

## DISCOVER WEST SPRING 2025

16 MAY 2025



West Spring Primary

Duration (est)	Programme
@ 3 pm	Parents Arrival
20 min	Part 1: Transition to Primary (by MK)
20 min	Part 2: Sharing insights on WSPS (by YH)
30 min	Part 3: Question and Answer (by School Leaders)
50 min	Part 4: School Tour (by Prefects)



## PROGRAMME FOR TODAY

MK TRANSITION PROGRAMMES

01

Centre Head Mr Rico

02

SHARING INSIGHTS ON WSPS

Year Head P1 & P4

Mr Samuel



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

COASING SCHOOL TOUR School Prefects

# SHINE ASPIRATIONS FOR WEST SPRINGERS

Show CARE FOR SELF AND OTHERS

Harness COMMUNICATION AND CONNECTION

gnite CREATIVE AND CRITICAL THINKING

Nurture PASSION



Empower CONFIDENCE

## LIFE@MK

Leading and Inspiring Families of Early Learners @ MOE Kindergartens



## **Objectives**

- To give parents of children a better understanding of how the MK curriculum supports children's transition from pre-school to primary school
- To provide parents with **practical tips to better support their children** in the transition process



## **Outline**

- What is a successful transition and why is it important?
- How does the MK support children's transition from preschool to primary school?
- How can we partner each other in supporting children's transition to primary school?

## What is a successful transition to primary school and why is it important?



## Interactive segment

Looking at the two photographs, what changes do you think a child undergoes when transitioning from preschool to primary school?





What knowledge, skills and dispositions do your child need to adapt to the changes?

## Changes experienced by the child from preschool to primary school

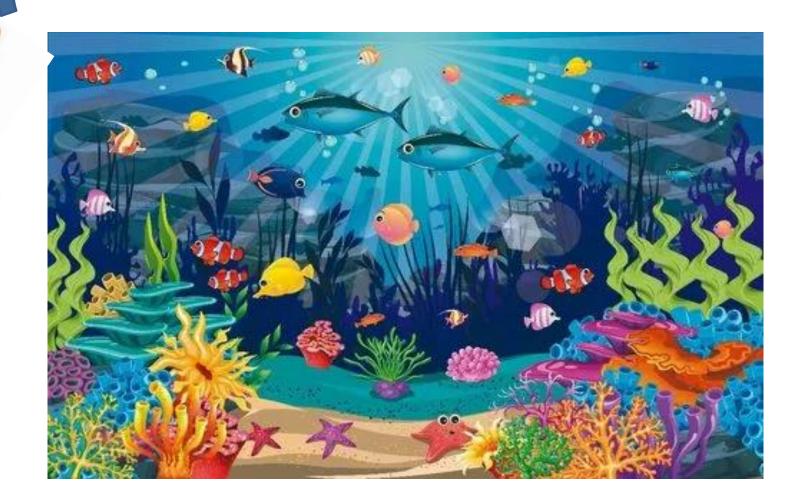
A change in settings and routines

A change in roles

A change in relationships

Many different and simultaneous changes





The transition from preschool to primary school is one of the largest and most important changes children will encounter & manage at that age.

## **Transition from Preschool to Primary School**



Transition from preschool to primary school is **filled with changes,** i.e., environment, relationships, behaviours, routines, roles and expectations).



- Every child is unique and has his/her own learning strengths, needs and pace.
- All children require some support for transition to primary school; some may require a higher level of support.

### What is a successful transition to P1?



**Readiness of Child** 

To settle in & participate actively in primary school





**Readiness of Primary School** 

To accept children of different backgrounds, cultures and progress levels



## **Readiness of Family and Community**

To support children through the transition process COPYRIGHT © 2024, PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION BRANCH, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SINGAPORE

## Why is a successful transition to P1 important?

Research states that socio-emotional competencies help children to better cope with transitions and progress through school.

Over-preparation in academic areas is at the expense of adequate preparation in other areas such as social and emotional development.

Child's transition experiences

Child's social and emotional well-being and development

A successful transition has long lasting positive impact on children's social and academic performance.

It is important to place equal emphasis on both cognitive and non-cognitive development in the early years.



Joy in learning (lifelong learning) How does the MK support children's transition from pre-school to primary



## Developing our children holistically

#### Values:

Respect | Responsibility | Care | Honesty

#### **Social and Emotional Competencies:**

Self-awareness | Self-management | Social Awareness | relationship Management | Responsible Decision-making

**Learning Dispositions (PRAISE):** 

Perseverance | Reflectiveness | Appreciation | Inventiveness

Sense of Wonder and Curiosity | Engagement

#### **Learning Areas:**

Aesthetics and Creative Expression | Discovery of the World Language and Literacy | Numeracy

