



Xinghua Link

Message

From the head prefect

Dear Friends,

First of all, I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to pen down this message for the Xinghua Link. Time really flies! This will be my last year in Xinghua Primary School, and I'm really glad to have the opportunity to serve my school with all my heart before I leave this place.

Let me express my gratitude to the school. I've really treated this school as my second home. It is Xinghua that has realised my dreams and taught me a lot of values and lessons useful for life. From the simple and quiet boy I started out as, I now have the honour of being the school's head prefect. It is like going from zero to hero! This school really gives us many opportunities to break out from what we are familiar with and try new challenges. My fellow Xinghua pupils, we must make full use of these opportunities presented to us!



There will be many exciting moments for all of us this year as the Prefectorial Board will be embarking on more projects. Do you still remember the project called "Lighten Your Load"? This project encourages you to pack your bags more wisely. You can look forward to many more interesting presentations and projects from us throughout the year. Remember, if you have a problem or a suggestion, you can always talk to the prefects.

For my peers in Primary Six, let me take this opportunity to send you my support and encouragement. I wish all of you the best in your Primary School Leaving Examinations preparations. Though daunting, we can pull through all the challenges if we work together with one another and the teachers. No matter what happens, always remember that you are never alone in this battle.

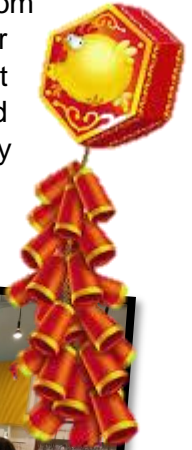
Warmest regards,
Mohamad Al-Imran, 6E2



Looking back at February

Xinghua celebrated Chinese New Year

Our school celebrated Chinese New Year with a concert in the hall and some classroom activities. Yuying Secondary School's Wushu troupe started the concert off with their captivating moves and colourful costumes. After that, students watched a short yet informative video clip comparing the Gregorian and the Chinese calendar, followed by a quiz for the different levels. The concert ended with a rousing performance by the lion dance professionals and our sporting class captains presented their form teachers with tangerines and wished them a Happy Chinese New Year.



Total Defence Day 2019



Our school commemorated Total Defence Day 2019 on 15 Feb 2019. The theme for this year is 'Together We Keep Singapore Strong'. Xinghua pupils showed how they can all contribute in keeping Singapore strong by writing down their thoughts and reflections on the reflections boards put up in the canteen. They also took part in various games and quizzes conducted during their CCE lessons during the week and participated actively in the discussions with their teachers.



I learnt that I can keep Singapore strong by respecting other races and be more accepting of one another.

Livia Mahani, 5R5

I learnt about how important it is to defend Singapore, and more about how to do it well.

Wong Jia En, 4R1



Inter-school Sudoku Mania

Eight of our pupils represented the school in the Yuying Inter-school Sudoku Mania 2019 held at Yuying Secondary school. They trained hard for the competition and in the process, they learnt the importance of teamwork. They encouraged and gave pointers and reminders to one another during the training sessions.

We are proud that our teams had put in their all on the day of the competition and never backed down from the challenge. They competed valiantly against 18 teams from different primary schools and did us proud!



Team A:

Certificate of Participation

- Chen Yingjia Elisabeth, 4R1
- Lim Ruey Vern, 4R1
- Tan Yan Heng Darryl, 4R2
- Padmanaban Nithin Sivas, 4R2



Team B:

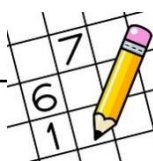
Overall 5th Position

- Lin Jiajunjie, 5R4
- Chen Joanne, 5R4
- Tee Jie Xi, 5R4
- Nur Izyan Khalisah Binte Mohammad Nizwar, 5R4



I am happy to have taken part in the competition and got to represent our school. I am also grateful to my teachers, Miss Fiona Tan and Mr Yan for all the practices and encouragement. I'm really happy with my teammates and even made new friends from different levels!

Chen Joanne, 5R4



I learnt two things from this Sudoku competition. I learnt that teamwork is important and to never ever give up when facing any problem.

Lin Jiajunjie, 5R4

1. SCHOOL EVENTS

a. Sports and Games Carnival

Xinghua will be holding our Annual Sports and Games Carnival on 15 March 2019, Friday. Please note that all students are to come in their House T-Shirts, and will be dismissed at 10:00am on that day.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. March School Holidays

Term 1 ends on 15 March 2019. The school holidays are from 16 March to 24 March. All pupils should return to school on 25 March 2019. We wish all pupils a restful and productive March holiday.

b. Morning Drop-off and Afternoon Pick-up

Parents are reminded not to drive into the school compound to drop off or pick up the children. Only authorised vehicles will be allowed to enter the school. This is to reduce the congestion at the school gate at a time when the flow of students crossing the school gate is the heaviest.

To continue to drop off and pick up your children, you may pick from the following alternatives:

- Utilise the bin centre just by the school gate for a quick drop-off or pick-up.
- Drop your children off at a convenient location nearby and allow them to make their way to school.
- Use the carpark behind the school as there are parking lots available. There is also a zebra crossing that is linked directly to the school.

