

南洋小学家长教师协会
NYPS Parent-Teacher Association



PTA News

A Publication of NYPS Parent-Teacher Association
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NANYANG PRIMARY SCHOOL



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President's Message

Holiday greetings from the Nanyang Primary School Parent-Teacher Association aka PTA! It's been an eventful year for many, so I hope you and your children are enjoying a restful holiday season!

Our principal, Mrs Lee, who has served the school with dedication for the last seven years, will be leaving us in December. I'm sure many of us will miss the familiar sight of her greeting students in the morning at the school gate. All of us at PTA wish Mrs Lee all the very best in her new school!

We welcome our new Principal, Mdm Ler, and look forward to working with her. There will be a period of adjustment for everyone: teachers, staff, students and parents. I hope that we will all walk through this period with good humour and good faith!

The coming year will be an exciting one for the school. It is the 100th Anniversary for Nanyang Primary School, Nanyang Kindergarten and Nanyang Girls' High School. There are several programmes already in the works. I'm sure many of you will be helping out in various ways. Thank you all very much for all the work you've done and will continue to do! ☺

Over the course of the last year, the PTA has revamped the website and put into place dedicated email addresses for more efficient handling of queries.

They are:

membership@nypspta.com for all membership matters;
events@nypspta.com for events organised or supported by the PTA; and
enquiries@nypspta.com for all other queries.

The website is a work in progress as it is done by parent volunteers. If any of you would like to help out, either with the design and IT, or with content (writing articles, taking photographs and searching for interesting articles), please do get in touch.

As I come towards the end of my two-year term, it has been an enriching experience serving as President of the PTA. I apologise for any mistakes and shortcomings. And wish all of you many happy experiences volunteering with the PTA!

Warmest wishes,
Tan Joo Hymn
President
Executive Committee 2015-2017

Management Committee

President

Mdm Tan Joo Hymn

Assistant Secretary

Mdm Angela Lee

Committee Members

Mdm Fiona Goh
Mr Jacky Tan
Mdm Serene Gu
Mr Lim Sin Leng
Mdm Cynthia Tan
(until 21 December 2015)
Mdm Joyce Poon
Mdm Lynda Seet
Mr Eric Guan (until 13 May 2016)
Mr John Ng

Mdm Ong Hwee Yen (School Representative)
Mdm Yow Seet Mui (School Representative)
Mdm Lau Pui San (School Representative)
Mdm Mok Sze Hui (School Representative)

First Vice President

Mrs Lee Hui Feng

Treasurer

Mdm Katy Tan

Second Vice-President

Mr Kelvine Chong

Assistant Treasurer

Mdm Bella Yu

Honorary Secretary

Mdm Jocelyn Lim

Membership Secretary

Mdm Lezlie Neo

Principal's Message



This is the seventh Principal's Message I am writing for the PTA newsletter as we celebrate the ending of another fruitful year. I will be leaving Nanyang Primary School in December 2016, so this message is also a more personal one.

I would like to thank all parents for your trust in, and support of, the school. The teachers and staff would not have been able to manage so many events and activities without the timely help from so many parents over the years.

In addition to the regular events that the PTA helps to organise, there are also many parents who are volunteering in the library, general office and sick bay, as well as for the class field trips. There are many parent support groups for the various CCAs, and I know parents have put in a lot of time and resources to help ensure that the children have an enriching and rewarding experience.

Hence, this year, we have continued to have two parent appreciation parties, the PV appreciation brunch on Kai Nian (开年), the day when school reopens after the Chinese New Year, and the PSG Appreciation Night in late October/early November. These are just small tokens for the huge effort put in by parents.

The Nanyang family of schools will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary next year. There are many exciting events and celebrations planned. To those of you with children in P2-6 next year, their usual school year will be punctuated with many fun and meaningful activities. To the parents of the current P6 pupils and those who have graduated, I hope you would encourage your children to come back next year to join in the festivities at their alma mater.

The school experience is more than just examinations and results, it is also about learning and relationship, for both pupils and parents. As parents, we choose the school that suits the child, and not change our child to fit the school. Children are unique, every child and his/her parents deserve a happy and enriching primary school experience.

