# CPASS NEWSLETTER



Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore School



#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

2020 presented new challenges for CPASS, Singapore and the whole world. Just as the preparations for the celebration of the Chinese New Year was starting, the arrival of COVID-19 (formerly referred to as Novel Coronavirus 2020-nCOV) shook everyone out of their normal routines and comfort zones.

The current situation may present itself stressful, but I want to reassure parents that School is prepared. When Singapore overcame Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in 2003, MOE has put in place a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for such emergencies. These measures include temperature checking when school resumes after school holidays in June and December. School's emergency stock of medical supplies is also regularly checked and maintained to meet the minimum requirement as stipulated in MOE's SOP. Hence, when School received the advisory from MOE to conduct twice daily temperature checking starting from 29 February 2020, we were prepared.

Another measure is to collect travel declarations from School staff and students before school holidays in June and December. We are grateful that all staff and parents have cooperated by submitting their travel declarations promptly every time it is required and this has helped us better manage the situation. I encourage all parents to continue to submit your travel declarations to School once you have made any plans to travel overseas.

An additional measure to manage COVID-19 is to practise social distancing. In School, all mass assemblies such as the daily flag raising and lowering ceremonies, combined Physical Education and Music lessons have been curtailed. Daily assemblies are conducted in the classrooms and announcements are made through the School Public Address (PA) system by the School Prefects. Learning journeys and class outings have also been put on hold.

On top of these safety measures, class teachers and wardens also ensure that all tables and chairs in the classrooms are disinfected before the start of each session every day. In the past weeks, we have been educating our students on the need to observe personal hygiene with more regular hand washing and teaching them on ways to stay healthy. We are very grateful to parents who practised social responsibility by keeping your children at home when the latter showed flu-like symptoms like sore throat, running nose, cough or fever.

Different groups of School staff (both teaching and support staff) have also been rostered to report to work earlier each day to assist in temperature checking of our students when they arrive in the school buses. The bus drivers and wardens have been playing their part too as they diligently cleanse and disinfect their school buses after each trip. As CPAS comes together to manage the current situation, staff from the other departments have been rostered to help with temperature checking for visitors. The whole of CPAS have stepped up with one common goal, and that is to keep CPAS safe for everyone.

On behalf of the CPAS School management, I would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all CPAS staff, parents, caregivers, vendors and other stakeholders for your hard work and cooperation. Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is the beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." I am sure that CPAS will emerge stronger as we come together to "battle" COVID-19. Wishing you and everyone at home - Good Health!

Mrs Koh-Lim Ai Lay, School Principal



#### Chinese New Year Celebration

Written by Ms Suzana Ahmed, Head of Programme (High Support Programme)



CPASS celebrated Chinese New Year this year on the 24 January in the multi-purpose hall. For this year, it's the year of the Rat. The celebration lasted for two and a half hours. The programme was packed with fun and exciting activities.

It started off with an opening speech by the School Principal, Mrs Koh-Lim Ai Lay. The two vibrant emcees, Ms Esther Leow and Mr Abhinav Joshi did a great job anchoring the whole celebration programme. The students not only had fun during the quiz and game segments but they also learned about teamwork. Through their active participation, students showcased the school values of confidence and resilience. Teachers also had fun when they participated in the orange peeling competition. The final segment for the celebration was the arrival of the 'God of Fortune' and the Lion Dance that went around to the students to wish them "Xin Nian Kuai Le" or "Happy New Year" and gave them the much awaited red packets or "Ang Pows".



Mrs Koh was making an opening speech at the start of the Chinese New Year Celebration.

IThe celebration ended with a feast whereby everyone enjoyed the scrumptious New Year cookies and cakes that all the staff had brought for the celebration. On the whole, it was a joyous celebration for both students and staff to have a good time together. In the end, the students left the school for the long Chinese New Year holiday with a happy smile on their faces.







Teachers were having fun in peeling the Mandarin oranges.

# Total Defence Day 2020

Written by Mr Ong Kim Beng, Teacher

Total Defence Day, which falls on the 15 February, marks the surrender of Singapore to the Japanese by the British during World War 2 and we commemorate Total Defence Day every year to remind us of the suffering endured by our fore fathers during the Japanese occupation. This annual event also reminds Singaporeans that they have a part to play in building a united and resilient community that contributes towards our nation's security and success.

CPASS had originally planned to commemorate Total Defence Day on 13 February by inviting the Pasir Ris Neighbourhood Police Centre (NPC) and National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) ambassadors to our school.

The teachers of National Education (NE) Committee also planned many fun-filled activities for the school. This consisted of the Police Car Viewing, photograph taking at the foyer area, and a short skit by the NCPC ambassadors in the hall. The NCPC ambassadors had also prepared a Spin-The-Wheel game booth for the students to participate and win many souvenirs.

