



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 23rd: Workshop on Plastic Recycling
- 26th: Pre-Nursery Open Morning
- 28th: IB Workshop: Theatre

MARCH

- 1st: Public Holiday: Maha Shivaratri
- 2nd: Subject Choice Evening: Year 11
IB Workshop - ITGS
- 2nd-4th: Parents Meeting: Year 13
- 3rd: IB Workshop: Spanish Ab Initio
- 3rd-10th: School Photos
- 4th: IB Workshop - Computer Science
Parent Committee Meeting
- 7th: Pre-Nursery Come See Me Work - Toddlers
IB Workshop - Visual Arts
- 8th: World Women's Day Celebration
- 9th-14th: Parents Meeting: Year 11
- 11th: National Day Celebration
IB Philosophy, Mission Statement
& Learner Profile Workshop – Year 11
- 12th: Public Holiday: National Day
- 14th-15th: Pre-Nursery Come See Me Work - Walkers
- 19th: Open Morning Year 5&6
- 21st: Francophonie Day Celebration
- 26th: Open Morning Year 7 and up
- 30th: Year 5&6 Parents Consultation Day

APRIL

- 1st: Last Day of Term 2
- 2nd: Public Holiday: Ugadi
- 2nd-18th: School Holidays
- 15th&18th: School Closed

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022



Empowering learners to reach their full potential

School has finally resumed on campus this half-term, much to the delight of us all! It has been a pleasure seeing everyone back together again and learning with such enthusiasm since our return. That is not to say that we haven't had our challenges these past few weeks, with the need to continue our Covid protocols, several teachers and students out due to illness and isolation, our older students sitting their Mock Examinations, and just to top it off - two cyclones! If our ongoing optimism through this eventful return does not embody resilience, then I am not sure what does!

"The care and respect I have seen among our students and staff since our return has been outstanding"

But in true Northfields fashion, our staff, students and parents have turned their full attention to learning – not only in their subject lessons, but also about our cultures and environment. You will see from this issue of our newsletter just how much has actually been happening across the school in all areas of learning.

It has been refreshing to see that despite the time away and the difficulties that our students and staff have had to face, their thirst for learning and engagement in a variety of activities has not diminished. Most importantly, the care and respect I have seen among our students

and staff since our return has been outstanding. Thanks go to our families for supporting this positive approach among our community now and long into the future.

We have clearly started the second term with energy and determination, and this bodes well as we have much more to accomplish this year together in empowering our learners to reach their full potential!

Have a wonderful weekend and stay safe.

Ms Phyllis Philogène
Principal





CHINESE NEW YEAR

We scaled back our Chinese New Year celebrations this year to mark the Year of the Tiger however we could not do without the traditional lion dance.



The lion dance is very special for its tradition and history. In China, the lion is a symbol of bravery, power and strength. It is believed that the lion dance gets rid of evil spirits, protects people and brings luck. Ensuring that all sanitary protocols were observed, we ushered out the old year and welcomed in the new one with the lion dance.



LIBRARY MAKEOVER

To celebrate Valentine's Day, our school library organised a 'Blind Date With A Book'. The aim of this was to encourage students to not judge a book by its cover, to read genres outside of their comfort zone and to fall in love with reading all over again! The Library also completed a Valentine's makeover with the help of Maria, Ethan and Rayhaan from Year 10 and Kate, Ophelia and Julianne from Year 12.



EVENTS

WELCOME BACK

After months of silent hallways and empty classrooms, it was a delight to welcome all of our students back to Northfields. The extensive preparation and planning put into making school re-entry safe and welcoming is a testament to the care and commitment of all Northfields staff. Our aim for the first day back was to normalize the school day, have students reacclimatise to the building, and reengage positive connections with other students and staff, all of which are essential for successful learning and growth.



This seems to have been a success, despite the masks, handwashing and physical distancing. It really was quite wonderful to see shining eyes peeking over the tops of masks, as students arrived ready for school. Thank you to all parents for helping to prepare your children for the first day back at school for face-to-face lessons, as this had a huge impact on helping to make re-entry to school successful.



