



HGP HEARTBEAT

Bringing out the Best in Every Child, Together



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Abundance and prosperity begin with gratitude and appreciation.

Anthon St. Maarten

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This year, we celebrate SG60 as a nation and HGP25 as a school. Since its founding at the turn of the millennium, HGP has grown from strength to strength, providing our students with countless joyful learning experiences as they grow and mature. In turn, this has laid a strong foundation for them to contribute meaningfully to Singapore's continued progress and prosperity.

In this issue of HGP Heartbeat, we celebrate our students' memorable moments and commendable achievements across various platforms—from our first post-pandemic overseas learning journey to the wide array of competitions in both the academic and co-curricular domains. Over the past 25 years, the school's unwavering focus on holistic education and character development has borne fruit. One shining example is Georgia Long, a Primary 6 graduand from the Class of 2023, who fondly reflects on her rich schooling experience at HGP—an experience that enabled her to attain the prestigious Lee Kuan Yew Award for All-Round Excellence (Primary Section) in 2024.

At HGP, we believe that “it takes a village to raise a child.” Extending this idea, it will take many villages to raise a generation that will lead our nation forward and upward, well beyond SG60. As we help our children discover their interests and develop their talents in school, we also strive to nurture them into individuals with a deep sense

of gratitude and appreciation for the villages and villagers who have supported their learning, growth, and success. Ultimately, this should translate into a sense of agency—a desire to pay it forward by making a positive difference in the lives of others. With this in mind, the school revamped its Values in Action (VIA) programme this year, placing a strong emphasis on Intergenerational Bonding between HGPians and seniors from the Active Ageing Centres in our community. This initiative aims to foster a caring and compassionate society, ready to embrace the challenges of a super-aged future.

Within the HGP family, our Silver Jubilee provides a timely opportunity for us to express our gratitude and appreciation to the many people who have contributed to the school's transformation journey. A homecoming anniversary dinner will be held in school at the end of the year for our staff, both past and present, as a fitting finale to the year-long celebration. We wish HGP a Happy 25th Birthday, and look forward to many more good years of abundance and prosperity for both our school and our nation!

Mr Jason Goh
Principal, Hougang Primary School

Global Classrooms: Insights from our Overseas Learning Journey

In November 2024, 25 Primary 6 students and 4 teachers embarked on an exciting 4-day, 3-night learning journey to Hanoi, Vietnam. Focused on sustainability and cultural immersion, the trip offered students a valuable opportunity to learn beyond the classroom walls.

One of the key highlights was the visit to NK Primary School, where students took part in a meaningful cultural exchange with their Vietnamese peers. They also explored Bat Trang Pottery Village, admired the scenic beauty of Hoan Kiem Lake, and soaked in the vibrant atmosphere of the Hanoi Old Quarter. At the Museum of Ethnology and the Ho Chi Minh

Mausoleum, students deepened their understanding of Vietnam's rich history and cultural heritage.

The students enjoyed a variety of hands-on activities, including pottery-making, rice planting, and fish-catching. They were also treated to the famous Water Puppet Show, a unique and traditional Vietnamese art form that left lasting impressions.

The journey was truly an unforgettable experience, allowing students to appreciate a different culture, embrace sustainable practices, and create lifelong memories.



25 Years of Nurturing Hearts and Minds at Hougang Primary School

Hougang Primary School celebrates our 25th anniversary this year, marking a significant milestone in the journey of educating and inspiring young minds. Established in the year 2000, the school has consistently nurtured students with a vision of fostering hope for the future, empowering them to grow in every aspect of their lives, and guiding them towards finding their purpose in the world.

This year's celebration is anchored on the theme: "Rooted in Hope, Flourishing in Growth, Driven by Purpose." This theme encapsulates the school's journey of optimism, continuous development, and purposeful direction. It reflects on 25 years of meaningful progress while looking ahead to a future filled with promise and potential.

To represent this meaningful theme, we are proud to unveil our specially designed 25th Anniversary Logo.



Roots (Hope)

Representing our Primary 1 and 2 students, the roots reflect the nurturing of foundational values such as resilience, curiosity, and optimism—essential traits that ground our young learners.

