St Gabriel's Primary School

Parents' Connect – NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2026

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Please refer to the school website at www.stgabrielspri.moe.edu.sg for more details.		

A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

For the past few weeks, the school has been actively managing the haze situation to safeguard the health and well-being of the students. Outdoor activities had to be cancelled on several days when the PSI was in the unhealthy range. Mass assembly was conducted in the aircon hall and air purifiers were used in every classroom. We are glad that the situation has improved for the past few days and students are feeling much happier with outdoor PE, recess and P6 swimming programme.

Our Primary 3 to 5 students have just completed the End-of-Year Exams and will be receiving their results soon. We commend them for their effort and encourage them to keep on doing their best. While some have done well, there may be others who did not do as well but we encourage our students to always do their best and not give up. Similarly, Primary 6 students will be receiving their PSLE results in Nov and we are optimistic they will achieve good results.

SGPS has grown from strength to strength in 2026. Our Track and Field team captured the NSG Senior Boys championship title for the first time in history while Football and Floorball teams achieved Top 4 placings. The Basketball and Badminton teams also did well, improving from last year's performance. The Brass Band excelled at the SYF competition to achieve the Accomplishment Award while the Choir continued to impress at community and school events. We have many junior chess masters and they did the school proud at the National Chess championship with 2nd placing in South Zone and 5th in Singapore.

We would like to wish all our Hindu families a very Happy Deepavali in advance. We also wish everyone a good year-end holiday and thank all parents for the tremendous support this year. Our strong partnership has enabled the school to achieve much success. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Labor omnia vincit

Mr Martin Tan
Principal

2027 President's Award for Teachers (PAT) and Outstanding Young Educators' Award (OYEA)

Every year, two national awards are given out to teachers in Singapore to recognise their professional excellence. They are the President's Award for Teachers (PAT) and the Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA).

President's Award for Teachers (PAT)

The President's Award for Teachers (PAT) recognises experienced educators who are role models for the teaching profession. These educators adopt innovative approaches in their lessons, are lifelong learners and are mentors to their peers. They embody deep passion for teaching, and inspire their students and peers through their words and deeds.

Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA)

The Outstanding Young Educators' Award (OYEA) (formerly the Outstanding Youth in Education Award) recognises young teachers, aged 35 and below, who are inspiring role models for the teaching profession. These teachers embody youthful idealism, energy, and enthusiasm, inspiring both their students and peers through their words and deeds.

Nominations for PAT 2027 and OYEA 2027 are now open and will close on Friday, 8 January 2027.

Submission of Nominations for PAT 2027 and OYEA 2027

You can **submit your nominations online** by using the following links provided below.

go.gov.sg/pat2027

go.gov.sg/oyea2027

[By Mr Kelvin Loy / School Staff Developer]

Celebrating Deepavali

The Significance of Deepavali to Hindus and Sikhs

Over the past two years, we have highlighted two significant events that make Deepavali an important festival for Hindus. The first is the return of Lord Rama to his kingdom after 14 years in exile, and the second is the defeat of the demon king Narakasura by Lord Krishna.

Lord Rama and Lord Krishna are incarnations of Lord Vishnu, the Preserver. Through their actions, they showed humankind the importance of leading a virtuous life and resisting negative emotions and traits such as greed, anger and jealousy.

By celebrating Deepavali, Hindus remind themselves of the values reflected in these two events. They strive to practise these values in their daily lives and follow the lessons taught through these stories.

Deepavali and the Sikh Community

Deepavali is significant not only to Hindus but also to Sikhs, who commemorate this occasion as Bandi Chhor Divas, meaning the Day of Liberation.

Sikhi, also known as Sikhism, is a monotheistic religion founded by Guru Nanak in the Punjab region of South Asia in the late 15th century.

The Historical Event

Bandi Chhor Divas commemorates the release of the sixth Sikh Guru, Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji, from Gwalior Fort in 1619. According to Sikh tradition, Guru Hargobind Ji secured the release of 52 Hindu princes who were also imprisoned there.

The Story of the 52 Princes

Guru Hargobind Ji refused to leave the fort unless the imprisoned princes were released with him. According to tradition, he arranged for a special cloak with 52 tassels, allowing each prince to hold on to one as they left the fort together.

The Significance of Bandi Chhor Divas

For Sikhs, Bandi Chhor Divas symbolises freedom, justice, compassion and standing up against oppression. While the festival has a different historical significance for Sikhs, it shares with the Hindu celebration of Deepavali the broader message of overcoming darkness and upholding righteousness.

How Sikhs Celebrate Bandi Chhor Divas

Sikhs celebrate Bandi Chhor Divas by illuminating gurdwaras and homes with lights, including oil lamps and candles. The Golden Temple (Sri Harmandir Sahib) in Amritsar is especially beautifully illuminated during the occasion. Devotees gather at gurdwaras for prayers, devotional singing known as kirtan, and community meals called langar, which are served to everyone regardless of background.

