



YUAN CHING SECONDARY SCHOOL

耘青中学



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Parents' Connect

Ref No: 02/2019

March & April Issue

1. Principal's Address

Greetings to you! The past two months have been an enriching time for my colleagues and students. Some key highlights of Term 1 included Sec 1 Meet the Parents cum CCA Showcase, Ethnic Celebrations and our commemoration of Total Defence Day.

On 16 Feb, MOE released a set of guidelines on positive school-home partnerships. The central feature of the guidelines is how schools and parents can work hand-in-hand so that our children develop self-management skills, take responsibility as well as ownership of their learning, and build resilience. This partnership is most effective when founded on mutual respect and trust.

There are several areas we hope to partner you in and each of these areas are critical in supporting your child's development of values and skills that will help them navigate the complexities and uncertainties of the future:

- i. **Developing good habits** - We want to nurture your child to be a self-directed learner with good habits and takes responsibility for his/her own learning.
- ii. **Managing self** - We want your child to be able to manage challenges and make ethical responsible decisions to thrive in the VUCA future.
- iii. **Relating to others** - We want your child to be confident, respectful and have integrity when interacting with others.
- iv. **Working with the school to know and support your child** - We want to develop and strengthen mutual understanding, respect and trust between the school and parents for the benefit of your child.

I am confident that a strong school-home partnership anchored on mutual respect and trust would eventually see to your child's success in life! I have appended these guidelines in the following page for your information.

Help your child succeed in life

Our children do best when schools and parents work hand in hand to support them. Here are some tips to make this happen...

Work with the school to know and support your child

- Have regular conversations with teachers in both academic and non-academic areas – this will help you better guide your child's development.
- Check the teachers' preferred mode of communication – they are not required to share their mobile numbers.
- Understand that teachers may not be able to respond to your queries immediately.

Help your child relate to others

- Work with the teachers to help your child respect differences and resolve disagreements amicably.
- Let the school verify the facts in any incident before taking action to ensure a fair, objective outcome for all parties.

Help your child develop good habits

- Create a conducive home environment for your child to enjoy reading and to finish his/her homework by himself/herself.
- Encourage your child to live a healthy, balanced life with time for sleep and play.

Help your child manage himself/herself

- Guide your child in managing his/her time.
- Encourage your child to help out with household chores.

Our children succeed when parents and schools work hand in hand.

Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

In line with Cyber Wellness education in schools, I have also attached a tip sheet on 'Helping Your Child With Appropriate Online Expression' so that you can better guide your child to be responsible digital learners.

Finally, I would like to thank parents for your continual support in ensuring that your child attends school punctually and regularly so that he/she would be able to benefit fully from the various school experiences in Yuan Ching Secondary School. Research has shown that regular school attendance is a predictive factor of good learning outcomes and holistic development of learners. Please continue to partner us closely in supporting your child's growth journey in his/her academic, CCA and enrichment programmes.

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. 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: 15 Mar 2019 (Fri) Time: 6.00 pm – 8.45 pm Venue: School Hall	Focus: Preparing for the final lap and post-secondary pathways available
Sec 2 students	Date: 5 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 would be sent to you to confirm your attendance for the session and to provide details of the programme.

3. Supplementary lessons in March Holiday (18-19 March 2019)

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 18-19 Mar, they will be issued with a Schedule by 13 Mar 2019. 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 (25 Mar – 28 Mar) Sec 1 to 5 Customised Level Programmes

We have set aside Term 2, Week 1 for a plethora of customised enrichment programmes to broaden learning experiences and to develop 21CC skills in our students, as outlined below.

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 difference race so that they can operate in the region comfortably in future.	Date: 25 Mar -28 Mar Venue: Sec 1 Classrooms Time: Morning (Refer to lesson schedule given to students)