Trunk (Growth)

Symbolising our Primary 3 and 4 students, the trunk highlights their personal and academic development as they gain strength, confidence, and a deeper sense of identity.

Branches (Purpose)

Representing our Primary 5 and 6 students, the branches stretch outward, illustrating their readiness to contribute meaningfully to the community with empathy, responsibility, and purpose.

Rooted in Hope, Flourishing in Growth, Driven by Purpose



Building Connections Through VIA

Term 1 Highlights

P1 & P2 VIA Spreading Festive Cheer to Seniors

To prepare for their engagement with seniors, our Primary 1 and 2 students attended an empathy workshop by Fei Yue. This session helped them understand the experiences of the elderly and develop communication skills rooted in patience, care, and respect.

During Chinese New Year, the students created heartfelt greeting cards filled with well-wishes. A group of 12 Primary 2 students, accompanied by school leaders and teachers, personally delivered these cards along with mandarin oranges to Brighton Connection AAC and Fei Yue AAC (Hougang Dewcourt). They also engaged the seniors in games and exercises, bringing warmth and joy to the occasion.



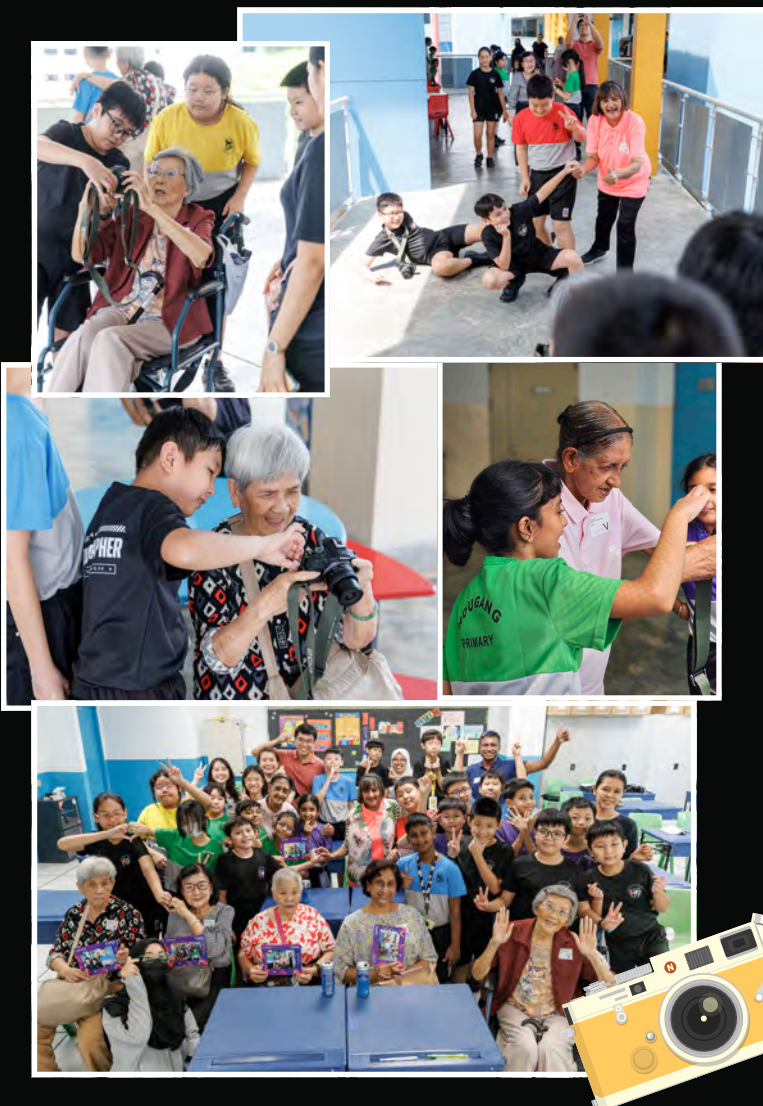
P3 VIA Project Work with a Purpose

Our Primary 3 students also attended the empathy workshop and took part in intergenerational projects. In collaboration with the Project Work team, they worked with seniors from Martha AAC and Sunlove AAC to repurpose food waste into creative artefacts using eggshells. These sessions have been a joyful and enriching experience for both students and seniors. Through hands-on activities like painting and crafting, students and seniors explored sustainability in a fun and interactive way, deepening their appreciation for environmental responsibility.



