

SPECIAL Events

Chinese New Year

In 2022, let us be hopeful, brave and vigilant just like the tiger, as we embrace the new norm. Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, our West Grove family has overcome the challenges to replace a face-to-face Assembly with an e-Concert.

The e-Concert was carried out in the storyline of Nian for our students to learn about the customs and dishes of Chinese New Year. Students were engaged with interactive segments such as drumming on the table to the rhythm with their fingers and participating in an online quiz. They even learnt about the significance of Yusheng, a must-eat CNY dish through a hands-on classroom activity, wishing for a prosperous year ahead.

To end the celebration on a festive note, students enjoyed the corridor performance by professional lion dancers and a grand finale, live 'Cai-Ging' was telecast through Zoom to each classroom!

Last but not least, students had displayed the value of kindness to donate part of their ang paw to help the patients in Tan Tock Seng Hospital through Project Hongbao.



Hari Raya Celebration

West Grove rang in the Hari Raya festive season by having a food donation drive during the month of Ramadan. Our Scouts, Art Club and Rope Skipping members played their part in various ways to bring festive cheer to the beneficiaries from Jamiyah Singapore. We received tremendous support from the parents, students and staff through their contributions to the Food Donation Drive!

In order to deepen students' understanding of Hari Raya, the students had the chance to visit a pop-up exhibition through interactive props and displays by the Malay Heritage Centre. Students had fun completing the quiz while enjoying the exhibit!

An e-Assembly was held on 10 May during the Assembly period to mark the celebration.



West Grove Primary School

Active Minds, Gracious Hearts



From our Principal's Desk

Riding the Waves Together with Wisdom and Grace.

Greetings to you!

When I sat down to pen my message for this newsletter, I was in a state of confusion – so many thoughts and ideas that I wanted to share with all of you and I just did not know where to begin. At that moment, I saw this beautiful poem staring in my face. This poem has always been an inspiration to me.



Life is an opportunity ... live each day to the fullest and Life is a journey to be enjoyed.

As a school, we have often shared about our rollercoaster journey these past two years of COVID-19. It was tough but we are now slowly but surely coming out of this global pandemic – one of the worst in the history of mankind - with many meaningful lessons learnt along the way. As a united WGPS family, we have weathered together in the face of challenges, supportive of one another and going beyond all boundaries to ensure the learning, safety and well-being of all West Grovians. Indeed, we have been riding the waves in this tumultuous storm with confidence and grit. No amount of appreciation will suffice for all the hard work and sacrifices by everyone in the WGPS family including our parents and community partners. We have learnt that Life is no bed of roses and it is what we make of it. We made teaching and learning possible despite the difficulties. We engaged our students on various platforms to minimise disruptions. We went ahead with our school events including the 21st Anniversary celebrations and made meaningful

contributions to our community. This pandemic has taught us that Life is a challenge but challenges can always be overcome. We faced what was ahead of us and took them in our stride. This stormy journey has made all of us a skilled sailor ready to face whatever the future holds for us with the same poise and resilience.

Life is a time for new beginnings and endings. Life is a decision each of us makes to be happy or sad....

In this new beginning, we will continue to ride the waves again together with Wisdom and Grace. Life is a Gift, so let's accept it, enjoy it and be happy with it. Embrace optimism and develop a positive outlook. We should continue to enjoy the work we do, be it teaching or learning and engage in all school programmes and events wholeheartedly. Make good friends and relish your interactions with them. In your adulthood, what remains of your school days are just good memories and treasured teachers and friends.

Life is to be lived ... Life is a wonder. Life is a bundle of possibilities if you just look for them. Opportunities to learn and grow are in abundance all around us, so seek out these opportunities. With Wisdom and Grace; and R3ICK as your moral compass, each opportunity can blossom into a meaningful experience. Have the courage to make your dreams big or small come true for you. Believe in yourself. You are always a winner when you do your best! Life is a balance, take time for play, not just work. In the pursuit of your aspirations, go beyond academic excellence. There is so much more to life than just exams and grades. Identify and grow your interests and passions, engage in co-curricular activities and school programmes; and build strong friendships. As much as you value work, do also value play! At WGPS, we will continue to provide a myriad of opportunities and experiences and we will embrace Joy of Learning and Learning for Life for all our students and staff. Think about WGPS Environment Education programme-how can we respond to global climate change and Singapore's Green Plan. Do share your thoughts and views with your teachers. We would love to hear from you.

