End of Term Letter, Term 2 2016

From the Principal’s Desk.

Dear Parents,

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world- Nelson Mendela”

The last 12 weeks were spent engaging the children with several activities that integrated play, visual arts, music and a whole of fun! They dived into the ocean, built buildings and role played several community workers and then ended it with an important lesson on eating fresh from the farm.

Every term brings experiences and learning opportunities. When the children leave smiling and still wanting to spend more time in the outdoors, as the head of school, I feel that we have done justice to their learning experiences. Learning is an unquenchable thirst. Every new topic or experience is a box filled with opportunities to discover something new. In my role, I am always learning new things about my teachers and children, whom I have come to associate as family.

With summer fast approaching, many of our Kindergarteners are leaving for the “big school”. They have done so well and I speak for the team when I say, we are confident they will continue to grow after White Lodge. Thank you for believing in your children.

I wish to also take this opportunity to thank all our amazing families for all their support and wish them and their children all the best in their next endeavour. I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude and heartfelt THANKS to my teachers who strive to deliver the excellent curriculum in White Lodge.

To all our families who will be continuing the term with us, let’s enjoy the ride!
Highlights in Term 2, 2016

Favourite Units

We embarked on Term 2 with the unit on My Body. The children were taught the different body parts, senses, skeletal system and respiratory and digestive system. Activities planned covered the body awareness. We then moved on to Sea Creatures. To help them get a more detailed learning experience, we brought in lobsters, Rainbow crabs and fishes as well! The children were thrilled as each class took turns to care for their new pets. The Nursery class truly enjoyed the theme, Zones in the Ocean and Ocean Habitats, as they were engaged in many different activities and play. The children got the chance to observe the characteristics of the lobster and the crab, pretended they were at the beach building sandcastles in the sandpit, and ‘saving’ the ‘sea creatures’ from the water pollution during water play! Who could forget their favourite song for the theme - ‘There are Five Zones’.

While the Nursery children sought new experiences learning on ocean habitats, the Pre-Nursery children spent the weeks learning the names of the different types of sea creatures and their characteristics. As for the Pre-Kindergarteners, they enjoyed discovering about the Endangered Species and Ocean Conservation. The ‘Slippery Fish’ song is still a hot favourite and will continue to be! The Kindergarteners too had presented their ideas well through the theme on ‘Landforms and Water Forms’, where they learned the different forms of water cycle.

However, the unit of inquiry on ‘Community Helpers’ took the lead in popularity this term. The Pre-Nursery focused on ‘People in my neighbourhood’ while the Nursery children were introduced to the different ‘Community Helpers’. The Pre-Kindergarten children engaged in several activities role playing different occupations as well as places of work. Kindergartners went global and were introduced to ‘Global Leaders’; learning about how their beliefs have impacted the world and continue to do so long after they are gone. Through this unit, children explored the different tools that were used for each trade. We had a variation of occupations from the medical field to our humble farmers. However, each year the Firefighters took
the top place as the most sought after occupation. We had also planned 2 visits; one by the SCDF fire fighters and another by the Singapore Police Forces’. Children were thrilled at actually having their photos taken in the Red Rhino, which is SCDF’s quick response vehicle as well as sitting in the police car and hearing the siren blare! 😊

Term 2 was also filled with many eventful learning experiences and wide array of opportunities for creative exploration, amazing discovery, and developing real-world understanding. Let us recollect some of the highlights from the past twelve weeks...

**Sports Day @ SAIS**
Sports Day was an astounding success! We tied in the unit of Our Body and organised several activities including a friendly match amongst the children from the different White Lodge schools. The overall objective was to foster team work, sportsmanship, movement and fun all in 3 hours and we are very glad to say we did them all! Thank you all and we look forward to meeting you at our next event.

**Art Exhibition**
Our annual Art Exhibition this year, was held at the ReDot Art Gallery at MICA, fondly remembered by Singaporeans as the Old Hill Street Police Headquarters back in the 1940s and 1950s. This heritage site has been preserved and given a new breath of life with its vibrantly coloured facade, facing another icon, The Singapore River.

