



**YUAN CHING SECONDARY SCHOOL**

耘青中学



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# Parents' Connect

Ref No: 02/2020

March & April Issue

## 1. Principal's Address

Greetings to you! The past two months have been an enriching time for my colleagues and students, as we experienced some key highlights of Term 1, including the Sec 1 Meet the Parents cum CCA Showcase, Sec 1 Campfire, the Ethnic Celebrations concert and our outreach to the community through values-in-action projects such as Project Lunchbox for the elderly, and the giving of mandarin oranges to the neighbourhood residents by the Sec 3 cohort. The entire school community participated in Project 'Fortune Blessings', which earned us a place in the Singapore Book of Records (<https://singaporerecords.com/largest-chinese-character-made-of-heart-shaped-notes/>)! The final artwork made up of our students' well-wishes to the elderly is now sitting in the hall of the Silver Ace Elder Care Service Centre.

The school also encouraged all our staff and students to pen their appreciation to the frontline healthcare workers during the Covid-19 outbreak, riding on #braveheartsg movement. The number of measures taken against COVID-19 have increased through the weeks since 29 Jan, as the global situation evolved. The current measures include the following:

- i. no mass gathering of students,
- ii. temperature-taking once in the morning before flag raising, and once before the start of any remedial lessons/CCAs,
- iii. requiring any school member who exhibits flu-like symptoms or fever to see the doctor and stay at home,
- iv. increased frequency of cleaning common areas and cleaning for frequently touched points such as staircase handrails and toilet taps,
- v. constant reminders to our students and staff on the importance of personal responsibility in ensuring personal hygiene, including wiping down after every meal.

Meanwhile, the school would like to continue to partner you in supporting your child's development of values and skills that will help him/her in developing good habits to be a confident, engaged and self-directed learner who takes responsibility for his/her own learning. We also want to continue to strengthen mutual understanding, respect and trust between the school and parents for the benefit of your child. Please continue to partner us closely in supporting your child's growth journey in his/her academic, CCA and character development.

## 2. Sec 2, 4 & 5 Meet The Parents (MTP) Sessions

The annual MTP sessions will be taking place in March and April for our Sec 2, 4 & 5 students. In view of the recent COVID-19 situation, there will not be any mass briefing for our Sec 4 & 5 MTP. We will monitor the situation and adjust our Sec 2 MTP accordingly.

We strongly encourage you to set aside time to take this opportunity to discuss your child's progress with his/her Form Teachers or/and subject teachers. Your child will appreciate you for your effort and for showing interest in his/her learning journey. The details of the MTP are as follows:

Sec 4 & 5 students	Date: 13 Mar 2020 (Fri) Time: 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm Venue: Respective Classrooms	Focus: Preparing for the final lap and discovering the post-secondary pathways available
Sec 2 students	Date: 3 Apr 2019 (Fri) Time: 6.00 pm – 8.45 pm Venue: School Hall	Focus: Choosing a Sec 3 Subject Combination that best suits your child's passion and interest

A letter via Parents Gateway (PG) would be sent to you to confirm your attendance for the session and to provide details of the programme. As 13 Mar 2020 coincides with 'Eat with your Family Day', we strongly encourage families to dine together to strengthen family ties.

### 3. **Supplementary lessons in March Holiday (16-17 March 2020)**

We believe every child can learn. Some learn faster than others and some require more time. For students who are identified to attend the supplementary lessons on 16-17 Mar, they will be issued with a schedule by 13 Mar 2020. Please strongly encourage your child to attend the lessons and he/she is expected to come to school in full school uniform.

### 4. **CCA Conduct Grade Assessment**

CCA is a key platform to develop our students holistically and to build character. CCA attendance is one of the components in the CCA Conduct Grade assessment. I seek your cooperation to ensure that your child attends his/her CCA regularly so that he/she can explore his/her strengths and potential, learn social skills, and develop grit and resilience through the various CCA experiences, beyond the attainment of good overall conduct grades at the end of each semester.

### 5. **Term 2, Week 1 (23 Mar – 26 Mar) Customised Level Programmes**

Due to the recent COVID-19 situation, some of the customised enrichment programmes originally planned for Term 2 Week 1 could be cancelled, re-scheduled or adjusted. The details are as follows:

Level	Programme	Objective	Details
Sec 1	Conversational Chinese & Malay Programme (CCM)	A 20-hour programme conducted by experienced facilitators to equip students with basic CL/ML skills and help them appreciate cultures of a different race so that they can operate in the region comfortably in future.	Date: 23 Mar - 25 Mar Venue: Sec 1 Classrooms Time: Morning (Refer to lesson schedule given to students)
Sec 1	Arts Education Programme (AEP)	A 3-session course that exposes students to the history of dance, basic hip hop dance steps and dance choreography.	Date: 23 Mar - 25 Mar Venue: ISH Time: Lesson schedule will be given to the students
Sec 1	Geography - Science Investigation	Deepen and strengthen inquiry and investigative skills learnt in Science and	Date: 26 Mar Venue: Respective Classrooms

