



St Gabriel's Primary School

Parents' Connect April 2024

Highlights:

A Note from the Principal	Food Collection Drive	Assessment Indicators for P1 & P2 Students
Fostering Inclusivity in the Classroom	Easter & Virtues' Week	Term 2 Weighted Reviews for EL & MTL: Oral Assessment (P3 to P6)
International Friendship Day – Singapore in Asia	Hari Raya Celebrations @ SGPS	General Administrative Matters

Please refer to the school website at www.stgabrielspri.moe.edu.sg for more details.

A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

A blessed Easter to all our families.

April is an action-packed month which will provide our boys with a variety of meaningful and exciting learning experiences. This begins with the Easter Carnival on 1 April and will be followed closely by Hari Raya Puasa Celebration and International Friendship Day on 9 and 11 April. Founder's Day Mass on 23 April will then kickstart our Virtues Week programme. This will continue into May with the P5 Camp from 2 to 4 May. These experiences help our boys build resilience, embrace diversity and develop empathy as they grow up in a multi-racial and multi-religious society.

In view of Meteorological Service Singapore's (MSS) recent reports of likely warmer conditions in Singapore, the school will be implementing the following additional precautionary measures. We will minimise outdoor activities after 11am and allow for more water breaks during the day. Regardless of whether there are PE lessons or not, students can wear PE attire which will be cooler. Extra precaution such as longer water breaks and provision of wet towels will be implemented for NSG. We will also refer to the Heat Stress Advisory on NEA's myENV app to monitor the actual heat stress risk level.

A series of Oral Assessments (EL and MTL) has been planned for P3 to P6 students. This is an area of the languages which we know our boys can do very well in. They need more practice and exposure to better prepare them and boost their confidence. Hence, the school will be setting aside the time after school to provide this platform for the students. PI refer to Pg 6 for details of the assessment schedule.

Our school Band will be participating in the Singapore Youth Festival Presentation on 3 April at the Singapore Conference Hall. They have been practising very hard and we wish them all the very best. Like the school Choir, I am sure they will do us proud.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our Muslim parents and families 'Selamat Hari Raya Adilfitri' in advance.

Labor Omnia Vincit.

Mr Martin Tan
Principal

Fostering Inclusivity in the Classroom

In line with the 2024 school theme of promoting a 'Green and Inclusive School', we embrace inclusivity in our classrooms, where students feel safe, belonged and understood. The following are some tips on how you can contribute to creating an inclusive environment at home too:

Encouraging Open Conversations

Talk to your child about the value of diversity and the richness it brings to our lives. Encourage open discussions at home, allowing your child to ask questions and share their thoughts. This will help them develop a curiosity and appreciation for different perspectives.

Emphasising Empathy

Teach your child the importance of empathy and understanding. Help them recognize the unique experiences and backgrounds of their classmates. Encourage them to put themselves in others' shoes and consider different viewpoints, fostering a sense of compassion.

Celebrating Differences

Embrace diversity by celebrating the unique qualities of each Gabrielite. Discuss various cultures, traditions, and customs with your child, helping them appreciate the richness that comes from differences. Encourage them to share their own experiences and learn from their peers.

Being Mindful of Language

Remind your child about the power of words and how they can impact others. Encourage the use of inclusive language that respects everyone, avoiding stereotypes or offensive remarks. Foster an environment where everyone feels valued and respected.

Modelling Inclusive Behavior

Children often learn by observing their parents. Model inclusive behavior in your daily interactions, whether at home, in the community, or at school events. Show your child the importance of treating everyone with kindness, respect, and understanding.

By fostering a culture of inclusivity at home, we can contribute to creating a supportive and welcoming environment for all children in the classroom. Together as a Gabrielite community, we can ensure that our boys learn not only from textbooks but also from the diverse perspectives and experiences of their peers.

[By: HOD/CCE Mrs Jessica Hoon]

International Friendship Day – Singapore in Asia

In today's intricate global landscape, international cooperation remains paramount. Asia stands out as the world's fastest-growing region, and Singapore remains dedicated to fostering increased economic, political, social, and cultural collaboration within ASEAN and throughout Asia.

Recognizing the significance of interconnectedness with our neighbouring nations, our Gabrielites can actively contribute to nurturing person-to-person connections. This engagement allows for a celebration of the region's diversity and dynamism while promoting a spirit of friendship and collaboration.

By engaging with peers from neighbouring countries, they contribute to the development of meaningful relationships that transcend borders. This approach not only enriches their understanding of diverse cultures, but it also strengthens the foundation for cooperative efforts in the future.

