

MERIDIAN Times

Meridian Primary School 20 Pasir Ris Street 71, Singapore 518798 Tel: 6583 2125 meridianpri.moe.edu.sg



*It has been a good semester.
We laughed, played and learnt together.*

In this first issue of our newsletter,
we bring you an overview of the students' school experience in the past months.

Vision

Future Learners Future Citizens Future Leaders

Mission

To provide a quality educational experience that maximises the potential of all pupils through delivery of a holistic student-centric curriculum anchored on values, safety, health, continuous improvement and collaborative partnership with all stakeholders

Motto

To Learn, To Love, To Lead

Values

Passion
Responsibility

Care
Respect

Integrity
Teamwork

Message from the Principal



Dear Parents,

Meridian Primary has grown from strength to strength since the school first started in 2000. This can be attributed to the strong foundation that has been built over the years by the dedication and hard work of past school leaders, staff and parents, who worked closely together to meet the educational and pastoral needs of the students in Meridian Primary. Moving forward, my team and I will continue to work collaboratively with our partners to focus on providing quality holistic educational experiences for every Meridian while grounding them in strong values and the Singapore Spirit. We also encourage our students to strive for personal excellence as we want our students to know that it is important that they put in their personal best in whatever they do.

To recognise and celebrate our students' and staff's efforts and achievement, we have put together this semestral e-publication - Meridian Times. Through this e-publication, we hope to showcase the Meridian Primary Experience, especially on how we engage our students in Joyful Learning Joyful Hearts as well as nurture Strong Bodies Strong Minds.

As the African proverb goes 'It takes a village to raise a child', I strongly believe that it is important for continued positive involvement of our key stakeholders - our School Advisory Committee members, parents and community partners. In this e-publication, we have also featured the various parents' engagement platforms. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our partners for their support and I hope that we can continue our partnership as we strive to nurture our students to be our Future Learners, Future Citizens and Future Leaders!

Yours Sincerely,
Liza Rahmat

Joyful Learning Joyful Hearts



First Day of School

▲ Engaging parents in the holistic development of their children.

The first few days of school are always an exciting, yet anxious time, all the more so for parents with children entering primary one. Through a 3-day orientation programme, the school was able to help P1 students ease their transition into primary education as they embark on a great journey of learning here at Meridian Primary. As part of the programme, parents of the P1 students were briefed on primary education related matters. The school would like to thank all parents of P1 students for their support of the programme.



▲ The programme was very well received by the parents.



“ Through this programme, I got to know the Meridian family from the Principal, Year Heads, Parent Support Group and even the school dentist! I feel more assured. ”

- Ms Emily Chiang
(Parent of Jonathan and
Timothy Chuang from 1 RB)



Chinatown Learning Journey

▲ Tour of the Chinese Heritage Centre, the CNY bazaar and Chinese Tea appreciation at Tea Chapter.

The Chinese New Year celebration in Meridian Primary provides an enriching platform for students to experience and learn about the Chinese culture. As part of the celebration, students and teachers went on a learning journey to Chinatown. During the learning journey, some students took charge to lead mini tours and share the different aspects of the Chinese culture with our International Students.

On the eve of Chinese New Year (CNY), P6 students visited all P1 to P5 classes to share the historical background of CNY and on the various traditional customs related to this festive celebration. This activity is part of the Meridian Leadership Development programme in which students' skills in presentation, public speaking, group facilitation and the effective use of ICT are being developed.



▲ Hands-on activities like the making of lanterns and other related crafts.



Chinese New Year Celebration

▲ The highlight of the day was the Lion Dance.

Lion Dance, Prosperity mascot, student and teacher performances, and mass singing of some CNY songs brought the day's celebrations to a close; as all staff and students of Meridian Primary were immersed in the festive mood at the CNY concert.

To provide opportunities for our students to show care to the less fortunate families in our community, Meridian Primary collaborated with Pasir Ris East Constituency Office in a food donation drive.



▲ The school leaders, teachers and students rehearsing for the Chinese drums performance.



▲ Our P6 students were involved in sorting and packing of food items. Parents with their children and the teachers then distributed the food hampers to the needy families.



Eco Bazaar

▲ Shopping becomes meaningful when we learn to buy what we need while doing our part for the environment at the same time.

The annual Meridian Eco-bazaar was organised to raise awareness for the need to save our environment. Residents who are living in the neighbourhood were encouraged to donate their unused clothes, books, bags and stationeries to our bazaar. These items were then refurbished and put up for sale at affordable prices to all staff and students of Meridian Primary.

