



# Parents' Connect

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July & August Issue

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## 1. Principal's Address

Thank you, parents, for your partnership in Semester 1! I hope all of you took the opportunity of the June school holidays to spend meaningful time with your loved ones and friends. I am sure our students are well-rested and rejuvenated to start Semester 2 with renewed vibrancy and enthusiasm. In June, we saw the successful completion of some key school events such as the GCE 'O' Level Mother Tongue Language Examination, Sec 3E/NA Advanced Elective Modules and Student Leadership camps for selected students. The highlight was our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner held on 26 June, which was graced by Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam and saw nearly 500 guests in attendance. In close partnership with the Parents' Support Group, we launched the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Time Capsule. These would not have been possible without your enthusiastic support and the dedicated efforts of our staff, but more importantly, the active participation of your child. We hope that all the students who had participated in these events had forged strong friendships with their schoolmates, built quality relationships with their teachers and learnt from the meaningful experiences in school.

Your child has just completed the first week of the new semester - where they had the opportunity to reconnect with their Form and Subject Teachers. In Yuan Ching, we believe in communicating clear expectations to our students to maintain a positive class and school tone and learning environment. We encourage them to adopt a growth mindset reflecting on how they have performed in Semester 1 and the areas that they would like to do better in the second half of this year.

On safety, we conducted our message relay and temperature-taking exercises last Wednesday and Thursday respectively to ensure that everyone is contactable should there be a need for the dissemination of safety-related messages and instructions for overall school safety. We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our school's safety vision: **'A Safe School For All - We are committed to ensuring a safe and secure environment for all.'** We seek your cooperation to also remind your child on the importance of personal safety – which includes safety in the use of the internet and online social media. We would also like to inform you that our school's stand is for mobile phones to be switched off and kept out of sight once your child enters the school. They may utilise the phone when they are in the school canteen after the curriculum hours (which include CCA and remedial classes). You may contact the General Office at tel: 62612489 should you need to reach your child urgently.

In this issue of Parents' Connect, we are sharing with you some of the key school events or activities in Semester 2. We hope that you will continue to encourage your child to participate

actively as these school events and activities have been planned to support your child's holistic development. Your support for your child would definitely add to the vibrancy of the school and make these events memorable for him or her.

*'Together may we give our children the roots to grow and the wings to fly.'* ~ Author unknown

## **2. Term Tests and Examinations**

Term Test 2 for Sec 1s to 3s will be conducted from 13 Aug to 24 Aug 2018 in Weeks 8 and 9 of Term 3. The detailed schedule will be shared with the students by their respective Form and subject teachers by Week 5.

We would like to reiterate that students' attendance for all term tests is compulsory. Any student who is absent from a term test without a valid reason will be given zero mark for the test missed. If your child/ward is unwell, he/she is advised not to come for the test. He/She, however, is required to see a doctor to produce a Medical Certificate on the following day. Please note that a parent's letter for absence due to medical reasons will not be accepted. The subject teacher for the test missed will inform him/her of the date/time for the make-up test.

### *a) GCE Listening Comprehension and Oral Examinations*

For our graduating Sec 4 and 5 classes, do refer to the dates of the GCE 'O' & 'N'-Level Listening Comprehension and Oral Examinations shared in the Term 1 Sec 4 & 5 cohort letter.

### *b) School GCE Preliminary Examination*

The school's GCE Preliminary Examination will start with the following:

<b>Preliminary Examination for GCE 'N' Level</b>	<b>Preliminary Examination for GCE 'O' Level</b>
<u>6 Aug (Mon)</u> English Language	<u>21 Aug (Tue)</u> English Language

Students sitting for the 'N' Levels will be given the school's GCE Preliminary Examination timetable this week, while those sitting for the 'O' Levels will be given theirs in Week 6. We would like you to take note of the detailed schedule and timing of the papers and support your child in his/her preparation.

## **3. Weekly Remedial and CCA Routines for Semester 2**

The weekly remedial and CCA routines for Semester 2 had been issued for all classes at the end of Term 3 Week 1. The schedule is also posted on our school website under 'Information for Students and Parents' for reference.