The school strongly appeals to parents not to utilise the stretch of railing just outside the School Main Gate. Doing so poses road safety risks for your child and school buses and staff vehicles turning into or out of the school.

However, do note that on rainy days, we will allow parents to drive into the school compound. Do observe the speed limit of 15km/h and follow the directions given by the security guards and our Operations Managers. This is a temporary arrangement as the congestion at the main gate will be alleviated upon the completion of the PERI upgrading project. After which, we will review the traffic management plan which will factor in both safety and convenience for all.

Until then, please adhere to the policy stated above to ensure the safety of all our children. We humbly seek your understanding and cooperation.

c. School Home Partnership Guidelines

In line with the School Home Partnership guidelines, we need your support to instil a sense of responsibility in our pupils. Kindly ensure that your children pack their bags daily according to their timetables given. This will enable your children to have all that they will need for learning, while preventing an excessively heavy bag. In the event that your children forgot to bring something to school, we strongly discourage parents or guardians from bringing these items to school for them. When you come to school to pass them a book or a piece of homework, your children will miss the opportunity to develop personal responsibility. Tips you can adopt to help your children develop strategies to be more responsible for themselves can be found below.

Tips to help your child / ward develop personal responsibility

1. Make a routine your children can follow every day to form good habits, such as getting them to check their bags every night according to their timetables given. This is to ensure nothing is missing or forgotten.
2. Encourage your children to write down events or homework in their pupil's handbook and ensure that the handbook is checked.
3. Set expectations and hold your children accountable. If they forget an important item, let them explain themselves to their teacher, and face the consequences if necessary. Sometimes, by letting your child forget, you are actually helping him/her to remember.
4. Reward good behaviour by complimenting your children when they do remember their responsibilities. Help your children to be more independent, because one day, your children will have to take responsibility for their own actions. So help them to develop good personal habits now.

We seek your cooperation in helping us develop the best learning environment for all our pupils.

d. Health Promotion Board Educational Article for parents

The Singapore Health Promotion Board (HPB) is launching a series of educational articles for parents, which include topics such as nutrition, physical activity, mental wellness and even sleep! These articles are specifically curated to equip parents with tips and tricks that work well with children. You can look forward to reading some of these articles on our Xinghua Link publications this year. This issue's article on helping children to make a smooth transition to primary school can be found on the following page.



Health Promotion Board Educational Article

STARTING A NEW CHAPTER AT SCHOOL

Starting primary school can be daunting, as your child will not only meet new teachers and classmates, but also shift from a less structured environment to one with subject-based learning and a fixed timetable. Subsequently, when your child enters secondary school, do expect longer school hours with more time and commitment required for Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs).

As a parent, you can make a difference by preparing your child in these areas:

1. Making Early Preparations

On the night before the first day of school, help your child prepare for school by packing the school bag and uniform together with him or her. Ensure your child sleeps in early to have enough rest for the new day.

2. Being Proficient in Language

Read to and with your child, as independent reading helps build language fluency. Reading together is also a meaningful way to bond with your child. A strong command of language builds an important foundation for academic success and allows your child to avoid having any miscommunication with teachers and other students.

3. Able to Make Purchases

Your child should be able to make purchases independently. For instance, he or she should be able to place an order for food, make payment, ensure that the correct change is received, and to return used plates and cutlery after eating.

4. Choosing Healthy Food

At school, rest assured that your child will have healthy food choices with the Healthy Meals in Schools Programme (HMSP). As this may be the first time your child can choose what food to buy, ask him or her to opt for healthier options, like choosing to eat fruit and nuts instead of chips for a snack.

The food choices made by your child today impacts not only current but also his or her future health, as eating habits developed during the formative years can follow your child into adulthood.

5. Going to the Toilet Independently

Make sure your child knows how to find a toilet, go to the toilet independently and if in doubt, who to ask for help. Prepare your child by encouraging them to go to public toilets on his or her own before school starts.

6. Learning to Pack and Organise Things

Children need to learn how to take care of their own belongings at home and at school. Teach them how to pack and prepare for school the night before. This is also a good opportunity to teach habits of personal responsibility and ownership.

7. Establishing a Routine

Set up a school week routine which includes time for school work and rest. The routine does not need to be a complicated one, and allow your child to settle into the routine at a pace that is comfortable for him or her. Whether your child will be walking to school or taking public transport, help him or her to plan the route or go on a dry run.

Finally, should you need to check in on your child's progress at school, connect with the teachers. Even better, volunteer with the school. It is a great way to show your child that you take an interest in his or her education, and you may also gain a better understanding of the school environment and your child's school activities.

As parents, your presence and support can make a whole lot of difference during your child's transition period and will go a long way to make the school experience a pleasant and positive one. Remember, while your child has embarked on the formal schooling journey, parents remain your child's first and closest teachers in life

e. Feedback from Parents

As partners in education, we value your feedback and suggestions to make the school a more conducive learning environment for our children. Please feel free to pen down some thoughts, compliments or comments regarding the various programmes / celebrations we had in school.

Name: _____

Contact no: _____

**Please drop the form into the feedback box found at the front counter of the General Office through your child/ward.*