It is no doubt that the students, teachers and parent-volunteers all enjoyed being part of this meaningful bazaar.



“ The event is very meaningful. I especially enjoyed seeing the students learn more about the 3Rs. They even encouraged their parents and friends to donate items which are still in good working condition instead of throwing them away.

”

Mr Clement Tham
Subject Head,
Science (Internal)



Chingay Learning Journey

▲ Despite the rain, the students were still in high spirits.



▲ The theme for the parade this year is "Soundwaves Chingay, WeCare Singapore".

It was a night of sound, lights and colours at the Chingay Parade 2017 for our P6 students. They were mesmerised by the display of resplendent floats and multi-cultural performances, and were immersed in the vibrancy and spirit of this uniquely Singapore parade.



Total Defence Day

“ The 2017 TDD theme is, ‘Together We Keep Singapore Strong’. Through the activities, students learn that they can play an important role in the defence and security of Singapore.” ”

Mdm Noraida
Subject Head, English

This year's Total Defence Day (TDD) coincides with the 75th anniversary of the fall of Singapore during World War II in 1942. We commemorate Total Defence Day on 15 February as a reminder of what could happen to us if we cannot defend Singapore ourselves, and to strengthen our resolve to keep Singapore safe and sovereign.

Through various class activities and school assembly programmes, students learnt how they can play their part in defending Singapore. ▶



International Friendship Day

▲ Through the experience, students learnt the importance of teamwork and to have mutual respect for one another.

The theme for the 2017 International Friendship Day (IFD) is ASEAN 50. P3 students shared their learning about ASEAN with the whole school during assembly. All P3 students worked in groups to research on the cultural aspects of the 10 ASEAN countries. To consolidate their learning, students had to create a video presentation. Selected videos were presented during assembly.

“ We learnt different things about other ASEAN countries and appreciated our friends through collaborative work. ”

Tay Gabriela, 3 PA



▲ Students researched and learnt the language, traditional wear, food, customs and flags of the ASEAN countries.



Safer Internet Day

▲ Students wrote their pledges on heart-shaped templates.

On Safer Internet Day, students are reminded on the need to exercise responsibility when using online technology and to be safe on the cyberspace.

The theme was "The Power of Image". There was morning assembly programme followed by recess activities such as penning down learning on Post-It notes. ▶

“ I should be careful and think before I post any images online because pictures can give clues to my personal information. ”

Fouriz Mikhail, 4 RT



LTA Assembly Programme

▲ Our students enjoyed the musical show and were fully engaged when they had the opportunity to dance with the "Thoughtful Characters" mascot.

The show focussed on how being thoughtful makes all commuters' journey on the public transport more pleasant. Students learnt various ways they can show social grace when taking public transport.

“ After watching the musical, I learnt that we need to be gracious when taking public transport. When travelling on the MRT, we should give up our seats to others who need the seat more than us. We should also put on our earphones when we are listening to music. ”

**Quzandria Qistina
Binti Rommie, 5 RB**



▲ An article about this school event has been published in the Thumbs Up Newspaper (Week 14).



Student Council Investiture

▲ Exemplary in conduct and role models to our students, serving the school to the best of their abilities, with pride, passion and courage. These, among others, are the traits of a Meridian Student Councillor.

The Student Council Investiture for the P5 and P6 student councillors was held on 1 February. The ceremony recognises the student councillors who serve as role models for all students. Through their involvement in school activities, they are able to develop their strengths to lead and to influence others in a responsible manner. Student councillors are expected to be the catalysts for positive changes among their peers.



▲ Upon appointment, the student councillors carry out morning duties like leading in the morning assembly and looking after the P1 to P4 classes.



▲ The Head Student Councillor Dylan Gan (6 RT) leads the pledge together with the Vice-head Student Councillors - Laura Lee (6 RT), Anirudh Suni (6 PA) and Janell Fong (6 PA).