Health, Safety and Motor Skills Development

**Executive Functioning (EF) Skills** 

Working Memory | Inhibitory Control | Cognitive Flexibility



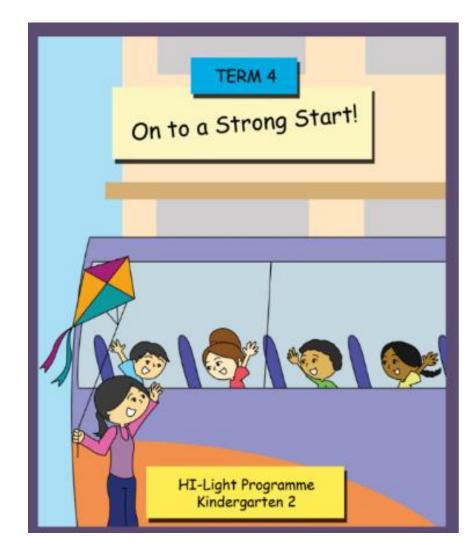
•Help children develop important skills, which are crucial for them to navigate new environments & build strong relationships



•Lay the foundation for future learning

## **Targeted Efforts in K2 Term 4**

- MK curriculum includes a term of experiential learning for children to learn more about the primary school
  - Managing feelings and adapting to change
  - Making new friends
  - Using money to buy things
  - Sequencing activities in a day
- Children will be provided opportunities to apply skills and concepts they have learnt
  - Reinforces key knowledge, skills and dispositions for a smooth transition from pre-school to primary school









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- Bring your child to the public library and have them learn to borrow books and practise library etiquettes
- Expose them to a variety of food options and practise decision-making by bringing them to the food courts or hawker centres
- Generate awareness of various considerations (i.e. Halal options or avoiding food that may trigger certain allergies)
- Provide opportunities for them to learn to interact with the stallholders by encouraging them to make their own orders
- Provide opportunities for them to learn the value of money by paying for their food (TIP: start with smaller prices and denominations e.g. paying for an \$0.80 cent item using eight 10-cent coins)

### **Getting accustomed to primary school norms**



To simulate note-taking in the primary school, our children also practised taking down short messages in their communication book.



Prior to bringing them to the school canteen, the children practised using specimen coins to "purchase" food from their class teachers during snack time.

### **Getting accustomed to primary school norms**





Just like what the students in primary schools do, the children placed their bags beside their seats instead of the cubby holes in Term 4.

The children also carried their bags along when they split for Mother Tongue classes.

### Close collaboration with primary school: Befriend Project



- The Befriend Project provides opportunities for children to pair up with a primary school buddy.
- Through this, they learn important social skills such as how to introduce themselves and make friends.



## WHAT do you think?

## True/ False?

My child should be able to read and write independently at the start of P1.

False

Fact: Your child is <u>NOT</u> expected to read or write independently at the start of P1. P1 teachers will provide the necessary levels of support children need for reading and writing. It is more important for children to go to P1 with a **positive attitude for reading and writing**. Children, should however, be able to **express their needs and wants** and **follow simple verbal instructions** when they go to P1. They should also be able to **recognise some letters of the alphabet**, some **common words** (e.g., I, at, is) and **write their own names**.

- Read a variety of books with your child.
- Have conversations with your child about their experiences in the day. This helps them build their listening and speaking skills.
- Provide your child with meaningful opportunities to write (e.g. writing the grocery list)

## WHAT do you think?

#### True/ False?

My child should be able to read, speak and write in their Mother Tongue Language (MTL) before starting primary school.

#### False!

Fact: Not all children study their MTL in pre-school. Thus, children are **NOT** expected to be able to read, speak and write in MTL at the start of P1. Your child will be well supported to develop his/her MTL skills in primary school. At the start of P1, your child should **show an interest in learning MTL**, **understand simple instructions** and **respond to simple questions** in MTL.

- Enjoy listening to songs and rhymes, and reading stories in MTL with them regularly.
- Encourage them to speak in their MTL with family and friends.

## WHAT do you think?

### True/ False?

Before starting primary school, my child needs to know how to solve addition and subtraction problems.

False

Fact: At the start of P1, your child is expected to be able to **count accurately up to 10** objects, recognise, recite and write numbers within 10 and **compare** which of two groups within 10 objects has "**more**" or "**less/fewer**" objects or if they are the "**same**". These are skills which will **lay the foundation for them to learn more abstract concepts** like addition and subtraction in P1.

In P1, your child's teachers will help him/her to understand concepts such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

- Get your child to count objects around the (e.g. count the number of biscuits they are eating for a snack)
- Get your child to compare between groups of objects to find out which has more or less (e.g. compare the number of blue pencils with the number of red pencils)

## Q: My child has difficulty writing neatly on a line. What is MOE Kindergarten doing to help my child perfect his/her penmanship?

#### Ans:

- Opportunities are provided for children to strengthen their finger muscles.
- Teachers role-model the appropriate way of forming letters of the alphabet.
- Children are given meaningful opportunities to practise writing and copying on an open space first, then
  on a single line when they ready.
- However, they are NOT expected to perfect their penmanship skills.
- There are certain letters of the alphabet which are harder to write like 's' and 'g'. Some children may not have fully developed the fine motor control needed to shape these letters properly, especially if has to be written on a triple line with appropriate placement and sizing.