Each year our Art Exhibition focuses on the indigenous art of Australia. This year we continued to work on the art and creativity of the indigenous people, and introduced “Ghost Nets”. Ghost Nets are nets used by fishing boats around the world. Once these trawlers are done with these nets, that can stretch for 30 km, instead of reeling them back, they are cut loose and dropped into the ocean. The strong currents drag these nets on to the sea beds, trapping precious ocean life and washing them up on shore, in most cases on the coast of Australia’s northern tip. Some animals are lucky to survive if found, but sadly many of them perish through strangulation.
Tying in with the Sea Creatures theme, children across were involved in creating their own version of the sea creatures that have been trapped in the ocean. During the process, children were given information to help them develop an understanding of the activity, while creating their art pieces. In spite of the rain, we had a wonderful turn out. Thank you to all our parents for your show of enthusiasm and support and we hope these art pieces find a special place in your homes as a remembrance of your children’s learning.

**Food Revolution Day**

On the 20th of May we celebrated FOOD REVOLUTION DAY! This year we made a healthy and delicious dish using the humble oats. Parents contributed fruits and oats while the children enjoyed devouring them. This learning should not stop here. Life skills are created when children are given the opportunity to engage in real life learning. Culinary skills help children develop an interest for food as well how to make good food choices. Share with us your experience, we love to hear stories of fun.

**School photography session.**

Dressed in their colourful best, or should we call it Sunday best, our children looked wonderful in their school photographs. We hope you take these photos and cherish them as a memory of your children’s school experience at White Lodge.

**Upcoming Term 3, 2016**

Moving forward, Term 3 is our shortest term but the events planned are nothing short of fun with great learning experiences. Next term, the children will be covering the following themes:

- **4 weeks of:**
  - Inventors and Inventions (Pre-Kindergarten / Kindergarten)
  - Toys (Nursery)
  - Transportation (Pre-Nursery)

- **2 weeks of:**
  - Singapore: History & Culture

- **4 weeks of:**
• **Book Week**

If you have anything to share with the children in relation to the above units, please feel free to make an appointment for a sharing session. We always look forward to continued parental involvement.

**Events for Term 3**

We understand that our parents have schedules to keep up with. In order to help you plan better for the next term, please keep in mind the following dates. Your class teachers will inform you of your child’s class groupings for the presentation closer to the date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27th June, Monday</td>
<td>ONLY OFFICE IN OPERATION. NO CLASSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th June, Tuesday</td>
<td>First Day of School</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th July, Tuesday</td>
<td>Eid Celebrations</td>
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<td>6th &amp; 7th July, Wednesday &amp; Thursday</td>
<td>Eid Mubarak (School Holiday)</td>
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<td>16th July, Saturday</td>
<td>Field Trip (venue to be confirmed)</td>
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<td>18th-21st July, Monday-Friday</td>
<td>Science Week</td>
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<td>22nd July, Friday</td>
<td>Science Week Celebration</td>
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<td>5th August, Friday</td>
<td>Friendship Day Celebration</td>
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<td>8th August, Monday</td>
<td>National Day Celebration</td>
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<td>9th August, Tuesday</td>
<td>National Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>15th – 19th August (Monday-Friday)</td>
<td>Class Presentation Week (Class grouping will be announced closer to the dates)</td>
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<td>1st September, Thursday</td>
<td>Book Week cum Teacher’s Day Celebration/ End of Term Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd September, Friday</td>
<td>Teacher’s Day Holiday (School Closed)</td>
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We welcome and look forward to your participation, involvement and support.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to thank all the teachers and support staff at White Lodge Phoenix Park for their continuous support and dedication in ensuring the success of the children’s learning. Special thanks too to our Directors, Ms Jayne, Mr Ganesh, Head of Curriculum, Ms Penny Gandhi, Ms Raihanah, our curriculum co-ordinator, and Operations Manager, Mr Arev for their endless support.

Please take note that the holiday programme will be taking place from 13th June to 17th June 2016. The school will then close for the term break from 20th June to 27th June 2016. Classes will resume on Tuesday, 28th of June 2016.

To all, have a restful week ahead and happy holidays! We look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours Sincerely,

Sumitra Devi Chandran
Principal
White Lodge Kindergarten
Phoenix Park
TERM OF FUN AND GREAT LEARNING.

TERM 2 2016 PRE-NURSERY
A TERM OF FUN AND GREAT LEARNING.

TERM 2 2016 NURSERY
TERM OF FUN AND GREAT LEARNING.

TERM 2 2016 PRE-KINDERGARTEN
TERM OF FUN AND GREAT LEARNING.

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TERM 2 2016 KINDERGARTEN
Thank you for a great term!!