Although I will no longer be Principal of Nanyang Primary School, I'm sure I will be seeing at least some of you in the future. I have kept in touch with some of the parents and students from my former school, and I'm sure I will do the same here. Wishing all of you the very best!

Sub-Committees
Membership
Mdm Lezlie Neo
Mr Lim Sin Leng

Parent Resource
Mdm Fiona Goh

Newsletter & Publications
Mdm Joyce Poon

Information Technology
Mdm Cynthia Tan
(until 21 December 2015)

Functions
Mdm Serene Gu

Family Matters@School Coordinator
Mr Eric Guan (until 13 May 2016)
Ms Tay Bea Lu (from 14 May 2016)

Family Matters@School for Dads Coordinator
Mr John Ng

To contact us:
For membership matters – membership@nypspta.com
For activities and events – events@nypspta.com
For all other matters – enquiries@nypspta.com
Website: www.nypspta.com

Primary One Orientation 2016

This year's Nanyang Primary One Orientation took place on the 4th of January after a long New Year's weekend. Transitioning from kindergarten to primary school can be daunting for both parents and their primary one child. With 13 primary one classes, one of the largest in Singapore, many parent volunteers turned up to help the children adapt and adjust to their new school environment.



Some of tasks include making sure the children knew where their classes were, how to queue up and buy food during recess time and where to go after school finished for their pick ups. More importantly in the first week of school, the teachers worked hard to instill discipline among the children, so that learning can be introduced in an orderly manner.

The children had to learn how to do things quietly, to listen when the teacher was talking and to take simple instructions on things like, the books they needed to bring or homework that must be finished.



During the week, students were encouraged to showcase their talent. Many went on stage to play the violin, the piano and some even took to singing their favourite tunes. The performance clearly showed how confident the children were.

By the end of the week, the children were in their routine. Most of them knew what to do and where to go. It was rewarding for the parent volunteers to see the children adjusting well and making new friends - a great start in their journey as students of Nanyang.



NYPS 2016 Chinese New Year Goodies Tasting

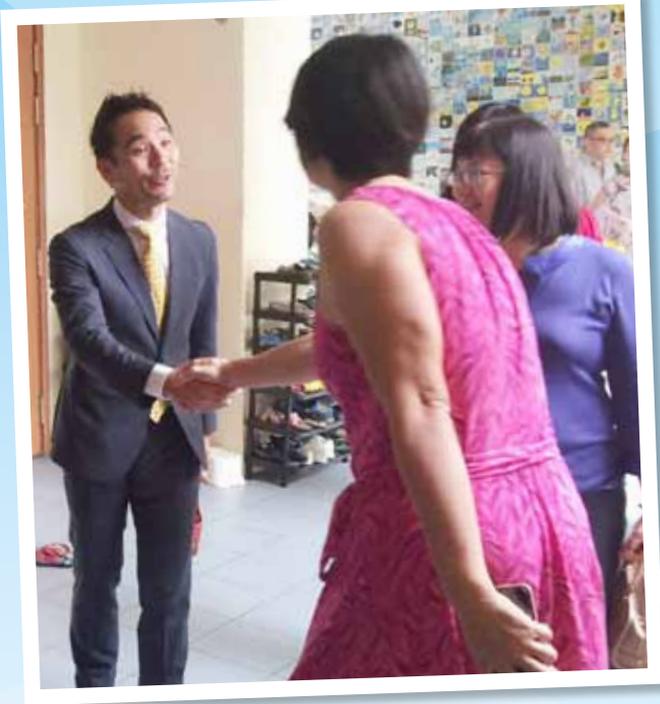
We had our annual Chinese New Year Goodies Tasting on January 26, 2016. This year, on top of our usually very popular goodies tasting and demonstration of the making of Dumplings, Pineapple Tarts, Love Letters, Nian Gao, Kueh Lapis, Bak Kwa, and Spring Rolls, we added two games stalls. The kids were able to show off their knowledge of CNY culture and they received prizes for playing fun games at the Quiz Station as well as the Tray of Togetherness station. A big Thank You to all the Parent Volunteers who helped make this event a big success!