Capturing Connections: Photography Club's Intergenerational Experience

Students from our Photography Club explored portrait photography alongside seniors from Sunlove AAC. Taking turns as photographers and models, they learned to compose shots and capture expressions while engaging in lighthearted conversations. This shared learning experience not only honed their photography skills but also fostered intergenerational connections, creating meaningful moments and strengthening community bonds.





Excellence in Sustainability and Environmental Education

Hougang Primary School's dedication to sustainability has been recognised with the Silver Award in the Eco-Schools Awards from the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the Excellence Award for Community Outreach.

These accolades reflect the school's strong commitment to environmental education and advocacy. The ECO-Green Club proudly represented Hougang Primary School to receive the award from WWF on 7 February 2025.

This achievement is the result of collaborative efforts across various school departments, including PE, Aesthetics, Science, Project Work, and CCE. Guided by the school's vision of nurturing "Future-Ready Thinkers with a Heart for Others", the club follows a structured curriculum that focuses on key environmental themes.

These include food waste reduction (2024), plastic waste minimisation (2025), and climate action (2026). Notable initiatives include the Drink Cartons Collection Drive, the creation of a Sustainability Wall, and participation in the Ang Mo Kio-Hougang Eco-PassionArts Festival, where students showcased their upcycling projects.

Through meaningful partnerships with the WWF, the People's Association, and external agencies such as the HDB, the club provides valuable experiential learning opportunities — inspiring students to take action for a more sustainable future.



Celebrating Language and Culture at NCC 2025

Thirteen students from our school proudly participated in the highly anticipated National Chinese Challenge (NCC) 2025—an annual event jointly organised by SPH Media and Nanyang Girls' High School. This exciting competition is designed to help students discover the beauty of the Chinese language and culture.

The challenge aims to spark a deeper interest in the language through engaging quizzes and interactive game formats. This year's event drew an overwhelming response, with over 2,600 students from 166 primary and secondary schools taking part.

Our students gave their best, showcasing not only their knowledge and quick thinking but also their enthusiasm for the language. Their participation in this prestigious event was a valuable learning experience—one that deepened their appreciation for Chinese culture and honed their linguistic skills.

Well done to all our participants for their hard work, dedication, and love for the Chinese language!



Volleyball CCA : Rising Through Unity

The volleyball team showcased exceptional skill, teamwork, and resilience at last year's National School Games (NSG), battling fiercely against some of the strongest school teams in the nation. Despite the intense competition, our players demonstrated unwavering determination and proudly secured a place in the Top 8—a remarkable achievement that reflects their hard work and dedication throughout the season.

Though we narrowly missed advancing to the Top 4, every match was a testament to the team's fighting spirit, growth, and unity. Our graduating seniors have laid a solid foundation, and as they pass the torch to the juniors, we are confident that their legacy will

inspire the next generation of players to reach even greater heights.

To our seniors—thank you for your leadership, passion, and commitment to the team. A special shout out also goes to our dedicated alumni who returned to train and mentor us—your support has been truly invaluable!

To our juniors: the journey continues. With the same grit, discipline, and teamwork, we believe you have what it takes to break into the Top 4 this year!

Keep soaring, Volleyball CCA!



Undefeated and Unstoppable: Celebrating Our Senior Football Team

Our senior football team's participation in the 2025 National School Games was nothing short of commendable—marked by remarkable resilience, unwavering dedication, and exemplary sportsmanship throughout every match. Despite facing tough competition, the team persevered and consistently demonstrated their ability to bounce back from setbacks.

After a challenging start in the Pool Round, the boys regrouped and returned stronger than ever, displaying true determination, teamwork, and a never-give-up attitude. As they advanced to the League Round, their grit and resolve shone through. They managed to draw every match, showcasing

exceptional skill, sharp strategy, and tight coordination.

Throughout the competition, the team embodied the core values of sportsmanship and perseverance. Each match tested their limits, yet they rose to every challenge with courage and positivity. Their impressive efforts culminated in a remarkable undefeated record—a true reflection of their hard work, discipline, and passion for the sport.