Handwriting development is dependent on each child's p hysical development as well. For example, if the child's sk eletal hand structure is not fully developed, the child wo uld have difficulty shaping letters properly with app ropriate placement and size.



Developed hand (about age 7)



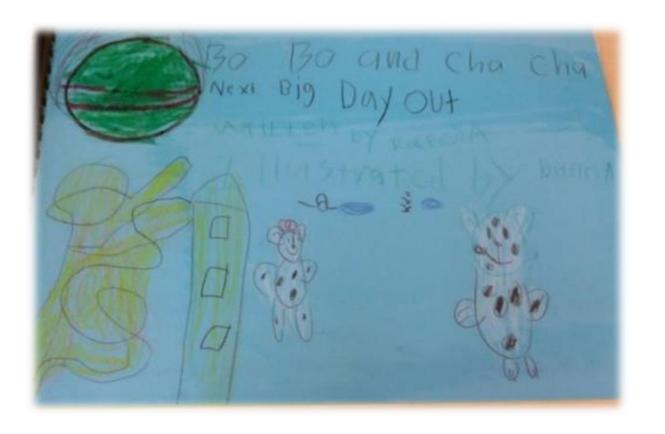
5-year-old

Q: Is my child taught how to spell in MOE Kindergarten?

Ans: Yes!

- Important skills associated to spelling such as letter-sound correspondence (phonics), word families, forming upper case and lower case letters of the alphabet are taught.
- We do not give spelling tests but children are provided with many meaningful opportunities to practise writing and spelling.





Q: I noticed that my child still can't read many sight words. Is this normal?

#### Ans:

- Yes. This is because many sight words cannot be "sounded out" (e.g., "the", "are"). This means even when children know letter-sound correspondence (phonics), they might not be able to read the word by blending the sounds (i.e., putting the sounds together).
- As long as children have repeated exposure to sight words, they will soon be able to recognise and read them.



Q: Why doesn't MK teach Han Yu Pin Yin? Doesn't my child need to know this for P1?

#### Ans:

The emphasis in the preschool years is the learning of oracy skills. Oracy is the foundation of literacy skills, and it is important to build a strong foundation of the children's oracy skills before moving on to literacy skills.

Unlike alphabetic languages like English and Malay, in which phonics learning is essential to reading, Hanyu Pinyin is used as a tool to help learners to have accurate pronunciation of Chinese words, as well as to aid in independent reading of Chinese words.

In the MKs, children learn to pronounce Chinese words accurately through the teachers' role modelling and recognise some Chinese characters used in the Big Book stories, drawing connection between the meaning, sound and character forms, even without the assistance of Hanyu Pinyin.

## Tips for supporting your child's transition to primary school

For a smooth transition to primary school, children need skills that they can use to adapt to a new environment.

Check out the "7 Es" to find out how you can support your child.



## 7 'Es' to support your child's transition to primary school

- 1. Excite your child 2. Empathise with about starting primary school
  - your child by acknowledging his/her emotions
- 3. Enhance your child's executive function and selfregulation skills

4. Encourage your child to build positive relationships









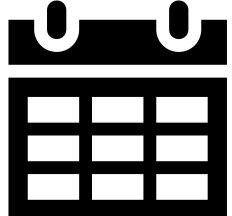




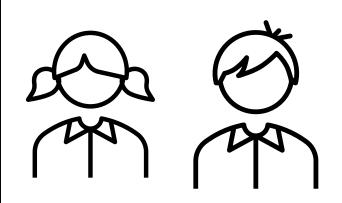
5. Empower your child to be independent



6. Establish routines for your child before the start of the school year



7. Entrust your child to the primary school teachers



Scan the QR code to read up more:



## **Useful resources for families**

MOE provides resources and engagement materials for parents to help with their child's transition from pre-school to primary school.

#### **Parent Gateway**

Parent Gateway Resources will be updated regularly on the Parenting Resources repository. Do check it out!





#### **Parent-Child Activity book**





Download a digital copy now!

#### **SchoolBag Magazine**





Addresses parents queries and concerns (e.g. what should my pre-schooler know? What if my child is a fast learner?) through articles on P1 preparation

MOE Parenting Instagram
Shares useful parenting
tips on P1 Transition,
Cyber Wellness, healthy
habits etc.





360-degree
Primary School
Experience Video



#### **MOE Facebook**





Look out for the "Ask Me Anything About..."

livestream series on Transition to P1. Hear from the Principal of Canberra Primary School and a parent of three to get tips on preparing children for P1.

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## **KEY Messages**

## You play an important role in helping your child transit well to primary school!

#### You can...

- partner us in developing a positive attitude towards learning in your children.
  - For example, enrich your children's learning experience beyond school by encouraging them to explore and ask questions.
- pay equal attention to your children's academic and non-academic development and avoid overpreparing them.

## A Strong Start for Every Child!

