

Perse Post

The Perse School Singapore Friday Bulletin from
Benyna Richards

Friday 9th September 2022



THE PERSE
SCHOOL
SINGAPORE

Dear Parents and Carers,



I finished writing the Perse Post from the UK earlier today, however I now find myself back at my computer. Since then, the sad announcement was made that Queen Elizabeth II has died. Whilst I recognise that her passing will be more significant for some than others, it didn't seem right to send out this week's Perse Post without acknowledging the lifetime of hard work and duty by Britain's longest reigning monarch. We will take a moment on Friday to celebrate her lifetime of service. We offer our sincere condolences to her family.

This week pupils have been learning about the Mid-Autumn festival. The Mid-Autumn festival (or Zhong Qiu Jie in Mandarin), also known as the Mooncake Festival, falls on the 15th day of the eighth lunar month, which for this year, is on the 10th September. It is said that the moon on this day is the brightest and roundest. The Mid-Autumn festival has a history of over 3,000 years. It was derived from the custom of worshiping the moon in Autumn to thank it for the harvest. In modern times, people mainly celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival as a time for family reunions. Families will gather to enjoy mooncakes along with Chinese tea while children carry lanterns of various designs.

During Art lessons this week, pupils made paper lanterns from paper plates. Pupils thought carefully about the design of their lanterns and cannot wait to bring them home to show you! We will be having a pupil-led assembly next week to commemorate this festival. A big thank you to Ms Stella and the Chinese team for organising the celebrations.

This weekend is the last opportunity to go and visit the amazing light display at Gardens by the Bay, alternatively the iconic light installations in Chinatown are on display until the 25th of September.

As we end the third week back at school, we have had our first two Covid-19 cases of the year reported, one child in 2.2 and one child in 5.1. If your child is unwell, we ask that you keep them home. Whether they have a cold or Covid-19, this helps keep our community healthy. If your child has Covid-19, please indicate this when reporting their absence. They may return to school once they have a negative ART or after the seventh day regardless of whether they are still testing positive. The school will report Covid-19 cases weekly in the Perse Post.



Introducing the Perse SG Prefects!

As we develop our Key Stage 3 provision, we felt it very important that the year 7 pupils held a special responsibility within the school. The form class are all very caring, conscientious, and motivated to make an impact within the school and are looked up to by the younger years. I brainstormed ideas with the class about how they could best make a difference within the school, and we decided that having prefects would be an excellent idea.



As the pupils themselves are going to be the prefects I wanted to know what they thought their role would entail and how they would best use their time. Phrases such as being a role model, setting a good example and helping others were commonly spoken about, which was lovely to hear. However, we as a form were undecided about how we could best help all the school and not just the peers who they see frequently. As a result, we decided the best way to overcome this was to nominate each member of the form to be a prefect for a different class in the school. Twice a week this prefect will join the class for form time where they will be able to help the form with reading, supporting their PSHE lesson or mentor an individual pupil. By having one form each, it will mean the prefect will really get to know the class and therefore build a trusting relationship. In addition, it was agreed that as prefects their role is not only to help the pupils but the teachers too! This will not only build the year 7s confidence, but also their leadership and teamwork skills.



We also wanted to have a prefect vision for school to ensure they make the biggest impact possible. Again, lots of fantastic phrases were mentioned including teamwork, helping others, and listening to each other. But overall, as a form we believe that being KIND to others encompasses all these qualities. Like a virus, kindness is contagious and therefore if the prefects show kindness to others, whether that be teachers or pupils, then they hope that everyone will show kindness. And what a wonderful school environment that would be! The prefects will be coming in action at from Monday 12th September.

Mrs Burke, Year 7 Form Tutor

Our School Houses!

Our Houses were established by the Perse School Cambridge campus and date back to the 1800s. During class and when moving around the school, pupils can earn House Points. This is achievable by, behaving well, being kind, putting effort into their learning, demonstrating the Perse Singapore learning behaviors or the Perse Values. Each time a pupil does one of these things, they are awarded 1 House point which is then added to the total for each House. At the end of each term, the leading House globally is presented with a special globe (given to us by the Cambridge campus), affectionately known as the PIG (Perse International Globe). At the end of the year, the grand totals are announced, and the winning House is presented with a shield. Last year was intense, with Barbarians and Foresters fighting a close battle until the end, with Barbarians finally claiming victory. This year, we are also recording how many House Points each pupil gets, if they reach a certain amount, they will receive a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate for services to their House. Pupils can also enter House competitions to earn points for their House.

Mr Holland, Head of Houses

BARBARIANS

Barbarians

Named after the nomadic amateur rugby side which played their first fixture in 1890.

CORINTHIANS

Corinthians

Named after the nomadic amateur football side which played their first fixture in 1882.

FORESTERS

Foresters

Named after the nomadic amateur cricket side established in 1856.

NOMADS

Nomads

Named after one of the University's hockey sides.

Each year, new House Captains are chosen from the year 6 class. Pupils must apply for the role and are then invited to a group interview. This year, almost all the year 6 pupils applied, and the decision was extremely difficult to make. The captains for this year are Kitty for Foresters, Elliot for Corinthians, Aseel for Nomads and Byanca for Barbarians!



Name: Kitty **House:** Foresters

Why did you want to be House Captain? I've always wanted to be house caption since I was in year 2 in my old school.

What would you like to achieve this year? I would like our house to get a place on the shield because we haven't got our name on the shield yet and we were so close last year, we got 2nd place and I think that is amazing.

What are your hobbies and interests? I play rugby and I love to swim as well as rock-climbing. I love chicken rice and just food.

What do you want to say to your fellow Foresters? We nearly won last year, and I signed up for house caption to lead you all to VICTORY!!!!!!

Name: Elliot **House:** Corinthians

Why did you want to be House Captain? Because I want to encourage everyone, help people and plan things and I thought this would be a great opportunity to do all three.

What would you like to achieve this year? I want a gaming competition (people would bring their stuff e.g.: game stations)

What are your hobbies and interests? I like to play video games and bake.

What do you want to say to your fellow Corinthians? We can do this, we won the first year, we just have to try harder.

Name: Aseel

House: Nomads

Why did you want to be House Captain? I decided to be house captain because I want to help people be the best version of themselves/

What would you like to achieve this year? I would like lots of competitions, Art, Photographer, Sports Maths, Mandarin and Science!

What are your hobbies and interests? I like painting, cats and dogs, a d nature.

What do you want to say to your fellow Nomads? I know that with all your hard work we will put the yellow sticker on the shield!

Name: Byanca

House: Barbarians

Why did you want to be House Captain? I wanted to be house captain since yr 4 and I'm really happy I got the opportunity; I hope we can be the first house in the Perse SG to win twice in a row. I have always wanted to lead a big group to victory which we can do by showing our Perse values when learning.

What would you like to achieve this year? I would like to improve my public speaking when presenting to the whole school.

What are your hobbies and interests? I like calling my friends and playing Roblox.

What do you want to say to your fellow Barbarians? We won last year we can do it again Barbarians!

Parent Workshops Term 1

Week 4

- **Focus:** Math Year 1 and Year 2
- **Workshop Lead:** Mr Lowe
- **Date:** Monday 12th 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 14th 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 22nd 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 26th September
- **Time:** 17:00 – 17:45
- **Location:** Online

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



Diary Dates

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

Golden Spoon Winners



Well done to Jonty, Emmanuel, Abir, Alexandros, Ayaka, Jet! Abir couldn't believe they'd got 15/15 three days in a row.

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