Parent Support Group (PSG) is formed by a group of parents who have a keen interest in contributing towards the school community.

In our continual effort to strengthen our engagement with parents, the school strongly encourages parents who are not in the Parent Support Group (PSG) to join us as a PSG member. As a PSG member, parents will play an active role in their children's education by volunteering in various school activities.

Many parents have found volunteering their services very enriching as it has created a positive impact on their children's learning experience in the school. If you are interested to join the PSG, you may either complete the PSG Application Form available from the school website or obtain the form from our General Office.



Our PSG members

PSG members helping out at our P2 Reading Star Programme

Our PSG members manning the Recycling Station



Teachers briefing parents in the classroom

PARENTS' CONNECTION @BENDEMEER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Parents are an integral part in our school. We work hand in hand with all parents in providing a holistic education to our students. In Term 1, a series of Parents' Briefings were conducted for our Primary 1 to Primary 6 parents to give them a better understanding of the curriculum and what their children do in school.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Chinese New Year (CNY) Greetings from BPS is a festive community project that took place on 31 January 2019. It aims to extend festive greetings and foster neighbourliness. School leaders together with some members of the staff and a group of Primary 4 prefects served as our school's CNY ambassadors to distribute mandarin oranges, CNY cards and CNY lanterns to our neighbours who operate businesses along Bendemeer Road and Serangoon Road. The CNY cards and lanterns were specially prepared by our Primary 4 students during their Art lessons using unused red packets.



School leaders, teachers and students all ready to extend their Chinese New Year greetings to our neighbours



Wishing you a happy and prosperous Chinese New Year!



Chinese New Year Greetings from Bendemeer Primary School.

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS 2019



Our very own God of Fortune and Big Head Dolls

Chinese New Year is one of the festive occasions that we celebrate to raise awareness of the Chinese culture in a multi-racial Singapore. This year, the celebration started with the much anticipated lion dance followed by a concert which featured our very own student performers as the God of Fortune and Big Head Dolls. Our 'student' models graced the occasion by walking the runway gracefully dressed in minority ethnic costumes. Audience had fun playing interactive games and learning about the Chinese culture.



Ushering Chinese New Year with a lion dance performance



A 'playful lion' interacting with our excited students



We are both teachers and National Servicemen! - Our teachers shared about their National Service duties during an assembly talk.

TOTAL DEFENCE DAY

Bendemeer Primary School commemorated Total Defence Day in the month of February. On 11 February, a group of our male teachers and a parent, Mr Chua, were invited to share about their duties and responsibilities during their National Service days. Their sharing helped our students to learn more about National Service as well as to impress upon them the importance of Military Defence.

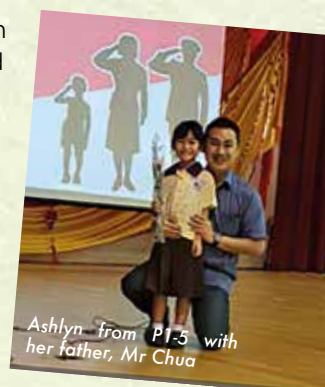
Our Principal, Mrs Tan, read the Total Defence message to the school on 15th February to remind us that we are responsible for defending and safeguarding Singapore.

This year, we also focused on the pillars of Psychological Defence and Social Defence. To demonstrate these pillars, our NE Champs led their fellow schoolmates in playing SG Unite! 2.1, a card game, during various recesses. There was also a wide array of classroom activities for all students to engage in and reflect on the importance of Total Defence.

Students also played interesting computer games such as "The Case of The Cyber Criminal", to learn about Digital Defence, the new sixth pillar in our National Defence framework.



Students had plenty of fun learning about Digital Defence



Ashlyn from P1-5 with her father, Mr Chua