## **NEW TOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL**



300 Tanglin Halt Road Singapore 148812 Tel: 6474 8805 Fax: 6474 1249 Email: ntps@moe.edu.sg

Reference no.: NTPS/2022/173

12 September 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians,

I hope that your child had a meaningful and well-rested break during the week-long September holidays and would like to warmly welcome your child back to a new school term.

I am happy to announce that after 3 years of on-site PERI Upgrading, the new 6-storey teaching block with enhanced facilities like a new school field, special rooms like band room, dance studio, learning support rooms, teaching laboratory and Student Care Centre has been officially handed over to the school in August 2022. The new facilities are ready for use by all staff and students this term. We would like all parents for your unwavering support over the last 3 years of our facilities upgrading journey.

As part of our on-going communication with parents, we would like to share the following updates:

### 1. Celebrating Learning and Achievements

We are proud to share with you that nine teams of Primary 3 and 4 students took part in the Singapore Science Buskers, of which three teams got through to the finals after the auditions at the start of Term 3. Please look out for more information on how you can support our teams on our school Facebook page. We look forward to your votes to support these three teams for the "People's Choice Award".

We are also delighted to share with you our students' achievements in Term 3. We congratulate our students for their excellent achievements in the following:

Competitions	Achievements
National Mathematics Olympiad of Singapore 2022 (NMOS)	2 Gold Awards 3 Bronze Awards
Annual Mathlympics 2022	3 Silver Awards 2 Bronze Awards
National School Games (NSG) 2022 Badminton National Junior Boys Competition	Tier 3 Doubles Champion

Our heartiest congratulations to all! More information on our students' achievements can be found on our school website: https://newtownpri.moe.edu.sg/accolades/achievements.

## 2. New Town Caring Educator and Staff Awards 2022

It has been a tradition of the school to recognise members of our staff who have shown great care to our students. Based on students' nominations and votes, the following recipients were presented the *New Town Caring Educator and Staff Awards 2022* during the Teachers' Day Celebrations held on 1 September:

## Caring Educator Award

- Mdm Anisa d/o Seeni Sulaiman
- Mdm Juvaira Banu
- Mr Chan Yong Hao
- Mr Md Najib Bin Abdul Rahman
- Ms Chan Jia Yu
- Mdm Tian Meng

## **Caring Staff Award**

• Mr Tan Im Chye (Operations Support Officer)

We would like to affirm and thank our teachers and staff for going the extra mile to reach out to our students and being positive role models to their colleagues in leading, caring and inspiring the students under their care.

## 3. Updates on Staff Movement

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new staff who have joined our school:

Mohamad Azzhari Bin Mohamad Rizal (Desktop Engineer)

We would also like to bid farewell to and thank the following staff for their contributions to the school:

- Mr Muhammad Farhan bin Azimi (Untrained PE Teacher)
- Ms Nadiah Binte Zaidi (Untrained PE Teacher)
- Mdm Nurdjeha Binte Haji Sa'at (Untrained AED LBS)

#### 4. Student Matters

#### Attendance

Students are expected to maintain regular attendance for deep learning to take place. Students who are absent from school will miss out on meaningful engagement with their teachers and peers during active learning experiences and class participation. Maintaining regular attendance would require parental support and close monitoring. Should your child be absent, do inform your child's Form Teacher. Students should see a doctor and rest at home if he/she is unwell. Proper documentation such as a medical certificate/letter must be submitted to the Form Teacher when your child returns to school.

## **Punctuality**

Punctuality is an important virtue and an important life skill which every student should possess. We seek the partnership of parents to ensure your child has adequate sleep and leaves home early so that the child can arrive to school on time. All students are strongly encouraged to be with their form classes before 7.30 a.m. to participate in the school's Morning Programme such as the Reading Programme, Morning Connect and Form Teacher Time. Flag-raising will commence at 7.30 a.m. every morning. This will allow students to ease into the class routines at the start of the day so that learning can begin promptly. Please note that students who are not with their form classes during flag-raising ceremony will be considered late. They are required to report to the security guards to have their name, class and time of arrival recorded.

