



NORTHBROOKS NEWS

Every Brooksonian a Champion, Impacting the Community

Dear Parents,

On behalf of our Northbrooks Community, I am most happy to welcome you and your child/ children to the 2018 school year. We look forward to an exciting school year where our Brooksians will be motivated to pursue their learning holistically in the various domains (Cognitive & Character, Aesthetics, Moral, Physical, Social-ChAMPS). We aim to foster in every Brooksonian the Champion Learning Mindset, i.e. a mindset with a strong desire to learn and improve and bounce back in the face of adversities. We want to instil in our students this growth mindset, developing grit and resilience that are essential for success in life, especially in this day and age. In turn, our Brooksians will develop the capacity to serve by leading and lead in serving our school, our community and our nation.

Through this Northbrooks News, we hope to provide you with some key information/ highlights for 2018 so as to keep you informed of the latest updates and changes. We look forward to building a strong Home-School Partnership with you to provide the support and guidance for your child/ children. Let's continue to forge positive relationships and effective communication with one another through the various platforms and we seek your understanding and feedback on areas of improvement or areas which we may have lapsed.

Soaring Yet Rooted,
Nick Chan
Principal/ Northbrooks



Highlights

✓ 2-Week Timetable & Morning Assembly

Northbrooks has reviewed and redesigned its timetable to optimise the time spent by our Brooksians and we have decided to implement a 2-week timetable trial for the year 2018. This was also shared during one of our PSG meetings in 2017 and there were favourable responses. Many considerations were made during the planning such as Subject Based Banding (SBB), adequate assembly time for regular Reading Programmes and more Heart-to-Heart talk sessions with Brooksians, and earlier school dismissal time for certain days of the week. We have also factored in more snack times for longer days and the 35-min recess slot should suffice. This should reap more benefits for our Brooksians and parents in the long run and we will continue to monitor the situation.

✓ Locker Rental Services and School Infrastructure Developments

Based on the PSG feedback during one of the meetings, we have considered the prospect of having a locker system in school and we are happy to share that we have managed to work with a vendor to provide the locker rental services. For more information, please proceed to the Student Services Centre in the General Office.

In addition, the school is constantly looking for ways to improve its physical resources to provide a more conducive learning environment for all Brooksians. Some of the notable school recent and ongoing physical/ infrastructure developments are: Champions' Lodge¹, Gym, Art Space, Dance Studio, Outdoor Education Room, new ALP room, Humanities room, Mother Tongue Cultural room and Makerspace. In addition, we also hope to see our Indoor Sports Hall to be completed between end 2018 to mid 2019.

¹Our Champions' Lodge is an After School Engagement Centre which provides a safe conducive environment for Brooksians to hang out after school, and at the same time allow them to interact with an adult trained in working with youths.

✓ Importance of Breakfast to start the day

STRAITS TIMES NOV 24, 2015

<http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/health/healthy-breakfast-good-for-kids-in-school>

"Children who eat a healthy breakfast before starting the school day achieve better academic results than pupils who do not, according to a study released last week. ... Researchers found that eating a good breakfast - made up of dairy, cereal, fruit and bread - could improve educational performance. Eating unhealthy items, such as sweets and crisps - which was reported by one in five children - had no positive impact on academic results."

I think it is worth mentioning the importance of having breakfast to start the day, especially at this growing stage. It is good to monitor your child whether they are leading a healthy lifestyle as it will affect their overall well-being and concentration. Over in Northbrooks, there are student well-being initiatives to provide some simple food sponsored by our School Advisory Committee (SAC) during our night study periods and the school has also initiated NT and NA breakfast bonding sessions.

✓ Building Character through Self-Discipline

Instilling good discipline is vital to building character and it can be done so through self-discipline and we can start off through the 3As: ensuring good Attendance, Attire and grooming and lastly, good Attitude in whatever you do.

We have reviewed some of our school discipline policies and processes such as handphone usage policy. Notwithstanding the fact that digital devices/ handphone or internet/ social media addiction is of concern for some as it affects their ability to have quality social interaction, we still strongly advocate ICT learning through digital devices as part of their 21CC learning. Indeed, the recent trend of spending so much time on these has had big impact on their lives, in areas such as their relations with others and sleep.

More information can be found in the 2018 Student Handbook.