17th October 2011

Dear Parents,

Re: Prevention of Communicable Diseases

As advised by the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH), outbreaks of communicable diseases such as influenza, scarlet fever, hand, foot and mouth disease (HFMD) and enterovirus 71 (EV71) infection may occur in institutions and schools from time to time.

Therefore, before the commencement of the school year, we have thoroughly cleaned and disinfected the school premises. We have also urged all students/staff members to pay attention to their personal hygiene and the environmental hygiene of the school.

For students’ health sake, we would appeal to you that, in addition to maintaining a clean and healthy household environment, please remind your children to constantly observe personal hygiene and keep the school environment clean. Please take note of the following measures:

- Seek medical advice as soon as possible if your children develop symptoms of diarrhoea, vomiting and skin rash. If symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough or influenza are developed, they should put on a mask immediately and seek medical care promptly. Please also notify the school and let the children stay at home for rest until symptoms have improved and fever has subsided for at least two days, or follow the medical advice on sick leave, whichever is longer.
- Children with HFMD should be excluded from school until fever has subsided and all the vesicles have dried and crusted. As an extra precaution, children with EV71 infection should not go to school for another two weeks after all symptoms have subsided.
- Inform the school immediately if children are sick or have been admitted to hospital for surveillance. Such information and contact details of students would be reported to CHP or relevant government departments on a need basis to help institute effective control measures to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.
- Cooperate with the school by picking up children not feeling well from school and consulting the doctor immediately.
- Provide children with handkerchiefs or tissue paper and remind them not to share towels or tissue paper with others.
- Remind children to keep hands clean, cover nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing and dispose of used tissue paper properly.
- Before sending children to school, measure their body temperature, record the reading and sign the temperature record sheet which should be handed to the school every day.

At the beginning of the new school year, we have urged drivers and attendants of school buses/nanny vans not to drive/board these vehicles and make appropriate arrangements if they have a fever or any influenza symptoms. They should also inform the school and parents of the situation immediately.

In case of any students being absent due to sickness, we would provide learning support for them so that their learning progress would not be affected.

We would like to appeal to parents again for cooperation in maintaining a clean and healthy household environment. Please also remind your children to pay attention to personal hygiene and to take all necessary preventive measures against communicable diseases.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Ms. Veronica Ma, MH
Principal