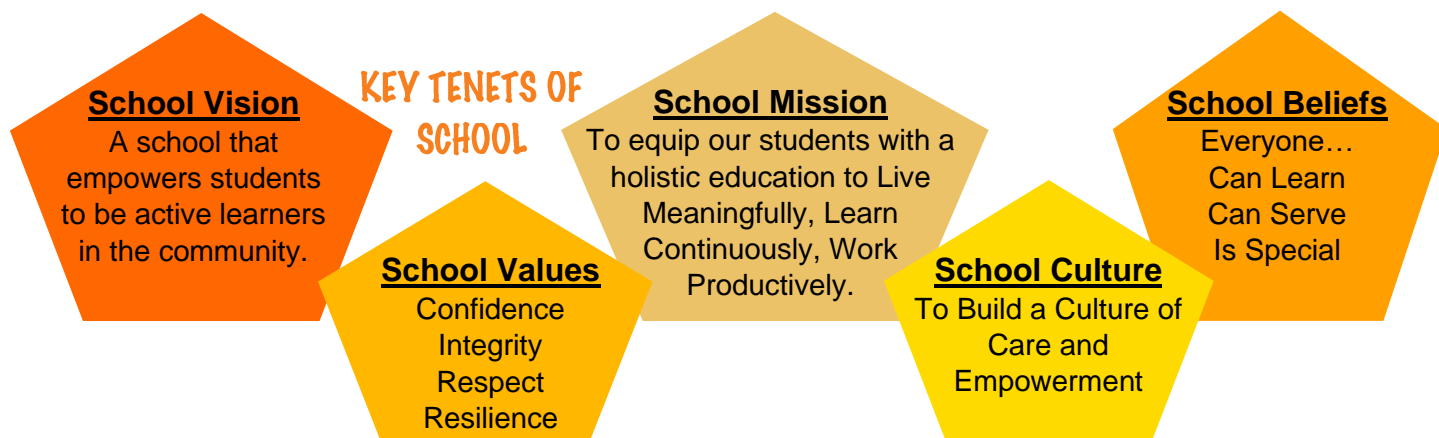


Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore School

Newsletter 2022 / Term 1



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Dear Parents

2022 began on an optimistic note when we resumed many school activities, such as Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs), community mobility training and outings for the senior classes which were suspended due to the pandemic. In compliance to the Covid Safety Management Measures (SMM), our students have been held back within the school compound for the past two years, resumption of these school activities allowed the students to return to the community to apply the skills that they have learned in the classroom and make meaningful connections of their learning and the real-life setting.

The Health Promotion Board (HPB) medical teams have conducted four rounds of vaccination exercises for both junior and senior students at CPAS School. Many of our students have received their Covid vaccinations because HPB have gone this extra mile with us. CPAS School is grateful to HPB for conducting the Covid vaccination exercises for our students. HPB will be back to administer the booster dose for the senior students on 18 March 2022.

As we continue to observe the Covid SMM, we want to record our gratefulness for parents who practise social responsibility by ensuring that they send their child to school only if they are well and if their child is unwell, to keep him/her at home to rest till he/she is recovers. With all of us playing our part, CPAS School will remain safe for everyone, staff, and students.

On 27 January 2022, CPAS School launched a new parent communication online app "Little Family Room". The aim of which is to enhance the communication between the school, and parents for the benefit of our students. This platform is like the Parent Gateway used by mainstream schools to communicate with parents. "Little Family Room" is also an avenue to share media (photographs and video-recordings) with parents. In compliance with Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA), media uploaded to your child's account is kept private. Parents would be able to track their child's progress over the schooling years. Photographs or video-recordings archived over the years would become testimonies to your child's progress in CPAS School. We want to applaud parents who have come onboard "Little Family Room" readily, as well as encouraging other parents to do so. Your efforts to use the portal regularly to familiarize yourselves is commendable. For any issues regarding this portal, please contact the LittleLives technical team at feedback@littlilives.com or you can provide your feedback to the class teacher.

The printing of the school communication book has ceased and correspondence via WhatsApp will also reduce. Henceforth, CPAS School will disseminate messages, school circulars, and letters to parents via this new platform. We welcome feedback from parents so that CPAS School will continue to improve to serve you better.

As we journey into this new year, we believe in collaborating closely with parents. Let us continue to work together for the betterment of our students. Please keep safe and stay healthy.