It is now time for WGPS to reconnect with the new challenges in the local and global landscape. We cannot stop the waves from coming towards us but we can surely learn to surf. Life is a joy for those who are optimistic. Exciting times are ahead of us. I believe in the optimism of the WGPS family and our readiness to take on the coming waves with confidence.

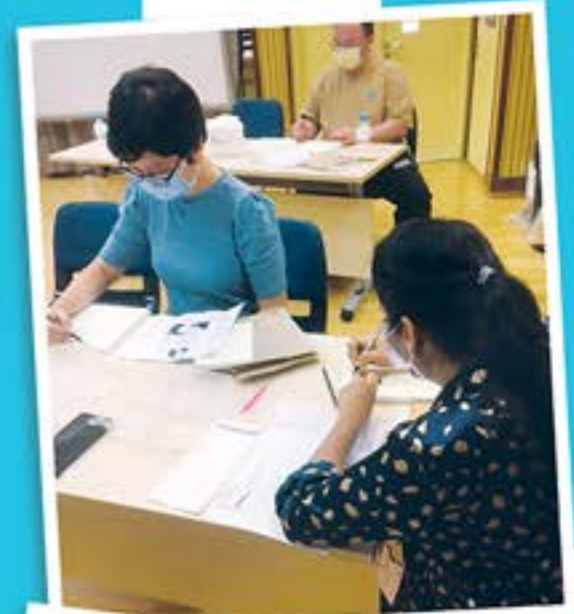
Mrs. Chandler
Jay Siva
Principal



Quality Staff

Teachers' Professional Development

The challenges for a teacher in a lifelong learning society are immense. Being a teacher in the Knowledge society requires new specific competencies. Our teachers have to deal with new knowledge, new ways for accessing knowledge; with a networked world and new collaborative endeavours. At WGPS, learning has become a determining factor in ensuring that we are adaptive and ready for the future-oriented world of education.



“Being an accomplished classroom teacher is a career-long work in progress”

“Learning never stops. Lifelong Learning is a crucial Education Mindset”



Interdisciplinary Game Design

The Game Design is an interdisciplinary effort among the Mathematics, English and Aesthetics Departments. Game Design provides our students with an authentic and holistic learning experience. Through this meaningful learning experience, our students also learnt to collaborate and communicate with one another better and be more confident communicators too.



Mathematics G.O.L.D

Mathematics G.O.L.D. (Games Oriented Learning and Development) uses Mathematics games to invoke positive attitudes towards the learning of the subject and provide motivated practice for students to master Mathematical facts. During the pandemic, G.O.L.D. has been moved from a recess activity into classrooms. It continues to intrigue and challenge students through Mathematical game play and challenge in Sudoku and Tangrams in Term 1. Math game boxes were also put into Primary 1 - 4 classes to allow for flexible Math game play whenever possible.

E-LEARNING JOURNEY to the Museum

Museum Based Learning (MBL) is a compulsory module for all Primary 4 students. This year, we took our Primary 4 students on a virtual tour to the National Gallery Singapore. The visit is designed to provide the breadth and depth of learning local art as part of the Primary 4 students' core learning experience in the Art curriculum. Guided by the docents, students had the opportunity to observe artworks and engage in Art discussions.



English Learning

At West Grove, Quality Learning in English Language lessons takes on different forms. To extend students' speaking, reasoning and debating skills, mini debates are conducted in several Upper Primary classes. During these sessions, students get to listen to other perspectives of the issue discussed and learn how to develop their points convincingly. To improve their oracy skills, students are also given opportunities to engage in quick 30-seconds to one-minute conversations with one another using the different prompts given on the screen.

Elements of Game-Based Learning are also regularly incorporated into English lessons. Middle Primary students work together in pairs to answer English Vocabulary and Grammar questions using iPads.



Reading Festival

Did you know that Changi Airport is not Singapore's first airport?

This is one of the many interesting facts of Singapore which our students uncovered in this year's Reading Festival on Singapore Literature.

Reading Festival is an annual event organised by the ICT/MRT department for Primary 1 to 5 students. It commenced from Term 1 Week 8 to Term 2 Week 2.

During the event, local authors and their books were introduced to the students so that they could borrow the books in the school library or national libraries.

'Sasha Visits the Museum' by Shamini Flint was introduced to the lower primary students through a story-telling session by our very own English teachers, Ms Ong Pyng Jng and Mrs Jessica Lal. The younger students followed the adventures of the characters and had learning opportunities to solve intriguing puzzles related to the book. They also spent some time exploring the school library and borrowing books which interest them.

