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Dear Parents,

Good day. I hope this Keeping in Touch finds you well and so is your family.

As we journey together in nurturing our children's character development, we would like to share with your good self the value for April - **Care**. Care is more than just our school value, it is what helps our children to feel valued, belonged and connected in our Mee Toh Family. We know that we are not perfect yet and we are working very hard to change mindset and create a more conducive caring environment for all our children. It is through care that our children learn to build and foster meaningful relationships with their teachers and peers, as well as grow into kind and gracious individuals who care for their family, school, community, Singapore and the environment.

Short Story: Please allow me to start with a familiar Aesop's Fables: *The Lion and the Mouse*.

One day, a mighty lion caught a little mouse. The mouse pleaded gently, "Please let me go, and one day I will repay your kindness by helping you."

The lion smiled at the thought but chose kindness. He let the little mouse go as the mouse was too small a meal for him. Soon after releasing the mouse, the lion was caught in a hunter's net. Hearing the lion's cries, the little mouse quickly rushed over and gnawed through the ropes, setting the lion free. The lion was very grateful to the little mouse for coming to his rescue. The lion did not expect that the little mouse could save him, the mighty lion.

The moral of the story: *No act of care is ever too small. Even the smallest kindness can make a big difference. During the morning assembly this week, I shared a video with our children – Ripple. It was an award-winning local production written and directed by Daniel Yam. It explores kindness and how a good deed will come back and follow you. Besides helping someone, doing a good deed warms one's own heart and makes one feel good. We want our children to always think kind thoughts, say kind words and do kind deeds. Performing acts of kindness demonstrate our school value of care. [You can go to YouTube and search "Ripple – How does kindness come back to you"]*

In our children's daily lives, care is often expressed through simple, quiet actions — including a kind word, a helping hand, or choosing to understand or empathise rather than react negatively. These moments may seem small, but they shape who our children will become – persons of good character. As a school, we want to intentionally create opportunities for our children to practise care — through friendships, classroom interactions and daily routines such as CCAs. However, we know that the strongest influence comes from home. When school and home walk together, our children experience consistent messages and grow more deeply in their values.

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

Partnering You to Nurture Care at Home: We warmly invite your good self to join us in nurturing this value in your child. Here are some simple ways we can work together:

1. Let us make “Care Be Seen and Felt” at Home

Our children will observe and learn how we speak, listen and respond to both good or not so good situations. When they experience patience, kindness and respect at home, they will learn what care looks like in action. Thank you for being our children’s first teachers at home.

2. Have Gentle Conversations About Feelings

Take time to ask, *“How was your friend feeling?”* or *“What could you do to help?”* These conversations help our children grow in empathy and understanding for others.

3. Encourage Small Acts of Kindness

Care begins with small steps — helping with chores, showing appreciation, or including someone who may feel left out. Some children are very forthcoming in helping to clean the classroom, for example as they have done such acts at home. This has been very helpful, and we are grateful that you are involving your child in helping with household chores.

4. Guide Them Through Difficult Moments

When conflicts arise, gently guide your child to use gentle tone, stay calm, use kind words and seek help when needed. These are important life skills rooted in care and respect.

There will be moments when our children need guidance, reminders and patience from both school and home. Let us continue to support one another, knowing that every small effort we make today shapes a beautiful person our child will become tomorrow. When our child shows kindness or concern for others, affirm it. Your encouragement helps them see that care matters and is valued.

Thank you for your trust, partnership and the care you show not only to your own child, but to our Mee Toh Family. Together, let us nurture a generation of children who care deeply, act kindly, and make a positive difference to our community, Singapore and our environment.

Wishing you and your family many warm and meaningful moments together. Please take care and keep well.

Partnering with you,
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