Parent Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

In appreciation of our parent volunteers' support and contribution for the year, PTA organised a PV Appreciation on 10 February 2016 after the Kai Nian Celebration. More than 80 parent volunteers were present to join the celebration and to enjoy the scrumptious brunch arranged by PTA.

It was a great bonding platform for all members of the Nanyang Family!



Teachers' Day Lunch

In appreciation of all the hardwork and care given by teachers and teaching staff to all our children, NYPS PTA hosted a lunch for all teachers and teaching staff on 31st August (Wednesday). The "Retro" theme centred on vintage feel for the décor and buffet lunch with Paranakan food. There is a photo booth setup for teachers to take their "retro" photos, which is well received by the teachers. Photos were printed on the spot and given to the teachers as a souvenir.

To thank the teachers, parent volunteers also donated different Paranakan desserts, including hand-made of 500 pieces oneh oneh by a mummy. Each teacher is also given a packet of icing sugar biscuits. Another group of mummies from the Fitness Club performed a fitness dance "小苹果", which they have taken time from their busy schedule several weeks before to practice.

Seeing the smiles on the teachers, they indeed had an enjoyable time. Thank You Teachers!

为了答谢老师的辛劳与付出，南小家长教师协会再度代表全校家长及同学们在八月三十一日特地为所有的在职和退休的南小老师和教职人员准备了一席丰盛的教师节午餐。这次的教师节午餐主题为“复古”。家长义工请了专业摄影师为老师拍复古照，立即打印送给老师做纪念。家长义工们也准备了各式各样的娘惹美食和手工糕点，包括每一位老师一包糖霜饼干。除了吃，健身俱乐部的家长义工也呈献了健身舞蹈“小苹果”。她们可是花了几个星期的时间排练完成的！

看到每位老师脸上开心的笑容，我们的辛苦都值的了。感恩老师！



Tea Ceremony

Tea Ceremony event was held on 1st Sept 2016 Thursday in school. Many parent volunteers were involved in this massive scale of preparing Chinese brewed tea for all our students to be able to serve at least a cup of tea to show their appreciation and thank our wonderful teachers including all Vice Principals and Principal.



This year is our fourth year holding this special event. It would not have been possible if not for the dedication and support of parent volunteers who worked hard to make it happen. All non teaching staff was also served tea by our prefects to show our appreciation and remembering them for all their hard work in making our school such a wonderful place to be in.



Dumpling Demonstration for P5

This year PTA organized the Dumpling Demonstration for all P5 pupils held in school canteen on 16th February 2016. It was greatly supported by parents who came to make and cook up delicious tasty dumplings for our pupils to try.



The event started early in the morning at 7am and P5 classes took turn to come down during their Chinese lessons to savour the tasty dumplings. During recess time, more was cooked for the other levels to try as well. It was a great bonding time for all of us who came to this event.



Mid Autumn Celebrations



南洋月夜明 欢乐一家亲

OUR CULTURE, OUR FUTURE

南风起 皓月明，洋洋喜气 金秋迎。
小团圆 共赏月，学苑茶香满温情

In collaboration with the Farrer Holland Neighbourhood Committee (FHNC Ulu Pandan Community Club), the school celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival on the 16th September 2016 together with the Alumni and residents staying near the school. With both traditional and popular cultural activities, the entire community was able to come together in a carnival celebration of heritage and culture, in an evening of reminiscence.

KING'S ROAD CAMPUS (KRC) COURTYARD

Concert, lion & dragon dance, food & tea appreciation.

CORONATION ROAD CAMPUS (CRC)

Game booths, Chinese orchestra performance, green lanterns display.

KRC BASKETBALL COURT

Human foosball, lantern parade, milo truck and alumni booth.



Tea ceremony 敬茶
The students respectfully offered tea to the elders of the community and to their teachers and parents - to express their gratitude and deep appreciation.

Cross talk 相声
Guests enjoyed the traditional Chinese art of comic dialogue performance - with hilarious topics ranging from Chinese folk tales to k-pop idols!



Lantern riddles 灯谜
Witty riddles on lanterns - another staple traditional activity at mid-autumn festivals.