"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." (Henry Ford)

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Koh-Lim Ai Lay
School Principal

2021 Asian Youth Para Game

Written by Ms Lanny Kwok, Head of Programme, ICT

The Asian Youth Para Game (AYPG) is a multi-sport event held every four years for young athletes with disability. From 2 to 6 December 2021, 13 athletes represented Singapore to compete in sporting events such as athletics, Boccia, swimming, and table tennis in Bahrain.

CPASS students, Aloysius Gan and Yan Jia Yi (Eagle 9A), participated in AYPG 2021 and Aloysius was the flag bearer for the Singapore Team. Though it was their first-time representing Singapore, they achieved outstanding results and made us proud. They clinched two medals - Aloysius won the gold medal for BC3 Male Individual at AYPG level, and both Aloysius and Jia Yi won the silver medal for Mixed Pair BC3 event.

When Aloysius and Jia Yi joined the Boccia CCA in CPASS, both learned about the game of boccia. Under the guidance of Boccia CCA teachers and coaches, they trained hard, and their efforts paid off when they won the medals at the competition. They felt incredibly happy and are grateful for the valuable experience earned, as they forged friendships with athletes from other countries. Both Aloysius and Jia Yi are thankful to everyone who have helped and supported them. They are also appreciative for the words of encouragement too.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Aloysius and Jia Yi for the excellent sportsmanship displayed at the AYPG 2021.

“

Aloysius Gan and Yan Jia Yi
– a picture of concentration
as they competed in
BC3 Mixed Pair.

”



A proud moment jointly
shared by national
Boccia athletes,
Aloysius Gan and
Yan Jia Yi.



COVID-19 Vaccination for 5 to 11-Year-Olds

Written by *Ms Irene Ho, Transition Planning Coordinator*

On 11 December 2021, to support the national efforts and encourage more people to get vaccinated and boosted, Ministry of Health (MOH) announced vaccination for children aged 5 to 11 years would commence before the end of 2021. MOH used paediatric doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech/Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine for the vaccination.

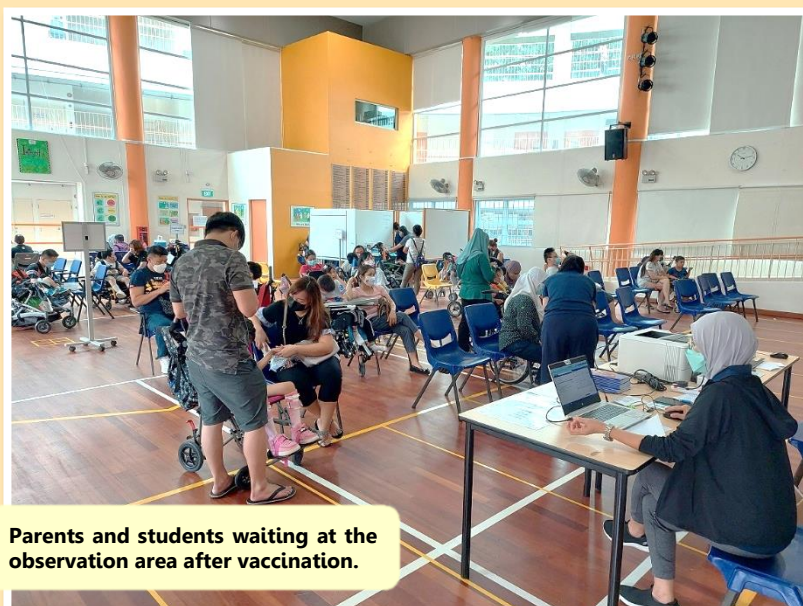
CPASS registered all eligible children who are Singapore Citizens (SC), Permanent Residents (PR) and long-term pass holders (LTPH) after parents or guardian gave consent for the vaccination.

At CPASS, the vaccination for the junior levels occurred on 17 January 2022 for the first dose, and 9 February 2022 for the second dose. A total of eighty-eight junior level students participated in the vaccination exercise. To comply with Safe Management Measures, only one parent or guardian accompanied the children for the vaccination appointment.

The team of doctors, nurses, and staff from MOH conducted the vaccination exercise smoothly as they were already familiar with CPASS staff and students. The exercise began at 8am and completed by 3pm. The School Management team, Administrative and IT staff provided support for the exercise.



Students watching cartoon to keep them occupied after their vaccination.



Parents and students waiting at the observation area after vaccination.



Of Worms and Bokashi ~ A Gardening PLT Composting Project

Written by *Ms Sahlaa Abdullah, Teacher Aide*

In our efforts to go green, CPASS has been actively engaged in promoting 'The three Rs' (reuse, reduce and recycle). Students and staff have been busy creating our own organic compost and fertilizer for the plants in school since 2020. The Bokashi compost and Vermicompost project would be into its third year in 2022.