		Geography through the use of water and biology samples from Jurong Lake Gardens, allowing students to relate their learning to authentic settings.	Time: 0750 - 1045
Sec 3NA & 3NT	Elective Modules (Category A)  *Pending for updates of implementation by MOE in first week of Mar	EMs serve to extend and build on the existing subjects through applied learning, and expose students to possible career pathways.  Modules include: -Grooming & Poise -Introduction to Restaurant Operations -Creating a Computer Game -Fun with Digital Making -Interactive Electronics -Practical Energy & Water Conservation	Date: 23 Mar – 26 Mar Venue: ITE College (West/East/Central) Time: 7.50am – 5.30pm (Refer to schedule)
Sec 4E Sec 5N	ECG Fair	Strengthen students' self-awareness, self-management & responsible decision-making to achieve their goals in life through making informed education and career choices.	Date: 24 Mar Venue: Classrooms Time: 7.50am – 2.30pm

#### 6. **Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day on 27 March 2020 (Fri)**

In alignment with equipping our students with 21st Century Competencies and to enable continuous learning through an online platform in the event of any school closure, the school is organising a Home-based Learning Day for our students on 27 March 2020 (Friday).

**Students need not report to school on HBL Day.** If your child/ward does not have computer or internet access at home, he/she will be required to report to school (Computer Lab) to complete his/her work. Registration information will be made available on a later date. Details of the HBL Day will be disseminated to the students and parents by Term 1 Week 10.

#### 7. **Sec 1 ICT Enrichment Programme (for selected students)**

Sec 1 students who have not met the minimum baseline ICT standards (prescribed by MOE) based on the competency test conducted in Jan 2020 will attend the ICT Enrichment Programme. In addition, students will be exposed to the features of Google Docs and Google Spreadsheets in this programme. Details on the programme will be given to these selected students.

#### 8. **Commemoration of International Friendship Day on 8 April 2020 (Wed)**

This year, the theme for International Friendship Day (IFD) is **Beyond Borders**. IFD commemoration aims to develop a global outlook in students that enables them to relate well

with people of different cultures, both within Singapore and in the world. IFD also helps to sensitize students to the geo-political realities inherent to Singapore, and help students understand how the integration of new immigrants and foreigners working and living in Singapore into our society will contribute towards a gracious and cohesive society and Singapore's continued progress as a nation. For 2020, students who have gone for the 2019 Trips for International Experience (TIE) will share what they had learnt and their takeaways from their respective trips, as they explored the region beyond Singapore during the IFD CCE Lesson.

#### 9. **Standing down of CCA on 25 April 2020 (Sat)**

Sec 4 & 5 students will officially be released from their CCA commitments on 25 Apr 2020 (Sat) so that they can channel their time and energy in preparation for the National Examinations. CCA for Sec 1, 2 & 3 will also pause as the students prepare for their Weighted Assessment 2 and Mid-year Examinations.

#### 10. **2020 Mid-Year Examinations (MYE) and Weighted Assessment 2 (WA2)**

There will be no MYE for Secondary 1 and 3 students. Instead, Sec 1 and Sec 3 students will have WA2 instead. Some departments will be using alternative assessments as their WA2. The freed up time will allow our teachers to infuse joy of learning in the respective subjects, help students deepen their understanding of the subject through inquiry-based and experiential learning, and develop 21<sup>st</sup> Century Competencies in our students. MYE for Secondary 2, 4 and 5 students will be held from 4 May 2020 (Mon) to 15 May 2020 (Fri). Students will be issued the detailed Exam Time-Table for their level/course closer to the start of the Examinations.

#### 11. **Parents Gateway**

Parents Gateway (PG) is an initiative by MOE to enable parents to interact with schools more conveniently on administrative matters. Parents will be able to use this mobile application to stay updated on the school's programmes and activities and to give consent to the child's involvement in school activities.

Currently, 90% of our parents have come onboard. We strongly encourage all parents to download and use the PG App as it will bring significant benefits for you. Please refer to the school website (<https://yuanchingsec.moe.edu.sg/useful-links/parents-gateway>) for details. You can access the school website by scanning the QR code on page 1 of this letter.

#### **New features in Parents Gateway**

- (i) **Announcements from MOE** - Authorised HQ users will be able to post messages to all parents using the Parents Gateway app. The message will appear as a pop-up when parents launch the app.
- (ii) **Editing of Child's Initials** – Parents can edit/customise their child's initials in Parents Gateway (because identical children's initials can be confusing).

NG SOOK KIT (MS)  
PRINCIPAL  
2 MARCH 2020