

From the principal's desk...



15 January 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

I hope that your family had a good break during the year-end school vacation and are ready for the new experiences and challenges of the year ahead. It is certainly a new beginning for me as the Principal of Edgefield Primary School on 2 Jan 2024. If you want to know about my professional background, I have attached my CV in the school website www.edgefieldpri.moe.edu.sg.

Under my predecessor and previous Principals, Edgefield Primary has grown and become a school of choice in this neighbourhood. I would like to leverage the current strengths of the school and continue to equip our students intentionally with the 21st century competencies. The school's current focus on leveraging the Arts, innovation and technology in building the confidence and self-esteem of the students resonates very much with my beliefs as well. We will continue to create varied platforms and opportunities for every student to showcase their talents and interests purposefully. We will provide a varied and enriching differentiated curriculum for the students in both the academic and non-academic areas to stretch them cognitively, aesthetically and physically. In alignment with the school's Vision of Lives Empowered, Lives Touched, we will intentionally provide students with more Choice and Voice both in and out of classroom experiences, so that they can be better engaged and stretched.

Our Innovation Programme will continue to provide students with the skills and competencies to hone their inventive thinking which is extremely important skills in today's world. As Minister Chan Chun Sing always emphasises that students cannot "...learn yesterday's solutions to solve today's challenges". Instead, we should be "...nurturing their passions, interests and ingenuity to help them uncover tomorrow's solutions for the challenges of the future." Hence, the school will work on how we can develop this inventive thinking and reflective thinking as part of our everyday learning.

*Lives Empowered
Lives Touched*



As the late Mr Lee Kwan Yew has said, "If you want to reach your goals and dreams, you cannot do it without discipline," we will place premium importance in building the character and values of our students so that they are developed appropriately in the social and moral domains as well. Opportunities will be provided for all students to be educated in civic literacy and exemplify the values taught so that they will develop into cultured and gracious individuals and citizens.

Our school will use the power of WE in engaging all staff and students at the level/school so that we can work and learn collaboratively and level up everyone synergistically. The school's theme will be B.E.L.I.E.V.E. I will provide more information on this approach in my subsequent communication.

1. Parental Involvement

Research has shown that when parents are involved in nurturing their child's social and emotional competencies, children are likely to improve academically, have greater enthusiasm for learning and experience increased self-esteem and responsibility towards others. As parents play an important role in their child's growth, your child will benefit most.

When both the school and home, places the child's interests at the heart of what we do and through shared responsibilities work together, we can bring out the best in every child. Working in partnership with us will help you to better understand your child's learning experiences, talents and interests in school, so that you can provide the necessary family care, support and reinforcement at home. We must be mindful though that supporting is different from over indulgence and being over protective of them. Let's be consistent in our steps to build sound character and values in our students.

We encourage you to join the school's Parent Support Group (PSG) so that you can get involved with the school's activities and get to know other parents and your child's friends in school. The networking is important as it helps you better understand the school's approach and also it will give a positive signal to your child that you are also involved in the school. You can sign up for activities that suit your schedule. We would like to partner you to develop your child to be the best that he or she can be.



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2. Communication with the School

To promote home-school partnerships, we have established the following communication channels:

- Parents Gateway (PG)* – for all school letters regarding curriculum and assessment, as well as consent forms; Please do read all PGs.
- Student Diary – for daily homework and messages from/to teachers;
- School Website – for soft copies of the school letters;
- Email at edgefield_ps@moe.edu.sg

You may also check our school social media to get updates on the school events:



As the school has the best interests of our students at heart, we will need your continued support, encouragement and understanding in this journey. Thus far, we have established good relationship with most of our parents who have been directly engaging us to provide feedback and suggestions for improvement.

To ensure the **work-life balance** of my teachers and to respect their private space, teachers are not required to give their personal contact number to parents. While our staff will attend to you and assist you to their best ability, I would like parents/guardians to treat the staff with due respect. If there is any oversight on our end, please inform us and allow us to rectify the mistake so that we can do the best for our students. We are committed to working with you to help each child to our best ability. Hence, your feedback and suggestions are important to us and we will review our own processes, and if possible, we will implement your suggestions after careful evaluation. If we take this approach, our students will also learn healthy social-emotional habits from us. Let us be good role models for our students by seeking to understand each other.



BELIEVE



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In addition, if you require further clarification pertaining to level matters, please contact the respective Year Heads (YH) or Assistant Year Heads (AYH) who are empowered to make decisions pertaining to the level as well.



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3. Traffic Issues

For parents who are driving their children/ wards to school, please drop them off at the front porch before 7.25 a.m. Do note that the speed limit in the school is 15km/hour. Drivers are to stay alert for pedestrians in the school zone and co-operate with traffic marshals to ensure overall safety and smooth traffic flow. Parents/Guardians who drive your child/ward to school are to be considerate and refrain from holding the traffic when your child alights from the car. Do get them ready with their bags before they alight. The school has the right to refuse entry for any driver who fails to adhere to our procedures. For the safety of our students, please do not park your vehicle outside the school gates or along the service road beside Gates 2 and 3.

If your child/ward must cycle to school, please ensure that he/she knows safe cycling rules. He/She should always wear protective gear such as a properly secured helmet, shoes with laces properly tied as well as elbow and knee pads to protect himself/herself against injuries. He/She should also dismount upon entering the school gate and walk with his/ her bicycle to the bicycle parking area.

4. Student Diary

Please do refer to the Student Diary for additional information on school expectations and routines. On behalf of my staff, here's wishing one and all a blessed and healthy New Year in 2024! We look forward to partnering you in providing a holistic education for all our students. Let's begin the year with great positivity so that our children will look forward to learning and living life to the fullest.

Yours sincerely



Principal
Mdm Rabiathul Bazriya



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