Bokashi compost is made by fermenting food waste in an airtight bucket. It uses bokashi bran which contains EM*1 (Effective Microorganisms) that helps to accelerate the fermenting process while keeping the food waste's pungent odour at bay. Banana peels from bananas eaten during snack time are used for preparing the bokashi compost. Students from selected classes and Scouts CCA would collect and cut the banana peels to be placed into the bokashi bin. On alternate days, teachers who are in the Gardening Professional Learning Team (PLT) would be rostered to check and draw out the liquid from the bokashi bin. The bokashi liquid, which is rich in nutrients, would be used as a liquid fertilizer for plants. After two weeks, the fermented bokashi would be buried deep in a big pot of soil. This fermented bokashi would then change into nutritious organic compost and be ready for use after one month.

The awareness of recycling food waste as well as an inculcation of the school value of responsibility are the main take-aways for the students as they play an active role in doing their part to save the Earth.

Students from Class 22B helping to carry the Bokashi bin.

Students helping to line the Bokashi bin with banana peels.





Chinese New Year Celebration 2022

Written by Ms Aw Pei Si, Teacher

CPASS celebrated Chinese New Year (CNY) on 27 January 2022. The school staff dedicatedly planned CNY activities to bring the festive spirit to our students. The school compound had decorations hung on the wall around school, in the school hall, as well as the School General Office. This lifted the festive mood of everyone at CPASS despite the restrictions of the current pandemic situation.

On 27 January 2022, CNY celebrations was held virtually via Zoom. The celebrations commenced with an opening speech by the School Principal, Mrs Koh-Lim Ai Lay. A lion dance troupe accompanied by Chinese drums and cymbals consisting of students and led by teachers brought much festive cheer to everyone. Students from the morning session, Sim Yue Tong (class 3A), Muhammad Alfian Mohammad Azhar (class 5A), and Abdul Alim Muhd Khidir (class 1A) and students from the afternoon session, Teng Zheng Kai (class 10B) and Class 22B had fun and enjoyed themselves thoroughly being members of the lion dance troupe. Teachers, Mr Muhd Rasoul Shiddik & Ms Sharmila Begum Yahya, donned the 'God of Wealth' (Cai Shen) costume and with the student lion dance troupe accompanied Mrs Koh as she visited every class to wish CNY greetings to students and teachers as well as to distribute CNY oranges, ang bao with chocolate coins and fortune cookie.



Morning session lion dance troupe and Cai Shen ready to spread CNY festive cheer.



Cheerful teacher emcees Mr Calvin Goh and Ms Irene Seah led a pre-recorded presentation of CNY prepared at CPASS IT laboratory STUDIOIT!. During the presentation, the emcees shared about the significance of eating specific CNY goodies. Students participated actively with joy and excitement. The celebratory atmosphere continued with students feasting on CNY goodies and Swiss roll while watching excellent pre-recorded performances from classes 4A, 7A, 10A, 15A and 22B. Everyone had a wonderful time. The programme concluded with a craftwork segment which brought out much of the students' creativity as they decorated a tiger template and pasted it on a piece of paper. Completed artworks adorned the walls outside the classrooms and brought smiles to the students' faces. Everybody left the school happily, bringing the festive mood back to their homes and families.



Cai Shen and CPASS lion dance troupe brought joy to students and teachers.



Class 22B group effort brought cheers to others during Chinese New Year celebration.

2022 Total Defence Day

Written by *Ms Sai Vina Vimalenthiran, Ms Nur Azira Binte Syed Ahamad Shah and Ms Nur Aqilah Binte Amrun, Teacher*

Each year Singapore commemorates Total Defence (TD) Day on 15 February. It marks Singapore's fall to the Japanese in 1942. The commemoration of TD Day is to remind everyone, especially Singaporeans, of the sufferings endured by our forefathers during the Japanese Occupation.

This year, the theme for TD Day was 'Together We Keep Singapore Strong.' It is a reminder to every Singaporean that they have an important part to play in building a strong, secure, and cohesive nation. It was a day filled with events for our students which began with a march past. The marching contingent consisted of three of our teachers, Mr Nazir Bin Kamal Rahim, Mr Muhammad Rasoul Bin Shiddik and Mr Jeewicka Wilfredt J P Vimalasena, and three student scouts, Kamilia Syuhada Binte Sophian (Class 10A), Muhammad Irhan s/o Mohaiyadin Shah (Class 10A) and Yap Wei You (Class 9A). The marching contingent proudly donned their uniforms and marched past the classrooms towards the quadrangle for the flag rising ceremony. Fellow students stood at the doorway of their classrooms to wave or salute the contingent.