WEATHER DAYS

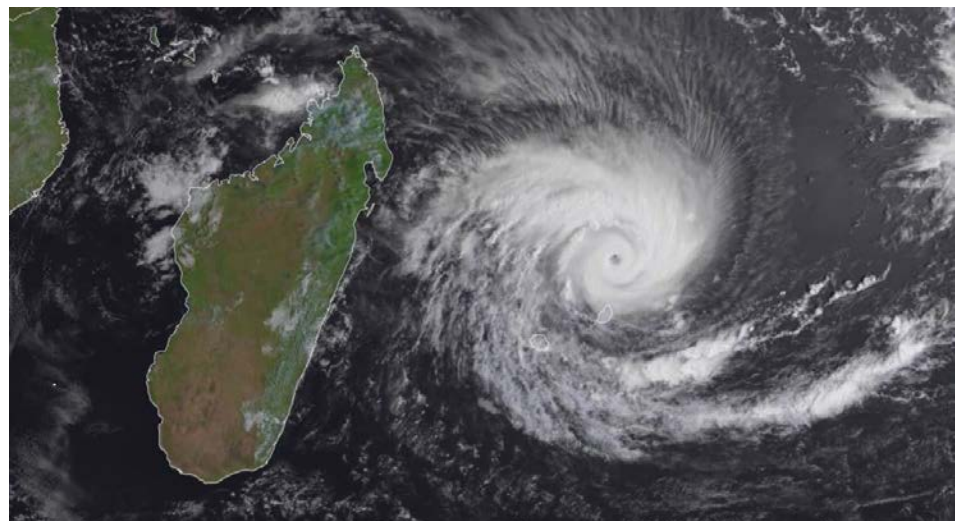
Our students were looking forward to the reopening of schools but as fate would have it, the reopening of schools, closed since November because of the spread Covid, could not take place as planned due to the inclement weather caused by Batsirai.

Hot off the heels and barely three weeks after Batsirai brought winds, heavy rains and damage to Mauritius, Emnati struck the island.

The Ministry of Education announced the closure of schools around the island on both occasions. To ensure continuity in learning, lesson materials were posted online for our learners, who had connection to the internet during these weather days.

Behind the scenes, our facilities team were hard at work in clearing the fallen branches and ensuring that our school was safe for our community to return to.

We are glad that there was no extensive damage and our students were able to return safely.



VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION

This year again, love was in the air on the occasion of Valentine's Day. Supervised by Mrs. Canakiah, a student team led by Honisha, Cedrick and Sheen organised the festivities. The Year 12 students wrapped and delivered roses packed, wrapped and delivered roses and cookies across the campus. Thanks to our great team of Year 12s, all orders were ready on time.



During lunch break, students were entertained with pre-recorded videos of some of our students' musical talent such as singing and playing songs on various musical instruments. It was a lovely day for all.

DOOR DECORATING COMPETITION

As part of our Valentine's Day celebration, we also held a door decorating competition. All our students had a lot of fun decorating their classroom doors with hearts and other lovely decorations. This was a wonderful time for our students, bringing a true sense of community spirit!

The winners of the competition were the classes 9V and 8R. Congratulations!



MOCK EXAMS



We finally come to the end of the mock examinations. The students have experienced several changes to the timetable and have shown that they are resilient learners. We are therefore confident that they are ready for their finals.

The IB students are finalising their IAs with face-to-face sessions with their teachers and benefiting from the one-to-one feedback.



Final Examinations MJ2020 session:

- Practical exams (CAIE - Art & Design and language orals) April 11 – 15
- Written exams begin on 28 April and finish on 20 May (IB exams) and 10 June (CAIE exams).





SANGO

On the 21st of September 2021, some of our students participated in the South African Geography Olympiad. Much awaited certificates were awarded to our achievers for SANGO,

Here is a recap of the results:

- Anandita N.-Gold Certificate: Top 5% Year 9I
- Laeitia L.-Gold Certificate: Top 5% Year 9I
- Victoria C.-Silver Certificate: Top 10% 9R
- Armaan S.-Bronze Certificate: Top 15%. Year 8H
- Maelynn L.- Bronze Certificate: Top 15%. Year 9R
- Eja M. -Participation Year 8H



ROBOTICS

Last year, 3 students from Northfields represented Mauritius in the First Global Robotics Challenge on the international stage against 177 countries.

Our boys were tasked to build and program a robot. They prepared for the initial interview during the holidays and upon being selected, they were provided training by Mauritian officials. Despite not winning the competition, our boys made the country and school proud by being ranked 63rd out of 177 participating countries.

Well done!

1. Aaryan J
2. Caellum B
3. Luqmaan N



HIGH SCHOOL

BIOLOGY

Year 11 Biology, fresh from completing their mock examinations looked at the mechanism of natural selection through investigating Darwin's finches.

