



# Parents' Connect

Ref No: 02/2017

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 included Sec 1 Meet the Parents cum CCA Showcase, Ethnic Celebrations programme and our commemoration of Total Defence Day.

I would like to thank parents for your continual support in ensuring that your child attends school regularly so that he/she would be able to benefit fully from the various school experiences in Yuan Ching Secondary School. Research and our experience has shown that our students' attendance has a significant impact on their learning and holistic development. Thus I would like to seek your co-operation in ensuring that your child is in school during the academic term.

In line with our school's safety vision: A Safe School For All, we are committed to ensuring a safe and secure environment for all. Thus I would like to remind parents who drive into school to observe the speed limit for the safety of everyone within the school.

*"To be in your children's memories tomorrow, you have to be in their lives today."*

– Barbara Johnson

As the above quote suggests, may this March holiday be a time where you can have deeper conversations with your child to help him/her to reflect, recollect and recharge before the start of the next academic term. Here's wishing your family a meaningful time over the March holidays.

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

The schedule for Sec 2 and Sec 4 & 5 Meet The Parents (MTP) sessions and the outlines of the programmes are as follows:

### Sec 4 & 5 MTP

Level	Date	Time
Sec 4 & 5	10 Mar (Fri)	6.00 p.m. – 8.30 p.m.

### Programme Outline

The MTP session will provide you with the opportunity to learn of your child's progress in Term 1. You can discuss with their form and subject teachers on the gaps in his/her learning and development that should be addressed during the Mar holidays so that your child would be better prepared for Term 2. At the same time, I would be sharing with you the school's expectations and support for our students in their preparation for the national examinations. We will also be sharing an article titled 'Keeping Your Family Safe Online' and a video link on 'Creating a Safe Internet for Kids' as a cyber wellness parenting resource. A letter would be sent to you to confirm your attendance for the session and to provide details of the programme for the session.

### **Sec 2 MTP**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Sec 2	24 Mar (Fri)	6.00 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.

### Programme Outline

The MTP session will provide you with the opportunity to learn of your children's progress in school. You can discuss with their form and subject teachers on your child's learning and development so far, and to understand the gaps that should be addressed so that your child could make the required improvements. At the same time, we would be sharing our 2018 Sec 3 Subject combinations and eligibility criteria with you so that you can support and guide your child to garner academic results that meet the relevant eligibility criteria for their preferred subject combinations. Hence I seek your support to set aside time from your schedule to attend this MTP session. A letter would be sent to you to confirm your attendance for the session and to provide details of the programme for the session.

### **3. Student Leadership Development Programmes on 13 & 14 March**

In line with our school's mission of 'Enriching Minds, Unleashing Potential, Impacting Lives, we believe in growing our students through the different student leadership development programmes. I seek your support to allow your child to participate in these leadership programmes listed below.

#### **Sports Leaders Workshop**

A one-day Sports Leaders Workshop will be held on 13 March 2017 as one of two modules. Upon completion of the modules, Sports Leaders will be awarded the Sports Leader Award (SLA) which is recognised through the LEAPS 2.0 grading scheme. Through this workshop, Sports Leaders will learn the various practices and skills necessary to serve the school and larger community in a variety of areas such as Sports Day, Annual Cross Country, Inter-class games and West Zone Table Tennis Competitions. By leading their peers in these sports and recreational activities, Sports Leaders are able to develop qualities of leadership and responsibility and to demonstrate organisational ability and decision-making skills.

#### **Inspiring Leaders Training Camp**

The school is organising a 2 day – 1 night Leadership Camp for the Sec 3 Inspiring Leaders during the March Holidays from 13 March 2017 to 14 March 2017 in the school. The Inspiring Leaders consist of the Sec 3 Student Councillors and the CCA Leaders, forming the highest echelon of student leaders in the school. Through this leadership camp, the student leaders will further strengthen their social emotional learning and hone their leadership skills. This camp is the first of a series of training sessions meant to develop the leaders.