An interactive zoom session hosted by ambassadors from Singapore Discovery Centre taught students about the migrant workers and how Covid has impacted Singapore. Students were introduced to the six pillars of total defence, namely Military Defence, Civil Defence, Psychological Defence, Economic Defence, Social Defence and Digital defence, and how these pillars have helped Singapore to fight Covid19. During snack time, students ate glutinous rice wrapped in bamboo leaves to remind them of the simple rice meal that our forefathers survived on during the Japanese Occupation. Students learnt that in the past, people wrapped food in bamboo leaves because there were no plastic containers available then as compared to now where these are readily available and convenient to use.

Three interactive booths were set up in the hall where students experienced using bamboo leaves to wrap cooked glutinous rice. They also tried their hands at packing kacang putih (assorted nuts) in a paper cone. Students had fun taking pictures at the photobooth dressed up in various frontline workers' uniforms. Students had a fun time encountering different experiences at the variety of booths set up by the NE committee. Learning new knowledge and experiencing different things is a way of building resilience, and our students did that. Together We Keep Singapore Strong!

March past
contingent
standing tall
and proud.



Students learning
to wrap food in
bamboo leaves.



A simple meal
of glutinous
rice wrapped in
bamboo leaves.

2022 IEP/ITP meetings with parents

Written by *Ms Wang Ai Ling, Senior Teacher*

From 23 February to 11 March 2022, each class Trans-D team (teacher & Allied Professionals (AP)) met with the parents, virtually via Zoom for their Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or Individualized Transition Plan (ITP) meetings.

Planning of the IEP/ITP goals began as early as December 2021. Class teachers visited students' homes to discuss IEP/ITP goals for the next academic year of 2022, as well as to observe the student in their home environment. This would be the first point of contact between class teacher and family, and it allows both parties to establish an amiable working relationship between them. Through dialogue, class teacher would understand parents' aspirations for their child as well as the child's learning needs. IEP/ITP goals were crafted collaboratively, from feedback and direction from parents as well as inputs from the Trans-D team. To ensure a fruitful session during the IEP/ITP meetings, IEP/ITP goals were shared with parents prior to the actual meeting.

During the thirty minutes meeting, the Trans-D team would address concerns from parents regarding the IEP/ITP goals set for the child. The discussion of the goals and objectives would lead to an agreement and confirmation of the IEP/ITP by all parties in the meeting. As parents are important partners in the child's learning, the Trans-D team would share teaching strategies with them to ensure skills-transfer. A viable partnership must be a two-way partnership where parents give feedback and observations of their child's strengths/needs.

The IEP/ITP process is a good platform to establish communication between the Trans-D team and the parents to provide updates on the child's progress throughout the school year.

Teacher Ms Wang Ai Vui and class 22A Trans-D team explaining the ITP goals to parents of Syed Amsyar Bin Ahmad Alhamid via Zoom meeting.



Trans D Home Collaboration Programme 2021

- Sharing Of 4 Success Stories

Written by *Ms Suzana Bte Ahmed, Vice-Principal*

The pilot programme for the CPASS Trans D Home Collaboration lasted from April to November 2021. One parent from each class was selected and invited to participate in the programme, they pledged their commitment to the programme and practised the identified skills for their child, monitored their children's progress through the routine-based checklists as well as provided timely feedback to the class Trans D team. This was done via WhatsApp chats, virtually through Zoom and phone calls. Families shared photographs and videos with the class Trans D team to inform about their child's progress and provide feedback on the skills conducted at home. When the programme ended, results collated from the routine-based checklist completed by the families showed that majority of the students have shown improvement in school as well as at home. This shows that school-home collaboration is a key component in maximizing the student's success in skill acquisition in school and at home as it enables the skills to be incorporated into the student's daily routine in school and at home. We would like to share four success stories of the Home Collaboration Programme.