They used different tools to replicate finch beaks and developed an investigation procedure to determine the effectiveness of the beaks in accessing food.

The skills developed in this lesson will assist students with approaching their alternative to practical paper in the upcoming IGCSE examinations.



TEACHERS COLLABORATION

On Wednesday afternoons Northfields teachers engage in dedicated time collaborating and taking part in continuous professional development.

On the 24th February, high school teachers focused on Theory Of Knowledge and in particular the 'areas of knowledge' which are an integral component of the IBDP.

Teachers collaborated to explore ideas on the TOK exhibition, design lessons around 'knowledge questions' and to share examples from their subject areas.



WORKSHOP FROM MISSION VERTE

On Wednesday 24th February, we welcomed a member of Mission Verte who conducted a workshop with our school's eco-leaders. The theme of the talk was waste disposal and plastic recycling.

Through this workshop, we aim to encourage our eco-leaders to share the gained information and knowledge with their classmates and to create a recycling culture at Northfields.



With World Recycling Day just around the corner, this workshop is the first of many activities lined up in celebration of this day.

We would like to thank Mission Verte for their unwavering support and Mrs. Rubina for her very capturing presentation.





GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

As an IB World School promoting the Learner Profile it is vital for us to recognise the importance of developing global citizenship among our community. Northfields promotes global citizenship in fun ways through recognising festivities and public holidays celebrated in Mauritius. Over the year, we celebrate Chinese New Year, Divali, Valentine's Day, Eid, Christmas and many other special days in the school year. We are also helping to build a more profound understanding among our students through class discussions and assemblies. Recently in the younger years, in particular in Year 8, students were asked what they felt was the meaning of Global Citizenship. Students were given an opportunity to express their views on how they were already a global citizen and ways to be more involved with global events. In Year 12, students have participated in an interactive assembly where they discussed their ideas on the topic.

Northfields and other Council of International Schools (CIS) members have committed to actively develop global citizenship in education through:

Ethics: research about, discussion of, and action related to issues of principle of personal, local, and global importance,

Diversity: the understanding of and respect for the similarities and differences of a range of individuals and peoples,

Global Issues: the understanding of multiple perspectives of local and global events and issues,

Communication: the development of fluency in multiple languages, including mother tongues, used to communicate within and across cultures,

Service: the development of the understandings, skills and dispositions to serve the local and global community through engagement in meaningful service learning,

Leadership: the acquisition and refinement of the skills of leading and following within different cultural contexts, and

Sustainable Lifestyle: a personal commitment to a lifestyle which supports local and global sustainability displayed through example and advocacy.

Source: cois.org

As an international school with the IB philosophy at heart, we encourage our community to embrace these very important attributes in the hope of building a more peaceful world.



POPULATION ECOLOGY

This term Year 9 students are studying population ecology and developing an active consciousness of connections within ecosystems by promoting environmental citizenship.

They have recently are currently looking at the effectiveness of the Lincoln Index for estimating populations size using the capture, mark, recapture technique.



SELF PORTRAIT

The year 10 Art & Design students are currently building their observational skills on self-portraits using the grid method. Here are some works in progress.



VISUAL ARTS

The MYP Visual Arts students produced some amazing pieces in their last unit.

The Year 7 investigated on Frida Kahl's portrait, the Year 8 created paper mosaic and used mix media to explore the theme of "trees" and the Year 9 studied Roy Lichtenstein's Pop Art.





SRC REPRESENTATIVES

The Student Representative Council has always been an intricate and important part of the school and our aims are to support the students in all ways relating to school life.

Each class is represented by two students who are democratically elected as aspiring to the school values and adhering to the roles and responsibilities of an SRC member.

Our purpose is to communicate and explain school decisions to the students. We have the opportunity of discussing the main issues brought to our attention by the students and sharing them with Miss Philogene and school leadership during our council meetings. The focus is to keep the lines of communication open between students and staff.

We also support our wider community where possible. As SRC members, we focus on modelling our school values, being responsible, trustworthy, approachable and communicative.

We are honored to represent the students of Northfields School as SRC Leaders and we look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

SRC LEADERS 2021-2022



Taylor A.



Julie K.

BACK TO SCHOOL

YEAR 5

The excitement was real when the Year 5s returned to campus on Monday 7th February, after a long period of online learning. They each had a photo taken looking through the awesome hula-hoop photo frame created by Miss Fakun. The teachers were so happy to have their students back in the classrooms again.