### **Class Leaders Workshop**

A two-day Class Leaders Workshop will be held during the March Holidays on 13 and 14 March 2017. Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each class will be officially appointed as Class Leaders upon completion of the workshop. Through this programme, Class Leaders will learn the various practices of the Leadership Challenge Model and other skills necessary to lead the class.

#### **4. 2017 Annual Cross-Country on 4 March 2017 (Sat)**

The school would be holding its annual Cross-Country run at Jurong Lake Park on 4 Mar (Sat) from 7.30 am – 11.30 am. The event is an opportunity for our students to demonstrate their commitment to adopting a healthy lifestyle and strengthen their class spirit through their participation in the respective age-group competitive races. Attendance at this event is compulsory for students. Your child is allowed to wear running shoes, PE or class t-shirt for this event. You are cordially invited to join us for the walk/run should you be available on that morning.

#### **5. CCA Conduct Grade Assessment**

CCA is a key platform to nurture our students' character and support their holistic development. To strengthen our commitment to students' holistic development, we have introduced CCA Conduct Grade as an additional measure for holistic assessment of all students' conduct since 2016 and this measure will continue for the year 2017. CCA attendance will be used for the CCA Conduct Grade assessment to signal the importance of student engagement in school-organised CCA. The intent is to affirm students with good CCA attendance and participation and send a strong message to those students with poor attendance and are not actively engaged in their CCA. I seek your support and cooperation to ensure that your children attend their CCAs regularly and be affirmed through their holistic development and the attainment of good overall conduct grades at the end of each semester.

#### **6. Term 2, Week 1 (20 Mar – 24 Mar) Sec 1 to 5 Customised Level Programmes**

We have set aside Term 2, Week 1 to facilitate the planning and conduct of customised programmes that cater to the holistic development of our students across the respective cohort. Key programmes include Arts Education Programme for Sec 1s to deepen their appreciation of the aesthetics through experiential learning; an outdoor adventure camp for Sec 2 students to inculcate values, life skills and desired attitudes in our students; ITE-offered Elective Modules (EMs) for Sec 3 & 4 NA/NT students to give them first-hand experiences of the courses that they can take up there after completing their secondary school education. As for the Sec 4E & 5 students, an Education and Career Guidance (ECG) Fair has been organised to enable them to make well-informed post-secondary options aligned to their career aspirations. The details of these programmes are given in the following sections and schedule below.

#### **7. Sec 1 Arts Education Programme**

The school has arranged for a Hip Hop Dance course for all Sec 1 students as part of the Arts Education Programme. In this basic Hip Hop Dance course, students will learn the history of dance and dance as an aspect of the Arts. They will be taught basic hip hop dance steps, as well as hip hop dance choreography. The course comprises 3 sessions of 2.5 hours that would be conducted daily from 20 Mar (Mon) to 22 Mar (Wed).

## 8. Sec 2 Level Camp

The school has organized a 3 day - 2 night outdoor adventure camp coupled with a post-camp reflection activity in school for our Sec 2 students. The details of the camp are as follows:

- Date:** 20 Mar (Mon) - 22 Mar (Wed) (Camp)  
23 Mar (Thu) (Post-Camp Reflection Activity)
- Venue:** Camp Christine  
School (Post-Camp Reflection Activity)
- Time:** Camp  
Reporting time: 20 Mar (Mon) at 7.25 am in school  
Dismissal Time: 22 Mar (Wed) at 2.00 pm from school.
- Post-Camp Reflection Activity  
7.25 am – 2.00 pm in school.

Through the camp, our Sec 2 students would develop resilience and teamwork through rugged outdoor living, build strong camaraderie and social bonds with their peers through challenging common experiences and develop strong teacher-student relationships with their teachers through such out-of-classroom interactions.

## 9. Elective Module (EMs)

EMs serve to broaden the learning experiences of Normal Course students and to provide 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 educational institutes; and
- Expose students to possible career paths

**Date:**

- 20-23 March (Mon-Thu, T2 W1)

**Target Audience:**

- Sec 3NA/NT students
- Sec 4NA/NT students

The EMs offered for the respective levels/courses are given in the following table. Your child will choose an EM based on his/her interest and ability.

