

31 August 2023

Ref: DZPS/2023/0187

Dear Parents/Guardians,

- 1. Thank you for your supportive partnership in Term 3. We are glad to present you the highlights of Term 3 and inform you about the upcoming events in Term 4.
- 2. We are also pleased to share that Dazhong Primary School has received a total of 41 applications for 2 vacancies at the P1 Registration Exercise Phase 2C Supplementary and balloting was conducted for Phase 2C Supplementary again this year. This is a result of our concerted efforts to develop our Dazhong students holistically and uphold Dazhong pride. We truly appreciate your strong support in allowing Dazhong to shine in the community through your words and actions! Dazhong Dare to Shine!

Dazhong 85th Anniversary Highlights

- 3. The Dazhong Community Day and Eco-Carnival on 1 July was a great opportunity for both the students and staff to come together to spend a meaningful day with parents and members of the community to raise funds for a good cause. We were honoured to have Dr. Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment and Ministry of Transport to grace the occasion as the Guest-of-Honour.
- 4. The Dare to Shine ARTS Fest was held on 29 July and it was a SHINE moment for our students as they showcased their talents in the Arts. The concert featured our students from Junior Orchestra, Dance, Choir, Wushu, and MOE Kindergarten students. We are also glad that alumni students from JO, Choir and Wushu came back to support the 85th Anniversary ARTS Fest by performing together with our JO, Choir and Wushu students. Additionally, there were special performances by the T'ang Quartet and students from Annubusansem School, our twinning school from Bangkok. There was also the on-site sale of teacher and student Artworks from our Art Talent Student Development Programme.
- 5. We would like to thank our parents and community partners for their strong support and working with us collaboratively to make the above events possible. For highlights of our 85th anniversary celebrations, please visit the school website at https://www.dazhongpri.moe.edu.sg/.

Termly School Calendar

6. Please refer to the Term 4 School Calendar attached for details on termly activities. Do take note of school holidays and home-based learning days and make the necessary childcare arrangements.

Event/Activity	Date	Remarks
Teachers' Day	11 September (Monday)	School Holiday
PSLE Listening Comprehension	15 September (Friday)	Home-based learning for P1 to P5 students
Pre-PSLE Study break for P6 students	25 September (Monday) to 27 September (Wednesday)	Home-based Learning for P6 students
PSLE Higher Mother- Tongue Language	4 October (Wednesday)	No school for P6 students who are not taking Higher Mother-Tongue Language
Children's Day	6 October (Friday)	School Holiday
PSLE Marking	16 October (Monday) to 18 October (Wednesday)	Home-based learning for P1 to P5 students
Admin Day	8 November (Wednesday)	Home-based learning for P1 to P6 students
Deepavali	13 November (Monday)	Public Holiday off in-lieu
Prize Giving Day	17 November (Friday)	Only for prize winners and P4 to P5 students. No school for P1, 2, 3 and 6 students

PSLE Examination

Our P6 students will be taking the written papers for PSLE on the following dates. They will be dismissed after the examination has ended for the day.

Date	Paper	Time
Thursday, 28 September	sday, 28 September English Language/ Foundation English Language (Paper 1)	
	English Language (Paper 2)	1030h - 1220h
	Foundation English Language (Paper 2)	1030h - 1150h
Friday, 29 September	Mathematics/ Foundation Mathematics (Paper 1)	0815h - 0915h
	Mathematics (Paper 2)	1030h - 1200h
	Foundation Mathematics (Paper 2)	1030h - 1130h
Monday, 2 October	Mother-Tongue Language (Paper 1)	0815h - 0905h

	Foundation Mother-Tongue Language (Paper 1)	0815h - 0855h
	Mother-Tongue Language (Paper 2)	1015h - 1155h
Tuesday, 3 October	Science	0815h - 1000h
	Foundation Science	0815h - 0930h
Wednesday, 4 October	Higher Chinese Language (Paper 1)	0815h - 0905h
	Higher Chinese Language (Paper 2)	1015h - 1135h

Dazhong Dare to Shine!

