

2 March 2018

# March Issue

Dear Parents/ Guardians,



Our Primary 2 pupils kicked off the Term 1 theme on “Getting to Know...” with a visit to the Butterfly Park & Insect Kingdom. Prior to the introduction of the STELLAR Big Book, “A Butterfly is Born”, the pupils had an unforgettable experience with the creepy crawlies at the Insect Revolution Exhibit and the beautiful butterflies in the park.

The pupils had a whale of a time learning about the different types of butterflies and other insects, their life cycles, habitats and other interesting facts about them!

During the tour, the pupils interacted with the creepy crawlies, walked through the Butterfly Aviary and even fed the birds at the Bird and Animal Aviary! The pupils were so thrilled when they touched and felt the creatures. Our pupils' curiosity triggered them to ask the tour guides many questions!



The learning journey serves to enhance the pupils' knowledge about butterflies and insects as they come closer to nature. We are glad our P2 pupils enjoyed this learning experience, as much as the teachers did!

*Primary 2 Level*



## Upcoming Events

### March 1

P1 Learning Journey

### March 5 – 8

Health and Sports Week

### March 9

Pupil-Parent Teacher Meeting

### March 12

P6 Learning Journey

### March 22 – 23

P5 NEWater Visitor Centre visit

### March 26 – 29

Science Week

Do look at our Calendar of Events for more details for the month of February and get our monthly newsletters which are issued through SNAC to keep you updated on the events in Xingnan Primary School. Log on to SNAC to get a copy of the newsletter on every first Friday of the month!

## Quality Learning Experiences

### **eXplore! Primary 3 – eXplore stations**

“Caterpillar!” Samuel from 3A squealed excitedly as he gestured animatedly at the caterpillar nestled among the leaves.

The Primary 3 pupils were in the Eco-Garden at the various outdoor eXplore stations. Scanning the QR codes with their iPads, they discussed the information they found and took pictures of the plants for them to use to sketch and classify later on. Not only do pupils get to learn more about plants, they also get to be in touch with nature by touching and smelling the flowers. Using their senses to observe, they have come to realise that Science is all around them!

### **eXcite/eXplore! Primary 4 – Shadow Puppets**

Buzzing with excitement, the Primary 4 pupils were clutching onto their handmade shadow puppets as they crowded around the ‘stage’ in the library. In line with the Science topic on ‘Light’, they staged a shadow puppet show to explore how the distance between objects, light source and screen affects the size of shadows. The use of the STELLAR Text ‘Canoe Diary’ also serves to reinforce what pupils have learnt during their English language lessons. At the same time, they get to hone their presentation skills!

*Science Department*

### **Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day**

Xingnan Primary School had our first Home-Based Learning Day on 31 January 2018. Our teachers wanted to take learning beyond classrooms and make it accessible anywhere for our pupils. Teachers worked together to create online learning experiences for our pupils through online platforms like Google sites. The online learning activities had elements of wonder, fun and challenge. We hope these learning experiences ignite a spark in our pupils' minds as they continue to explore and discover through indoor and outdoor learning experiences. We believe with the support of parents, these opportunities will guide our pupils to develop self-directed learners.

*ICDM Department*

### **Xingnan Learning Fest**

While our pupils were engaged in online learning on HBL Day, our teachers participated in the Xingnan Learning Fest – a day planned by teachers, for teachers to learn different teaching and learning pedagogies. Teachers shared their insights, findings and reflections to empower the other teachers to enhance their lessons. It was a productive day for all as staff learnt from one another to become more competent in Teaching and Learning.

*Teacher Leader Team (TLT)*

## **Total Defence Week**

“Together, We Keep Our Singapore Strong” – the theme for 2018’s Total Defence Campaign. We mark Total Defence Day on 15 Feb annually. Through various activities, pupils gained awareness of the need to be ready for any emergencies. Our Junior CD Lionhearter team facilitated basic first-aid practical sessions and activities during recess to re-iterate messages from SG Secure. The Home Team mobile exhibition was in our school too! Pupils were excited as they interacted with the officers and sat in the mobile vehicles. Our heartiest congratulations to our school’s Junior CD Lionhearter team for emerging as national champions in this year’s Total Defence Day Competition organized by Singapore Civil Defence Force and Singapore Discovery Centre.

*CCE Department*

## **Lockdown Drill**

On the morning of 14 February, an announcement was made over the PA system and all members of the school immediately went into hiding. The lockdown drill was carried out to address the need for safety of pupils and staff in view of any impending threats. Pupils and staff were expected to stay out of sight during the drill till help arrived. The P5 and P6 pupils and teachers were evacuated to the External Holding Area. The drill forms part of our school’s safety measure and will be carried out yearly. The school’s security measures ensure the well-being and safety of all pupils and staff.

*School Safety and Security Committee*

## **Road Safety Games**

It was a blistering hot day but our Primary 4 pupils were excited to go through an experience of a lifetime at the Road Safety Park – a small-scale version of a network of roads and landmarks which allows our pupils to practise their road safety skills. Our pupils had a fun time as they role-played as go-cart drivers, pedestrians or cyclists.

Pupils were also educated on the safety precautions as pedestrians when on the roads as well as the importance of following traffic rules in Singapore. Learning to raise their hands while crossing the zebra crossing, reading road signs, using the mini overhead bridge or coming to a stop when the traffic lights turn from orange to red are just a few of the road safety measures pupils can practise at the park. At the end of the games, Certificates of Proficiency were given to outstanding pupils.