As for Primary 4 and 5 students, 'Secrets of Singapore' book series by Monica Lim and Lesley-Anne were shared with them. They watched a short introduction clip and a pre-recorded interview.

Three Primary 6 Senior School Reading Ambassadors (SRAs), Verlene Leow (6D), Tay Hui Qi and Kalyanasundaram Jayaprabha (6E), had the golden opportunity to ask Ms Lesley-Anne some questions pertaining to the book series and journey as an author.

To promote joy in reading non-fiction narratives, the Primary 4 and 5 students worked in pairs to complete an online escape room activity.



This gave the students the chance to be part of the adventure in unravelling more secrets of Singapore with the characters, Danger Dan and Gadget Girl. The students were very engaged and had fun learning all the facts they had uncovered from the activity.

Besides English books, local Mother Tongue authors and narratives were shared with Primary 3 students during their Mother Tongue lessons.

The students took part in various activities which included quizzes, games, watching videos related to the books, and listening to the stories, all through ICT-mediated learning experiences and game-based learning to arouse their interest in reading books written by our local authors.

The students enjoyed the local narratives introduced to them as most of these books were borrowed out during the event.



Character Development

EDCAMP LIBRARIANS & School Reading Ambassadors Training



NLB conducted a 'BookTalkers' workshop on the 24th of March 2022. Our Primary 3 to Primary 6 students who are representatives of School Reading Ambassadors and Class Librarians attended the workshop.

It was held at the PAL Room while NLB representative Ms Xing Zhi conducted the workshop via a virtual teleconferencing platform.

Students were informed on what a book talk is and why it is necessary to talk about books. They were also taught how to choose books to talk about. Students learnt the techniques on how to prepare for a book talk enthusiastically. Finally they also learnt how to design their presentation slides. The Do's and the Don'ts helped students to realise their potential mistakes.

Ms Chloe Oh mentioned that the information shared by NLB was extensive and that the interaction with the students was appropriate. They were given tasks of recording themselves after this workshop. SRA teachers are looking forward to quality Book Talkers after this workshop.



ICT CHAMPIONS TRAINING



The ICT Champions had their second training in Term 2 Week 1. Unlike previous sessions, the ICT department chose to broaden the roles of the ICT Champions by integrating elements of Peer Support in their training. The role of ICT Champions has always evolved with the times. From class ICT monitors to champions of ICT by advocating cyberwellness, we are inculcating elements of peer support in the current training cycle. Peer support is becoming an increasingly important component as part of the holistic development of our student-leaders. Supporting peers by looking out for their peers' 'digital welfare' in cyberspace is aligned with one of the main roles of ICT Champions and it is only the next logical step in training the ICT Champions. During the training, Mr Lin and Mr Yeow went through elements of peer support with our ICT Champs and had a brainstorming session on how they can look out for their classmates in terms of screen time. We hope this initiative will broaden their horizons and develop their personal values and holistic outlook, especially with regard to digital wellbeing.

Seek help from a trusted adult if you have online problems

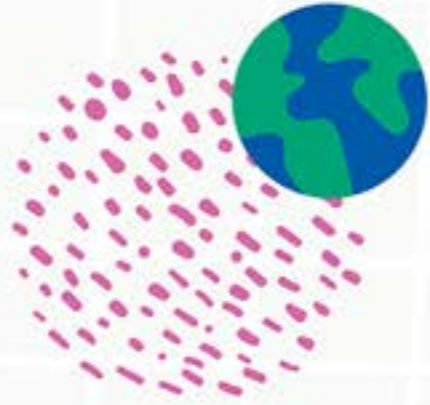


Explore offline activities with friends and family



P3 Cohort Day

As part of the school's Applied Learning Programme (ALP) to develop our students to be Empowered Emissary of the Environment (E3), our students learnt about ways to reduce Human-Wildlife Conflict during the Primary 3 Cohort Day 2022 that spanned over two days. Our students were taken through Design Thinking (DT) protocols through various activities such as applying interview skills, storytelling and drama. They worked in teams to create posters or jingles to share with the public about what to do when encountering a wild animal. Moreover, our students had the opportunity to bond through team games and orienteering activities.



P4 Cohort Day

The school organised a Cohort day for all our P4 students on Friday 25th March 2022 during the curriculum school hour.

The activities of the day are a part of our efforts to provide our students with a more balanced education by experiencing education outdoors and developing their knowledge and aptitude beyond the classroom. A day whereby our students built relationships amongst peers and between teachers and students and promoted a better understanding of Social Emotional & 21st Century Competencies.