Academic and Co-Curricular Achievements

8. Congratulations to our students for achieving excellence in their various pursuits!

No.	Event / Achievement		
1	Voices of the Children's Choir 2023 (June Intake)		
	Low Yu Xin (4A), Veerasamy Jagadesh Rakshitha (5A), Ong Ren Kai (5A), Tham Yi Jie (5A), Li Yuanchang (5A), Vinod Jovianne Elisabeth (5E), Hnin Thant Thawda (6A)		
2.	Singapore Youth Festival Art Exhibition 2023		
	Certificate of Recognition (Category A): Venkatachalam Aahana (2I), Yang Jingxuan (2I), Chen Luoyou (2R), Eavan Chua (2R), Alyssa Saw Zi Han (2E), Zelene Huang Wenxuan (2E), Chen Wei'en (2D), Freslyn Lee (2D), Neo Jun He (2D)		
	Certificate of Participation (Categories B and C): Yoong En Yun Jeslene (4E), Megan Neo (4E), Lim Hao Wei Rayern (4E), Glenys Fong Ji Tong (4A), Kyler Ang Kai Lu (4R), Jenelyn Soh Yi Xin (5E), Alyvia Loo En Xuan (5A), Wang Qiaoran (5A), Muhammad Al'firdauseii Irfan Bin Muhammad Ridhauddin (5A), Wong En Qi Angel (5R), Muhammad MIkael s/o Mohamed (5P), Rainie Goh Yee Shan (6P), Lim Hao Jun Ayden (6P), Liew Qiu Xiang (6A), Alexis Chong Hui Xuan (6R) and Humaira Nur Sabrina Binte Hanifi (6E)		
3.	KooBits Prizes for Singapore Schools - Top Brain (Singapore) [Student] 2023		
	1st (Primary 6): Wong Yuan Le Marcus (6A)		

ST 1 Holistic Development of a Dazhong Student

Dare to Read!

9. In Term 4, students will be treated to an author's visit! A former journalist and editor, Vivian Teo is the author of the popular series: My BFF Is an Alien. Behind the adventure, mystery and sci-fi, the series explores the pertinent issues that students typically deal with in a local school setting - friendship, loyalty, CCAs, homework and bullies. Through her **book talk** during assembly on

Thursday, 12 October 2023, aspiring writers will learn the key elements of exciting stories and how to find inspiration to create interesting storylines and characters for novels. Students will gain an insight on her writing process - from considering gender stereotypes to pondering themes of friendship and courage. Students who missed the book fair in Term 2 will be pleased to know that there will be another book fair following this talk. Besides being able to purchase the author's books and have them autographed with a personalised message, students will also be able to purchase other highly popular and quality titles from renowned and established publishers.

10. To encourage students to keep reading **during the September holidays**, the Library Committee has specially curated digital stories for students. Through reading activities on SLS, students can watch and listen to their teachers and peers, read books and complete tasks to stay engaged at home. We also seek your support to take note of the due date for the return of books to the library. This will enable other children to have access to more books from the library. We thank you for partnering with us to instil the love of reading and responsibility in your child/ward.

P4 Green Makers Applied Learning Programme (ALP)

- 11. Starting in Term 3, our Primary 4 students embarked on the P4 Zero Waste ALP 2023 where they used the LEGO SPIKE Prime set and software to build a motorised grab-claw to pick up trash around us, a waste-checking robot to identify and sort the different types of waste being collected.
- 12. Our Primary 4 students were **Excited** and deeply **Engaged** by the entire learning experience when they were **Empowered** to build Smart Waste Sorters with the LEGO SPIKE Prime set with minimal guidance. They have: gained **Awareness** of waste in Singapore, taken **Action** to build an intelligent waste-sorter, and in the upcoming session 5 and 6 in Term 4, students will build their own robot based on what they have learnt in sessions 1 to 4 to become Green **Advocates** by doing a class presentation about their prototype.

Teachers' Day Celebrations

13. The school celebrated Teachers' Day on <u>Tuesday, 29 August</u>, paying tribute to both the teaching and non-teaching staff. It was a joyous celebration with performances by students from DZ Got Talent, Choir and Dance groups. We also wish to express our appreciation to our Parent Support Group members for their compilation of Teachers' day well-wishes and for contributing a dance item for our concert. Thank you for exemplifying the theme of *Dare to Shine*!

Sports Education Programme (SEP)

14. The SEP is a collaborative partnership between Sports Singapore (SportsSG) and Ministry of Education Singapore (MOE) that aims to promote sports education and increase sporting opportunities for students. In Dazhong, students will be exposed to sports beyond the PE setting. The P5 SEP (Choukball) will be conducted on Wednesdays, 13 September 2pm to 4 p.m. (For 5I, 5R and 5E) and 20 September 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (for 5A, 5E and 5G). The P4 SEP (Tag Rugby) will be conducted on Wednesdays, 30 October, 2pm to 4pm (For 4A and 4P) and <u>1 November</u>, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (For 4I, 4R, 4E). The P6 SEP (Tag Archery) will be conducted during curriculum time between 6 November and 10 November. The programme is fully subsidised by SportsSG and MOE and students are highly encouraged to participate in the programme unless certified as medically unfit.