#### School Uniform and Attire

Every student must be neatly attired and wear the prescribed school uniform with pride. Modification to the school uniform is not allowed. Students can come to school in their Physical Education (PE) attire on days when they have PAL and/or PE lessons. Students may wear a plain black or navy-blue outer wear such as a windbreaker, sweater or cardigan in the morning. The length of their outer wear should not go beyond the hip.

## 5. Updates on Safe Management Measures

## Mask-Wearing in Schools

With effect from 29 August, it is optional for students to wear masks in all school settings, including national examinations. The school will continue to promote a safe school environment, which includes wiping down high-touch surfaces and visual screening of students' well-being. Your child may continue to wear a mask if preferred.

## Management of COVID-19 Cases during PSLE

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 prior to or during the PSLE, please inform your child's form teachers for the necessary follow-up actions. You may refer to SEAB's website for more details.

## 6. Teaching, Learning & Assessment Matters

## Pre-PSLE Study Break

There will be a study break for Primary 6 students from Monday, 26 September to Wednesday, 28 September as an additional measure to support student well-being and minimise any risk of school-based COVID-19 transmission prior to the PSLE.

During the study break, Primary 6 students are strongly encouraged to remain at home. Students who require assistance from their teachers may do so through online consultations. Selected students who, in the teachers' opinion will benefit from face-face coaching, may be asked to come back for classes. Parents/guardians who are unable to secure alternative care arrangements may also approach the school for assistance and will be considered on case-by-case basis. Student Care Centre (CareHut@NTPS) will remain open in the afternoons during the study break for families who require the service.

## Safe Management Measures during PSLE

There is no requirement for candidates and exam personnel to wear face masks during the exams. If your child wishes to wear a face mask inside the exam venue, he / she may continue to do so.

Candidates will also be seated at least 1.2m apart from other candidates. Invigilators will maintain a safe distance from the candidates, except during issuing of Question Papers, verifying attendance, and collecting answer scripts.

## Candidates who are Unwell before / during PSLE

Candidates who are unwell, especially if displaying respiratory symptoms such as runny nose, cough or sore throat, less than four days before the examination, as well as in between different examination dates, should seek medical attention to ensure timely diagnosis. During the period of medical leave, the child will be allowed to sit for the

examination if he / she is visibly well (no fever, not showing ARI symptoms).

Candidates who are tested positive for COVID-19 are not allowed to sit for examination for first 72 hours after tested ART positive. They are allowed to sit for exam if tested ART negative anytime after 72 hours, or on Day 7 after 12 pm.

For both above-mentioned cases, please inform the child's Form Teachers immediately and you will be advised accordingly.

For more information, please refer to the following resources in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Resources for PSLE Candidates

Resource	Access via QR Code or URL
PSLE 2022 Examination Timetable	https://go.gov.sg/psletimetable
2. Safe Conduct of National Examinations	https://go.gov.sg/psle2022smm
3. Instructions to Candidates	https://go.gov.sg/instructions2022

### National Examinations & E-Learning Days

Continuing with our past practice, we will continue to set aside days for E-Learning during national examinations and PSLE marking days as shown in Table 2. Please note that students of the level placed on E-Learning days **should not** report to school.

While we recognise that E-learning is not able to fully replace face-to-face learning and interactions, it has been useful in encouraging more independent and self-directed learning among students. Apart from the subject-based assignments posted on the Student Learning Space (SLS), we have also planned to use the E-Learning days to introduce lessons on New Media Literacies to the students. Designed to be delivered over SLS and completed at students' own pace, these lessons have been compiled into modules to cover the following areas:

- Information search & inquiry
- Designing & creating digital products
- Communication of information & participation in online community

Table 2: E-Learning Days for Term 4

Dates	Levels on E-Learning	National Examinations	E-Learning	
Friday, 16 September	P1 to P5	PSLE Listening Comprehension Exams	SLS subject-based assignments	
Thursday, 29 September	P4	PSLE English Language and Foundation English Language	<ul> <li>SLS subject-based assignments</li> <li>New Media Literacy Module #1 for P4</li> </ul>	
Friday, 30 September	P1 and P5	PSLE Mathematics and Foundation Mathematics	<ul> <li>SLS subject-based assignments</li> <li>New Media Literacy Module #1 for P1 &amp; P5</li> </ul>	
Monday, 3 October	P2	PSLE Mother Tongue Language and Foundation Mother Tongue Language	<ul> <li>SLS subject-based assignments</li> <li>New Media Literacy Module #1 for P2</li> </ul>	
Tuesday, 4 October	P3	PSLE Science and Foundation Science	<ul> <li>SLS subject-based assignments</li> <li>New Media Literacy Module #1 for P3</li> </ul>	
Monday, 17 October to Thursday, 20 October	P1 to P6	PSLE Marking Days	<ul> <li>SLS subject-based assignments</li> <li>New Media Literacy Module #2</li> <li>New Media Literacy Module #3</li> </ul>	

