

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2025 | VOL 3

HEAD OF SCHOOL MESSAGE

by Ms Kitty Ho

Dear Parents,

I hope this message finds you well and refreshed after the winter break. The start of the new year has been fantastic, and it's been heartwarming to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm and eagerness to learn.

I would like to thank you for joining our Christmas party celebrations. This event was a wonderful way to showcase the hard work and dedication of our students. The children had been practicing diligently for their performances, embracing the spirit of the season. Dressed in vibrant festive costumes, they confidently took to the stage and delivered unforgettable performances that captivated the audience.

Looking forward, the Chinese New Year is almost upon us! We are excited to celebrate this significant cultural event with our students and create memorable experiences for them. One of the highlights of our celebrations will be the Chinese New Year market. This event will provide an opportunity for the children to engage in hands-on learning experiences, explore Chinese artefacts, taste traditional foods, and participate in a variety of activities related to the festival. We not only believe that these experiences will be enjoyable learning experiences for the children but that they will also foster deeper cultural appreciation and understanding.

On behalf of the PIPS team, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to all of you for a great Year of the Snake. May this year bring you good fortune, happiness, and prosperity. May your children continue to thrive and make remarkable progress.



IMPORTANT DATES:

6TH JANUARY 2025

SCHOOL RESUMES AFTER
WINTER BREAK

24TH JANUARY 2025

CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

**27TH JANUARY -
3RD FEBRUARY 2025**

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS

4TH FEBRUARY 2025

TERM 2 BEGINS



Teachable Moments by Ms Indira

Supporting Learning for Children at Home

Teachable moments are spontaneous opportunities for learning that can occur anywhere, especially at home. These moments can arise from everyday situations, conversations, or experiences, making them invaluable for a child's development. Parents and primary caregivers play a crucial role in recognising and nurturing these opportunities to enhance their children's learning and understanding of the world.

Teachable moments occur when a child expresses curiosity, asks questions, or desires to learn about something specific. These moments can be linked to academic subjects, social skills, or life lessons. For example, a child's curiosity about why the sky is blue can lead to discussions about science. At the same time, a conflict with a sibling can open up conversations about empathy and problem-solving.

Many families travel during the holidays, creating excellent opportunities to capture valuable teachable moments. From navigating the airport—checking in, going through immigration, and passing through security checks—to exploring a new country, these experiences are rich with lessons about geography, organisation, and cultural appreciation.

How Parents and Caregivers Can Support Learning at Home

- **Be Present and Engaged:** Actively listen to your child and show genuine interest in their questions and thoughts. This will create a safe environment where they feel comfortable exploring new ideas.
- **Encourage Curiosity:** When your child asks questions, encourage them to think critically. Ask follow-up questions that prompt further exploration, such as, "What do you think might happen if...?" This helps develop their thinking skills.
- **Use Everyday Activities:** Everyday tasks can be rich sources of learning. Cooking, for example, can teach measurements and fractions while discussing the importance of nutrition. Gardening can introduce concepts of science and responsibility.
- **Connect Learning to Interests:** Identify and connect your child's interests to educational content. If they love dinosaurs, they can read books about palaeontology or visit a museum. This will make learning personal and engaging.
- **Model Lifelong Learning:** Show your child that learning is a continuous process. Share your learning experiences, whether picking up a new hobby or exploring a subject. This will demonstrate that curiosity and education don't stop after school.
- **Discuss Mistakes as Learning Opportunities:** Emphasise that mistakes are a natural part of learning. When things don't go as planned, discuss what can be learned from the experience. This builds resilience and a growth mindset.
- **Create a Learning Environment:** Foster a space at home that encourages exploration and creativity. Provide books, art supplies, and educational games that promote curiosity and independent learning.

Teachable moments are everywhere, and planning or preparing doesn't take much. By being mindful, parents and caregivers can turn daily experiences into valuable learning opportunities. Being present, fostering curiosity, and creating a nurturing environment can significantly influence children's educational paths.

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2024



This holiday season, our little ones had a blast celebrating Christmas with their friends! From festive crafts to joyful sing-alongs, every moment was filled with laughter and excitement. Our engaging activities not only sparked creativity but also ignited the enchanting Christmas spirit in each child's heart.

ANNUAL FAMILY OUTING

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our annual family outing! We had a delightful day filled with picnics, games, and a splash of face paint. Colorful parachutes and scarves swayed in the breeze while our enthusiastic children engaged in a variety of fun activities organized by their teachers. The beautiful weather made it even more special!



IMPORTANT REMINDERS/ SCHOOL EVENTS

Chinese New Year Flower Market

The children will be celebrating in their classes for Chinese New Year on **Friday, 24th January 2025**. They will be playing Chinese-themed games and activities, listening to traditional music and visiting the music room to take part in a lion dance! Children are most welcome to dress in traditional Chinese costumes on this special day.

Winter Uniform

Winter school uniform is now available for purchase at the school office. If you would like to make additional order as the weather can become quite unpredictable these days, please contact Ms. Tracy and Ms. Rebecca at the Reception to arrange a time for uniform fitting. Each order will take about a week to process.

Extra Curricular Activities (Term 2)

Our school offers a wide range of extra curricular activities on weekdays and Saturdays. Applications for classes starting after Chinese New Year (Term 2) are now open. Please collect a leaflet from our school office. All applications will be accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis. We suggest that you apply as soon as possible while spaces are still available.



**HAPPY
CHINESE
NEW YEAR!**