Violin Performance @ CPAS

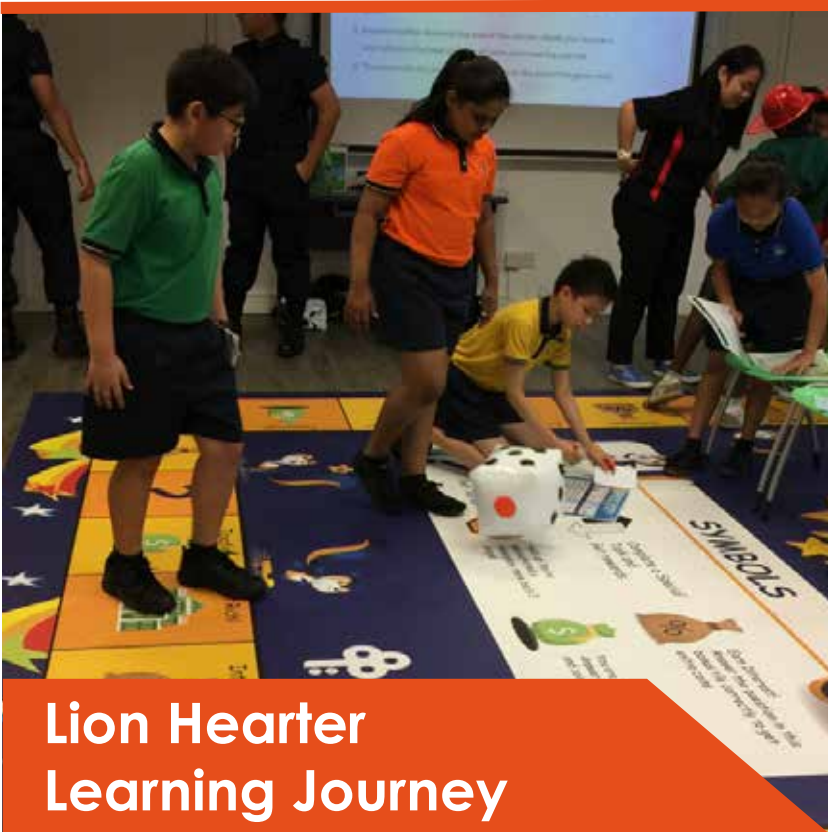
▲ This is the 4th year our school collaborates with CPAS and the students had a wonderful experience.

The students from Violin CCA performed at the International Friendship Day – Values In Action @Cerebral Palsy Alliance Singapore (CPAS). Besides the performance, students had the opportunity to make friends with the students of CPAS through various activities.



“ I was happy to have the chance to interact with the students at CPAS. We made spring rolls with them during the IFD celebration. I was excited when they clapped and cheered during our performance. ”

Minal Bijumon, 4 RB



Lion Hearer Learning Journey

▲ A team of 4 students, Dylan Gan (6 RT), Gerrard Poh (6 RT), Onaya (6 RT) and Balagystyna (6 RT), represented Meridian Primary at the JCDLH. The students showed impeccable teamwork and tenacity. There was strong camaraderie as their peers cheered the team on during the challenge.

In commemoration of the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) Total Defence Day, student leaders and Junior Civil Defence Lion Hearters (JCDLH) went on a learning journey to the Singapore Discovery Centre. They had fun learning about the Singapore Story, the 5 pillars of Total Defence and Emergency Preparedness skills at the various game stations and exhibits.

“ If we didn't have teamwork, we could not have overcome some of the challenges at the game stations. Quick thinking was equally important when we had to do problem solving for the JCDLH Challenge. ”

Gerrard Poh, 6 RT

STRONG BODIES Strong Minds



Wits and Words: Inter-school Debate Championship 2017

A group of P5 students participated in an exciting battle of words at the Inter-school Debate Championship 2017. With their outstanding debate performance, Meridian Primary School emerged as one of the top 5 schools in East Zone in the Division 2 category. The students are Amirtha (5 RT), Adithya (5 RB), Arrushi (5 RB), Dylan Koh (5 RB), John Wee (5 RB) and Romana (5 RB).

◀ The students are all ready for a good battle of words.



Speak up! Kids 2017

Speak Up! Kids is Singapore's first ever national public speaking competition for primary students. It aims to develop future young entrepreneurs with the ability to create products and services and also make a good sales pitch. The competition gave our students the opportunity to build their self-confidence in public speaking. Team Meridian emerged as the champion amongst 12 teams in the finals.

“ When I first entered the competition, I didn't think I'd get so far! I feel that this competition allows me to enhance my language skills.

”

Jovelle Teo, 6PA



▲ The teams were able to impress judges and audience with their awesome delivery!



P3 Science Centre Learning Journey

P3 students attended the workshop, The Magnificent World of Plants, at the Singapore Science Centre. Besides viewing actual life specimens and attending lessons, students were able to explore the Eco Garden at the Science Centre to learn more about the various species of plants.

Our young scientists are all eager to learn!



