



BLANGAH RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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9 Sept 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to school!

Term 4 is typically a busy term because of various learning assessments such as PSLE, end-of-year exams, and other school-based assessments. The focus seems to change as compared to the previous terms, and we can understand this because learning is cyclical to allow for periods of consolidation, which is what this term is about. How do we help our children make good use of this term?

Did you know we all have a very special bank account? Each morning \$86,400 is deposited into the account. However, the account carries over no balance from day to day, doesn't allow us to keep a cash balance, and every evening cancels whatever part of the amount we didn't use during the day. What would we do? Probably draw out every dollar every day!

This special bank account is called Time. Every morning, it credits us with 86,400 seconds.

It may be tempting to spend it all on what appears urgent at the moment, like preparing for an upcoming assessment we may not be ready for. But the returns may be limited if we don't also set aside time for what is important as well, such as enough time for rest. Making space for some amount of play and recreation is also useful to help refresh mind and body, even though it may not seem urgent or important. It is all about budgeting the right amount of time for these various activities, with the urgent and important activities receiving a bigger portion of the time budget. This is what the 3rd Habit of "Put First Things First" is about – the correct ordering of our activities on a time budget scale.

The question may arise then as to how we help our children to understand what is important and urgent. This is where the 2nd Habit "Begin with the End in Mind" comes in. It is the process of clarifying the goal or purpose they want and then aligning their efforts to it. The 2nd Habit is about being purpose driven. Coupled with this is the 1st Habit "Be Proactive" – the ownership to choose the actions we take to achieve what we want. The 1st Habit is about ownership and choice.

If we can help our children to learn these habits well, we can give them important life skills for success, because life circumstances will change but the time credit we have each day remains the same. We can't borrow time. The time we have is the time we have. But by helping our children to take ownership, be purposeful, and learn how to budget their time accordingly, our children can learn to use their time wisely.

1. Upcoming Events in Term 4

DATE	EVENT	REMARKS
9, 16, 23, 30 Sept 7, 21, 28 Oct 4, 11 Nov	After School Enrichment Programme (ASEP): Aesthetics	2.45 pm to 4.30 pm
9, 23 Sept	Junior Reporters Programme	2.30 pm to 4 pm For selected students only
10 Sept 1, 8, 29 Oct 12 Nov	ASEP Choir	3.30 pm to 5 pm
11 Sept	Student Leaders' Training	2 pm to 3.30 pm
13 Sept	PSLE Listening Comprehension	No school for P1 to P5 students.
17 Sept	Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration	During Curriculum Time
17 Sept	EYE: P4 EL and MTL Oral	After Curriculum Time
	EYE: P5 EL Oral	
19 Sept	EYE: P3 EL and MTL Oral	During Curriculum Time
	EYE: P5 MTL e-Oral	After Curriculum Time
23 – 25 Sept	P6 Study Break	
24 Sept	Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day for P1 to P5 students	Students are to work on HBL tasks at home, unless they have been informed to report to school.
26 Sept	EYE: P3 & P4 MTL Listening Comprehension	During Curriculum Time
26 Sept – 2 Oct	PSLE Written Exams	
26 Sept 10 Oct	APEX: Math and Science	2 pm to 3.15 pm
3 Oct	Children's Day Celebration	Dismissal at 12 pm
4 Oct	School Holiday: Children's Day	
9 Oct	EYE: English Language and Mother Tongue Language Paper 1	
14 – 16 Oct	PSLE Marking Exercise	Home-Based Learning: All students are to work on HBL tasks at home, unless they have been informed to report to school.
21 Oct	EYE: English Language Paper 2 and Listening Comprehension	
22 Oct	EYE: Mathematics	
23 Oct	EYE: Mother Tongue Language Paper 2 (P3 to P5) and Listening Comprehension (P5)	
24 Oct	EYE: Science	
25 Oct	EYE: Higher Mother Tongue Language (P5)	
29 Oct	P3 Discovery Camp	2 pm to 3.30 pm
31 Oct	PH: Deepavali	
6 Nov	Results Processing Day	All students need not report to school.
7 Nov	2025 P1 Orientation (PM)	
15 Nov	BRLC Celebrates!	For prize recipients and P6 students only. More details will be sent to them via Parents Gateway closer to date.

2. Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day for P1- P5 (24 Sept)

Technology has played a significant role in empowering our students in their learning. In the first semester, our HBL Day provided students from P2 to P6 a valuable opportunity to leverage technology for self-directed and synchronous learning experiences.

In Semester 2, our P1 students will be engaging in HBL as well. They attended ICT enrichment sessions which had equipped them with the skills to harness technology independently in their learning. Teachers had also incorporated the use of Student Learning Space (SLS) in their curriculum.

