



**West Grove
Primary School**
Active Minds, Gracious Hearts

1 Jurong West St 72
Singapore 649223
Tel : (65) 62679234
Fax: 62679235
Email: wgps@moe.edu.sg
<https://www.westgrovepri.moe.edu.sg>

Letter To Parents (Term 2)

22 March 2024

Dear Parents/ Guardians

It is Term 2 and we warmly welcome our children back to school. It's going to be a busy but exciting term with student-centric programmes and events as well as their semestral assessments. We look forward to your continued understanding and support as we strive to grow our home-school partnerships.

Through termly check-in surveys and conversations with our students, our teachers have been engaging students to better understand their passions and aspirations as well as their concerns and challenges. In growing the whole child, other than academic success, it is equally important to focus on their physical and mental wellbeing; and building their resilience and confidence.

Children have given us feedback that they do not have enough time to complete their homework. The school has put in place a homework policy. Our teachers and Year Heads regularly monitor the quantity and quality of homework. Then it came to our realisation that the homework referred to here was indeed work assigned at home by parents. That's one extreme but on the other extreme, we have another group of children telling us that their parents do not even spend time with them after school and what more check or supervise their homework. Some do not spend time with their parents even on weekends. They say that they are lonely and have no one to speak to.

Children have also shared about their sleeping habits and gaming exploits. It is common knowledge that children need at least eight hours of sleep to be energized for the next school day. Yet on the ground, that seems not to be happening. Some of our children hardly get a couple of hours of proper sleep. Sleep deprivation over time will lead to stress, even depression and poor focus in their studies and other school activities. Their physical health and mental wellbeing will be impacted. It was also revealed that children were mostly on their personal devices- either playing games or on social media without the knowledge of their parents. If children are not supervised or guided well, they can become victims of cyber-bullying or even engage in non-age-appropriate activities.

These may be just broad strokes and not truly representative, but it is certainly worth giving a serious thought. I have many questions and I'm sure your responses will vary depending on each one's personal beliefs and perspectives.

- What do we mean when we say that we want the best for our children? Whose best are we referring to?



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- Are we trying to impose our expectations on our children without fully appreciating their capabilities, interests, and aspirations?
 - Are we trying to live our own childhood through them?
 - What is 'parent-child' bonding? How do we build our relationships with our children?
 - Do we spend adequate time with them beyond supervising schoolwork?
 - How much time do we spend just talking to our children?
 - What kinds of family bonding activities do we engage in beyond watching television together?
 - Who does your child go to if he/she needs help?
 - How much do we supervise our children in terms of their schoolwork and sleep?
 - Are there routines put in place for them?
 - How do we monitor our children in the cyber world?
 - Are our children really Happy in school/ at home?

As parents and educators, I am sure we can make a difference and who says Discipline and Care cannot go hand in hand. Let's work together to make our children the best they can be and stay happy always!

Parents are the ultimate role models for children. Every word, movement and action has an effect. No other person or outside force has a greater influence on a child than the parent – Bob Keeshan

To build a relationship with a child, notice something positive about who they are, at least once a day and quietly share it. – Michelle Cox

Best Wishes!

Mrs Chandler Jay Siva
Principal



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Staff Movement

We extend a heartfelt welcome to these teachers as they become part of our West Grove family. Together, we shall continue to lead, care, and inspire!

1. Ms Chia Ru Yi (Chinese Language)
2. Ms Annabelle Woo Xue Qi (English Language & Mathematics)
3. Ms Gildabella Rhode Muze (English Language & Mathematics)
4. Ms Siti Jaliah Bte Jamal (English Language & Social Studies)
5. Ms Siti Amirah Bte Arman (English Language)
6. Ms Soh Meme (Mathematics & Science)



School Hours and Dismissal Arrangements

School hours are from 7.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. daily. All students should reach school and be ready for morning assembly by 7.30 a.m. We seek your support in ensuring that your child/ward reports punctually to school.

Venues for Dismissal

Gate	Levels using the gate for dismissal	Remarks
Big Gate 1	P3 to P6	This vehicular gate (used by vehicles) will be out of bounds to traffic from 1.15 – 1.45 p.m. daily.
Small Gate 1	P1 and P2	
Gate 3	All levels	This is the gate nearest to block 723

Wet Weather Dismissal

Gate	Wet Weather Arrangements
Gate 1	Parents/Guardians using Gate 1 may wait for your child/ward in the canteen. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P1 and P2 parents - canteen corridor next to the field/bookshop • P3 to P6 parents - canteen corridor next to the parade square
Gate 3	Parents/Guardians may wait for your child/ward at the corridor of Classroom Block C (Level 1).



Reminder on After-School Programme

To ensure the safety of students who stay for after-school programmes, they are **not allowed** to leave the school before the start of their activity. Students should have their lunch in school. Students who have no after-school activities are strongly encouraged to leave school latest by 2.30 pm.

We seek your understanding and support to reinforce this message to your child/ward.