P4 Science Centre Learning Journey

To further explore and learn the concept of light as a form of energy, P4 students attended a lesson on Light Energy at the Science Centre. Some of the highlights of the day's lesson include being able to learn about the various functions of light instruments.



“

Experiments were done in the dark and I learnt new things which are not in the textbook. Overall, I find the experience enriching and interesting.

”

Isaac Koi, 4PA

Students were introduced to light instruments like lasers and stroboscopes, and their various applications in modern-day living ▶





P5 NEWater Visitor Centre Learning Journey

The P5 students took on the role of a scientist to learn about Singapore's four National Taps and the water purification process at the NEWater Plant. Through this experience, they were able to appreciate having clean drinking water and were able to deepen their understanding for the need to conserve water.

“ Through this visit to the NEWater Plant, I learnt about the water treatment process. It is a tedious process and I need to use water wisely. ”

Siti Hadijah, 5 RT



▲ Young Meridian Scientists wore lab coats as they used the iPads to complete the game.



Math Play Programme

“ It is a joy to see students learning while having fun. I wish I had such fun ways of learning during my primary school days. ”

Mr Jay Chu
Teacher

Games make learning fun! Math Play is a student-led initiative that aims to develop students' interests in learning Mathematics through hands-on activities. Students were creative and could develop various Math-related games using recycled materials.



▲ Besides Math skills, students are able to acquire leadership and collaborative skills as they participate in Math Play!





Performance at National Gallery

▲ Both students enjoyed their first performing experience at the National Gallery Singapore and gained confidence through performing in public.

Two Meridians had the opportunity to perform at the National Gallery Singapore during the Singapore Rhapsodies – Closing Concert Special. Christine Trakansuepkool (4 PA) played the piece, 'Giga in D Minor', on the Red Steinway Grand Piano while Aditya Harihar (5 RB) mesmerized the audience with the popular Singapore song, 'Home', on the saxophone. Check out Sing50 Facebook page for our 2016 and 2017 students' performances.



“

I am happy and thankful to be given this opportunity to perform my favourite music composition at this iconic venue.

”

Aditya Harihar , 5RB



Arts Express

“ It was heartening to see the students getting all excited and ready to participate in the Art Challenges. ”

Ms Han Zi Rui
Assistant Year Head

Arts Express is a series of Art and Music sharing which is held weekly on Wednesdays during morning assembly. While Arts Express provides platforms for students to express their artistic and creative talents, it also provides students with exposure to the different types of art forms – in both performing and visual arts.



▲ In Term 1, students sang, played drums and piano during Arts Express.



SYF Art Exhibition

“ The students came up with several interesting ideas for the project. Despite facing some challenges, the students demonstrated great teamwork and resilience. ”

**Ms Shidah and Mdm Jamaliah,
Teachers**

“ The experience was a fruitful one. I have learnt to explore positive and negative space through this project. ”

Lin Tang Yen, 6RT

10 P6 Art Club students took part in the Singapore Youth Festival 2017 Art Exhibition. They created the artwork titled, Nature in Black and White, to raise awareness about environmental issues such as conservation, biodiversity and threatened habitats. The artwork is selected for display at the exhibition and online gallery.



Students involved:

1. Agustin Alyn Jay Acosta (6 RT)
2. Elissa Qaisara Binte Shamsul (6 RB)
3. Jessie Arwen Patty (6 RT)
4. Jeslyn Nicole Piloton Tolentino (6 RT)
5. Lakshmi Surya Vinayagasubramanian (6 RT)
6. Lin Tang Yen (6 RT)
7. Neo Yue Xin (6 CA)
8. Rafaela Derisse Kurniawan (6 RT)
9. Sim Wen Xi Agnes (6 RT)
10. Valencia Wong Qi Wen (6 PA)



SOTA Workshop

▲ Since young, Elissa has been a keen learner in Art.

During the March holidays, Elissa (6 RB) attended a 2-day Visual Arts Workshop at the SOTA Junior Academy. She learnt to create 2D drawings using different mediums and worked on 3D ceramics.

“ I am glad to be able to attend this SOTA art workshop. The experience that I have gained during the 2-day workshop has helped to deepen my passion for Art. ”

Elissa Qaisara, 6RB





Maths Co-Space Challenge

▲ The event was a collaboration between Temasek Primary School and Singapore Polytechnic Robotics and Maker Academy

Meridian Primary participated in the Temasek CoSpace Challenge 2017. This challenge connects robotics in the 'real world' with the 3D virtual-reality world in cyber-space. This was done through leveraging on the Mathematical concept of the 8-point compass. Two P5 teams represented the school in the competition and one of the teams emerged as the 2nd runner-up.