A cosy celebration of the ties between the school, teachers, students, alumni, parents and residents. Entering the school compound for the mid-autumn festival celebrations, one cannot help but notice the palpable sense of community spirit that binds the bustling crowd at the event. At the school gate, teachers and parent volunteers are ushering; at the basketball court, the merry peals of children's laughter ring in the air as the young ones partake in their game of foosball; near the driveway, the alumni committee is engaging students past and present; in the classrooms, performers for the evening's concert are putting on the finishing touches to their preparations; in the courtyards, volunteers are lining up trays of mouth-watering festive treats (such as mooncakes, pomelo, water caltrop and jars of Chinese tea); at the game booths, students pit their wits and skills to win attractive stationary from their doting teachers. Indeed, the event was already running like a symphony (thanks to all the maestros of their craft - the thoughtful event organizers, the diligent and dedicated helpers, and the enthusiastic participants),

by the time the guests of honor - honorary patron of the NYPS Board of Director, Mdm Wee Bee Hoon and FHNC PBM Mr Dennis Tan arrived. Accompanying them of course, was the endearing principal of the school, Mrs Lee. In the programmes lined up, guests were treated to not only traditional performances of cross talk (相声), spike fiddle (二胡), bamboo flute (笛子), zither (古筝), lion dance (舞狮), chinese dance (摔跤舞), martial art (武术), diabolo (扯铃) and it's western counter-part yo-yo stunts; they also enjoyed meaningful performances such as a sign language dance (to '爱与关怀' & '妈妈宝贝'), a song ('月亮代表我的心') performed by a family of 3 generations of NYPS students and displays of "green" lanterns (made creatively with recycled material). Last but not least, the finale of the evening was of course, the annual high note of the mass lantern parade, led by the spirited dragon dancers (舞龙) round the KRC campus.

“八月十六的月亮比八月十五的还要圆
- 月圆人团圆。敬一杯茶，尽一份孝心。”

- 校长



FUN FACTS FOR THOUGHTS WHILE MOON GAZING 千里共婵娟

In Chinese mythologies, a lunar deity Chang'er (嫦娥) and her rabbit (玉兔) resides on the moon.

The Moon is Earth's only permanent natural satellite, as well as the only celestial body besides Earth to have been visited by humans.

The Moon is in synchronous rotation with Earth, always showing the same face (the near side), and the opposite side is known as the far side.

The Moon has an atmosphere so tenuous as to be nearly vacuum

Some individual companies claim that tourism on the Moon will be a reality sometime between 2020 and 2043.

(Source: Wikipedia)



Family Matters @ School for Dads



On 5 Nov 2016, we held the 4th edition of the NYPS Family Matters@School for Fathers Sports Day (formerly known as Dads for Life Sports Day). This event has been a popular one on the school's calendar ever since the first one in 2013.

Despite the rain that started during the early morning hours, turnout was strong as these fathers were determined not to let the weather affect this precious bonding time with their children. Mrs Lee, the principle, kicked off the fun by giving the opening speech. The mood was sombre as all of us knew that this was the last Dads for Life Sports Day speech that Mrs Lee was going to do for NYPS. She has been a fervent supporter of the cause and is a firm believer in the holistic development of the school children. Thousands and thousands of NYPS kids have benefited from her thinking and direction. Mrs Lee has made it a point to make the opening speech for every edition of this sports day and she certainly was not going to miss this last one.

We kicked off the day by bringing the fathers and children through all of the "Decathlon" sections, carefully explaining the rules and also demonstrating how to perform the moves, hit the ball and dribble using a hockey stick, amongst many other things. We gave each father and child pair a scorecard to keep track of each others score. In the spirit of competition, we made it a point to make it especially hard for fathers to score any points.



It was a sight to behold – as it always has been when you see a sea of fathers having good old fashion fun with their children. Some fathers were clueless as to what to do but it didn't matter. Some fathers left their sporting years way behind them but that didn't matter too. What mattered was that for a few hours on a rainy Sat morning, father and child had fun and bonded.

At the end of the event, Mrs Lee gave her last closing speech to thank the fathers and NYPS kids for making time. We also gave out some goodies to 3 pairs of father/child – most supportive (they came for all 4 editions!), most coordinated (both wore Spartan Race t-shirts), most determined parent (this was given to a mum who brought her child despite her husband being outstationed for 6 months).