Therefore, P1 to P5 students will be engaged in HBL via Student Learning Space (SLS) on **24 Sept 2024, Tuesday**. Subject teachers will be assigning online assignments and/or hardcopy assignments. The HBL schedule and guidelines in the use of SLS will be shared via PG on 19 and 23 Sept respectively.

3. P6 Study Break (23 – 25 Sept)

The school will be implementing a three-day study break for P6 students from 23 Sept (Monday) to 25 Sept (Wednesday) 2024 to support their well-being prior to the PSLE. During the study break, P6 students are strongly encouraged to remain at home and do their revision.

This year, selected students will be requested to return to school during the study break for consultations with their subject teachers during school hours from 7.30am to 1.30pm. Parents/Guardians of these selected students will be informed on a later date.

Please note that the school will remain open for P6 students who require in-school support. Parents/Guardians who are unable to secure alternative care arrangements may continue to send their children/wards to school for supervision. The Student Care Centre in school will also remain open in the afternoons (1.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.) during the study break for families who require the service.

4. Children' Day Celebration / Fundraising Walk-A-Jog (3 Oct)

As a school tradition, we will celebrate Children's Day with our annual Walk-A-Jog and fundraising campaign for Singapore Children's Society. This year's Walk-A-Jog will be held at Jurong Lake Gardens. Students will report to school as usual and be **dismissed from school at 12 p.m.**

Information about the fundraising campaign was shared earlier via Parents Gateway (PG).

5. PSLE Marking Days (14 – 16 Oct)

As most teachers will be involved in the PSLE marking exercise, there will be no school lessons from 14 Oct (Monday) to 16 Oct (Wednesday). Students will be engaged in Home-Based Learning via Student Learning Space (SLS). Please use these three days to engage your child/ward in self-directed learning, exploring beyond the curriculum to ignite his/her curiosity as well as to revise his/her various subjects in preparation for the End-Of-Year Examination. The Student Care Centre is opened as usual from 7.30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

6. End-Of-Year Examination (EYE)

The schedule for EYE is attached in **Annex A**.

Please take note of the following:

- Students who are absent during the assessment must produce a valid medical certificate for the day. No marks will be given for the paper if students are absent without a valid medical certificate. Letters of excuse from parents are not acceptable and no marks will be recorded on the student's report book.

- Students must be punctual for all examination papers. Latecomers will not be given additional time. Latecomers who miss the paper entirely will not be allowed to sit for the paper and no marks will be awarded to them.
- In line with PSLE guidelines, students are not allowed to bring mobile phones or any other electronic devices capable of storing and displaying visual or verbal information into the examination room as this will be construed as attempting to cheat.
- Students who attempt to cheat during an assessment will not be awarded any marks for the paper.

7. BRLC Celebrates! (15 Nov)

Our Speech and Prize Giving Day is on 15 November, and this year's theme is "Chasing our Rainbows across the Seasons." This theme shows the journey our students have taken as they grow and learn. Chasing our rainbows means going after our dreams, with each season representing a different part of the journey—Spring for new beginnings, Summer for learning more deeply, Autumn for sacrificing and consolidating, and Winter for staying strong through challenges.

This theme reminds us that every challenge we face is part of our adventure and helps us learn and grow. On this special day, we will celebrate and recognise the hard work and successes of our students.

More details will be shared through Parents Gateway closer to the date.

8. Improvement Works

The school will be embarking on several improvement works from the end of this year to the following 1-2 years:

- We completed upgrading the P1 toilets in term 1 this year and will continue next with the P2 toilet upgrading works during the end of year school holiday period.
- We will also be extending the shelter for the walkway through the Garden of Hope to the Indoor Sports Hall (ISH). This will not only provide better covering during inclement weather for students and staff walking to the ISH and during dismissal, but also an opportunity to create a covered outdoor learning space next to the Garden of Hope.
- High-volume, low-speed (HVLS) overhead fans will be installed in the ISH to provide better cooling during hot weather
- LED lighting and more DC fans will be installed in all classrooms to enhance the environmental comfort for learning. These are not only more energy efficient but also provide brighter lighting and better air circulation with faster cooling and quieter operation.
- The school field will see a new makeover with the installation of a synthetic turf for ease of maintenance and less downtime affecting use

We will also be looking into enhancing the learning spaces in the canteen, special rooms and library in the following years, and will keep you updated of these and other improvement works.

9. Future of Learning Classrooms

Based on Reggio Emilia's philosophy, which recognises the environment as the third teacher, and informed by key research findings, our school has initiated a pilot project to design some classrooms that cater to the future of learning. These classrooms are intentionally designed to be reconfigurable, modular, and flexible, allowing for the seamless adaptation to various pedagogical approaches and learning setups. The furniture within these spaces can be easily rearranged to facilitate both individual and collaborative learning. In addition, dedicated areas will be designed to foster our students' self-discovery and self-expression.

