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Dear Parents,

Good day.

This is the first *Keeping in Touch with Parents* for this new school year. For families who are new to us, I hope to reach out to you monthly to share some of my thoughts and reflections as the School Leader in our Mee Toh Family. I want to thank you for walking this journey with us as we grow your precious child. Should there be an area for improvement, we apologise in advance for the gap but hope to hear from you and explore how we can do it better.

For our P1 parents who are new to us, starting primary school is a significant milestone, filled with excitement, questions and new experiences. At this important stage, a strong partnership between home and the school makes a real difference to how confidently our children will settle and grow in our Mee Toh Family.

Start with a Story

Allow me to share a familiar Aesop's Fable – The Four Oxen and the Lion. Four oxen lived together in peace. Whenever a lion approached, they stood back-to-back in a circle, facing outwards. No matter which way the lion came, the lion was met with strong horns and could not harm them. Over time, the lion tried a different approach. He whispered doubts, created mistrust and slowly caused the oxen to go on their separate ways. Once divided, the lion attacked them one by one. Eventually, every ox became food for the lion.

The moral of this story is simple yet powerful: when there are unity and trust, strength follows; when mistrust sets in, even the strong will become vulnerable.

In a similar way, our children in our Mee Toh Family thrive best when parents and the school stand together, trusting one another and working with a shared purpose. When our children sense alignment between their home and the school, they feel safe, supported and confident to want to learn and improve. When they sense doubt or mistrust, they may feel anxious, confused or unsettled. This will not help the child.

Why Trust and Partnership Matter?

- Trust allows our teachers to guide and support our children professionally. If you have any concerns, please feel free to reach us and me. After all, your child is very precious to us.
- Partnership ensures consistent messages between the home and school. We will remind our colleagues to respond to your email and messages. We also seek your kind patience and understanding that they might not be very fast in responding to your query, etc. If it is urgent, please contact our General Office. We will do our best to be helpful.
- Unity helps our children develop confidence, resilience and a love for learning. This is our shared goal and our wish for all our children.

Vision : Touching Souls, Challenging Minds

Mission : To maximise students' potential and develop in them a passion for life-long learning guided by compassion, conscience, purity and righteousness.

Motto : Compassion, Conscience, Purity, Righteousness

愿景 : 净化心灵, 挑战思维

使命 : 以校训慈、良、清、直为指引, 激发终身学习之热忱, 务必人尽其才。

校训 : 慈、良、清、直

How Parents Can Support Your Child?

- Build positive routines at home. Regular and sufficient sleep, preparation for school and calm mornings help our children start the day well.
- Listen with empathy. Encourage your child to share their school experiences. Guide them to see challenges as opportunities to learn. Alert us if you notice a change in your child's behaviour. We want to be helpful and to work with you to ensure that your child feels safe and is happy in our Mee Toh Family.
- Encourage independence. Allow your child to manage simple responsibilities such as packing her or his bag or organising her or his schoolwork.
- Speak positively about school. Our children take emotional cues from adults. Positive words build trust and confidence between the home and school.

As we start a new school year, we want to partner with you to grow your child in our Mee Toh Family. Working Well with our colleagues (e.g., your child's teachers) is very important.

- Communicate early and respectfully. If concerns arise, reach out to your child's teacher. Open dialogue helps us support your child better.
- Trust the professional judgement of our teachers. Our teachers will consider each child's developmental needs and learning journey carefully.
- Support our school guidelines and expectations for our children. The consistency between the home and school helps our children develop responsibility and self-discipline. Our student handbook offers useful guidance on our expectations.
- Believe in the journey with us as your partner in your child's primary school education. Education is not a race. Growth takes time, patience and shared effort. Children cannot be treated like adults. They can be impulsive and may need time to learn what is right from wrong. We will do our best to connect with and correct the wrongdoings. We also need to enlist the parents to collaborate with us to correct any wrongdoings. We seek your kind patience to work with us and many of you do this very well. We appreciate this a lot. There is no need to be in a rush to make a police report when your child has been affected by harm caused by another child. Let us know through an email and we will investigate to find out what has happened. We will work with both the child who is affected by the harm and the child who has caused the harm to restore the relationship and to do the right thing.

As one Mee Toh Family, we are committed to nurturing every child with care and love. While we may not be perfect, our intentions will always be centred on your child's well-being and holistic development.

Like the four oxen, when we stand together in trust, our children will benefit from our partnership. Thank you for your trust and partnership in your child's education journey in our Mee Toh Family.

Partnering with you,
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