



WHITE SANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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IN LINK

4 May 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Since the onset of Covid-19 in end January, various disruptions and new norms have been established. Visual screening, temperature-taking, hand-washing, wipe-down routines, social-distancing and home-based learning have now become part and parcel of school life.

Since 8 April, all pupils embarked on FHBL (Full Home Based Learning) in preparation and support for further social distancing measures. Most recently, our Prime Minister announced the extension of Circuit Breaker till 1 June to stop the further spread of COVID-19. While HBL has been going well, it has been an intense period of hard work and adjustment for parents, students and teachers. As a result, the June holidays would be brought forward to the following period of 5 May to 1 June. School term will start from 2 June.

As announced on 2 May, schools may start bringing back school groups of students from May 19 onwards. We will be calling back some groups of our Primary 6 students as well as some students from the other levels who may need additional help. More details will be shared to these selected groups of students.

At this juncture, I would like to thank my teachers for their relentless effort and resilience in unlearning and relearning new skills. It has not been easy for them as it has been a steep learning curve, having to manage HBL and their families at home. On this note I would like to thank our Parents Support Group (PSG) who has dedicated a video to thank our teachers for their hard work and heart work. Our pupils have also done a collage to thank our teachers to show their appreciation. You can check out the video and collage at our school's Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/whitesandsprimaryschoolofficial/>

Last but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout this FHBL period. Without your strong support, the FHBL would not have been smooth-sailing.

Please note that there might be updates on plans nearer school re-opening. Please look out for details that will be sent out via PG (Parents' Gateway). In the meantime, I urge you to do your part to stay home as far as possible, and those who have to go out to do so alone and not as a group or with family. Hopefully with everyone's effort, we will be able to tide through this challenging period together and come out stronger.

1. Showing appreciation and gratitude (#KeepSGgoing)

While many people are now working from home, some are still reporting for work each day. Essential workers, such as health-care professionals, police and army officers, food delivery workers and town council cleaners, continue to work tirelessly to serve others in the community.

You may be wondering how you can show appreciation to these people while at home.

We would like to encourage every White Sandian to post his/her thank you note or video on Padlet. All you need to do is to go to the link provided below and do one of the following:

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- a. pen down a message
- b. do up a drawing
- c. film a short video presentation

Post your completed work with the #KeepSGGoing on the padlet and you are done! We will collate the posts and send them to the various organisations in the month of June.

Here is the link: https://padlet.com/wsps_via/2f4uwxqhdjha8hn

We would like to thank you for your support in this.

2. Having a H.E.A.R.T-filled holidays

Staying home can be a wonderful time filled with loads of fun and meaning activities. Here are some ways to combat boredom and be more productive while staying indoors! We have categorised these activities under the acronym **H.E.A.R.T.** for your child to take part in.

H: Helping Out

Haven't had a chance to do household chores? What better than time than now! How about drawing out a list of possible things to help your parents out?

Here are a few examples:

- Making my own bed, tidying up my study desk, making my own breakfast, washing my own plates and cups and doing simple sweeping and mopping

*For the Primary 1 and 2 students, record the chores and good deeds done in your **Gotcha@Home Booklets**. Remember to take photos of yourself in action and paste them in the booklets!*

E: Exercise

Keep fit, be healthy!

Here are some websites that you can go into and check out the exercises.

- GoNoodle (<https://youtu.be/etYhiq9hM8A>)
- Little Sports (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5qX--B1jlc>)
- Family Fun Cardio (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5if4cjO5nxo>)
- Kidz Bop Dance Along (<https://youtu.be/-0Xn4kd8xqY>)

A: Art & Crafts

Haven't had the time to do some art and crafts? Well, it's time to bring out your artistic talents this coming holiday. Let your imagination run wild.

Here are a few websites and YouTube link that you can go into and check out some good ideas. Try to use recycled materials for your masterpieces!