## Attendance Matters and Arrangements for School-based End-of-Year Examinations

In line with our national examination policy, the school would like to remind parents that if your children are unwell during the End-of-Year Examinations period, they will need to see a doctor and get a medical certificate to cover their absence. Otherwise, they will not be awarded any mark for the paper missed. The school will not accept letters of excuse from parents and there will be no re-tests. Please note that only medical certificates from medical practitioners registered under the Medical Registration Act are recognized.

We also appeal to parents NOT to send your children to school or to take the examinations if they have high fever or display any symptoms related to infectious diseases such as HFMD, gastroenteritis or Covid-19. If your child is ill, he/she will not be allowed to sit for the exams. With certification from the doctor, the child's marks will be pro-rated from his/her other components and/or other assessments.

Students must be punctual for all examinations. No extra time will be allocated for students who arrive late for their examinations as the exam will start and end between the stipulated times.

Please refer to **Annex A** for the dates and topics to be covered for the summative assessments in Term 4.

## Early Dismissal from Thursday, 27 October to Tuesday, 2 November [P1 – P6]

To ensure that students have a good rest during the end-of-year examinations, we will be shortening school hours for all students by one hour from Thursday, 27 October to Tuesday, 2 November (Refer to Table 3). School hours for all levels will be from 7.30 am to 12.40pm.

Table 3: Early Dismissal for End of Year Examinations

Date/Day	Subjects	Remarks
Thursday, 27 Oct 2022	P3/P4/P5 End of Year Exams – EL / Foundation EL	
Friday, 28 Oct 2022	P3/P4/P5 End of Year Exams – Math Paper (s)	Primary 1 to Primary 6 Students
Monday, 31 Oct 2022	P3/P4/P5 End of Year Exams – MTL / Foundation MTL	- Dismissal time at 12.40pm
Tuesday, 1 Nov 2022	P3/P4/P5 End of Year Exams – Science Paper	

## 7. Term 3 – Events Highlight

Term 3 has been an exciting term and we are pleased to share with you some of the highlights.

## Meet-the-Parents Session 2 (Friday, 26 August)

In the recent Meet-the-Parents Session 2, teachers reached out to parents/guardians of students who require additional support in their holistic development. The teachers had fruitful discussions with parents on how the different stakeholders can work together to better support these students. We would like to thank all parents for the strong support and partnership with us.

### Mother Tongue Fortnight and Camp (5 July to 15 July)

Our students participated in a series of cultural activities as part of our school's Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Fortnight and Cultural Camp. The purpose of the MTL Fortnight and Camp is to provide platforms for students to actively learn MTL and the associated culture so as to experience MTL as 'living languages'. They tried out Jawi and Chinese calligraphy, Henna art, oil lamp painting, puppet making and fan painting. They also took on the role of young entrepreneurs in 'My Dream Shop' and used their Mother Tongue languages to pitch their ideas. The activities provided authentic opportunities for students to use their MTL and experience the culture.

#### Racial Harmony Commemoration (19 July to 21 July)

Students were engaged in an interesting assembly talk on the significant monuments in Singapore by National Heritage Board on Tuesday, 19 July, which focused on the importance of racial and religious harmony. This was followed by class-based discussions on the importance of social cohesion during their Form Teacher Guidance Period on the same day.

We would like to thank the parents of our Lower Primary International Students who had taken time to join us in making a popular local dish – Rojak, on Wednesday, 20 July. The dish reflects the unique and multicultural diversity in Singapore. We would also like to

express our heartfelt appreciation to our parent volunteers from the Parent Support Group who had organised a traditional games carnival during the recess breaks on Thursday, 21 July. Our students enjoyed playing traditional childhood games, such as *five stones* and *chapteh*, with their peers.