Furthermore, they will have the opportunity to delve deeper into understanding Singapore's reality as a small state. In doing so, they gain insights into how we can effectively safeguard our national interests while actively contributing to broader initiatives in international cooperation. Appreciating the delicate balance between national interests and global collaboration equips them with valuable skills and perspectives, preparing them as future leaders in the ever-evolving international arena.

By nurturing a mindset of collaboration and shared goals, our students can champion inclusivity, cooperation, and diplomacy. Learning to celebrate the diversity and vibrancy of the region reinforces Singapore's commitment to being a responsible global citizen.

Commemorating IFD in School

In school, we will enhance the IFD lessons by organizing engaging recess activities that shine a spotlight on this year's ASEAN Chair, Laos. During these activities, Gabrielites will have the opportunity to delve into the rich cultural tapestry of Laos, gaining insights into its traditions, customs, and vibrant costumes. By introducing students to the cultural intricacies of Laos, we hope to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for the diversity that exists within our ASEAN community. Through all these student experiences, we hope to instill a sense of global awareness and interconnectedness among our students and learn that fostering international friendships goes beyond borders, contributing to a more inclusive and harmonious world.





We will commemorate IFD on **9 April 2024**, Tuesday. **Gabrielites are strongly encouraged to come in international costumes and school shoes on 11 April.** Should their PE lesson fall on that day, their PE teacher will arrange for light activities that are suitable for them. However, should they have sports-related CCA on that afternoon, they will need to bring along a set of PE attire to change into for their sports CCA. Gabrielites who are not intending to be in international costumes may report to school in their usual school uniform.

Some examples of international costumes are as shown (non-exhaustive list):

Examples of International Costumes

Country	Male
Singapore	
China	
Korea	
Japan	

Philippines	
Vietnam	
Thailand	
India	

Indonesia	
Malaysia	
Spain	
Myanmar	

[By: HOD/CCE Mrs Jessica Hoon]

Food Collection Drive

To promote awareness and combat food wastage at St. Gabriel's Primary School, the students of 5 Self-Discipline and Generosity are organizing a food collection drive. This initiative aims to contribute towards reducing food wastage by collecting donations that will benefit family service centers, homes, soup kitchens, and voluntary welfare organizations. Aligned with our founder Louis Marie de Montfort's principle of aiding those in need, this drive coincides with International Food Day (IFD) and Virtues Week in the month of April.

During this event, students will not only have the opportunity to advocate for the reduction of food wastage, but they will also be able to actively participate in publicizing, collecting, and packing all the donated food items for the Food Bank. This collaborative effort underscores our commitment to making a positive impact on the community, and instills values of generosity and social responsibility among our students.



Here are some guidelines on the kind of food items that can be donated at the Food Collection Drive:



[By: HOD/CCE Mrs Jessica Hoon]

Easter & Virtues' Week

The school is gearing up for an exciting Easter celebration with a carnival scheduled for Monday, 1 April 2024, across three recess periods. Organized by the Catholic Club and supported by the Catholic Parents from the Parent Support Group, the event promises a fun-filled day for students.

The carnival will feature a variety of games and activities, planned to spread joy and excitement throughout the school community. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in traditional Easter-themed games, fostering a sense of celebration. As an added incentive, there will be prizes up for grabs, rewarding participants for their enthusiasm and skill. Additionally, Easter Chocolate eggs will be distributed, adding a delicious touch to the festivities and ensuring that everyone leaves with a sweet memory of the event. The Easter carnival serves not only as a means of entertainment but also as a platform for fostering community spirit and strengthening bonds among students. It promises to be a memorable occasion, bringing joy and celebration to all who attend it.

Our annual Virtues week, on the other hand, begins with Our Founder's Day Mass on 23 April 2024. There will be recess activities and games in or near the Chapel. Our students will learn school virtues as well as virtues displayed by our founder, St Loius Marie de Monfort. Students will also be given the Caritas Charities week envelope in Term 2 Week 5 (15 April – 19 April). Caritas Singapore collects donations to enable our 26 Catholic charities and community organisations to continue their work of serving and enlivening the lives of the vulnerable and marginalized, including low-income families, youth-at-risk, the incarcerated, people with physical disabilities, and people with mental health problems, regardless of race, religion, and nationality.

