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Dear Parents/Guardians,

My name is Mrs Diana Tan and I will be the Primary 4 Year Head. On behalf of the teachers, I would like to welcome you and all P4 students to the 2019 school year. We are very excited to work together with you and your child to make this a fabulous new school year. We hope the children would have a meaningful year ahead of them as they build bonds with their peers and enrich their minds and hearts with knowledge, skills and values learnt in school.



1. Collaborative Learning

Your child may have shared with you about the classroom arrangement of tables. We have made group work a greater emphasis this year as the form and co-form teachers worked together to cluster the tables into small groups to promote more student-to-student interaction. We hope through the table arrangement and other structures such as group roles and expectations, students would develop skills such as communication, problem solving, and collaboration. The arrangement also offers safe and comfortable environments for students to share ideas with their peers.

2. Home-School Collaboration

There are many ways that parents can support their children's learning at home and throughout the school year. Some ideas:

- Talk to your child about what they experienced in school that day. Focus on the positive areas to help your child be excited about school.
- Talk to your child about what they have learned in class each day. This will help them review and find areas that they lack understanding.
- Pay attention to your child's strength and interest.
- Praise and encourage your child at home.
- Establish a timetable and a conducive environment for your child to complete his/her homework each day.
- Teach your child to be responsible for his/her homework, assignments and tests, including handing in homework on time.
- Encourage your child to ask questions in class and to look for teachers when they need help.
- Help your child enjoy the process of learning by connecting what they learn in school to their everyday lives.
- Offer your time and support in programmes and initiatives by the school.



3. Subject-Based Banding

Subject-based Banding provides greater flexibility for your child by offering him the option of a combination of standard and foundation subjects, depending on his strengths. Possible subject combinations depend on a child's performance. The intent of Subject-based Banding is to achieve ability-driven education, offer pupils subjects at the highest level that they can benefit from and provide strong foundation in literacy and numeracy for successful progression beyond primary schools. The child may also be offered Higher Chinese Language depending on performance. Information sheet and brochure will be given at the later date.

4. Peer Support Programme

The Peer Support Programme aims to provide a positive, caring and enabling school environment that brings about positive outcomes in student development. Other positive results include improved student learning and academic achievement, effective risk prevention and health promotion efforts and increased student graduation rates. Part of the lessons in the Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP) and Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) intentionally teach the skills to build high-quality relationships in Teacher-Student Relationship (TSR) and Peer Support & Relationship (PSR) for a sustainable school culture of care. Other PSR includes peer bonding, peer influencing and peer helping. Examples:

- Peer Bonding – orientation programme, buddy system, P5 camps
- Peer Influencing – ambassadors for cyber wellness, class committee and duties, Singapore Kindness Movement ambassadors etc.
- Peer Helping – buddies for students with special needs, new students joining the school, etc.

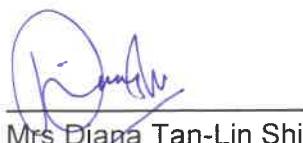
While the efforts in peer bonding and peer influencing will continue, the effort for peer helping will be enhanced with the class monitors equipped with skills in peer support. Hence, monitors ought to have the heart to help and support other students in need. They will be trained and equipped with simple skills so that they can support their friends and other students in the school in time of need.

In general, the key messages to Kong Hwaians are:

- It's OK if I need help
- Each one of us can also help our friends
- We can help to look out for each other
- When in doubt, we can always check with our teacher or school counsellors

I hope you find the above information useful. If you have queries or feedback, please email me at lin_shiyong_diana@schools.gov.sg. I look forward to working with you as a team to help your child meet his/her goals and have a successful school year!

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Diana Tan-Lin Shiyong
P4 Year Head