YEAR 6

The Year 6s also were so excited to be back and they all had a photo in their year group hula hoop frame. This was a fun way to celebrate the return to campus.



DOOR DECORATION

The Year 5's got into the Valentine's Day spirit and worked together to decorate their classroom doors beautifully.

5H's theme was 'Love Makes the World Go Round' and 5V's was 'We Love to Bee in 5V!'





CHINESE NEW YEAR

Kung Shee Fat Choy! We celebrated the Chinese New Year: Year of the Tiger on Tuesday 8th February.

The children were delighted when they were visited by the dancing dragons.

Julia and Ryan dressed up in traditional Chinese attire for the occasion.



STUDENTS' NEWSLETTER CLUB ARTICLES

Paloma, Flavia and Anjali from the newsletter team came up with wonderful ideas to get the opinion of all the students around the school on different topics for examples tips for online learning and many more. You will find below the beautiful articles written by the students.

Une touche française

Bonjour à tous! Voici la section française. Ici, nous voulons que vous élargiez vos horizons, apprenez de nouvelles recettes, appréciez les mots croisés, découvrez plus sur les artistes ou les politiciens français. Ne vous inquiétez pas, nous ne voulons pas vous ennuyer! Ce sera amusant!

Dans ce blog, nous partagerons avec vous une délicieuse recette, du seul et unique pays, la France, le pays avec certaines des pâtisseries les plus délicieuses. Avez-vous déjà entendu parler des madeleines françaises? Voici une recette simple mais rapide pour faire des madeleines moelleuses un jour coincé à la maison lorsque vous vous ennuyez ou lorsque vous êtes dans l'esprit de faire de la pâtisserie. Amusez-vous à être créatif! Et n'oubliez pas de partager vos merveilleuses créations avec nous! nous serions ravis de voir votre talent!

Recette de Madeleines!

Ingrédients/ pour 8 personnes

- Pour 24 madeleines :
- 120 g de farine
- 100 g de sucre
- 80 g de beurre fondu
- 3 œufs
- 1/3 de sachet de levure chimique
- le zeste d'un citron (optionnel)
- 1 pincée de sel!

Préparation

1. Préchauffer le four à 170°C.
2. Fouetter les œufs avec le sucre et le sel. Ajouter la farine et la levure puis mélanger. Incorporer le beurre fondu tiédi. Terminer en ajoutant le zeste de citron.
3. Une fois la préparation homogène, la déposer dans les moules à madeleines (beurrés et farinés s'ils ne sont pas en silicone).
4. Pour finir.

Faire cuire une dizaine de minutes environ.
Pour plus d'informations sur la recette, cliquez sur le bouton ci-dessous qui vous mènera au site Web.

[Recette](#)

YEAR 5 PIZZA BOX BIOGRAPHY PROJECTS

Every year, the Year 5 students complete one of their most memorable projects: a pizza box biography about a person of their choice.

These beautifully decorated and well researched projects were put on display on Wednesday 16 February for their classmates to have a look at.



The Year 6's were also invited to have a look and took a trip down memory lane, as they had completed the same project the year before. Well done for creating such deliciously informative biographies, Year 5!



En ti element creole

Bonjour zot tou, et bienvenu lors la page creole. Dessi nou pou écri tot sort de soz, comme ban folklore Mauritian, histoire tikoulo ek ban recette creole.

Eski tou deja entan un mot qui appelle "sirandan"? Qui li étai ca? Ou pou trouve ban réponse encan paz. Voila ce qui est en sirandan:

- 1: Dilo débout ?
- 2: Dilo apendant ?
- 3: Mo zéte li blanc, li tombe zaune?
- 4: Tire dibois dans mo tiroir pou tappe mo cote?
- 5: Tapi mo gran papa plin pinez ?

An English component

Hello everybody, this is the blog's page for English. Here we will write different things every week, so read this section to learn something new and have fun! This week, there will be book recommendations from a few students, as well as a short description of one of the school values.

Here are some book recommendations by some of our fellow students:

- A Snowfall of Silver by Laura Wood
- The Mozart Question by Michael Morpurgo
- The Land of Stories by Chris Colfer
- Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein
- Looking for Alaska by John Green
- Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Today we will be looking at respect. Before we define respect, can you name one occurrence this week where you showed someone respect?