However, due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the NE team had to shelve the original plan. As part of the precautionary measures taken, the revised Total Defence Commemorative Day programme was conducted by the class teachers in their respective classes. Students were given art pieces to paint and participate in an art competition. The NE team teachers had also prepared some PowerPoint Slides which consisted of these teaching points:



- What is Total Defence?
- 2 A general overview of Total Defence.
- 6 Introduction of the 6th Pillar of Defence.
- The theme of the Past and Present Total Defence Days.
- 5 The theme for Total Defence 2020.
- **6** Graphic illustration showing the 5 pillars of Defence.
- Graphic illustration showing the newly added 6th Defence Digital Defence

For this year, the focus was on Digital defence, and we hoped that our students would be Secure, Alert and Responsible when surfing online and learn something new for this year's commemoration of the Total Defence Day.



I love battleship.



I am the future combat fighter.













# Accessibility Project With Go-Ahead Singapore

Written by Ms Debbie Chan, Teacher

In collaboration with Go-Ahead Singapore, students from classes of Eagle 2A and Eagle 3A visited Loyang Bus Depot for their Learning Journey on 31 January. Students were given a chance to practise functional skills such as waiting for the bus, boarding the bus, tapping their Ez-link cards and alighting from the bus. It provided the students with a learning opportunity to learn and problem solve within a stress-free environment. The classes even experienced a bus wash at the depot!

Overall, the outing was a valuable experience for our students to gain a muchneeded exposure on access to our community facilities. We were heartened to see the staff from Go-Ahead Singapore taking the initiative to engage our students in conversations as well as guide them in their learning journey. It was great to see our community working towards an inclusive society for all.





The manager was checking in with our students on the bus.

The staff of Go-Ahead Singapore was having a conversation with our student.

# In-House Training for CPASS Prefectorial Board

Written by Ms Noredah Bte Mohd Yatim, Senior Teacher

Our CPASS Prefects completed their 2 days of in-house training on the 11 and 18 February. The training was provided to prepare the students to take on their roles with greater confidence. The students learnt about the expectations of being exemplary prefects in their character and behaviour. Students also learnt about how they could be role models through their actions and demonstrate school values while executing their duties.

The training sessions also fostered the importance of teamwork in the prefect's daily execution of duties. One of the activities looked at how the prefects had to work together to solve a puzzle while acknowledging individual member's strengths and weaknesses. Through this activity, the students were also encouraged to reflect on how they could support one another when performing their duties.



the display board.

## ST 1: QUALITY LEARNING EXPERIENCES TO NURTURE THE WHOLE CHILD

# Individualized Educational Plan & Individualized Transition Plan Meetings

Written by Ms Wang Ai Ling, Senior Teacher

The Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and the Individualized Transition Plan (ITP) meetings between the school staff and parents were held from 24 February to 6 March.

Planning of IEP/ITP goals started as early as December when teachers made home visits to students' houses to see each child in his/her home environment as well as to establish a first point of contact with parents. Through assessment and taking into consideration parent's aspirations for each student, IEP/ITP goals were crafted together with the Trans-D team.

During the IEP/ITP meeting, parent's views and concerns on the student's performance, strengths and needs were shared with the Trans-D team. The goals and objectives were discussed further with consensus from all parties in the meeting. As an important partner in the child's learning, the Trans-D team also shared on the teaching strategies with parents. An evaluation on the student's performance would be done in Term 4 and the Trans-D team would meet up with the parents again in November to share with them on the progress made by each student.



Teacher Michelle, with the presence of the Trans-D team, was explaining to Thomas's father on the goals set for his son.



STEP3

STEP2

STEP 1

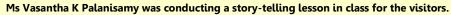
START

## Induction Programme for New Officers from SEB, MOE

Written by Mr Koh Teng Hock, Vice-Principal

On 6 February, we were honoured to host Mr Yap Wai Meng, Deputy Director of Special Education Branch (SEB), Ministry of Education and his team of new officers for an Induction Programme at CPASS. After a presentation on the overview of the school's key programmes by Mrs Koh, the School Principal, we toured the school premises and saw some of our students in action during their class lessons as well as therapy sessions.

The new SEB officers had the opportunities to visit the three rehabilitative departments namely Physiotherapy Department, Speech & Language Pathology Department and Occupational Department to understand about the services and equipment available for our students with multiple disabilities. The visit ended with a Question & Answer session at the Boardroom. It was an engaging session for all present to know more about CPASS.







#### **Contact Tracing**

To ensure that we are able to contact all parents / guardians / caregivers for exigencies, and to help the school in communicating effectively, please inform your child's teacher of <a href="mailto:any change">any change</a> in the following:

- Contact details (mobile / email address / home telephone number)
  - Home address

# Important Dates in Term 2 (23 March 2020 to 29 May 2020)

Friday, 10 April 2020	Good Friday
Friday, 1 May 2020	Labour Day
Thursday, 7 May 2020	Vesak Day
Sunday, 24 May 2020*	Hari Raya Puasa
Friday, 29 May 2020#	2020 SPED Conference
Saturday, 30 May 2020 to Sunday, 28 June 2020	School Holidays

<sup>\*</sup> Monday, 25 May, will be a public holiday.

Note: Sports Day originally scheduled on 18 April 2020 is cancelled.

<sup>#</sup> Friday, 29 May 2020: there is no schooling session for all students. Postponed to end 2020.