- Red Ted Art (<https://www.youtube.com/user/redtedart>)
- Kidspot (<https://www.kidspot.com.au/things-to-do>)
- Make and Takes (<https://www.makeandtakes.com/>)

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R: Reciprocate

What do you mean by reciprocate? It simply means to respond with love and kindness. Have you been saying, 'Thank you', 'Please', 'That's so kind of you' to family members who have helped you? Show your gratitude towards a family member who has spent his/her time teaching and guiding you. Here is some things you can do to show how much you love and appreciate your family members.

- Making a 'Thank you' card or bookmark, prepare a simple dish (Eg Making breakfast for your parents), do something nice for them (Eg Making their beds), or pamper them with love (Eg Give them a nice massage)

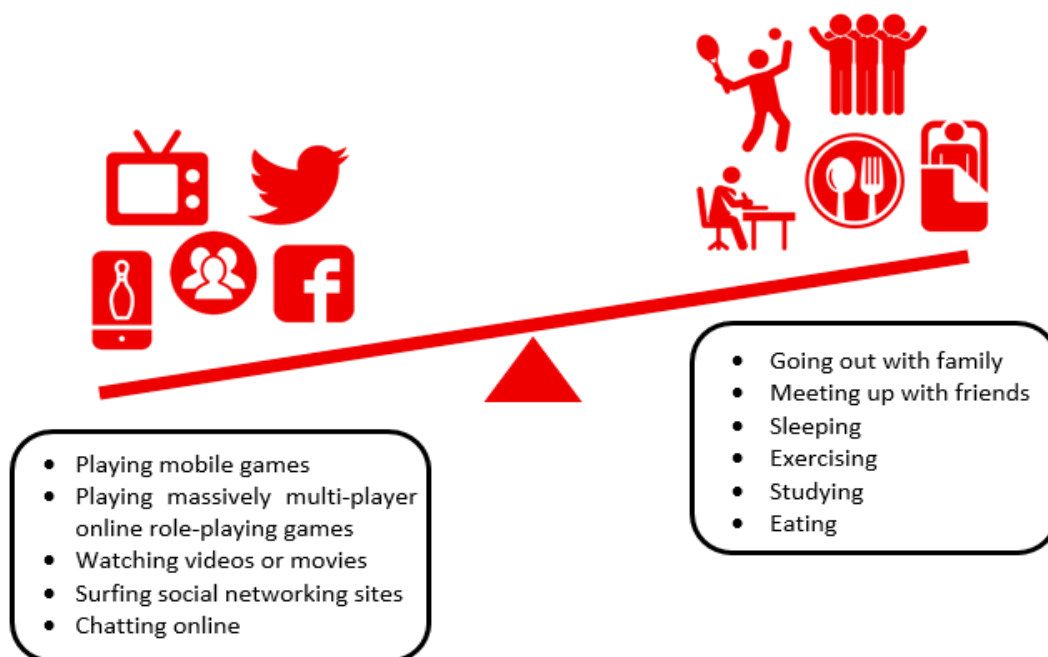
T: Time for self-reflection

Reflect on your continuous learning even during the holiday. Ask yourself these questions. Write them down on your personal diary.

- What makes you think hard today?
- Did you learn from any mistakes made?
- What kept you motivated to do your best?
- How did you use your imagination in your work?

3. Supporting Cyberwellness for your child @ Home

Pupils go online to do many things – to chat with family and friends, learn new information and play games as a mode of entertainment and relaxation. However, when they spend too much time online, it will affect aspects of their daily lives as depicted below.



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To prevent excessive use of the Internet, here are some tips you can share with your child.

<p>Losing sleep?</p> <p>Have a tech-free time of 15 to 30 minutes before you sleep. Turn off all gadgets or keep them out of your room for better sleep.</p>	<p>Feeling bored or stressed?</p> <p>Don't resort to online activities. Find healthy ways to cope with stress. Pick up a new hobby and pursue your interests. Go out with friends or family.</p>	<p>Feeling tired and achy?</p> <p>Give yourself a break. Practise good posture and habits. Exercise and get active. If pain persists, see a doctor.</p>
<p>Losing focus?</p> <p>Keep out distractions. Create an Internet-free zone. Disable unnecessary notifications. Prioritise your tasks and complete them.</p>	<p>Losing track of time?</p> <p>Set a time limit or a schedule. Use a timer or an app to keep track and stick to it.</p>	<p>Feeling less love from family and friends?</p> <p>Explore offline activities with friends and family. Make online activities a social occasion which fosters real-life interactions.</p>