Dare to Shine Sports Carnival and Children's Day Celebration

15. On Thursday, 5 October, from 7:40 a.m. to 12.00 p.m., Dazhong will hold our Dare to Shine Sports Carnival in conjunction with our Children's Day Celebrations. All students will report to school in their Dare to Shine Purple t-shirt and Physical Education (PE) shorts (P4 to P6 girls are to wear their skirts over their PE shorts) and bring a small bag with their water bottle. As Dazhong Green Makers, students are encouraged to make their own sports equipment for play during the event. More instructions will be shared with students to prepare their "Do-It-Yourself" equipment using recycled materials during the September school holidays. Students will be dismissed from school at 12.00pm on that day.

Deepavali Celebration

16. The school will celebrate Deepavali on <u>Thursday, 9 November 2023</u>, in the hall during Form Teacher Guidance Period (FTGP). Through the celebration, we hope to raise Awareness of the significance of Deepavali among our students and Advocate for racial harmony through engaging cultural activities. Dazhong students will also inspire one another to celebrate Deepavali in a sustainable manner.

Arts Education Programme (AEP) Dance 2023

17. Our AEP Recitals serve as milestone celebrations of our students' AEP learning journey and allow them to showcase their learning through performances. The P5 AEP dance recitals will be recorded and shared with parents and stakeholders via an online platform next term. Do look out for the updates on the school website.

Bringing Arts to the Community

58th National Day Celebration 2023—Collaboration with Hong Kah North Community Club

18. On **Saturday, 5th August**, our Junior Orchestra string students collaborated with Hong Kah North Community Club and put up a lovely performance during the **National Day Celebration cum carnival**. It was a *Dare to Shine* moment for our young musicians!

Singapore Youth Festival Art Exhibition 2023

19. The Singapore Youth Festival Art Exhibition celebrates the artist in every child. It showcases students' creative ideas and personal aspirations through their artistic expressions. The theme for SYF Art Exhibition 2023 is 'Artist and Inspiration' with the aim to nurture a keen appreciation for historical and cultural influences in art. We are proud to inform you that our school's artwork, titled, "Underwater Kaleidoscope" was selected for the Exhibition and can be viewed on the SYF Website: https://www.syf.gov.sg/art-exhibition/the-online-gallery-2023. We would like to thank all parents for supporting the SYF Art Exhibition 2023.

ST 2 Empowering and Engaging Staff for Professional Excellence and Leadership

Staff Recognition

20. We commend the following staff for receiving the National Day Award 2023.

No.	Appreciation for Staff Awards	
1	National Day Awards 2022—The Commendation Medal - Ms Shannen Lim Puay Ching	
	The Medal is awarded to officers who have distinguished themselves through commendable performance and conduct, significant efficiency, competence and devotion to duty.	
2	National Day Awards 2023—The Long Service Medal - Mr Tan Wee Kiang - Mr Yan Teck Whye	
	The Medal is awarded to officers who have completed 25 years of service.	

21. We appreciate the following staff for their spirit of excellence and leadership in contributing to the school and teaching fraternity:

No.	Appreciation for Staff Contribution	
1	West Zone Primary Music Workshop 2023	
	Mdm Dawn Chan Wee Teng conducted a professional sharing for teachers in the music fraternity at Bukit View Primary School on 28 July.	

Staff Matters

- 22. We bid farewell to the following staff and appreciate their service to the school and the education fraternity:
 - i. Miss See Toh Jie Min (Music teacher)

Staff Appreciation @ Dazhong

23. We would like to invite you to share your appreciation for our staff who have demonstrated dedication and excellence. Please send compliments for our staff to <u>https://go.gov.sg/dzstaffappreciation</u> or scan this QR code for easy access.



ST 3 Engaging Partnerships for Support

DZPS-ABSS Twinning Programme

24. The DZPS-ABSS Twinning Programme is an overseas exchange programme between Dazhong Primary School and Anubansamsen School (ABSS) of Thailand. It aims to provide students of both schools with the opportunity to network, establish friendships and build closer ties. Students will also be able to learn about, appreciate and have a better understanding of the socio-cultural aspects of both countries. The school welcomed a total of 20 students and 8 teachers from ABSS on Wednesday, 26 July and Thursday, 27 July. They participated in various activities such as Eco-Trail, cultural activities, joint performances, classroom experience, to get a glimpse of the learning experiences of a Dazhong student. They also put up a spectacular performance at our Arts Fest on 29 July. This partnership has enhanced our students' 21st CC in terms of global cultural appreciation as well as pride in school and nation.