Well done, senior boys, for your outstanding contributions to the school. We celebrate your remarkable achievement!



Waves of Confidence: Our P3 SwimSafer Adventure

The P3 SwimSafer Programme is an integral part of the Primary 3 Physical Education curriculum. Through this programme, students build water confidence, learn essential water safety skills, and acquire techniques to prevent drowning. Beyond these vital life-saving skills, SwimSafer also helps strengthen students' physical and mental resilience, nurturing important qualities such as determination and perseverance.



Where Stories Come Alive: Explore Our World of Wonders



Welcome to the Newly Renovated World of Wonders Library!

Step into the enchanting World of Wonders — our newly renovated school library, designed to spark imagination and cultivate a lifelong love for reading. With vibrant spaces and cozy corners, the library is adorned with inspiring quotes from beloved authors, reminding every reader of the magic hidden within the pages of a book.

One of our ongoing events is Wrapped Wonders, where books are wrapped in mystery paper, waiting to be unveiled by curious readers. This activity adds a sense of surprise and adventure, encouraging students to explore titles they might not usually pick up. Our teachers also bring stories to life through engaging Storytelling Sessions, captivating students with expressive narration and lively tales.

We also conduct Library Periods on a fortnightly basis during English and Mother Tongue lessons. During these sessions, teachers bring their classes

to the library to read and/or borrow books — a wonderful opportunity to nurture reading habits and explore new stories together.

Looking ahead, there's even more in store! Students can look forward to our upcoming Listening Stations, where they'll be able to enjoy narrated stories online — perfect for auditory learners and lovers of a good tale. We are also thrilled to be inviting local authors to speak and share their writing journeys, offering students the rare chance to interact with real-life storytellers.

The World of Wonders Isn't just a library — it's a magical space where stories come alive and imaginations soar.

Come in, explore... and let the wonders begin!





MOE Kindergarten @ Hougang

New Beginnings for our KIs in MOE Kindergarten @ Hougang

The first day of preschool for our 5-year-olds was a day of excitement and nervous anticipation. Curious and eager children quickly filled our inviting classes and warmed the new classrooms with laughter and chatter. Our teachers also eagerly welcomed our first batch of KI children with activities prepared to engage and delight these young minds.

Parents followed their children to the bright and colourful classrooms, scouring through the fresh displays and engaging Learning Centres that had been intentionally set-up with purposeful play in mind.

Teachers greeted each child with a warm smile and helped them find their way around their new classroom. After a cheerful welcome song where names were shared and classroom routines were introduced, our children were read their first Starlight story book; My Birthday Present. Our KIs were seated in front of their teacher with listening ears and learnt that a story has an author and illustrator. These were soon to be familiar terms used each time they were read a new book.



Then it was snack time, a joyful period of community, where our children practised good manners by “thanking” for the food before eating. Our children also took this period to make connections with their newfound friends.

Our children showed a sense of readiness, resilience and the ability already to follow the routine. The systematic arrangement for the day and encouragement of our teachers saw our children spontaneously answering their teachers’ questions. Some were also able to show kindness to friends by helping a friend wear or find their shoes. For others who needed more time to adjust to the new environment, our teachers were there to guide with patience and support.

As the day wrapped up, tired but happy faces left the school building through the school gate where parents anxiously awaited. It was a day of firsts: first MK in Hougang Primary School, first KI classes, first KI children for 2025. It's only the beginning.

As 2025 unfolds, we will be capturing all the precious moments when our KI children learn and develop into confident individuals. Here's to a Strong Start !

Featuring Past and Present HGPians

From HGP to the LKY All-Round Excellence Award



Georgia Long

Hello, I'm Georgia Long from the Class of 2023. I am humbled to have received the Lee Kuan Yew All-Round Excellence Award recently. As I thought of each and every person who has touched my life in Hougang Primary — my family, friends, and teachers — I felt that this award was not a personal accolade, but a testament to the dedication and love of the village that has nurtured me. HGP has shaped me into who I am today, and I am grateful for the invaluable opportunities the school has provided for me to lead and serve.