## **4. Sports Education Programme (SEP) for Secondary 1 & 2 Students**

The school's SEP will be conducted on Monday and Wednesday of Term 3, starting on 27 June. Your child can participate in a variety of sports learning programmes such as

SwimSafer, Tchoukball, Inline Skating, Fencing, Archery, Aikido and Handball. On 3 and 4 September, Monday and Tuesday of the September school vacation, the 1-Star Kayaking Programme will also be conducted. More details will be given to the students who will be participating in the SEP.

## **5. Commemoration of SAF Day**

SAF Day falls on 1 July, and the school commemorated SAF Day on 29 June (Fri) with a rededication ceremony held as part of the school assembly programme. The SAF Day message reminded our students of the importance of a strong and capable SAF to protect the nation's sovereignty and our way of life.

Led by our teacher, Major (NS) Chin Chii Tarnng, teachers who are our Operationally Ready National Servicemen (NSmen) recited the SAF pledge to reaffirm their loyalty and commitment to the defence of Singapore. Through the ceremony, we hope to reinforce the confidence among our students that the SAF is critical to our Total Defence. Today, the SAF is strong and respected, due to the blood, sweat and tears shed by both regulars, Operationally Ready National Servicemen (NSmen) as well as volunteers. What we have inherited from our founding generation – our home, our Singapore – is precious and our way of life is worth defending together. As such, Singapore is safe and peaceful, something that our students should not take for granted. We hope that Yuan Ching students will build on this strong legacy to protect our nation and ensure Singapore's progress and prosperity in the future.

## **6. MOE-Outward Bound School Singapore Secondary 3 Programme**

Our school has been selected for the above programme this year. This is part of the National Outdoor Adventure Education Masterplan which the Ministry of Education (MOE) has put in place to strengthen the holistic development of all our students. The programme seeks to develop ruggedness, resilience, and build cohesion amongst our youths. The programme comprises a series of school-based PE and CCE lessons facilitated by teachers as well as a 5-day expeditionary course at Outward Bound Singapore (OBS).

The 5-day course will be conducted from 25 June 2018 to 29 June 2018 and 3 July 2018 to 7 July 2018 at OBS in Pulau Ubin and/or mainland Singapore. Using the outdoors as the 'classroom' for learning and development, the course will offer our Secondary 3 students a unique opportunity to work together with students from other schools and to overcome various outdoor challenges. Through the course, students will learn to:

1. manage challenges positively through self-directed learning and making the right choices to influence their circumstances;
2. build friendships with students from different school backgrounds and actively help each other to achieve team goals in an inclusive manner; and
3. commit to play an active role in the improvement of one's community and the environment.

## **7. WorldSkills Singapore (WSS)**

WSS 2018 is a key Education and Career Guidance (ECG) event for students that provides a good learning opportunity to increase their awareness of skills, learn about the importance of skills mastery, and explore the different industries. Selected students in Secondary 2 and 3 Normal course will participate in this event on 6 Jul (Fri, T3 W2) at Suntec Convention and Exhibition Centre, 3pm to 6pm. Highlights of the programme include: -

- Tour of the WorldSkills competition area
- Exploration of ECG booths, featuring the following industry clusters: Engineering, Infocomm Technology, Social and Personal Services, Transport and Logistics, Creative Arts and Fashion
- Attendance of either an ECG talk or workshop

In addition, parents of all levels are invited to join a talk, titled ““The Possibilities Series”, on 07 July, 2pm at Suntec Convention Centre (Nicoll 3 Room). The panel includes six futurists, entrepreneurs and lecturers, who are also all parents themselves. They will be discussing what the future world is like, what employers will be looking out for when hiring, and how parents can support and encourage their children’s dreams and help them see possibilities. Registration can be done online via the following link: [http://bit.ly/POS\\_Series](http://bit.ly/POS_Series).

## **8. ICT Enrichment Programme**

Selected Sec 1 Express students will be attending an ICT enrichment programme starting 10 July 2018 (Tue). The programme aims to empower them with essential ICT competencies for the 21st Century. Based on the results of the ICT baseline competency test conducted in January 2018, students who have not met the minimum baseline ICT standards prescribed by MOE will be required to attend. Details on the programme will be given to these selected students.

## **9. Commemoration of Racial Harmony Day**

Schools commemorate Racial Harmony Day (RHD) on 20 July (Fri) and the theme for RHD 2018 is *Diversity Our Strength*. It is a day for schools to reflect on and celebrate our success as a harmonious nation and society built on a rich diversity of cultures and heritages. The RHD Commemoration helps students to understand the customs and traditions of the different races and religions and learn to respect these customs and traditions, and the need for the different races and religions to coexist peacefully.

