



Parents' Connect

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May - Jun Issue

1. A LOOK BACK – SEMESTER 1, 2017

We have almost completed the first semester of 2017 and it is appropriate for us to look back and appreciate what we have accomplished in the first semester. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents who had participated and celebrated with us in many of our school events such as the Ethnic Celebrations in January, Annual Cross Country in March and Annual Track and Field Meet in April. Your participation had certainly added to the colour and vibrancy of these events, making them memorable for our staff and students.

2. SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL (SYF) PRESENTATIONS

We are delighted to share that our Performing Arts CCA Groups had done the school proud in this year's SYF Presentations. Their achievements are as follows:

1. Guzheng	Certificate of Distinction
2. Concert Band	Certificate of Accomplishment
3. Chinese Dance	Certificate of Accomplishment
4. Malay Dance	Certificate of Accomplishment
5. Indian Dance	Certificate of Accomplishment
6. Drama (Ah Ma's Hand)	Certificate of Commendation
7. Drama (How Violence is Ended)	Certificate of Accomplishment

We appreciate your understanding and support of your child during their practices and preparations for the presentations. Through it, you had made significant contributions to their success!

3. HEALTHY MEALS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME (HMSP)

Our school canteen has been implementing the Healthy Meals in Schools Programme (HMSP) since Semester 2 of 2016. All meals served in the school canteen comprise a balanced mix of the four different food groups – carbohydrates, such as brown rice and wholemeal bread, vegetables, meat and fruits.

Childhood and adolescent years are crucial for setting the foundation for healthy growth. Eating a nutritionally balanced diet supports optimal growth and development. We seek your support to encourage your child to adopt healthy eating habits when buying their meals in the school canteen. By encouraging healthy eating habits now, we can give our children the best opportunity to grow into healthy adults.

4. 2017 MID-YEAR EXAMINATIONS

Your child would have completed the written papers for the Mother Tongue and English Language examinations in April. We would like to highlight the start dates of the written papers for the rest of the subjects for the Mid-year Examination:-

Sec 4 Express/5 Normal Academic - 3 May (Wed)
*MT Oral Examination would be conducted in the afternoon on 2 May (Tue)

Sec 4 Normal Academic - 4 May (Thu)

Sec 4 Normal Technical - 8 May (Mon)

Sec 3 Express - 4 May (Thu)
*EL Oral Examinations would be conducted in the afternoon on 3 May (Wed).

Sec 3 Normal Academic - 4 May (Thu)

Sec 3 Normal Technical - 8 May (Mon)

Sec 1 Express and Normal Academic - 9 May (Tue)
*EL Listening Comprehension would be conducted in the afternoon on 4 May (Thu).

Sec 2 Express and Normal Academic - 9 May (Tue)
*EL Listening Comprehension would be conducted in the afternoon on 2 May (Tue).

Sec 1 and Sec 2 Normal Technical - 9 May (Tue)
*EL Listening Comprehension would be conducted in the afternoon on 2 May (Tue) for Sec 2NT, and on 4 May (Thu) for Sec 1NT.

You can refer to the examination time-tables given to your child for the detailed schedules. Students who are not having any examination paper need not report for school on that day.

The Mid-year Examination ends on **12 May (Fri)**.

15 May (Mon) is Marking Day and students are not required to report to school on that day. Lessons will resume on **16 May (Tue)** till the end of the term. We would like to remind that the school will be closed during the public holidays on 1 May (Mon) and 10 May (Wed).

5. TERM 2, WEEK 10 (22 TO 26 MAY) - CUSTOMISED INSTRUCTIONAL AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES

In Term 2, Week 10, we have programmes that cater for the holistic development of our students. A summary of the programmes is given in the following table:

Cohort level/Course	Customised Instructional and Enrichment Programmes
Sec 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Swimming Assessment and Water Activity for all Sec 1Learning Journey to Kidzania for Sec 1NTValues-in-Action (VIA) Programme for Sec 1NA and 1NT
Sec 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Arts Education Programme (AEP) –Drumming Workshop to deepen students' appreciation of the aestheticsLearning for Life Programme (LLP) -Dragon Boat Orientation Course to introduce students to the values, basic knowledge and skills of dragon boatingEducation and Career Guidance (ECG) Fair to enable students to make well-informed post-secondary options aligned to their career aspirations.
Sec 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">An outdoor Confidence Challenge camp to inculcate values, life skills and desired attitudes in studentsCode for Fun Workshop an extension of our Applied Learning Programme (ALP) for Sec 3E
Sec 4 NA and 4 NT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Education and Career Guidance Fair to enable students to make well-informed post-secondary options aligned to

	their career aspirations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCE 'N' Level Food and Nutrition Practical examination
Sec 4E and 5 Normal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Intensive Programme in preparation for Mid-Year GCE 'O' Level MTL examination • GCE 'O' Level Food and Nutrition Practical examination