## Sports Day for Primary One to Three Students (Monday, 8 August)

Our Annual Sports Day finally made its return after two years. Primary 1 to 3 students came together to demonstrate the skills they had learnt in PE lessons and competed in a series of races with their peers from other classes. Our students demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship during the races and had a fun and enjoyable a time cheering on for one another. More than 200 parents were present for the Sports Day on 8 August. We would like to thank our P1 – 3 parents for your active participation and for taking time to join us at this meaningful event.

### National Day Celebrations (Monday, 8 August)

This National Day, our student leaders and teachers led the school celebrations with a march past, singing and dancing of community songs, and hosted quizzes on interesting facts about Singapore. The school also hosted seniors from Lions Befrienders to join in the celebrations. The Prefects and CHEERleaders served breakfast and invited the seniors to join their classmates to play various table-top games in the classrooms. Our students enjoyed chatting with the seniors and listening to their interesting stories about early Singapore.

## Applied Learning Programme (ALP) - Citizen scieNcE@New Town

Our Primary 2 students had completed their ALP introductory modules in Term 3 as part of their enrichment programme. Over a period of three weeks, they sampled plant-based meat, played with solar-powered cars and made their own self-watering planters to be more aware of food, energy and water security issues that Singapore faces as a country with limited natural resources.

In Term 4, our Primary 3 and 5 students will be starting their ALP modules to learn more about food and water security respectively. Our Primary 3 students will be visiting a high-tech indoor urban farm, experience the life cycle of plants from seed to harvest as part of the Science curriculum, and apply what they have learnt to raise awareness for food security. Our Primary 5 students will be learning more about the Four National Taps and apply their learning to create a model house with water-saving features in Minecraft: Education Edition.

### 8. Upcoming School Events / Programmes in Term 4

#### Sports Orama

Sports Orama will be organised for Primary 4 to Primary 6 students in the second half of Term 4. Sports Orama is an interclass competition where students can choose to compete in one of the three modified sports, namely Volleyball, Floorball and Softball. Our students learnt to play the games during their PE lessons and will apply their learnt skills during the interclass competitions. The winners will walk away with a prize medal and the overall champion class will earn the class a challenge trophy.

### Sports Enrichment Programme for Primary 4 Students

As part of the post-examination activities for students, the Primary 4 students will be participating in a Sports Enrichment Programme. The intent of this programme is to equip and widen our students' repertoire of sporting skills. We hope that the wide variety of sporting skills will help our students to have an active and healthy lifestyle.

## P2 CCA Experience Programme

Every child in New Town Primary will participate in one CCA when they are in Primary 3. This is part of the school's programme for our students to discover their own interests and talents, and to be developed holistically.

To provide our P2 students with a better understanding of the various CCAs that the school offers, we have organised a P2 CCA Experience Programme for them over three Wednesday mornings. During the P2 CCA Experience Programme, these students will try out various activities designed by the CCA teachers and students to provide learning experiences that are as close to the actual CCA sessions as possible.

They will also be given a CCA Experience Reflection booklet to pen down their thoughts and feelings after each session. This will enable them to discuss with their parents before penning down three different CCAs of their choice on the booklet. The students will need to get their parent's endorsement and return the booklet to their Form Teacher by 23 September 2022.

#### Learning for Life Programme – Student Leadership Nomination for 2022

As part of the Learning for Life Programme (LLP) in Student Leadership, providing opportunities for our students to contribute to the school as student leaders is one of the school's key platforms to develop our students with leadership skills and competencies. In Term 3, the Student Leaders' Nomination Exercise was conducted for all P3 and P4 students to nominate themselves or their peers to serve the school. The nomination of student leaders is a rigorous process. All students completed a nomination form, supported with observations of how they, or their peers have demonstrated the school values and the 7 Habits in their daily lives. The Student Leaders' Nomination Exercise will culminate with a dialogue and mentoring opportunities with senior student leaders in Term 4. We look forward to unveiling our new student leaders on Student Leaders Day in early 2023.