First Story

By Mdm Aynul, parent
of Muzayna Begum
(Eagle 10A, 2021)

We are glad that there is such Collaboration Programme to improve more on Muzayna's communication skills to help her express her views which will help in her daily life. The recommended skill to be practiced at home is to encourage her to express and communicate more through sharing more of her experiences or perspectives with others. We are agreeable with the chosen skills to be practiced at home which the Trans D team has recommended to us. The Trans D team has explained and showed us how to practice the skills with Muzayna at home. The team also provided reading materials for us to refer to. It was not so easy to practice the skills at first. Initially Muzayna was unable to elaborate more to express herself clearly when we asked her any questions. However, after consistent practice, she was able to express her thoughts more clearly. We can see the improvement in her daily diary writing where she would share and express more on her daily routine with us. We feel that the Home Collaboration Programme is effective to ensure that skills are transferred and generalized in the home setting and the collaboration should continue next year.



**Muzayna Begum (Eagle 10A, 2021)
learning to express her thoughts
using the iPad.**



Second Story

By Mdm Melfina, parent
of Aíshah Binte Nur
Hassan (Eagle 2B, 2021)

As a parent, it is a good initiative from the school to further help my child improve in her learning. After discussing with my daughter's class Trans D team, I agreed to focus on my daughter's literacy skill, especially on her early vocabulary. The team provided me with teaching materials for me to practice at home and the instructions were communicated via WhatsApp. The entire process can be challenging at first as we were recommended to practice consistently, daily. My daughter would get tired after long hours in school and as a parent, I do have other routines that need to be done too. Although, I tried to practice every day, at times, it would sometimes get overwhelming for both my child and I. However, after persevering with the practice at home, I could see that my daughter would use the vocabularies learnt both at home and in school during conversations. I could see the improvement in my daughter and from my point of view, the Home Collaboration Programme can serve as a guide for parents to better help their child at home. In other words, more of a "recap" from what has been taught in school. Personally, it is more effective for me and my child to do the "follow-up" tasks over the weekends as I was not able to practice with my her on every schooling day.

Third Story

By Mdm R.
Bhuvaneswari, parent of
R Atchayakumaran
(Class 6B, 2021)

As a parent I feel that the Trans D Home Collaboration Programme has made me very disciplined in making my son practise his walking skills at home. The Trans D team, which was made up of my son's class teacher and the therapists, communicated and explained to me how to do the exercises and practise walking skills via WhatsApp video. Sometimes it can be challenging as my son did not want to cooperate with me. Hence, it took a longer time for me to practise with him at home. I started to see improvements in my son around one month of practising at home. I feel that that Home Collaboration Programme is important to ensure that skills are transferred from school to home setting. My recommendation for improvement is to have zoom sessions with the PT or the class teacher while doing the exercises instead of just sending exercise videos via WhatsApp. Zoom session would allow me to ask the PT or the teacher directly if I have any problem while doing the exercises.

Fourth Story

By Mdm Tengku Mahnom, parent of Muhammad Hafizz Bin Noor Hazlin (Dove 18A, 2021)

The Trans D Home Collaboration Programme is good and helpful as I can practise the skills taught by the class teacher & the therapists in school in our home setting. After discussion with the Trans D team, I was agreeable with the recommended skill to encourage Hafizz to wipe his face with a wet towel so that he could stay alert and focus for 30 minutes while doing an activity. To help me practise the skill at home, the class teacher explained via phone calls and sent WhatsApp videos to show how the skill was done in school. It was challenging to practise the skill at home at first as my child was resistant and not cooperative in the beginning. Slowly, about one month after practicing the skill, I can see the improvement in my child. I was happy to see my child more alert and able to focus on the activities presented to him. I believe that the Home Collaboration programme is important and useful. The skill learnt in school and consistently practised at home has become my child's daily routine. I also felt supported as I received guidance from the class teacher. He would check and get updates on my child's progress. He would also ask if I were facing any difficulty and would share useful tips too.



Muhammad Hafizz Bin Noor Hazlin (Dove 18A, 2021) learning to wipe face with a wet towel from OT Ms Maureen Tesico and this would be practised at home with

Contact Tracing

To ensure that we can contact all parents/guardians/caregivers for emergencies and to help the School in communicating effectively, please inform your child's teacher of **any change** in the following:

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

Important Dates in Term 2 (21 March 2022 to 27 May 2022)

Friday, 15 April 2022	Good Friday
*Sunday, 1 May 2022	Labour Day
Tuesday, 3 May 2022	Hari Raya Puasa
**Sunday, 15 May 2021	Vesak Day
Saturday, 28 May 2022 to Sunday, 26 June 2022	School Holidays

* Monday, 2 May 2022 will be a scheduled school holiday.

** Monday, 16 May 2022 will be a scheduled school holiday.

Newsletter main layout designed by student Ryan Das (graduated in 2021)