It is definitely a day our P4 students will remember!



STARLIGHT Programme

In Term 1, students from the STARLIGHT Programme participated in two activities: Masterchef and Paperweight Painting. During the Masterchef session, students learnt to prepare a simple food wrap with hardboiled eggs, tomato slices, lettuce, mayonnaise and tomato ketchup. During the Paperweight Painting session, students tried their hands at designing and painting their own paperweight.



NE Ambassador Training

The virtual Junior Civil Defence Lionhearer (JCDLH) Challenge 2022 was successfully held on 18 February 2022. Five West Grove's NE ambassadors from Primary 5 were selected to participate in this challenge. They are Lee Ying En, Ngim Jian Zhong William, Yalini Parthasarathy, Kingslie Teng Yu Xuan and Thea Htar San Grace.

Introduced in 2014, this Challenge is a signature annual SCDF event organised jointly with the MOE CCE Branch, in support of Total Defence Day.

As part of the Challenge, JCDLHs across Singapore were tested on their skills and knowledge in emergency preparedness (Civil Defence) as one of the core pillars of Total Defence. They also completed various pre-event components such as advocating SCDF myResponder app to their family members and imparting emergency preparedness skills to their peers through creative means.

Greatest thanks to Ms Tan Hui Yang and Ms Munirah for their time and commitment in nurturing NE Ambassadors. They had fun learning about emergency preparedness skills. Our school team emerged as the 2nd Runner Up in this year's challenge! Congratulations to the NE Ambassadors.



Partnerships



If you wish to be part of our big family, please scan the QR code below to fill up the registration form. Thanks.

Parent Support Group

West Grove Primary School is proud to welcome the new 2022 Parent Support Group Exco Committee.

The PSG Exco members are:

PSG Chairperson: Mr. Jason Lim (Right)



Committee Members

- Ms. Carolyn Tan – Vice-Chairperson (Left)
- Ms. Karen Ng – Secretary
- Ms. Nicole Ng – Asst. Secretary
- Ms. Doris Lee – Treasurer
- Ms. Joanne Pon – Social Media
- Mr. Eamonn Wong – Social Media
- Ms. Jeanz Tan – School Event Liaison
- Ms. Phyllis Rangeeta – School Event Liaison
- Ms. Lynette Xia – School Event Liaison
- Mr. James Seah – School Event Liaison



WGPS-PSG Mission: Partnering As One for the Success of West Grove students.

The Parent Support Group (PSG):

- 1 Provides support for activities conducted by the school which enhance students' welfare and growth.
- 2 Serves as a communication channel for parents to provide constructive feedback on school policies and programmes; and
- 3 Plays a part in recruiting and leading other parents to join this meaningful endeavour to ensure sustainability of home-school partnership.

By joining WGPS-PSG, parents:

- a Join a community of dedicated parents.
- b Be part of your child's success story in WGPS.
- c Stay in touch with the latest developments within the school.
- d Gain support from fellow parents in your parenting endeavours through this network.



Tree PLANTING

On a bright and early Saturday morning on 15 January 2022, staff, students, SAC chairperson, Mr Lee and Parent Support Group Exco members of West Grove Primary School came together to plant trees as part of a Tree Planting event that was organised by Nanyang CC. This initiative was part of the Nanyang Green Plan to plant 1000 trees in the estate. We started with warmups led by Mr. Jackie Huang then everyone went into groups of three to plant their trees. It was fun and a green start to the year for West Grove Primary.

International Friendship Day

West Grove Primary School commemorated International Friendship Day on Tuesday 12 April 2022. The theme this year is Singapore in Asia and Cambodia is the country in focus. The students were exposed to the school life of a Cambodian boy. Mr Liu Ning and Mdm Meenal also shared how they had spent their primary school days in their countries. The students did activities about ASEAN countries during their FTGP period. They also learnt the diverse and colourful cultures and traditions of the ASEAN region and that friendship from different cultures can bring about peace and harmony.



Total Defence DAY

Total Defence Day, commemorated on 15 February 2022, is of great significance to Singapore as it was the day Singapore fell to the Japanese in 1942. West Grove Primary remembered this day by sharing with our students on the 6 Pillars of Total Defence. Our students also learnt that we should live and work together in harmony, looking out and helping one another. In addition, our teachers and ex-student also shared their National Service experiences. Total Defence Day serves to remind our students that Singapore is our home and we ourselves must defend Singapore.