#### Children's Day Celebrations (Thursday, 6 October)

The theme for Children's Day 2022 is "Together, We Rise". On this day, we hope to celebrate our students' resilience in facing changes and challenges throughout the years. On Thursday, 6 October, the eve of Children's Day, our students will be treated to a day of fun and games with an extended recess period and a Children's Day Celebration Concert. School will also end an hour earlier at 1240 hrs on this day. As part of our efforts to promote our students' voices and choices, all students are strongly encouraged to come in a hat (e.g. caps and hats) and a plain T-shirt in their favourite colour. Please note that for safety reasons, students should come in their school shoes. Jewellery and apparels with inappropriate wordings and graphics are prohibited. Do consult your child's form teacher(s) if you need any clarification(s). More details will be given closer to the date.

### 57th Prize Giving Day (Friday, 18 November)

This year's 57th Prize Giving Day (PGD) will be held over one session on 18 November. The theme for this year's ceremony is "We Shine" which exemplifies how the students and staff of New Town Primary strived to always give their best so that they shine in their own unique ways. This PGD will see the return of a face-to-face ceremony and parents of prize winners will be invited to attend the event. More details will be given closer to the date.

## Code for Fun P6 Enrichment Programme

The Primary 6 students will undergo a 10-hour Code for Fun enrichment as part of the post-PSLE activities conducted in school during curriculum hours. Students will learn computational thinking and coding concepts though engaging hands-on experiences, robotic kits and/or microcontrollers. The programme will also introduce students to some basic concepts of emerging technology.

#### Schedule of Activities for Term 4

The Schedule of Activities for Semester 2 [Terms 3 and 4] was sent out with the Term 3 Newsletter in June. For your easy reference, we have extracted the items in the schedule that are relevant to Term 4 and appended in **Annex B**. Do take note of the public holidays, dates of examinations and school holidays.

#### 9. Finance and Administrative Matters

## Standing of Edusave Account for Enrichment Programmes

Every Singaporean student studying at primary level in MOE-funded schools will have an Edusave account created automatically for him/her by MOE. The government will contribute to the Edusave account in January every year, and the contribution amount will vary from year to year.

In Term 1, a letter was sent out to inform you of the enrichment programmes planned for your child/ward to discover his/her talents. Due to the on-going COVID-19 situation and other constraints, some of the planned activities had to be cancelled or postponed. An update on the payment amount for enrichment programmes deducted from your child's Edusave account has been appended in **Annex C** in this newsletter for your reference. You may also refer to **Annex C** for the Edusave withdrawals for activities that were completed.

### 10. Home-School-Community Partnerships

#### Support in Choosing Healthy Snacks

Healthy eating helps our students to achieve and maintain good and optimal health, and it begins with students making healthier food choices. As our students have their daily snack breaks in school, we would like to encourage parents/guardians to include a variety of healthy snacks from different food groups (e.g. homemade sandwiches and fruits) so that they can reap the benefits of consuming nutritious snacks. We look forward to partnering with you in guiding your child/ward to make healthier snack choices to support their growth and development.

### Inculcating a Sense of Responsibility

In line with inculcating a sense of responsibility and ownership in our students' regarding their own belongings, the General Office does not pass on materials or personal messages to students. Personal items cannot be deposited at the General Office. We seek your understanding on these matters.

# Resources for Parents on Supporting our Students' Mental and Social-emotional Well-Being

As the End-of-Year examinations is fast approaching, your child/ward may begin to experience and display signs of stress and anxiety. We would like to share with you the following resources in Table 4 on how you can support your child's well-being during this period.

**Table 4:** Resources on Helping Students on Managing Stress and Anxiety

Resources	Access via QR Code or URL
Tips on how you can support your child during the exam season	https://go.gov.sg/supportingexamseason
Identify signs of stress and learn ways you can support your child	https://go.gov.sg/manageexamstress

#### Updates on PERI upgrading

The school's PERI upgrading works have completed. With effect from Monday, 12 September 2022, students can access the school via Gate 2 (refer to Figure 1). Students can enter and exit from the school during morning arrival (6.45 a.m. to 7.25 a.m.) and dismissal hours (1.40 p.m. to 2.10 p.m.) at Gate 2 or 3. Gate 1 will remain as the main access point and visitor's access will continue to be restricted to the main gate (Gate 1). The temporary side gate among the sheltered linkway near Gate 1 will be closed permanently.

Parents who drive can use the car park opposite the school to alight your children. Indicated on the map is the safe route all drivers are advised to take when alighting your children. Your cooperation will make a huge impact on the safety of our students.