I can still remember the rush of excitement when my teacher appointed me as the class monitor in Primary One. Unfamiliar with leadership then, I was guided throughout the term by my teachers. That truly kick-started my journey in leadership. With newfound confidence, I accepted the role of a junior prefect in Primary Three. Besides helping out, I made many new friends from different classes through



prefect duties, allowing me to expand my social circle beyond my class.

I was elated when I was appointed a senior prefect and a member of the Primary Five Prefect EXCO. The team consisted of Kimi, Yunxuan, Narumuhai, Angel, Jaynth, Natasha, and myself. We were in charge of morning assembly and also had recess duties. When I had to recite the pledge for the first time, my hands were trembling and I was terrified. Thankfully, the other members encouraged me, and everything went smoothly. During the recital of the pledge or flag-raising, we would sometimes fumble, which was embarrassing.



Thankfully, as time went by, we became more confident and proficient. These experiences honed our public speaking skills. One thing I am especially grateful for is the safety net I found in HGP. We were allowed to make mistakes, and it was the unconditional support and encouragement of the HGP community that gave me the courage to pick myself up and try again.

Hougang Primary School was also where I forged many long-lasting friendships. From the moment I stepped into HGP, I started making friends. During recess, we would play tag in the parade square, laughing as we chased each other around. However, in upper primary, with little time to play due to prefect duties, I would usually chat with my friends while eating. One of my most memorable experiences was the post-PSLE period. With the PSLE out of the way, the Primary Six cohort could play games in school. My friends and I often played chess, with the occasional game of Monopoly Deal. On the day of our graduation, we tearfully parted ways with our friends and teachers. Despite being in different schools now, we remain in touch and still meet up with our friends and teachers — something I hope will continue for years to come.

As the saying goes, “You never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.” Back in primary school, I looked forward to the holidays as a break from school. However, now, as I reminisce, I realise how much I miss HGP, and I often find myself wishing I could return as a student once more.



Featuring Past and Present HGPians

Honouring Our Long-Service Staff



Mdm Sabariah Kassim

30 years in 2025

A Journey of Gratitude

As I reflect on my 3 decades of teaching journey, I am filled with a deep sense of gratitude. Each step along the way has been shaped by the countless students I have had the privilege to teach, whose curiosity, resilience, and growth continue to inspire me. I am thankful for the moments of discovery in the classroom, the meaningful conversations, and even the challenges that have strengthened my dedication to this calling. Each lesson taught has been a lesson learned—from moments of challenge to milestones of success.

The support of my colleagues and the trust placed in me by parents have been invaluable, reminding me that teaching is a shared endeavour. Above all, I am grateful for the opportunity to make a difference — however small — in the lives of my students. It is this sense of purpose that continues to guide and uplift me in this meaningful journey.

There have been many unforgettable moments — from the quiet pride of seeing a struggling student find confidence, to the laughter that fills a classroom during a lively discussion. These everyday interactions, though simple, are the threads that weave the fabric of my career. Each child's progress, no matter how big or small, is a reminder that growth takes time, and every effort counts. It is in these moments that I am reminded why I chose to teach.

As I look ahead, I do so with hope and continued commitment. I am grateful for the experiences that have shaped me, and I remain humbled by the responsibility that comes with nurturing young minds. While the journey is never without its challenges, it is one I walk with pride, purpose, and a heart full of gratitude. Teaching has been not just a career, but a lifelong gift that continues to enrich my soul.

Spot me at my first teaching school!



Honouring Our Long-Service Staff

Featuring Past and Present HGPians



Mdm Mary Ung
35 years in 2024

Hougang Primary School has played a significant role in enriching my teaching experience. It has shaped my personal growth and ignited my passion for teaching.

As a classroom teacher, I have shared many joyous moments with my students, particularly those in the Learning Support Programme. Their innocence reminds me of how much they need us to love and guide them. I firmly believe that when students are happy and motivated, our efforts will never be in vain.



As a colleague, I deeply appreciate the mutual affection and support I receive. The endearing term Sister reflects the strong friendships I've formed here. I treasure the simple moments of enjoying one another's company—eating, laughing, and just being together.

The trusting environment at Hougang Primary makes working here a joy. Even in moments of

frustration, the experience has helped build my resilience. This beautiful school was built by many dedicated and passionate individuals whom I proudly call friends—more than just colleagues. I am truly blessed to be part of this big family.