Racial Harmony Day



This year Racial Harmony was extra meaningful and enjoyable as we embarked on a different format. We got all parent volunteers to dressed up in ethnic costumes focusing on Malay and Indian theme. As we are a SAP school, it was important for our students to have a better understanding of other races in Singapore and we hope to be able to achieve this through this very meaningful event.



We went into all the classes at different allocated timing to share more about the rich Indian and Malay culture through well-informed slides. At the end of each session, a simple handicraft was taught and students were paired up or in groups to try to make on their own.

Everyone enjoyed themselves very much on this special occasion.



2nd NYPS Parent Support Group Appreciation & Networking Night



The 2nd Parents' Support Group (PSG) Appreciation Night was held successfully in the school hall on the 4th November 2016. The event was well attended by more than 150 guests comprising of parents, coaches, instructors, teacher-in-charge and students from across 14 CCA groups including the Basketball, Football, Track & Field, Gymnastics, Chinese Dance, Green Club, Chinese Orchestra, Wei Qi, Dance, Brownies, Girls Brigade, Wu Shu and the Green Club. 2016 was indeed a very fruitful year for Nanyang CCAs with many results and achievements. A very big thank you to all CCAs Parent Supporters and Volunteers who had helped the school and the respective CCAs out tirelessly over the past years to make it happen.



This year's event was especially meaningful as it was also a timely platform for our Principal, Mrs Lee Hui Feng, to say a word of appreciation to all the parents who have stood by and supported her role and effort in the last 7 years before she leaves the school. For the guests who had attended the event, it was not only a night of good food and interactions with one another but it was also one of the very last few opportunities to have a close up photo shots with Mrs Lee, our out-going Principal.

Community Outreach in 2016



As part of the NYPS-PTA community outreach efforts, we partnered Yong-En Care Centre in two food distribution events in 2016.

To kick start the community outreach efforts in 2016, in April, about 30 Nanyang Primary families brought 200 bags of surplus food items from the Nanyang Primary Chinese New Year food drive to Yong-En and helped distribute 150 of these to families under Yong-En's care. The bags were personally packed by a group of PTA parents a week before, and each bag contained rice, noodles, assorted can food, and beverages specially chosen to cater to the basic needs of the families we were reaching out to.

On the afternoon of April 6, armed with trolleys and fierce determination, our parents and children delivered the heavy food-laden bags to each of the over 150 families distributed over Banda Street. Though the children heaved and pushed the heavy trolleys from block to block and floor to floor, they always had a smile on their sweaty faces when the residents opened their doors. The residents received us warmly and we had a lovely time getting to know one another.



In August, the NYPS-PTA partnered Yong-En in another round of food distribution. This time, as we helped Yong-En with their regular distribution of sponsored bread and kaya, we were tasked with getting to know the families better, with the objective of identifying suitable candidates for an upcoming befriender's program. Through this exercise we learned more about the living conditions of the families under Yong-En's care and had greater appreciation for the level of care required by each family. This provides a good grounding for Yong-En's future plans.

With more food deliveries and other community outreach efforts, we hope to bring more NYPS families together, and reach out to more fellow Singaporeans. Through these activities, we hope to foster a greater sense of compassion and empathy in our children, and to offer friendship and support to others in the community.



Floral Harmony @ Nanyang Prize Presentation



The 14th Floral Harmony @ Nanyang, jointly organized with PTA and NParks, was successfully conducted at Singapore Garden Festival 2016 (28-31 July). The floral art competition saw over 200 pupils from the Intra-school and International Youth Floral Art Competitions from 21 schools. The exhibition thereafter attracted many impressed visitors including dignitaries, tourists and many others who were awed by the skills of the young participants.

Some parents and school staff joined in the fun with their own floral design too. Many were inspired to have hands on experience at our community outreach and we managed to raise more than \$1000 for the Garden City Fund. Our pupils shared their floral skills with Delta Senior School pupils too.



On prize presentation day, the audience were intrigued by the floral demonstration ,floral fashion parade and dance performance put up by our pupils which was graced by Mrs Desmond Lee. We would like to thank all parents, pupils and volunteers who have contributed in making it a memorable experience for all.