Through these celebrations, Sikhs remember the importance of freedom, equality, selflessness and compassion.

[By: Subject Head / Mother Tongue Languages (MTL), Ms Palaniammal]

SGPS Green Carnival

As part of Singapore's Green Plan 2030, St Gabriel's Primary School will be organising the SGPS Green Carnival to inspire environmental responsibility among our students, parents and the wider community.

The carnival will feature interactive booths, eco-friendly activities and informative exhibits hosted by our Primary 6 Gabrielites. Through student-led projects focusing on waste reduction, energy conservation and biodiversity, our Gabrielites will learn how everyday actions can contribute to a more sustainable and climate-resilient future. Partnerships with local environmental groups and government agencies will also provide opportunities for our students to learn about Singapore's green initiatives and the importance of community collaboration. Adding to the excitement, our school Brass Band will be performing at the carnival!

As this is a public event, we would like to take this opportunity to invite all parents to support our P6 Gabrielites at this event with your family. Join our students at this carnival to find out what you and your family can do to contribute to the SG Green Plan 2030!

The details of the event are as follows:

Date	:	Saturday, 14 November 2026
Time	:	9.30am – 12pm
Guest-of-honour:		Mr Seah Kian Peng, MP for Braddell Heights Constituency
Address	:	Braddell Heights Community Hub - 264 Serangoon Central Singapore (former Serangoon Bus Interchange)





[By: HOD / CCE, Student Development & School-Community Partnerships, Mdm Lim Jia Shyuan]

Primary 3 Resilience & VIA Project: Working with St. Luke's ElderCare

As part of the SGPS Resilience Programme, students will learn about the challenges faced by elderly individuals in Singapore, including common conditions such as dementia and Parkinson's disease. In collaboration with St. Luke's ElderCare, students will design and prepare meaningful activities tailored to the needs and interests of the elderly, which they will facilitate during their visit to the ElderCare Centres on **Monday, 16 November 2026**.

Through this hands-on experience, students will develop empathy, resilience and interpersonal skills as they work collaboratively, respond to feedback and adapt their activities to suit the seniors. The project provides authentic opportunities for experiential learning and community engagement, empowering students to make a positive difference in the lives of the elderly while nurturing essential life skills as Gabrielites.

[By: HOD / CCE, Student Development & School-Community Partnerships, Mdm Lim Jia Shyuan]

2026 School Survey for Parents

Your feedback matters! We value your opinion and invite you to complete our annual online survey. Your insights about your child's school experience and the support they receive are invaluable in helping us better understand their needs and enhance the learning experience at our school.
By sharing your thoughts, you play an important role in shaping a positive and supportive school environment for all students.

Survey Link: **https://forms.moe.edu.sg/forms/eg05nD**

Looking forward to hearing from you! Thank you.

[By: Admin Manager, Mdm Lyndia Lin]

General Administrative Matters

Public/ School Holidays in November & December 2026

Students do not report to school on the following Public/ School Holidays:

Week	Dates	Description	Remarks
Week 9	9 Nov 2026 (Mon)	**Public Holiday** (Deepavali)	
	10 Nov 2026 (Tues)	**Admin Day**	**No school for all students**
Week 10	21 Nov 2026 (Sat) to 31 Dec 2026 (Thurs)	**School Holidays (Year End)**	School will resume on Mon, 4 Jan 2027 for 2027 P1 Students & Tues, 5 Jan 2027 for 2027 P2 to P6 Students
The last day of school for all levels will be on Friday, 20 November 2026.			

Reap The Laurels Prize Presentation Ceremony 2026

Reap The Laurels Prize Presentation Ceremony 2026 will be held in **March 2027**.

Travel Declaration for Year-End Holiday (By Friday, 20 November 2026)

To ensure that schools continue to be a healthy and safe environment for all our students, we require parents/guardians to make a travel declaration for your child/ward if he will be travelling for the holidays.

To make a travel declaration for your child/ward via Parents' Gateway (PG), go to [SERVICE > DECLARE TRAVELS].

- Please declare your child/ward's travel plan(s), indicating both the country and city of travel, and any city of transit, by Friday, 20 November 2026. Only one parent is required to make the declaration.

If your child/ward is not travelling during the holidays, no action is required.

When planning your travel, please refer to https://www.ica.gov.sg/enter-transit-depart for more information and updates. If there is a change in travel plan(s) after declaration, please submit a new travel declaration via PG if there is a change in travel destination or inform the school if the travel plan(s) are cancelled.

Thank you for your partnership and support to keep our school safe.

[By: Admin Manager, Ms Chua Bee Peng]