The details of some of these programmes are given in the following sections while the details of the rest would be shared closer to the dates of the programmes.

a) SEC 1 SWIMMING ASSESSMENT AND WATER ACTIVITY

As swimming is a critical life skill for water safety, we have a Swimming Assessment and Water Activity for all Sec 1 students. This programme is part of the school's Learning for Life Programme (LLP) and Sports Education Programme (SEP). For students who have not been certified before, a swimming assessment will be conducted to place them in the appropriate swimming groups for the SwimSafer Programme in Term 3, 2017. Students who have been certified are not required to attend the swimming assessment. The details of the assessment are as follows:

Date: 24 May (Wed)

Time: 3.00 to 5.00 pm

Venue: Bukit Batok Swimming Complex

b) SEC 1NT LEARNING JOURNEY TO KIDZANIA

The objective of the Learning Journey to Kidzania, tentatively scheduled on 25 May, is for students to explore their strengths and interests through various hands-on activities in Kidzania. From these experiences, it is hoped that the students will be able to develop their confidence. This will also motivate and enable them to make better choices for their future courses at higher learning institutions.

c) SEC 1NA AND 1NT VALUES-IN-ACTION (VIA) PROGRAMME

The students will be going to Willing Hearts (Chai Chee Community Hub) for their VIA Project on 22 to 24 May, from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm. The objective of the visit is to provide an opportunity for our students to understand the needs of the low income elderly in our society. Students will be helping Willing Hearts' Soup Kitchen in the preparation and packaging of daily meals for 5000 needy elderly island wide.

d) SEC 2 ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAMME (AEP) – DRUMMING WORKSHOP

Arts Education Programme (AEP) is integral to developing our students holistically. We have a Basic Drumming Workshop, from 22 to 24 May, as part of our AEP, for students to learn basic drumming skills and learn to make use of recycled materials to create rhythms in music. At the same time, they will be exposed to the different drumming techniques of the different ethnic drums.

e) SEC 2 DRAGON BOAT ORIENTATION COURSE

The 2-hour Dragon Boat Orientation Course is part of our Learning for Life Programme (LLP) to introduce students to the basic knowledge and skills of dragon boating. Students will also develop social and emotional competencies such as self and social awareness and interpersonal skills to enhance their communication and collaboration with their peers. The details of the course are as follows:

Date: 23 May (Tue)

Session 1

Classes: 2E1, 2N1 & 2T1

Time: 9.00 am to 11.00 am

Session 2

Classes: 2E2, 2E3, 2E4 & 2N2

Time: 11.00 am to 1.00 pm

Venue: Water-Venture (Lower Seletar Reservoir) - People's Association

f) SEC 3 CONFIDENCE CHALLENGE CAMP

The Confidence Challenge Camp is a 3D2N outdoor adventure camp for students to develop confidence, resilience and teamwork through rugged outdoor living. Additionally, they will build strong camaraderie and social bonds with their peers through the challenging common experiences and develop strong teacher-student relationships through such out-of-classroom interactions.

The details of the camp are as follows:

Date: 22 to 24 May (Mon to Wed)

Reporting time: 22 May (Mon) - 7.20 am

Dismissal Time: 24 May (Wed) - 2.00 pm

Venue: Sarimbun Scout Camp

A Post-Camp Reflection Activity will be conducted on 26 May (Fri) in the school

g) SEC 2 AND SEC 4N EDUCATION & CAREER GUIDANCE (ECG) FAIR

An ECG Fair, planned in alignment to the recommendations of SkillsFuture, will be held on 22 May for Sec 2 students and on 23 and 24 May for Sec 4N students. The details of the ECG Fair are summarised as follows:

Sec 2 ECG Fair

Objectives:

- To strengthen students' awareness of post-secondary education at Polytechnics and Institutes of Technical Education (ITE)
- To enable students to make informed decisions when choosing their Sec 3 subject combinations

Activities:

- Talk on post-secondary education at Polytechnic and ITE by officers from Ngee Ann Poly (ECG Counsellor) and ITE (Marketing Communications)
- Students will be guided to identify courses of interest at Polytechnic or ITE and the relevant subjects needed with reference to their findings from 'Discovering My Education & Career Interest Profile'

Sec 4N ECG Fair

Objectives:

- To strengthen students' Social Emotional (SE) competencies such as self-awareness, self-management and responsible decision making, in achieving their goals/aspirations in life.
- To enable students to make informed decisions on education and career choices.