2017 NPGCC Financial Literacy Training

“ The game was fun and exciting. Through the game, I learnt how to make smart 'value for money' choices by comparing various products

”

Dylan Koh, 5RB

A group of students attended the National Primary Games Creation Competition (NPGCC) Financial Literacy Training. The event was held at Wellington Primary School. The P5 group won first place in the Financial Literacy game.

The P5 team consists of Ahmad Wildan (5 CA), ▶ Mohamad Rifqy (5 CA), Dylan Koh (5 RB), Nur Nadira (5 RB) and Mohamad Afnan (5 RT).





National Taekwondo Championship 2017

The Taekwondo CCA members displayed good sportsmanship at the annual National Taekwondo Championship. Delaney Wee (6 RB) clenched the Silver award, Zhi Hao (6 PA) attained Bronze award and in the girls' categories, Myra (5 RB), Casey Chew (5 CA) and Rachel Chew (4 PA) were awarded Bronze.

“

Winning is a bonus. What matters most are gaining confidence and displaying good sportsmanship through this experience.

”

Mdm Nor Fardilah
Assistant Year Head (Internal)



▲ Through the two-day competition, the students displayed the good values of this Korean Martial Arts – perseverance, respect and self-discipline.



Dance Sports Achievement

The 2017 Dancesport Competition is organised by Edgefield Primary School. Yeo Jing Xuan (6 RT) took part in this competition and was awarded first position for both Cha Cha and Jive partnership dances. In addition, Jing Xuan also achieved third position in the Jive Dance solo category.

“

I am glad that I have achieved good results for this competition. Dancing is my passion and I will continue to pursue this passion.

”

Yeo Jing Xuan , 6 RT

◀ Jing Xuan's has passion in dancing and her talents are certainly exhibited during the competition.



Scouts Camp

22 students took part in a three-day Scouts camp during the March holidays. Through the camp activities, students were able to develop their leadership skills and acquire life skills like preparing their own food.

“ *I am more aware of the importance of applying values in real-life situations. This camp will be forever etched in my memory.* ”

Aarushi, 5 RB

There was great fun and camaraderie as Park View Club Scouts joined our students in the campfire! ▶

“

This camp is fun! I hope that we can have camps every year.

”

**Lim Wei Yi,
5 CA**



▲ They took a tour around Tampines Fire Station.



▲ Students designed and flew kites at Marina Barrage.



Our Family

Staff Development and Well-being

Welcome New Staff

We are happy to welcome the following staff to the Meridian Family!



Ms Liza Rahmat
Principal



Mdm Gan Ser Min
Vice-Principal



Ms Charlotte Neo
**HOD English
Language**



Mr Lee Huan Leng
**HOD Information &
Communications
Technology**



Mr Gerald Ho
**HOD Character
and Citizenship
Education**



Ms Han Zi Rui
**Assistant Year
Head P3 and 6**



Mr Zahrul bin
Zaiden
Teacher



Ms Huang Mei
Yunn, Angel
Teacher



Miss Nisha Hari
Singh
Teacher



Ms Tarin Ivy Rose
Rodriguez
ICT Trainer



Mdm Jamiliah
Binte Saad
**Operations
Support Officer**



Staff NE Learning Journey- Out of the box learning for teachers!

Learning journeys and field trips are for teachers too! In fact, they are part and parcel of our staff's professional learning and development. More importantly, such learning journeys allow teachers to 'think out of the box', learn from other organisations, and reflect to apply good practices back into school. The learning journeys were based on National Education (NE) themes and the teachers and staff visited interesting and unique places like the National Museum, Parliament House, the Fort Canning Battle Box and Gardens by the Bay.

“

Usually learning journeys were organised in large groups and all the teachers had to go to the same location. Often, there were space constraints. In these small groupings, teachers can be more proactive in choosing what they want to learn and enjoy a deeper and more meaningful learning experience.

”

Mr Gerald Ho

HOD Character and Citizenship Education



▲ Administrative and support staff at the National Museum.



▲ Learning journeys are done in small groups with like-minded colleagues to select and visit a place of their interest.





Staff Workshop- Back in class again!

▲ The workshop was conducted by teachers, Mdm Nur Fadilah, Mdm Tang Tsin Ray and Mr. Benjamin Yeo with the assistance of ICT Trainer, Ms Farhana This initiative embodied the maxim 'For Teachers, By Teachers'.