Level	Course	EMs Offered	Venue
Sec 3	NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fun with Electronics</li> <li>• Residential Electricity</li> </ul>	ITE College Central  ITE College East
Sec 3	NT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Media Content Development</li> <li>• Creating a Computer Game</li> </ul>	ITE College Central  ITE College Central
Sec 4	NA NT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3D Design Engineering</li> <li>• Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>• Applied Food Science</li> </ul>	School

## **10. Education & Career Guidance (ECG) Fair for Sec 4 Express & 5 NA Students**

In alignment to the recommendation from SkillsFuture to help students make well-informed education and career choices, we will be organising an ECG Fair, customized for all our Sec 4E/5NA students. Details of the ECG Fair are as follows:

### **Dates:**

- 20 & 21 March (Mon-Tue, Term 2 Week 1)

### **Target Audience:**

- Sec 4E/5NA students

### **Objectives:**

- Strengthen Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies of the students, in particular self-awareness, self-management and responsible decision making, in achieving their goals/aspirations in life; and
- Support the students to make informed education and career choices

### **Activities:**

- Motivation talk and sharing of study skills by Year Heads, Heads of Department and Senior Teacher
- Sharing of experiences and good practices by Alumni
- ECG counselling/Circle Time, facilitated by form teachers
- Concurrent session of talks by Polytechnic lecturers from the different field, based on the students' interest
- Concurrent talks by professionals from the different industries

## **11. Commemoration of International Friendship Day on 7 April 2017 (Fri)**

This year, the theme for International Friendship Day (IFD) is *ASEAN 50*. As we get more globally connected, it is important to develop an appreciation of and celebrate the diversity of the different nationalities, cultures and religions of our neighbouring countries. It is important to maintain good relations with our neighbouring countries and celebrate the diversity and vibrancy of the different nationalities who live in our region.

IFD commemoration aims to:

- allow students to examine how communities in Southeast Asia are connected through cultural, economic and geographical ties. This will help them to learn the value of maintaining good relations with our neighbours in the region;
- help students gain a deeper appreciation of regional cooperation and also recognize how an active foreign policy has enabled us to maintain our international space and good relations with neighbouring countries;
- develop a global outlook in students that enables them to relate well with people of different cultures, both within Singapore and in the world; 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.

Customised lesson packages and related enrichment programmes have been developed and planned to enable our students to attain the abovementioned outcomes.

## 12. 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: 10 April (Mon) Time: 2.45 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Sec 4 & 5 students	Date: 17 April (Mon) Time: 2.45 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

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.

## 13. 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Track & Field Championship on 7 April 2017 (Fri)

The details of the school's 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Track & Field Championship are as follows:

**Date:** 7 Apr (Fri)  
**Venue:** Bukit Gombak Stadium  
**Time:** 7.20 am – 12.30 pm.

Leading up to the Finals on 7 Apr, 3 Heats will be conducted as qualifying rounds and finals for some events on 27 Mar (Mon), 30 Mar (Thu) and 4 Apr (Tue) respectively. All the Heats will be conducted at Bukit Gombak Stadium from 3 pm to 5.30 pm. You are cordially invited to attend the Finals on 7 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 if you are attending.

## 14. Suspension of CCA for Sec 4 & 5 Students on 22 April 2017

I would like to inform you that CCA for Sec 4 & 5 students will officially end on 22 April so that they can channel their time and energy to their academic learning and to prepare themselves well for the National Examinations 2017.

## 15. 2017 Mid-Year Examinations (MYE)

For the upcoming 2017 Mid-Year Examinations, the Mother Tongue (MT) Examination and English Language Examination would be held on 27 Apr (Thu) and 28 Apr (Fri) respectively. The examinations for the other subjects would be from 3 May (Wed) to 12 May (Fri). Students would be issued the detailed MYE examination time-table for their level/course closer to the start of the Examinations.

Chuah-Koh Eng Ngoh (Mrs)  
Principal  
3 Mar 2017