Level	Programme	Objective	Details
Sec 1	Arts Education Programme (AEP)	A 3-session course that exposes students to the history of dance, learn basic hip hop dance steps and dance choreography.	Date: 25 Mar - 28 Mar Venue: ISH Time: Afternoon (Refer to lesson schedule given to students)
Sec 2	4D3N Outdoor Adventure Camp	A 4D3N camp designed to help students develop resilience, teamwork through rugged outdoor living, challenging common experiences, so as to build strong camaraderie and social bonds with their peers and teachers.	Date: 25 Mar – 28 Mar Venue: Terror Sea Scout Campsite, Sembawang Reporting Time: 25 Mar, 7.00am (in school) Dismissal Time: 28 Mar, 2.00pm (from school)
Sec 3Exp	Math Modelling (MM) Camp	An enrichment programme that exposes students to the application of Maths in authentic scenarios, and aims to develop 21CC and creative problem-solving.	Date: 26 Mar – 28 Mar Venue: Comp Lab 1-4 Time: 9am – 2pm
Sec 3N/T	Elective Modules (Category A)	EMs serve to extend and build on the existing subjects through applied learning, and expose students to possible career pathways. Modules are: -Interactive Electronics(3T) -Digital Sound Reinforcement(3T) -Security with Technology(3N) -Practical Energy & Water Conservation (3N) -Social Media Content Development (3N) -Essentials of Personal Finance (3N)	Date: 25 Mar – 28 Mar Venue: ITE College (West/East/Central) Time: 8am – 5pm (Refer to schedule)
Sec 4N/T	Elective Modules (Category B)	-3D Design Engineering -Mechanical Engineering -Applied Food Science	Date: 25 Mar – 28 Mar Venue: School Time: 8am – 2pm
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: 25 Mar - 26 Mar Venue: Hall/Classroom Time: 8am – 2pm
	MTL Intensive Programme	Help students deepen and reinforce MTL competencies in preparation for the National Exams in Jun.	Date: 27 Mar – 28 Mar Venue: 4E/5N Classrooms Time: 9am – 12pm/2pm

Sec 4E	Humanities Programme	An enrichment programme that aims to deepen and reinforce Geographical Investigation (GI) & Historical Investigation (HI) skills for students offering the Humanities Elective.	Date: 28 Mar Venue: Gardens by the Bay (GI) / School (HI) Time: 8am – 2pm
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6. Commemoration of International Friendship Day on 12 April 2019 (Fri)

This year, the theme for International Friendship Day (IFD) is **Connected Communities**. 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. In addition, 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.

We have partnered Grace Orchard School to form combined teams in our upcoming annual track and field meet. This interaction aims to develop inclusivity, empathy, humility and patience in our students.

7. National Physical Fitness Assessment (NAPFA) for Sec 2 and Sec 4 & 5 Students

The PE Department would be conducting the NAPFA assessment for Sec 2 and Sec 4 & 5 students on the following dates and times:

Sec 2 students	Date: 15 Apr 2019 (Mon) Time: 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm
Sec 4 & 5 students	Date: 18 Apr 2019 (Thu) Time: 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm

Your support is sought to encourage and motivate your children to prepare for the assessment through regular physical exercise and conditioning over the following weeks.

8. 41st Annual Track & Field Championship on 16 April 2019 (Tue)

The details of the school's Annual Track & Field Championship are as follows:

Date: 16 Apr (Tue)
Venue: Bukit Gombak Stadium
Address: 800 Bukit Batok West Avenue 5, Singapore 659081
Time: 7.20 am – 12.30 pm

Leading up to the Finals on 16 Apr, three Heats will be conducted as qualifying rounds and finals for some events on 1 Apr (Mon), 4 Apr (Thu) and 9 Apr (Tue) at Bukit Gombak Stadium from 3.00 pm to 5.30 pm. You are cordially invited to attend the Finals on 16 Apr. A separate invitation would be given to you through your child to indicate your attendance and whether you would be participating in the event as a parent.

9. Standing-down of CCA for Sec 4 & 5 Students on 27 April 2019 (Sat)

Sec 4 & 5 students will officially be released from their CCA commitments on 27 Apr 2019 (Sat) so that they can channel their time and energy in preparation for the National Examinations.

10. 2019 Mid-Year Examinations (MYE)

As announced by MOE, there will be no MYE for Sec 1 students starting from 2019. The freed up time will allow our teachers to leverage on engaging pedagogies to infuse joy of learning in the respective subjects, help students deepen their understanding of the subject through inquiry and experiential learning, and develop 21st Century Competencies in our students. MYE for Sec 2 to Sec 5 students will be held from 22 Apr 2019 (Mon) to 16 May 2019 (Thu). 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.

From Term 2 onwards, our school will communicate with parents through MOE's PG Mobile App. This app will bring several benefits including:

- Providing parents easy access to our announcements and important school news
- Enabling parents to give consent for school activities

We strongly encourage all parents to download and use the PG App as it will bring significant benefits for you. For more information on how to login, parents can refer to the school website (<https://yuanchingsec.moe.edu.sg/useful-links/parents-gateway>). You can access the school website by scanning the QR code on page 1 of this letter.

NG SOOK KIT (MS)
PRINCIPAL
8 Mar 2019