Every Parent A Supportive Partner

Dads for Life @ Dazhong (DFL)

- 25. We would like to thank some of our DFL Core Team fathers and their children for supporting the school by manning some of the booths at the Dazhong Community Day & Eco Carnival on 1 July 2023. In doing so, these fathers had role-modeled to their children what it meant to lead, serve and care for the community.
- 26. Some of the possible upcoming activities in Term 4 include a Factory Tour and a Movie Night. We hope to see more fathers participating in the activities.
- 27. The school has also printed DFL T-shirts for fathers to put on during DFL activities. Do purchase one through your child/ward so that we can stand as one Fathers@Dazhong! Do look out for our DFL event announcements on Parents Gateway and our very own Telegram Channel. Scan the QR code to join:



Parents Support Group (PSG)

28. We would like to thank our PSG for their consistent support in Dazhong's **green efforts** and **rich school-based learning experiences** for our students. These include our Community Day and Eco

Carnival, Dare to Shine Arts Fest and our most recent Teachers' Day Celebrations, where our PSG members partnered Dazhong staff and students in putting up a concert to show appreciation to Dazhong staff. Thank you, PSG!

29. The PSG also shares **parenting tips and insights** on **how to support our students' holistic well-being** actively through Let Us Chat sessions. Look out for these in the PSG WhatsApp Chat! If you are interested to join our school's PSG, please fill in the application form here: <u>https://go.gov.sg/dzpsg</u>



Safety and Security / Other Administrative Matters

Fire Drill and Evacuation Exercise to External Holding Area

- 30. As part of the school's safety and emergency preparedness, we will be conducting a Fire Drill, followed by an Evacuation Exercise to an External Holding Area for selected levels between 30 October to 3 November. The drill and evacuation exercise will be carried out with close teacher supervision to ensure the safety of the students. There will be a briefing session conducted nearer to the date to inform students about the details of the exercise.
- 31. We encourage parents to reinforce the importance of safety and security with your child/ward, not only in the context of the school but also as a Nation. As concerned citizens, every Singaporean should be vigilant to be prepared for any emergency. You may refer to the following resources on the SGSecure website: <u>https://www.sgsecure.sg</u>

Travel Declaration

- 32. To ensure schools continue to be a safe environment for all, parents/guardians are required to make a travel declaration for your child/ward only if he/she intends to travel for the holiday. To make a travel declaration via Parents' Gateway (PG). Go to SERVICES > DECLARE TRAVELS]. If you do not have access to PG, you may submit an online form via https://go.gov.sg/y4gmjx
- 33. For travel during the September holidays, please declare your child/ward's travel plan(s), indicating both the country and city of travel, and any city of transit, <u>before</u> travel. Only <u>one</u> parent is required to declare. If your child/ward is not travelling during the holidays, no action is required on your part.
- 34. When planning your travel, please refer to <u>https://ica.gov.sg/enter-transit-depart</u> for more information and updates on travel. If there is a change/cancellation of travel plan(s) after declaration, please submit a new travel declaration via PG or inform the school. Thank you for your support.

Application for MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (MOE FAS) 2024

- 35. The Ministry of Education provides financial assistance for needy Singaporean Students. Parents/guardians may apply for **MOE FAS** anytime in the course of the academic year when the need arises. The school will consider parents'/ guardians' application under **School-Based FAS** if their financial situation falls outside MOE's income bracket, subject to them meeting the school based FAS eligibility criteria.
- 36. Please be informed that all MOE and School-Based FAS approved for 2023 will expire on 31 December. You are required to submit a fresh application for our assessment on your child's/ ward's eligibility for MOE or School-Based FAS in 2024. The school will announce the commencement of the 2024 MOE/ School-Based FAS application exercise via PG by the end of September. Please do not hesitate to contact our General Office staff at Tel: 6565 8002 to assist you in the matter.

Dental Services

- 37. Please refer to the <u>Dazhong school website</u> for an update on the school dental services schedule in Term 4. In the event of <u>dental emergencies</u> such as trauma (tooth broken/knocked out), facial/gum swelling or severe toothache <u>during both dental clinic closure</u>, please contact School Dental Centre via email: <u>contact_YPS@hpb.gov.sg</u>.
- 38. Thank you in advance for your strong support given to our teachers to provide an enriching and meaningful Term 4. **Dazhong** *Dare to Shine!*

Mdm Rina Yap Siu Lin Principal