We look forward that these future-oriented learning environments will serve as platforms in developing 21st Century Competencies in our students, promoting active engagement in learning, enhancing student well-being, and supporting technology-enabled education.

10. New School Uniform

We are excited to announce the introduction of our new school uniform, which will be rolled out starting next year. In response to the rising temperatures anticipated in Singapore due to global climate change and urbanization, we have designed this uniform with our students' comfort in mind.

The new uniform will feature a 2-in-1 shirt incorporating house colors, paired with shorts or skirts. Made from modern, breathable materials, the design of this uniform not only ensures comfort but also reflects our school's values. It is designed to foster individuality while instilling a sense of pride and unity among our students.

We believe these changes will enhance the overall school experience and further strengthen our sense of community. More details on how to purchase the new uniform will be shared by the end of Semester 2. Stay tuned!



Wishing you and your child a meaningful and rewarding term ahead!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'FF'.

Francis Foo
Principal

Examination Timetable (P3 to P5)**End-of-Year Examination 2024****Primary 3**

DATE	DAY	SUBJECT	TIME	DURATION
19 September	Thursday	Oral - English Oral - MTL	During Curriculum Time	NA
26 September	Thursday	Listening Comprehension (MTL)	During Curriculum Time	Approx. 35 min
9 October	Wednesday	English Language Paper 1 Mother Tongue Paper 1	8.00 am – 8.50 am 11.00 am – 11.40 am	50 min 40 min
21 October	Monday	English Language Paper 2 Listening Comprehension (EL)	8.00 am – 9.15 am 11.00 am – 11.30 am	1h 15 min 30 min
22 October	Tuesday	Mathematics	8.00 am – 9.15 am	1 h 15 min
23 October	Wednesday	Mother Tongue Paper 2	8.00 am – 9.00 am	1h
24 October	Thursday	Science	8.00 am – 9.00 am	1h

Primary 4

DATE	DAY	SUBJECT	TIME	DURATION
19 September	Thursday	Oral - English Oral - MTL	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	NA
26 September	Thursday	Listening Comprehension (MTL)	During Curriculum Time	Approx. 35 min
9 October	Wednesday	English Language Paper 1 Mother Tongue Paper 1	8.00 am – 8.50 am 11.00 am – 11.40 am	50 min 40 min
21 October	Monday	English Language Paper 2 Listening Comprehension (EL)	8.00 am – 9.15 am 11.00 am – 11.30 am	1h 15 min 30 min
22 October	Tuesday	Mathematics	8.00 am – 9.45 am	1 h 45 min
23 October	Wednesday	Mother Tongue Paper 2	8.00 am – 9.00 am	1h
24 October	Thursday	Science	8.00 am – 9.30 am	1 h 30 min

Primary 5

DATE	DAY	SUBJECT	TIME	DURATION
17 September	Tuesday	Oral - EL	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	NA
19 September	Thursday	eOral - MTL	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm	NA
9 October	Wednesday	English Language Paper 1: Standard	8.00 am – 9.10 am	1 h 10 min
		Foundation	8.00 am – 9.10 am	1 h 10 min
21 October	Monday	Mother Tongue Paper 1: Standard	11.30 am – 12.20 pm	50 min
		English Language Paper 2: Standard	8.00 am – 9.50 am	1 h 50 min
		Foundation	8.00 am – 9.00 am	1 h
21 October	Monday	Listening Comprehension: Standard	11.30 am – 12.15 pm	45 min
		Foundation	11.30 am – 12.15 pm	45 min
22 October	Tuesday	Mathematics: Standard (Paper 1)	8.00 am – 9.00 am	1 h
		Standard (Paper 2)	11.30 am – 1 pm	1 h 30 min
22 October	Tuesday	Mathematics: Foundation (Paper 1)	8.00 am – 9.00 am	1 h
		Foundation (Paper 2)	11.30 am – 12.30 pm	1 h

23 October	Wednesday	Mother Tongue Paper 2: Standard Foundation	8.00 am – 9.40 am 8.00 am – 8.40 am	1 h 40 min 40 min
		Listening Comprehension: Standard Foundation	11.30 am – 12.15 pm 11.30 am – 12.15 pm	Approx. 45 min Approx. 45 min
24 October	Thursday	Science: Standard	8.00 am – 9.45 am	1 h 45 min
		Science: Foundation	8.00 am – 9.15 am	1 h 15 min
25 October	Friday	Higher Mother Tongue: Paper 1	8.00 am – 8.50 am	50 min
		Paper 2	10.00 am – 11.20 am*	1 h 20 min

- *HMT: Recess at 9 am instead of 10.30 am (only for P5 HMTL students)