In the event of wet weather, the security guards will allow parents to drive into the school in the morning to drop your children off, and half an hour after school dismissal hours to pick up your children. This is to allow time for the school buses to leave the school compound.

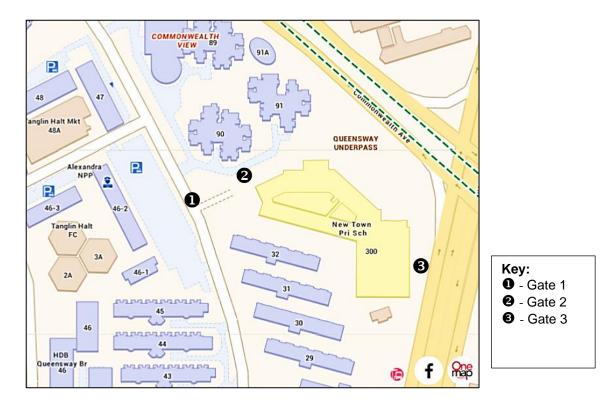


Fig. 1

Thank you for all your support in our various school programmes towards the holistic development of our students. We look forward to your continual support as our partners-ineducation.

Yours faithfully,

MRS TAN-NG WIE PIN PRINCIPAL



# **NEW TOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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## **Enrichment Programmes for 2022**

No.	Level	Subject	Description	Estimated Amount	Actual Amount / Remarks
1.	P1	English	Outdoor Learning Experience (Zoo)	\$20	\$13
		Chinese Language	Online learning Resources for Students	\$24	Cancelled <sup>1</sup>
0		English	Outdoor Learning Experience (Zoo)	\$20	\$13
2.	P2	Chinese Language	Online learning Resources for Students	\$24	Cancelled <sup>1</sup>
		Math	ICAS Math Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
		Iviatii	Math Olympiad (Selected students)	\$48	\$48
3.	P3	Science	ICAS Science Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
		English	ICAS English Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
		Chinese Language	Online learning Resources for Students	\$24	Cancelled <sup>1</sup>
4.	P4	Math	ICAS Math Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
			Math Olympiad (Selected students)	\$48	\$48
		Science	ICAS Science Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
		English	ICAS English Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
			English Reading Programme – Little Red DOT subscription	\$13	\$13
		Chinese Language	Online learning Resources for Students	\$24	Cancelled <sup>1</sup>
		Overseas Culture Immersion Trip	South Korea (Selected Students)	Price to be confirmed	Postponed <sup>2</sup>
_	P5	Math	ICAS Math Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
			Math Olympiad (Selected students)	\$48	\$48
5.		Science	ICAS Science Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
		English	ICAS English Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10

No.	Level	Subject	Description	Estimated Amount	Actual Amount / Remarks
			P5 Creative Writing	\$100	Postponed <sup>2</sup>
			English Reading Programme – Little Red DOT subscription	\$13	\$13
		Chinese	Online learning Resources for Students	\$24	Cancelled <sup>1</sup>
		Language	Chinese Creative Writing	\$56 to \$70	\$64
		Culture Immersion Trip (Overseas Trip)	Overseas Trip, South Korea (Selected Students)	Price to be confirmed	Postponed <sup>3</sup>
	P6	Math	ICAS Math Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
			Math Olympiad (Selected students)	\$48	\$48
		Science	ICAS Science Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
		English	ICAS English Competition	\$20 per paper	\$17.10
6.			English Reading Programme – Little Red DOT subscription	\$13	\$13
		Chinese Language	Online learning Resources for Students	\$24	Cancelled <sup>1</sup>
			Chinese Creative Writing	\$56 to \$70	\$64
		Malay Language	Reading programme, subscription for Kembara NUSA Magazine	\$18	\$18
		Skill-Based Training	P6 Personal Effectiveness	-	To be run in- house as post- exam activity
7.	P3 to P6  - selected students	Math	Registration for competition & external activities e.g., SASMO	ТВА	\$21.40

<sup>#1</sup> Tapped on resources that are available in the Student Learning Space (SLS) which are aligned to the current MOE learning outcomes in the Chinese Language syllabus.

<sup>#2</sup> To postpone the Creative Writing Programme for the current cohort of P5 to Term 2 2023 when they are in P6.

<sup>#3</sup> Overseas trip – postponed till further notice.