

## NORTHSHORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER



**SEMESTER 1** 2021



The tallest and most majestic tree begins from a seed that falls to the ground. As germination begins, its shoot grows towards the soil surface, breaking through to face the sun for the first time. Not long after, the first leaves emerge as the shoot continues to grow upwards towards the sun, until one day, it becomes a huge tree that is home to different animals and even other plants. It becomes a community on its own.

This is the story of our school.

We begin humbly in the northern suburb of Singapore. As we receive our first batch of students, we toil to prepare the ground. Our staff have put forth their heart and soul as they break new grounds in an education institution with no track record or anything to prove, just like how a germinating seed breaks through and out of the soil surface with everything it has.

We explore new and creative ideas of teaching and learning, while always keeping our eyes fixed on the well-being of our students. The growth of our school will accelerate as our students and their parents, together with our staff, work together towards new heights, reaching for the sky; just

as how a young plant grows rapidly and shoots towards the sun.

We hope the school history will show how we make this vibrant learning community into a beacon for world class learning experiences and an anchor for distinctively holistic learning in this vibrant northern tip of our amazing country. Let us aim to be the desired school for students to live out their dreams in the first few years of their formative education journey, just as a plant grows into a massive tree to house numerous living creatures, while providing great shade for those toiling the ground below.

As we celebrate the first semester of Northshore Primary, I am delighted to unveil the great works of our pioneering teachers and students in this inaugural newsletter. I look forward to partner our parents to pen the history of the school, where our children love to learn, and grow into confident, dignified problem solvers who have a heart for the community and those in need.

Yours sincerely, Christine Lam (Mrs)

Principal

## **OUR SCHOOL MASCOT**

#### **FUN FACTS ABOUT ME**

#### Would you like to know more about me?

#### I am

- 100% made of cardboard and plastic strips so that makes me 100% recyclable
- a talking robot but I choose to keep quiet as I am very shy
- created by all staff of Northshore Primary School
- named Robbie by the students of Northshore Primary School

















Look! I even have a school badge like you...



## **PRIMARY 1** FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

On 4 January 2021, we welcomed our very first Primary 1 cohort into the Northshore family. The students were introduced to primary school life through a series of activities under the S.M.A.R.T Beginning – Learn and Grow Programme. Concurrently, the parents of our Primary 1 students attended various briefings and went on a school tour. Not only were the students excited about their new classrooms and the surrounding areas, but the parents were also equally impressed by the greenery and vast spaces that our school has to offer!











#### S.M.A.R.T BEGINNING

#### **Learn and Grow Programme for Primary 1**

Over the next two days, the Primary 1 students continued to participate in classroom activities to help them adjust to the new school environment. They were engaged in interacting with their classmates and teachers and getting to know the school compound, school rules and expectations.

Through the S.M.A.R.T Beginning programme and Parents' Orientation, we hope the students and their parents will have a smooth transition to primary school life and have the best six years of their education at Northshore Primary School!



## **NATIONAL EDUCATION EVENTS**

#### TOTAL DEFENCE DAY

















#### INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY















## **CHINESE NEW YEAR**

The very first Lunar New Year Celebration at Northshore Primary was indeed an exciting yet unique one. Due to the safe management measures that had to be observed, our students were not able to assemble in the hall for a concert. Nonetheless, everyone was elated and looked forward to the virtual celebration!

A series of meaningful and interesting activities were designed for our students before the actual day. The activities included making a lantern with red paper and understanding the story of Nian. Moral values and Chinese traditions were emphasised during lessons and activities.

Many students came dressed in their ethnic outfits. Through the use of technology, all classes were actively engaged in various activities throughout the day. Students learned about the story of Ox through an interesting video and had the opportunity to complete a jigsaw puzzle based on the Chinese character "‡". They also learned how to greet one another using auspicious phrases and exchanged mandarin oranges with their form teachers in the classroom.



拜年 Mdm Ong

拜年 Mrs Lam

# PROGRAMME FOR ACTIVE LEARNING (PAL) ACTIVITIES

#### **Outdoor PAL**

At Northshore, during outdoor PAL lessons, the students immerse themselves in nature and learn to explore and appreciate the wonders of nature through sight, touch, sounds and smell.

They learn to take care of Mother Earth by planting new plants and taking care of them. They also get the experience of having a group outdoor picnic in green spaces.

Most importantly, they learn to make new friends, understand their own and others' emotions and appreciate diversity.



