We encourage our students and parents to give generously. **Students should drop their Caritas Charity envelopes into the collection box outside Chapel, at recess breaks, during Virtues Week.**

[By: SH/PE & CCA Mr De Ziva Clifton Billy Sean]

Hari Raya Celebrations @ SGPS

The holiest month in the Islamic calendar, Ramadan, commenced on 12 March in Singapore with our Muslim colleagues, students and their families embarking on a month-long fast from sunrise to sunset. This month-long fasting teaches self-control, reinforces faith, and helps one to be more mindful of God and His blessings. It is a means of seeking forgiveness of sins, and a reminder of the plight of those who do not have adequate food, water, and shelter.

The completion of this month-long fast will be celebrated as **Hari Raya Puasa on Wednesday, 10 April**. We will commemorate this as one Gabrielite family on Tuesday, 9 April, with an assembly program which will showcase the significance of the fasting month. Our boys will be taught to appreciate the diversity of our colorful and multi-cultural society and learn how Hari Raya is a celebration of faith and culture around the world and in Singapore.

Students will also be able to learn more in depth, information of this festival, through the exhibit in the library and participate in fringe activities in the library during recess from the 3rd to 9th of April.

Half day for Muslim Students and Staff on eve of Hari Raya Puasa on Tuesday, 9 April

As part of Hari Raya celebrations, all our Muslim students and staff will be granted half-day on the eve of Hari Raya Puasa on Tuesday, 9 April. Parents of Muslim students will receive the details on Parents Gateway soon. Please submit your consent if you would like your child/children to be dismissed earlier then.

We wish all our Muslim colleagues, students, and their family members, 'Eid Mubarak'.

[By: SH/MTL Ms Palaniammal]

Assessment Indicators for P1 & P2 Students

We currently gather bite-sized assessment information as part of the ongoing learning process for our P1 and P2 students based on a 3-point Performance Indicator of 'Beginning', 'Developing' and 'Competent'.

From 2024, as part of our teaching and learning review processes, and in line with developing a growth mindset in the students, we will be shifting it to a 4-point scale of 'Beginning', 'Developing', 'Competent' and 'Accomplished'. The adding of a fourth indicator 'Accomplished' allows room for students to continuously strive for excellence as they grow to be self-directed learners.

Beginning	Developing	Competent	Accomplished
Demonstrating slight attempts to perform the skills set out in the Learning Outcome with lots of guidance and supervision.	Demonstrating some ability to perform the skills set out in the Learning Outcome with some guidance and supervision.	Demonstrating ability to perform the skills set out in the Learning Outcome with little guidance and supervision.	Demonstrating flair in performing the skills set out in the Learning Outcome independently.

All subjects (ie. English Language, Mathematics, Mother Tongue Language, Social Studies, Art, Music, PE) at the P1 level will adopt the 4-point grading scale from 2024. Subject-specific rubrics will be used for the grading of student performance on the acquisition of skills based on a set of Learning Outcomes (communicated separately to all P1 and P2 parents on Parents Gateway on 21 March).

[By: VP Mdm Irene Chua]

Term 2 Weighted Reviews for EL & MTL: Oral Assessment (P3 to P6)

The Oral Assessments will be conducted after school as stated in the table below. All after-school activities will be suspended on these days. Details on the conduct of Oral assessment for the respective levels will be posted via Parents Gateway in due course.

Level	Day	Date	Time	Subject	Remarks
P3	Monday	22 April	2pm to 4 pm	English and Mother Tongue Language	Estimated time: 30 minutes per student
P4	Tuesday	23 April	2pm to 4 pm	English and Mother Tongue Language	Estimated time: 30 minutes per student
P5	Thursday	25 April	2pm to 4 pm	English / Foundation English Language	Estimated time: 20 minutes per student
	Friday	26 April	1.30pm to 4.30pm	Mother Tongue Language (Standard / Foundation)	Estimated time: 30 minutes per student
P6	Monday	29 April	2pm to 4.30pm	English / Foundation English Language; / Mother Tongue Language (Standard / Foundation)	Estimated time 30 minutes per student
	Tuesday	30 April	2pm to 4.30pm		

[By: SH/MTL Ms Palaniammal]

General Administrative Matters

Public/ School Holidays in April & May 2024

Students do not report to school on the following Public/ School Holidays:

- **Wednesday, 10 April 2024** : **Public Holiday (Hari Raya Puasa)**
- **Wednesday, 1 May 2024** : **Public Holiday (Labour Day)**
- **Saturday, 25 May to Sunday, 23 June 2024** : **May/June School Holidays. School resumes on Monday, 24 June 2024.**

[By: Administrative Manager Ms Chua Bee Peng]