

## Perse Post

The Perse School Singapore Friday Bulletin from  
Benyna Richards

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2022



**THE PERSE**  
**SCHOOL**  
SINGAPORE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached a letter from Benyna Richards. As you will read, Benyna has made the difficult decision to return to the UK due to a need to support her family. We are very sorry to lose her; however, we want to do all we can to support her, and we know that she remains committed and dedicated to the Perse School Singapore.

As was evident from the most recent visit from the Perse UK and the Quality Assurance Report summary shared with parents, under her leadership the school has gone from strength to strength, and she has built a strong team around her. Whilst leading from the UK, Benyna will continue to be supported by Mr Teng and Mr Morse. I and other members of the team from SingEd Global Schoolhouse will also be making frequent visits to the school providing support and additional capacity where needed.



We will be starting the recruitment process at the end of September and will keep you informed about the process at key points.

Best wishes,

**Mr. Gan Chin Huat**

M.Ed.(Harvard),Dip.Ed.(Post-Grad),B.Soc.Sci.(Hons),B.A.(NUS)

**Senior Vice President & Director of Schools**

**Sing-Ed Global Schoolhouse Pte Ltd (A Member of the Chip Eng Seng Group)**

Dear Parents and Careers

I am writing to let you know about the plans till the end of term and specifically my own plans. As many of you know I have been in Singapore for over seven years, it has become my home and over the past 18 months the Perse School Singapore has played a huge part in this. Since I joined the school, we have almost tripled in size, and I am proud of the community we have built. We are always striving to improve and whilst there is still much to do and the occasional bump in the road, I am confident that we are on the right track and the school continues to go from strength to strength.

Unfortunately, over the past 6 months I have faced some challenges in my personal life which now require me to spend more time in the UK. Over the summer period I informed the Board of Directors that, with much regret, I would need to step down from my role as Principal. The



board and I were both keen to continue my involvement with the school for as long as possible, considering this we have agreed that I will split my time for the next five to eight months between the UK and Singapore.

I will be in school until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. I will then travel to the UK, to be with my family and partner who has already relocated. I will work remotely from the UK until the October half term. During this time, I will be available online to staff and parents between 15:00 and 19:00 SG time and will continue to lead the school from afar. I will then return to Singapore for the month of November, before returning to the UK, with dates in the new year to be confirmed. Pupils will be informed next week that I will be in the UK for most of this term and that they will see me again in November.

During this time the Board of Directors, with the leadership team from the Perse UK will be actively recruiting for a new Principal. This search will begin after September 30<sup>th</sup>, by which time we hope to have news on our new site. In order to support my family, I will be taking the remainder of 2023 as a sabbatical from work and as such I am not currently looking for a new role, this will enable me to support the school until a new Principal is appointed. We hope to appoint a new Principal to start early next year, however if this is not possible it is likely I will return to Singapore for an additional period of time in the New Year. We will make sure parents are kept updated.

I have greatly enjoyed my time at the Perse School Singapore, and I am incredibly sad that it has had to end prematurely. We have started the term with our strongest team of teachers and support staff yet and I know that they are well cared for by Mr Teng and Mr Morse. Since my arrival at the school in February 2021 I have valued the faith and trust that has been placed in me both by pupils, parents and colleagues in the UK and Singapore. Together we have built strong foundations that places the school in a promising position to embrace the next step in its journey.

Best Wishes  
Benyna Richards

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### The Perse Singapore Yearbook!

We are excited to announce that the first Perse Singapore Yearbook is now available. All parents can access the e-version of the yearbook using this link: <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/541d05e65c.htm> The password to access the yearbook is: **PercyBackToSchool!** Photos and articles are only intended for the Perse School Singapore community.

If you would like to order a physical copy of the yearbook for \$20, please complete this [order form](#) or scan the QR code by **17:00 on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August**. Invoices will be sent out once orders have been confirmed.



### Parent Workshops Term 1

We would like to invite parents and guardians to attend our parent workshops conducted by our key stage and subject leads. Our workshops are intended to help parents understand some of the curriculum choices made by the school and to provide advice on how parents can further support and guide their children at home. There is a mixture of online and in person workshops. For online workshops links will be sent to parents who sign up, online workshops will also be recorded and shared in future Perse Posts. Please see below for a list of workshops on offer. If you would like to attend the workshops, please use the sign-up form on the next page. For in person workshops pupils who are not attending ECA's may stay in school and will be supervised in the Activity Room.