Activities:

- Motivation talk and sharing on study skills by Year Head and Senior Teacher
- Sharing of experiences and good practices by alumni
- ECG counselling / Circle Time, facilitated by form teachers
- Concurrent session of talks by ITE lecturers from the different fields, based on the students' interests
- Concurrent session of talks by professionals from the different industries

h) SEC 4E AND 5NA MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE INTENSIVE PROGRAMME

The programme will be held from 22 to 27 May, during school hours, to prepare graduating students for the 2017 GCE 'O' Level Mother Tongue Language Examination on **29 May and on 30 May for MTL 'B'**. Selected students who need extra help may be asked to stay back for small group consultation sessions in the afternoon.

The timetable provided by Singapore Examinations & Assessment Board (SEAB) will be issued to your child together with the entry proofs after the Mid-year Examination.

6. MEET-THE-PARENTS (MTP) SESSION

The schedule for Meet-the-Parents (MTP) sessions to be held at the end of Semester 1 is as follows:

Level	Date	Time	Student Segment
Sec 1, 2, 4 & 5	26 May (Fri)	11.00 am. - 4.30 pm.	Selected students
Sec 3	25 May (Thu)	6.15 pm. - 8.30 pm.	All Sec 3 students

We seek your support and cooperation to set aside time on the given dates to meet up with our teachers. A letter will be sent to you for booking a suitable time slot to meet up with your child's teachers. Parents of Sec 3 students are advised to have a light dinner before coming for the session on 25 May (Thu) as the session could last till 8.30 p.m.

The MTP sessions provide you with the opportunity to learn of your child's progress in Semester 1. You can discuss with the form and subject teachers on the gaps in your child's learning and development that should be addressed during the June holidays so that your child would be better prepared for Semester 2.

We will also like to alert that due to the short period that Sec 1 students have attended school since the start of 2017, we will not be including their Conduct Grade for their mid-year report. Sec 1 students will receive their conduct grade in the end-of-year report. Additionally, we would like to stress that CCA is an important aspect in developing students' character and well-being. It is important for all students to attend their CCA regularly. Students' attendance in their CCA will be one of the factors in determining their conduct grade.

7. THE LAST DAY OF SEMESTER 1 – 26 MAY (FRI)

The schedule for the last day of Semester 1, 26 May (Fri) is as follows:

Level	Programme	Time
Sec 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circle Time• Release of Mid-year Exam results• MTP Session with parents of selected students	8.00 a.m. –9.15 a.m. 9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. 11.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.
Sec 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ECG Fair• Release of Mid-year Exam results• MTP Session with parents of selected students	8.00 a.m. –9.15 a.m. 9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. 11.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.
Sec 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Post-Camp Reflection• Class Admin	8.00 a.m. – 9.30 a.m. 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.
Sec 4 NA & NT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circle Time• Release of Mid-year Exam results• MTP Session with parents of selected students	8.00 a.m. –9.15 a.m. 9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. 11.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Sec 4E & 5N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother Tongue Language Examination Intensive Preparation Programme • Release of Mid-year Exam results • MTP Session with parents of selected students 	8.00 a.m. –9.15 a.m. 9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. 11.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.
All Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closure of School 	5.00 p.m.

*Parents may request to meet teachers during the first week of the school holidays should they be unavailable during the MTP scheduled on 26 May.

In support of the nationwide ‘Eat With Your Family Day’ initiative, the school will close at 5.00 p.m. on 26 May (Fri) to allow our staff time to make their way home for dinner with their families. We seek your support for this initiative and to make a special effort to do likewise with your families.

8. STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES

a) INSPIRING LEADERS TRAINING CAMP

The Inspiring Leaders consist of the Sec 3 Student Councillors and CCA Leaders. As a follow up to the Inspiring Leaders Camp held on the 13th and 14th of March, a training session is scheduled on 17 May (Wed), from 2.30 to 4.30pm. This will be the first session of the Inspiring Leaders Training Development Programme. The aim of this programme is to equip the Inspiring Leaders with the necessary leadership skills and also serves as a platform for feedback and reflection.

b) LEADERSHIP TRAINING CAMP @ YUHUA

The Yuhua Leadership Training Camp (LTC) is co-organised by Yuhua Community Club and Pioneer Junior College, targeted at lower secondary student leaders. The LTC is a 2 day stay-out camp conducted from 1 to 2 June. The students can look forward to experiential activities that are infused with learning points on leadership competencies. Selected Sec 2 student councillors will be taking part in the LTC.

c) NATIONAL EDUCATION YOUTH AMBASSADOR TRAINING (SILVER/GOLD – NE GALLERY: DOCENT & TRAILS GUIDE TRACK) FOR SEC 2 – 3 NATIONAL EDUCATION AMBASSADORS

Selected students will undergo training for the Silver/Gold Badge on 30 May (Tue). The training comprises a hands-on and practical session with the following learning objectives:

1. To improve research and script-writing skills.
2. To promote guiding and communication skills through hands-on session such as oral presentation and peer guiding/evaluation for a NE Gallery Docent/Trails Guide.
3. To build self-confidence so that students believe that they can do their part to make a difference in promoting National Education in the school.

Through the training, students will be able to acquire 21st Century Competencies such as communication, information processing and analysis. Students will be given opportunities to practise and hone these competencies through their support of school events such as NE Commemorative Events and Sec 1 Orientation Programme.

9. JUNE HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

a) SUPPLEMENTARY LESSONS

The supplementary lessons will be conducted for selected groups or classes from Sec 1 to 5 on the first week and last week of the June Holidays. More details on the selected groups/classes, subjects for the lessons and the venues will be issued to students in Term 2 Week 10. We seek your co-operation to ensure that your child attends these lessons when required to do so.

b) ICT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM: CREATIVE AND INTERACTIVE MEDIA WORKSHOP

The Creative and Interactive Media Workshop is an in-house ICT Program that aims to help students explore their own creativity in interactive media. The programme is designed for a selected group comprising 20 to 25 students from the Infocomm Club as well as interested students from the school population. Participating students will be taught the basics of Adobe Photoshop, script-writing, video-making and post-editing skills. Through this workshop, students will be able to learn how to create digital art pieces, such as online posters, videos and billboards. The programme will be conducted in our school's Computer Lab 2 from 29 May to 1 Jun (Mon to Thu) from 10 am to 4 pm. Students will be given a 1 hr lunch break at 12.30 pm.

c) ADVANCED ELECTIVE MODULES (AEMs)

Two AEMs have been organised for selected Sec 3 Express and NA students with the objective of broadening their learning experiences and providing for their varied learning needs through applied learning with the following foci:

- Extend and build on the learning objectives of existing subjects through applied learning
- Introduce students to a course of study in post-secondary education institutions
- Expose students to possible career paths

Students will choose one of the following AEMs:

1. AEM: Introduction to Tourism & Hospitality
Date: 19 – 22 Jun 2017 (Mon-Thu)
Conducted by: Singapore Polytechnic: School of Business
2. AEM: The Science of Ship Design
Date: 20 – 23 Jun 2017 (Tue-Fri)
Conducted by: Ngee Ann Polytechnic: School of Engineering

10. ROAD SAFETY

We would like to inform you that the school has made the following safety enhancements for road safety within the school compound:-

- Installation of a road hump at the foyer driveway exit for vehicle and student safety; and
- Installation of several road reflectors at the school main entrance and exit gate for vehicle safety.

We seek the co-operation of all parents driving to the school to keep within the speed limit of 15km/h when driving within the school premise.

11. HAPPY JUNE HOLIDAYS

In the upcoming June vacation, we hope that you will be able to spend some quality time with your child in meaningful activities. We request that you support and encourage your child to

make use of the school holidays to close learning gaps surfaced in Semester 1 so that they can sustain their academic progress in Semester 2.

If you have plans to bring your child overseas during the June vacations, we seek your co-operation in declaring the travel plans. You may submit your travel declaration by accessing the school website for the online form. Alternatively, you may obtain a hard copy of the Travel Declaration form from the General Office. These declarations must be submitted before the start of the school holidays or before your child travels overseas.

We would also like to remind that the school has high expectations for our students' conduct and behaviours. In preparation for the reopening of the school on 27 Jun (Tue), the first day of Semester 2, we seek your support and cooperation to ensure that your child's attire and grooming is in compliance with the school rules, as spelt out in the Student Handbook. Students' readiness for the new semester is demonstrated through their attire and grooming on the first day. A good start will go a long way in ensuring quality outcomes at the end of the semester.

CHUAH-KOH ENG NGOH (MRS)
PRINCIPAL
2 MAY 2017