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Safe Behaviour in School

To enable a safe learning environment for all, we strongly discourage rough play involving physical contact between students. We remind students to be caring and responsible for their own safety and the safety of others. This includes reminders not to run along the corridors or slide along the staircase railings.

We seek parents/guardians help to reinforce the above messages to your child/ward. Please contact our form teachers if your child/ward experiences such encounters in school.



Wearing of smartwatches in school

Students are strongly discouraged from wearing smartwatches¹ to school as it may infringe the privacy of others if not properly used.

Smartwatches are also not allowed during tests or examinations (both school-based and national) as they allow access to online resources.

Please note that the school is not accountable for any loss of students' smartwatches.



Curriculum & Assessment Matters

Weighted Assessment for P3 to P6 students will be carried out in Term 2. Refer to the letter sent via Parents Gateway on 29 Jan 2024 (Mon) for details on the assessment format and topics.



Assessment Plan

(<https://go.gov.sg/wgps2024assessmentplan>)



School Attendance & Absence for Weighted Assessment

Your child/ward's regular attendance in school is closely monitored by our form teachers. For any absences, please inform the form teacher and submit relevant documentation (e.g. Medical Certificates) if applicable.

If the absence falls on the date of a weighted assessment (e.g. topical test, exam), there is **no make-up** for the assessment. Pro-rating will be considered if the absence is substantiated with valid reasons (e.g. Medical Certificates).

¹ Smartwatches refer to watches that are capable of capturing, storing, displaying and/ or transmitting visual, audio or verbal information and have similar features as mobile phones.



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Schedule of Key Events for Term 2

Date	Activity	Remarks
18 Mar & 25 Mar 2024 (Mon)	P3 Learning Journey Stellar Theatre Experience	
21 Mar 2024 (Thu)	P3 to P6 Leadership Training	Consent forms will be issued
22 Mar 2024 (Fri)	P4 Learning Journey CL Cultural Show	Refer to letter sent on PG 7 Mar 2024
3 Apr 2024 (Wed)	P3 MTL Cultural Camp	
9 Apr 2024 (Tue)	Eve of Hari Raya Early dismissal for Muslim staff & Students	7.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m. More details will be shared on PG
10 Apr 2024 (Wed)	Hari Raya Puasa	Public Holiday
12 & 16 Apr 2024 (Fri & Tue)	International Friendship Day	Activities to be held during curriculum hours
1 May 2024 (Wed)	Labour Day	Public Holiday
8 – 10 May 2024 (Wed - Fri)	P4 Cohort Day	More details will be shared on PG
15 – 17 May 2024 (Wed – Fri)	P2 Applied Learning Programme	More details will be shared on PG
21 May 2024 (Tue)	Fitness Fiesta	More details will be shared on PG
22 May 2024 (Wed)	Vesak Day	Public Holiday
23 & 24 May 2024 (Thu – Fri)	E-Parent Child Teacher Conference	More details will be shared on PG
25 May – 23 Jun 2024 (Sat – Sun)	Term 2 School Holidays	
19 Jun – 20 Jun 2024 (Wed – Thu)	P6 Study Camp	Refer to letter sent via PG on 6 Mar 2024

Muslim staff and students celebrating Hari Raya may leave school at **10.00am** on the eve of Hari Raya Puasa, 9 Apr 2024 (Tue). Parents are to make the necessary arrangements to pick up your children. As part of the celebrations, the school will celebrate Hari Raya on 16 Apr 2024 (Tue) during assembly where students will learn more about this festive event.

The school will be closed on 10 Apr 2024 (Wed) and lessons will resume on 11 Apr 2024 (Thu).



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Parent Engagement & Mode of Communication

E-Parent Child Teacher Conference (e-PCTC)

This year, our e-PCTC will be held on 23 May 2024 (Thu), 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and 24 May 2024 (Fri), 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Parents are invited to attend this online dialogue session with the form teacher to discuss your child/ward's holistic development. At the same time, we hope the session will provide us with a better understanding of their interests, strengths and the home-school dynamics.

As 24 May 2024 (Fri) is designated as a full day for e-PCTC, there will be no school on that day. More information will be shared closer to the date.

Modes of Communication

The main mode of communication between the teachers and parents are as follows:

- General office hotline: **6267 9234** (Mon to Fri, from 7.00 a.m. - 5.30 p.m.)
- Student Handbook
- Teachers' Email (PG Contacts or School webpage)

Follow us on **Instagram** ([@wgps_official](https://www.instagram.com/wgps_official)) and **Facebook** (<https://go.gov.sg/wgpsfb>) to stay updated on school activities happening at WGPS. You can also refer to our **calendar of events** (<https://go.gov.sg/2024wgpscalendar>) to help you stay organised and involved in your child's academic journey.



WGPS
Facebook



WGPS
Instagram



WGPS
Webpage



WGPS
Calendar

We thank you for your ongoing support in making West Grove Primary School a thriving educational community for your child/ward.