Respect is showing somebody you look up to them, and admiration towards their actions, achievements, and abilities. You can show somebody respect by talking to them nicely, or even greeting them with a smile. Try to show at least one person respect every day this week, and for years to come! Respect is crucial for a happy school, family, and environment.





WELCOME BACK!

After days of eager anticipation and bad weather, we were thrilled to welcome the students back to school at the beginning of February. We were surprised and pleased to see how our students had developed, grown and matured since they were last on campus. We missed them all so much. We welcomed some new students too, who have adapted quickly. It was amazing to see all the students settle back into routine with such confidence and ease!



VALENTINE'S DAY – LOVE GROWS HERE

In our celebration of love and kindness on this day, the children made cards, learnt about the origins of Valentine's Day, wrote heartfelt poems to their parents, showed love and friendship to their friends and much more ... The CH and LP sections also participated in the Decorate your Door competition.



LIBRARY UPDATES

A big thank you to Miss Jennifer for all she has done to revamp the Junior Library while the students were away from school. With more efficient organisation, new books, some tender loving care a few inspirational posters, the library is looking more welcoming and is more accessible to our students from Children's House to Upper Primary. "Reading gives us a place to go when we have to stay where we are" Mason Cooley



NURSERY & PRIMARY

LP BACK IN THE POOL

We are excited to still have the opportunity to offer our LP students 7 weeks of swimming in Term 2. There are many benefits of swimming for children and these include the development of water safety, promotion of flexibility, endurance, strength and co-ordination, improves cardiovascular health and some even claim swimming can even improve sleep and enhance memory.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold our gala this year, but parents will be invited to assist an Exhibition Lesson at the end of Term 2.



NORTHFIELDS VALUES – MEET OUR NEW FRIENDS

Northfields International school has seven values which we expect all students to develop and display during their time with us. But could you name them all?

As a way of introducing our values in a more child friendly and engaging way to our younger students, we would like you to meet our newest additions to the class:

- Discipline Dan
- Community Carer Camille
- Excellent Eric

- Honest Oskar
- Perseverance Pam
- Independent Izzy
- Respectful Raju.

These characters will be watching over our students and will be used in class discussions, activities and behaviour management to instill our school values to our students from a young age so that they become respectful, global citizens of the future.



CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN CH AND LP



When a student celebrates his/her birthday in school, the child does a symbolic walk around a candle which represents the Sun. The child's age, reflected by the number of times the child walks around the candle represents the number of times the Earth has gone around the Sun in his/her lifetime.

Students are asked to prepare a timeline with photos or objects that mark significant events in their lifetime since birth. To reflect our international mindedness and numerous mother tongues, we also sing 'happy birthday' in many different languages.



BACK TO SCHOOL

The Pre-Nursery welcomed our students back to school in January. We were so excited to see how our students had grown during their holidays. During their time away, our students had 'recharged their batteries' and were ready to be back, to learn, to grow and especially to see their friends at school again.

We also welcomed our new families to school. Starting school for the first time is something that each family experiences differently. It is a time that relationships are established and built upon throughout the years at Northfields.



PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

During the course of the academic year at the Pre Nursery, informative sessions are held with families. This aims to introduce them to the world of Montessori as it is a different approach in how the child learns, thinks and develops their potential.

During the second term, an informative session was held focusing on the emotional intelligence of a child and how our toddlers 'will' is being constructed in formation of their personality.

BAKER'S DAY

Baker's Day helped the students develop their independent skills in the Pre-Nursery. We divided all the students into their groups, whereby they will be "MasterChef's" for the day.

This is a structured activity in baking, creating a special treat to take home and enjoy.



We were delighted in starting this programme at the end of January. Our six little chefs practiced their mixing and whisking abilities as they created a delicious biscuit full of colour and sprinkles to be enjoyed. Needless to say, tasting was also part of the fun experience.



TEDDY BEARS AT SCHOOL

Valentine's Day was ushered in with rain and grey skies. Our students arrived at school, not letting their spirits down by the gloomy weather, with smiles on their faces. They all brought a very special visitor with them to school! Their 'Teddy Bears'!

We had originally planned to have our Teddy Bear Picnic in our beautiful garden but as fate would have it the weather didn't hold up. We then brought the picnic indoors. The students were delighted in creating a special keep-sake gift for their mummies and daddies to remind them that even though they are small now, they will be forever in their hearts.