## Week 2

- Focus: English Year 3 – Year 7
- Workshop Lead: Mr Morse
- Date: Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August
- Time: 17:00 – 17:45
- Location: Online
  
- Focus: SeeSaw School and Parent Communication Year 1 and 2
- Workshop Lead: Ms Natalie
- Date: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September
- Time: 17:00 – 17:45
- Location: Online

## Week 3

- Focus: Phonics and Reading Year 1 and Year 2
- Workshop Lead: Ms Natalie
- Date: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September
- Time: 15:45 – 16:45 (Parents are welcome to arrive from 15:35)
- Location: In person, Ms Natalie’s Classroom Level 3
  
- Focus: Standard Chinese Year 1 - 7
- Workshop Lead: Ms Stella
- Date: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September
- Time: 17:00 – 17:45
- Location: Online

## Week 4

- Focus: Math Year 1 and Year 2
- Workshop Lead: Mr Lowe
- Date: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September
- Time: 15:45 – 16:45 (Parents are welcome to arrive from 15:35)
- Location: In person, Ms Lowe’s Classroom Level 3
  
- Focus: Math Year 3 – 7 (Mr Burke, Ms Angela, Ms Aastha)
- Workshop Lead: (Mr Burke, Ms Angela, Ms Aastha)
- Date: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September
- Time: 17:00 – 17:45
- Location: Online

## Week 5

- Focus: Chinese as a Foreign Language Year 1 -7
- Workshop Lead: Ms Stella
- Date: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September
- Time: 17:00 – 17:45
- Location: Online

## Week 6

- Focus: PANTS Program (the Underwear rule) Year 1 and 2
- Workshop Lead: Ms Natalie
- Date: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September
- Time: 17:00 – 17:45
- Location: Online

To sign up please use [this link](#) or scan the QR code below.



## Notices and Important Dates

### Masks

Wearing masks will be optional from Monday August 29<sup>th</sup>, this applies in school and on the school bus. Masks are still required on public transport. Pupils are of course welcome to wear masks if they still wish to.



### Uniform

We already have quite a large pile of lost property, much of which is un-named. Please make sure hats, purple jackets water bottles and lunch boxes are named. A number of children have the same 'Smiggle' lunchboxes, we would recommend putting a keyring on the outside, so pupils are able to identify which is which!

### Going Outside

This term we are making the most of being able to go outside for play and PE.

Pupils **MUST** have a hat (either a white Perse hat or their own); we would also recommend that pupils wear mosquito stickers.

We nearly managed to find a break in the weather to take year 6 and 7 outside this morning, unfortunately we got caught in the rain on the way back. They have all been given dry shirts and socks, can parents please wash these and return to school on Monday.



### Farewell to Ms Alleena and Ms Pauline

Over the school break we were sad to say goodbye to Ms Alleena. Ms Pauline will also be retiring at the end of September. They will both be greatly missed. We are currently recruiting to find their replacements.



- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August ECA Confirmations sent to parents
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September ECA's Start
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August Enrichment Starts
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October Perse UK Visit (Simon Armitage and Tom Knowles)
- 21<sup>st</sup> October Deepavali Celebrations (Non-uniform day)
- 24<sup>th</sup> October – 28<sup>th</sup> October Half Term
- 31<sup>st</sup> October Staff Inset (No pupils in school)
- 31<sup>st</sup> October Year 1 - 3 Parent Teacher Conference (8:00 – 18:00)  
Further details to be shared nearer the time
- 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> November Year 4 – 7 Parent Teacher Conference (daily 16:00 and 18:00 ) Further details to be shared nearer the time
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November ECA's Start
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November Enrichment Starts

## PE

The Perse School Singapore will have an exciting year of off-site physical education lessons starting on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August which will take place externally. The year groups will be taking turns to have both field and swimming lessons throughout the year to keep them fit and healthy and the programs are planned out across the terms according to year groups and the school calendar. The pupils will be transported safely by a private coach and the transportation cost will be covered by the school.

These are the days for each year's off-site PE lessons from **August - November 2022**:

**Years 1,2 and 3** will be doing **field** lessons on these days, respectively:

- Year 1: Tuesdays
- Year 2: Thursdays
- Year 3: Wednesdays

For the **Field Program**:

The pupils will be on the field and exposed to the sun. So please remind your child to bring along:

- a hat/cap and sunscreen to protect themselves from the harmful rays of the sun
- a gym towel to dry themselves after the activity
- a filled water bottle

**Years 4,5,6 and 7** will be doing **swimming** lessons on these days, respectively:

- Year 4: Mondays
- Year 5: Wednesdays
- Year 6+7: Fridays

For the **Swimming Program**:

Your child should bring:

- sunscreen if needed
- goggles and towels as the venue does not provide them
- a filled water bottle (a water fountain is available for refilling)
- a bag for wet clothes

You can also refer to your child's timetable for the days and timings of their off-site PE lessons.