Through this learning experience, we hope our pupils will learn to conduct themselves safely on the road; to be safety-conscious citizens.

*School Safety and Security Committee*

## **West Zone Inter-Primary Schools Volleyball Championship 2018**

In the 2018 West Zone Inter-Primary Schools Volleyball Championship finals, our Junior girls' team defended their zonal title for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. To add to the victory, our Senior girls' team also did the school proud by emerging defending champions! Both the Junior and Senior girls will continue to do their best and strive to excel in the Nationals! We take this opportunity to convey our heartfelt gratitude to the families of our players. Their continued support has made it possible for our girls to strive for excellence!

*Volleyball CCA*

## **Modular CCA (MOCCA)**

What a way to spend our Friday mornings! Every Friday for the first one hour, Xingnanians go through a variety of activities in the Modular CCA (MOCCA) programme. MOCCA provides opportunities and experiences for pupils to acquire knowledge, skills and values. Dancing to ethnic musical pieces, playing the tambourines and stacking cups are a few of the many variety of activities our pupils are engaged in. Our P6 pupils bonded over inter-class games while our P3 pupils had fun learning to swim. Fridays are days filled with fun, laughter and engaged learning!

*PE Department*

## **Student Leaders' Investiture**

Great things are achieved through great leadership. Great leaders are first groomed and developed from young, in schools. In Xingnan, every student is a leader. We actively create many leadership opportunities in our school. For the first time this year, the Student Leaders' Investiture recognised our prefects and CCA leaders.

The Student Leaders' Investiture is a time for pupils to recognise our student leaders as exemplary role models. It is a time for the student leaders to pledge their commitment to serve the school. It is a time for teachers to recognise the dedication of these student leaders.

May we take this opportunity to extend our heartiest congratulations to our newly appointed Head Prefect, Samantha Teh (6B)! We also congratulate Dani Syami (6C) and Lo Xien Fei (6B) on their appointments as our school's Vice Head Prefects!

*CCE Department*

## Mother Tongue eXcite Week 2018

At Xingnan Primary School, Mother Tongue (MT) Languages are living languages. The Mother Tongue eXcite Week aims to inculcate the joy of teaching and learning MT languages among teachers and pupils. Our pupils explored learning of MT languages through songs, calligraphy, drama, story-telling and hands on activities. The Mother Tongue eXcite Week highlights the diverse ways in which our pupils can learn their MT languages. Stay tuned for the Mother Tongue Fortnight where pupils will get to extend their learning through the appreciation of culture in Term 2!

*Mother Tongue Department*



### Chinese New Year Celebrations

In preparation for Chinese New Year, Xingnanians were busy decorating their classrooms with Chinese New Year decorations. Pupils were enthusiastic about decorating their classrooms with their teachers!

During recess that week, Xingnanians conveyed their new year wishes to friends and teachers through e-card greetings using the iPads managed by parent volunteers and Infocomm Club members. A collaboration with the Parent Support Group (PSG), it was a meaningful platform for pupils to express their well-wishes to one another for the new year.

On the eve of Chinese New Year, the school buzzed with excitement and pupils and staff were treated to a feast for the eyes. The Choir, Chinese Dance, Brass Band and even teachers put up entertaining performances for the concert.

To conclude the celebrations, our pupils participated in Chinese New Year couplet writing activity. Our pupils enjoyed writing auspicious words using calligraphy brushes. This is yet another way to excite our pupils to learn the heritage and culture of Chinese writing!

*Mother Tongue Department*

## Meaningful Partnerships

### School Visits By Shanxi Primary, Cheng Du School

Bright smiles greeted our pupils on the mornings of 5 & 6 February. Clad in their uniforms, pupils from ShanXi Primary 陕西大学附属小学 and Cheng Du School 成都三台外国语学校 visited Xingnan Primary School. Enthusiastic Primary 4 & 5 pupils played host to our visitors. Our pupils brought their buddies around the school and included them during group activities in the classrooms. To encourage cross-cultural exchange, non-Chinese pupils were appointed as buddies too! Pupils enjoyed hosting their international friends and they look forward to seeing them again! We hope our visitors had a fruitful experience in Xingnan!

*Partnership Engagement Committee*

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#### Corporate Step Challenge 2018

The Corporate Step Challenge 2018 was launched alongside Season 3 of the National Steps Challenge in January this year to tap into the workplace and make healthy living more fun and accessible for the workforce. To encourage staff to lead an active lifestyle and build an active workforce, Xingnan Primary School has signed up for the Corporate Challenge. Currently, our school has clocked in a daily average step count of 7000 steps. Through this corporate challenge, our staff are empowered to take an active role in improving their overall health, building an active workforce.

*PE Department*

#### National Vertical Team Challenge 2018

Setting a good role model in leading a healthy and active lifestyle, a team of teachers from Xingnan Primary School participated in the National Vertical Challenge on 9 February which was organized by Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF) in partnership with Health Promotion Board (HPB). The vertical challenge aims to introduce a Healthy Workplace Ecosystem and to encourage active lifestyle among working adults. The teachers conquered the 44-storey AXA Tower located at Shenton Way within 12 minutes. Moving on, we hope to encourage more staff to lead an active lifestyle through the National Steps Challenge.

*PE Department*