Teachers became students for an afternoon as they learnt how to improve their research skills with statistical methods using Microsoft EXCEL. This training helps teachers in completing their Professional Development Teams (PLT)'projects. Each teacher in the school is involved in at least one research project. These projects examine issues in teaching pedagogy to improve instructional methods and strategies in the different subject areas to benefit students. The teachers also learned how to use websites to document the research process and their findings. This allows the school to standardise the research process or protocol for each team.



▲ This was a great opportunity to set aside time for professional development to 'sharpen the saw' as advocated wisely by the Educator, Steven Covey, author of 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.



Mdm Noor Heryanti was invited by MOE Math Curriculum Branch to share her experiences as a teacher involved in the ICAN (Improving Confidence and Achievement in Numeracy) project on 4 April 2017 at the Academy of Singapore Teachers. The session was attended by math teachers and school math mentors participating in the 2017 ICAN Project.

Math Sharing on ICAN project

Our Partners

PSG Executive Committee 2017/2018

Fresh year, fresh start. Let's welcome our new PSG Exco for 2017 and 2018.



Mdm Anna Han
Chairman



Mdm Siti Rodiah
Vice-Chairman



Mdm Winnie Ho
Treasurer



Mrs Hema Menon
Secretary



Mdm Angeline Ooi
Communication

“ It's an honour and privilege for me to work with the school and parents in PSG to support Meridian Primary.

”
**Anna,
PSG Chairman**



Breakfast with Parents

Breakfast with Parents took place at the start of the year. Parents were invited to join their children for breakfast in school. The event gave parents an opportunity to interact with teachers and parents of their child's classmates.



▲ This is the second year that the school has organised this event for parents and their children.



▶ The students from P2 to P6 were excited and happy to have breakfast with their parents in school.



Bonding Session cum Lo Hei

“ An excellent opportunity to bond with other parents. ”

**Mdm Janani
(Parent)**

This was the first bonding session with the 2017 PSG members. The new members and Exco committee were formally introduced by school leaders. Together with the school team, members enjoyed the traditional Chinese Lo Hei after their meeting.





Curriculum Forum Day

Curriculum Forum Day aimed to give parents an overview of the school curriculum and updates on changes to the examination format and possible challenges for the year. It provided a good opportunity for the form and co-form teachers to partner parents in helping their children grow holistically.

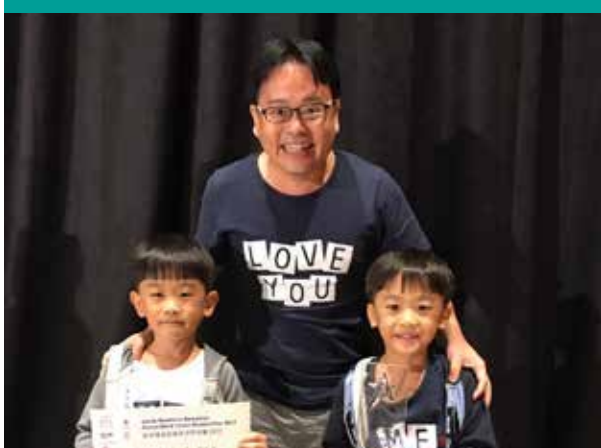


▲ Teachers showcased the students' work and projects in the classroom. Parents were delighted to see their children's works.



Parents' Workshop

Parents gathered for a half-day session by different subject teachers to learn how they can coach their children at home. They had hands-on activities and problem solving questions to understand the concepts learnt in the class.



Parent and Child Talent Competition



Speak Mandarin Campaign Parent-Child Talent Competition is a nationwide challenge for parents to cultivate their children's interest in Mandarin through storytelling and fun performances. Together with their father, Jonathan and Timothy Chuang (1 RB) participated in the competition and emerged as the 2nd runner-up.



Hosting Tsuen Wan Public Ho Chuen Yiu Memorial Primary School from Hong Kong



Meridian Primary School hosted Tsuen Wan Public Ho Chuen Yiu Memorial Primary School from Hong Kong on 11 April. Selected P5 students were paired up their new friends from Hong Kong as buddies. Students from both schools worked together to complete the day's activities while teachers were engaged in the sharing of best practices.

“ I felt privileged to be chosen as a buddy to the Hong Kong students. I enjoyed the interaction I had with my buddy. ”

Chandrasekar Sarvesh, 5 RB

◀ The Hong Kong students were introduced to some of the local flowers and plants that are grown in the school. There were interesting hands-on activities related to Science and Art. Students made cards using the dried flowers and plants.