Please feel free to contact me via email if you need any assistance on this matter.

Mr Junaidi [junaidi.kusnong@perse.edu.sg](mailto:junaidi.kusnong@perse.edu.sg)

## Teaching Placement

Ms Claudette will be returning to school to complete the final part of her training placement this half term. As part of her placement, she will be teaching and supporting the following classes: 1.1 English, 5.1 Math, 6.1 English, 3.1 Science, 2.2 Math, 4.1 Humanities, 3.1 Science and 1.1 Science. The timetables class teacher will still be taking most of the lessons and will be supervising all classes taught by Ms Claudette.





## Communication between School and Home

**SeeSaw Year 1 – 3** - Year 1 – 2 will be using SeeSaw in the same way this was used last year. If you already have a parent login from last year this will still work. New parent logins will be sent out next week. We would recommend attending the SeeSaw parent workshop on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Following on from last year we would like to introduce SeeSaw to Year 3. We are just in the process of finalising this and a year 3 specific SeeSaw workshop will be scheduled. The year 3 tutors will be in contact about this. Whilst this is finalised please contact your child's form tutor via email.

**EduPage Year 4- 7** - Having now solved some technical issues EduPage will be back in use from next week. Parents who already have a login can continue to use this. New parents will receive a login and instructions next week. In the interim please contact form tutors using the email addresses below.

**Form Tutors** - Form tutors should be the first point of contact for all queries. Form tutors can be contacted via SeeSaw, EduPage or email. Form tutors will acknowledge the email within 24 hours and reply within 48 hours. If you need to contact the school urgently, please call +6569718210. Email addresses can be found below and in the parent handbook.

### Useful Email Addresses

Ms Richards (Principal)	<a href="mailto:benyna.richards@perse.edu.sg">benyna.richards@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mr Teng (Deputy Principal)	<a href="mailto:roger.teng@perse.edu.sg">roger.teng@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mr Morse (Assistant Head)	<a href="mailto:andrew.morse@perse.edu.sg">andrew.morse@perse.edu.sg</a>
Ms Claudia (1.1 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:claudia.joachim@perse.edu.sg">claudia.joachim@perse.edu.sg</a>
Ms Natalie (2.1 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:natalie.johnson@perse.edu.sg">natalie.johnson@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mr Lowe (2.2 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:james.lowe@perse.edu.sg">james.lowe@perse.edu.sg</a>
Ms Aastha (3.1 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:aastha.mishra@perse.edu.sg">aastha.mishra@perse.edu.sg</a>
Ms Angela (3.2 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:angela.lu@perse.edu.sg">angela.lu@perse.edu.sg</a>
Dr King (4.1 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:dee.king@perse.edu.sg">dee.king@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mr Tiui (4.2 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:tiui.elisara@perse.edu.sg">tiui.elisara@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mr Burke (5.1 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:vanya.burke@perse.edu.sg">vanya.burke@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mr Holland (6.1 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:gary.holland@perse.edu.sg">gary.holland@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mrs Burke (7.1 Form Teacher)	<a href="mailto:alice.burke@perse.edu.sg">alice.burke@perse.edu.sg</a>
Ms Stella (Head of Chinese)	<a href="mailto:stella.rainalter@perse.edu.sg">stella.rainalter@perse.edu.sg</a>
Mr Junaidi (PE)	<a href="mailto:junaidi.kusnong@perse.edu.sg">junaidi.kusnong@perse.edu.sg</a>
Ms Sara (Head of Music)	<a href="mailto:sara.ngooi@perse.edu.sg">sara.ngooi@perse.edu.sg</a>

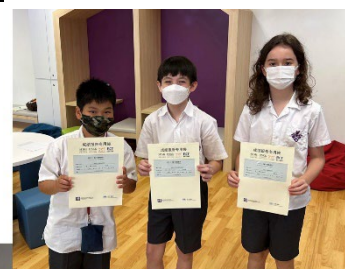
Finally...

# *Congratulations!*

Congratulations to our first batch of pupils who have done exceptionally well in the Youth Chinese Test (YCT) Level 1! All pupils passed with flying colours, special mention to Rachel who achieved 100%. The YCT is an international standardised Chinese language test directed at examining non-native primary and secondary school students' ability to apply Chinese language in their studies and daily lives. We are pleased to have received more sign-ups for YCT Level 2 course which will commence in Week 3. We would like to thank parents for their continued support in their child's learning. If you would like to know more about the YCT please contact Ms Stella.

Well done to...

Lorenzo, Abir, Rachel, Jacob, Roger, Rhys, Liam, George, Claire K, Leonard, Annabelle, Vedanth



*We value endeavour, intellectual curiosity and scholarship, breadth and balance, one another and our environment.*