For more tips, you can click on the following links:

<https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/Safe-and-Smart-Online-Parent-Guide.pdf> and <https://ictconnection.moe.edu.sg/cyber-wellness/for-parents>

4. Travel advisory & related matters

MOH had earlier advised for all Singaporeans to defer all travel abroad in an advisory dated 18 March. Please also take note that you would need to inform the school if your child:

- Is staying in the same household as individuals on HQO/SHN/confirmed case.
- Is staying in the same household as adults on Medical Leave for flu-like symptoms for the duration of their MC.

5. School re-opening matters

a) Revised Academic Calendar for 2020

With the extended Circuit Breaker, the June school holidays have been brought forward and will start from 5 May. Please refer to the revised academic calendar for 2020 below.

	Start Date	End Date
Full Home-Based Learning	7 Apr (Tue)	4 May (Mon)
Mid-Year School Holidays	5 May (Tue)	1 Jun (Mon)
Term 3	2 Jun (Tue)	6 Sep (Sun)
Mid-Term 3 Break	20 Jul (Mon)	26 Jul (Sun)
September Holidays	7 Sep (Mon)	13 Sep (Sun)

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b) Parents-Teachers Conference

As part of our efforts to keep you updated of your child's development and growth, our C4RE teachers will be having a tele-PTC with you in the first 2 weeks of school re-opening (2 June – 12 June). They will communicate with you on how your child has been performing academically as well as holistically in school and during HBL.

c) Return of report books

Besides tele-PTC, the C4RE teachers will also be updating you on your child's learning and progress through the report slips. Hence, your child will be receiving the report book on 5 June 2020. As mid-year examinations have been cancelled, the report slip will not reflect any marks. Instead, you will be able to see his/her conduct grade and an update of his learning in the remarks section. Please sign and return the report book to your child's C4RE teacher by 8 June 2020.

d) Assessment matters

Due to Circuit Breaker and changes to the academic calendar, we have also adjusted the assessment timeline and weightage accordingly. The purpose is to give pupils more timely feedback in their learning through bite-sized assessments. Please see information below.

Primary 3 - 5

Period	Weighting	Type
Term 3 Week 5 (29 June – 3 July)	10%	Weighted assessment
Term 3 Week 8 - 9 (27 July – 4 August)	20%	Weighted assessment
Term 4	70%	SA2 exams (Please see below)
12 Oct – 13 Oct		P5 Oral
14 Oct – 15 Oct		P3 & P4 Oral
26 Oct		English Paper 1 English Listening Comprehension
27 Oct		Mother Tongue Paper 1 Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension
29 Oct		English Paper 2
30 Oct		Mathematics
2 Nov		Mother Tongue Paper 2
3 Nov		Science
4 Nov		Higher Mother Tongue Paper 1 & 2

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Primary 6

Period	Weighting	Type
Term 3 Week 6 (7 July – 13 July)	--	Mock Practice
Term 4	100%	Prelim exams (Please see below)
13 July and 14 July		Oral
19 Aug		Listening Comprehension
20 Aug		English Paper 1 & 2
21 Aug		Mathematics Paper 1 & 2
24 Aug		Mother Tongue Paper 1 & 2
25 Aug		Science
26 Aug		Higher Mother Tongue Paper 1 & 2

Primary 6 (PSLE)

Period	Mode
Term 4	PSLE Exams (please see below)
13 Aug and 14 Aug	Oral
18 Sept	Listening Comprehension
1 Oct	English Paper 1 & 2
2 Oct	Mathematics Paper 1 & 2
5 Oct	Mother Tongue Paper 1 & 2
6 Oct	Science
7 Oct	Higher Mother Tongue Paper 1 & 2

More information on PSLE can be found in SEAB website at: <https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/#>

More details on the format and topics will be provided when the term starts.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Please stay safe and keep healthy.

Your partner-in-education,



Ms Audrey Wong
Principal

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