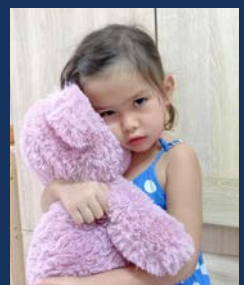
CHINESE NEW YEAR

At the Pre Nursery, we joined in the festivities of Chinese New Year. Our students arrived dressed in either traditional Chinese attire or in the colour red.

Our teachers took the opportunity to show their students a short documentary on the white tiger. Afterwards, each student created their own tiger mask to take home.

One of our students brought a lion head costume to school. So much excitement filled the air as our little ones were so drawn to the different colours and the tail of the mask.

The morning outside ended up being a 'dress-up' session as the students took turns trying on the lions head.





In line with the Boundaries talks I've been having throughout the school. I thought a few lines on boundaries might be nice for students and parents to read.

BOUNDARIES IN RELATIONSHIPS

A boundary is an invisible line that shows where I start, and the other person stops.

There are many kinds of boundaries, physical, emotional, material, time, but all boundaries are important.

The most important thing to remember with boundaries is that if they are not communicated, they aren't of much use. Sometimes we feel guilty for saying 'no' or feel selfish. This feeling is in fact not correct, and overtime we end up feeling resentful or angered by a particular relationship in our lives.

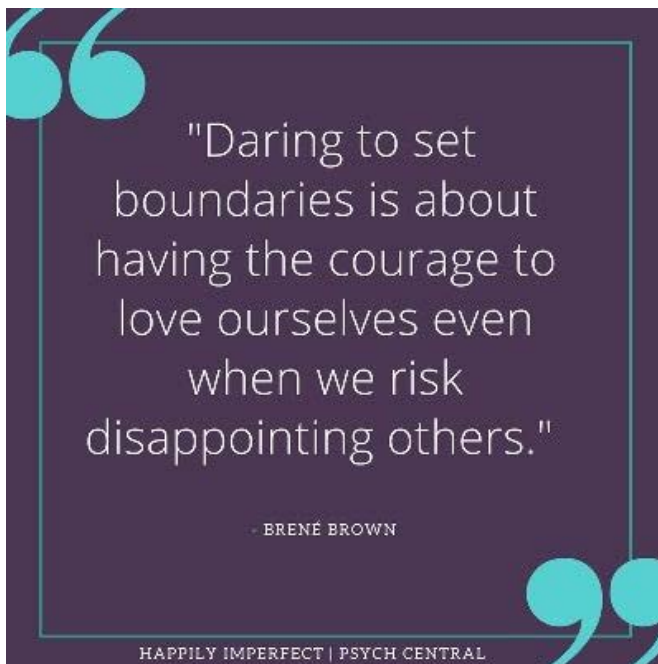
Without consequences to crossing a boundary the purpose of a boundary is not clear. Whether that consequence be withdrawing from a relationship, giving your child a time out, or walking away from someone who is being disrespectful. A behaviour or action needs to be taken if someone is crossing your boundary.

Be encouraged to take ownership of your own decisions, feeling and choices.

Setting boundaries is an important part of protecting yourself.

You have the right to feel happy, safe, and healthy.

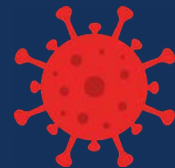
Melanie Sandiford
School Counsellor



COVID-19

While COVID-19 continues to spread, we must collectively do our part to reduce the risk of transmission in our school. As such, we urge parents to monitor their children's symptoms each morning before they leave for school. Please watch for symptoms such as fever, cough, headache, fatigue/tiredness, nasal congestion, muscle or joint pain, loss smell and taste, diarrhoea, rash on skin or discoloration of fingers or toes, red or irritated eyes.

It is compulsory to wear a face mask at school unless there is a medical exemption provided. The face mask should be worn correctly, it should fit the face properly and cover the nose and mouth. We encourage children to change their masks every 4 hours as the masks do get wet either with sweat or moisture from the nose. Students should please bring a few spare masks to school for this purpose or in case their mask becomes otherwise damaged during the day. It is also very important to sanitise or wash hands regularly and to maintain social distancing.



As a registered school, we must abide by the sanitary and self-isolation protocols issued to schools by the Ministry of Education and the PSEA. If your child must remain at home for a limited amount of time, work and learning material can be accessed through our online learning platforms so that learners can continue to learn at home and not fall behind in their studies. We understand getting a COVID test and self-isolating can be very stressful and as a school we are here to support our community.

Please feel free to contact our school nurse should you need any clarification regarding COVID protocols at school.