#### **Sports And Games**

Through the fun and enriching activities in the Sports and Games PAL lessons, students learnt values such as self-discipline, respect and tenacity. They worked cooperatively in groups to solve problems, listening to the differing ideas and opinions of others while looking out for the safety of themselves and others.







All students went through the outdoor education sessions in Term 1 where they learnt to use their five senses to appreciate their surroundings. The sessions cultivated their social-emotional competencies such as self-awareness while learning to appreciate being in the outdoors. In Term 2, students went through a series of sports and games sessions. They learnt to play various forms of games such as cooperative games like Builders and Destroyers, and target games like bowling. The sports and games sessions also taught them skills such as perseverance and relationship management.



























## **STORIES** COME ALIVE!

There is no better way to get our students excited than to have the characters from the stories they read visit them at Northshore Primary!

#### **Help Mrs Wishy-Washy Find Her Animals**

Mrs Wishy-Washy was looking for her runaway animals when she paid a visit to the School Library in Term 1. The students were thrilled to meet her even though they could not help her find her missing animals! Many of them wanted to take a photograph with her and she gladly obliged. Hope Mrs Wishy-Washy finds her animals soon!











#### A Surprise Visit from Dr Seuss' Cat in the Hat

Have you met the Cat in the Hat?

Students at Northshore Primary could not believe their eyes when the Cat in the Hat appeared at the School Library. "What a nice hat you have!" said Mdm Yani, the librarian. The Cat in the Hat was feeling generous and gave out bookmarks to the students who could name their favourite Dr Seuss book. Other students who took part in the colouring contest and puzzle activities won for themselves a limited edition Dr Seuss lunch bag!























#### The Ants and Insects Have Invaded The Library!

After reading the story 'Ants in a Hurry', the students could not wait to find out more about ants. There were various displays showcasing the life cycle of ants and other creatures as well as giant insects. Did you know that there are more than 12000 species of ants and a single ant can carry 50 times its own bodyweight? The students also learnt that ants don't have ears, and some of them don't have eyes!













## **MATH ACTIVITIES**

#### Math@Play - Terrific Thursday

Math@Play - Terrific Thursday is an initiative by the Mathematics Department to further support students in the Learning Support for Mathematics (LSM) Programme. It is conducted every Thursday during recess. Through gamifying math skills and concepts into games-based activities, students have the opportunities to reinforce and contextualise their learning in 'real-world' setting. These activities also aim to increase students' self-confidence and stimulate a greater interest in Math learning.















## **CHINESE CLOCK**

#### A Different Learning Experience

Our students presenting their work

Learning is not limited to within the classroom, especially with the help of technology in a digital world. There is no better way to show how learning can go beyond the shores, with students from another country when our students had the opportunity to do so in Term 2.

A group of students attended a live lesson via Zoom with students from Chiway Repton School in China (Xiamen) on 23 March during their Chinese lesson. Prior to that, they were taught about time, based on the Chinese syllabus (Unit 5) and interesting facts about animals during their English lessons. Virtually, students from both countries were "brought" to the Palace Museum located in Kulangsu in Xiamen. They went on a guided virtual tour around the museum and explored the design of an antique elephant clock. After the virtual tour, students from both schools were tasked to design their own animal clocks and present their design. Our students used Lego bricks to build the structure of the clocks and added in animal toys to their design.

Our students were excited as they got to work collaboratively with their groupmates to build the structure as well as interact and exchange ideas with students from China. It was indeed a different learning experience for the students and their learning was deeply enriched.

This virtual cross-cultural learning programme was made possible through the efforts of North American Youth Technology and Education Association that is based in China, and Amdon Consulting, a local education technology company. We look forward to extending this learning experience to more students in the level and more collaborative efforts across various subjects in the near future!



Interacting with one another in real time

making the animal clock

## SCHOOL-IN-ACTION

#### **Parent-Teacher Engagement Session**

As we moved into Term 2, a Parent-Teacher Engagement Session was organised on 1 April via Zoom. The opening address by Mrs Christine Lam, our school principal, was followed by presentations from our Year Head and various personnel from the Character and Citizenship Education as well as the PE, Art and Music Departments. Parents also had the opportunity to meet their child's Form and Subject Teachers and better understand the expectations of the various curriculums, both core and non-core subjects and get an update of class matters. Despite not being able to meet face-to-face, it was an engaging session and an afternoon well-spent!

#### **All About Our Very First Batch of Students**