On 21 July 1964, Singapore saw racial riots. RHD serves to remind our students about the serious consequences of a breakdown in racial and religious harmony, that social division costs us dearly and that race and religion are potential fault-lines in Singapore’s multi-racial and multi-religious society. These lessons can be drawn from our own history as well as recent incidents in the world. The message is that racial and religious harmony cannot be taken for granted.

## 10. Edusave Character Award (ECHA)

MOE introduced the Edusave Character Award (ECHA) in 2012 to enable schools to recognise students who demonstrate exemplary character and outstanding personal qualities through their behaviour and actions. This is part of the larger goal to foster an inclusive and stronger Singapore as we broaden the qualities and achievements to be encouraged and applauded. The award also supports schools' continuing efforts in nurturing students of good values and character, who are active contributors and concerned citizens. These students can be role models to inspire others. They may be nominated by their teachers or any staff members, peers, parents, instructors, coaches, members of school Alumni and/or any other key stakeholders who interact with them.

Nomination forms are obtainable from the school's general office or can be downloaded from the school website, from 18 July till 7 August 2018. Completed forms can either be dropped into a sealed nomination box in the school's general office or emailed to [ycss@moe.edu.sg](mailto:ycss@moe.edu.sg). Closing date for submission is on 7 August 2018.

We thank you for your support and look forward to receiving the entries soon. If there are any queries, please contact Mr Leung Yulun, Head of Department/Character & Citizenship Education, at 6261 2489 (ext 115).

## 11. Health Promotion Board Active Youth ReCHARGE Programme

Active Youth ReCHARGE programme is organised by Health Promotion Board (HPB) and will be held in all mainstream primary and secondary schools. Students with Body Mass Index (BMI)-for-age of 90th percentile and above are highly encouraged to sign up for the programme. To inspire and motivate students to make lifestyle modifications so as to achieve a healthier weight status, our school has arranged an exciting list of activities for our students.

The details of the activities are as follows:

No.	Date for sessions (2018)	Time of session	Type of activities	Location of activity
		(1 or 1.5hr duration)		
1	23 July	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	K-Kardio	Yuan Ching Secondary School
2	30 July	2:30 pm - 4.00 pm	Touch Rugby	
3	4 September	2:30 pm - 4.00 pm	Kin ball	
4	10 September	2:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Zumba	

## 12. 53rd National Day Commemoration in Conjunction with School Speech and Prize Presentation Day

This year's National Day Celebration marks the 53rd Anniversary of our country's independence. The theme this year is 'We are Singapore'. In conjunction with the National Day Commemoration, the school will be holding our school's 40th Speech and Prize Presentation Day. The event will be held on 8 August (Wed), from 7.30 to 11 am. Students will be dismissed at 11 am on that day. More details of the celebration will be given to the students closer to the event.

### **13. Experience ITE Programme (EIP)**

EIP is specially designed for secondary school students to introduce the benefits of an ITE education to them, through the authentic learning environment in ITE. The students will have a chance to try out a range of fun, hands-on projects which will challenge their creativity. Through participating in these, the students will better understand the Hands-on, Minds-on, Hearts-on education at ITE.

EIP is a formal part of the Sec 2NT curriculum for all students in 2T1. The duration will be 2 days, and the details are as follows:

- 27 August (Mon, T3 W10) at ITE College West (Choa Chu Kang), 9am to 4.30pm
- 28 August (Tue, T3 W10) at ITE College East (Simei), 9am to 4.30pm

### **14. Teachers' Day Celebration**

Last but not least, the school will be celebrating Teachers' Day on 30 August 2018 (Thu). Students will be dismissed at 10.30 am on that day. We would like to remind all parents that, in general, civil servants are not allowed to accept gifts offered to them on account of their official position or official work. Hence, while we appreciate the good intent of you and your child, we appeal to you to exercise prudence in showing your appreciation to our teachers. In addition to your child's expression of appreciation, we encourage parents to pen words of affirmation for our teachers and administrative staff, as your support goes a long way to encourage them to lead, care and inspire your child to excellence.

We would also like to wish you and your child a happy September holidays following the Teachers' Day holiday on 31 August 2018 (Fri).

Chuah-Koh Eng Ngoh (Mrs)  
Principal  
4 July 2018