



**Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)**  
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24 June 2022

### 2022 TERM 3 LETTER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings from GMS(S) and welcome back to Term 3! We hope this break has given you some time to bond with your child!

We believe that all students can learn and that they learn best if the learning experience is a joyful one and they feel safe. We recognise that comparisons with others can lead to unhealthy stress and would like to instead encourage our students to believe in themselves and to take steps to learn and improve themselves. This is part of GM's direction to promote good mental well-being and the Growth Mindset.

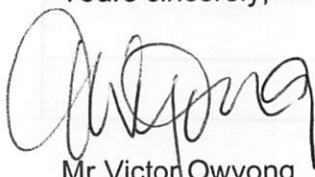
The termly theme for term 3 is 'Making a Positive Difference' with the school value 'Service' guiding our focus. This theme intends to encourage every GEM to be more self-less, looking beyond themselves to serve the needs of family, friends and community. An important and practical way that our GEMS can make a difference in the world is to play their part in sustainability. We will during this term reinforce the importance of recycling and being more mindful not to waste electricity, water and food. This is also an application of our school theme "To Grow in Friendship, Body and Mind", with the intent to grow the mind by being more aware that we can play our part to combat climate change and to be more resilient as a country in the face of global supply chain disruptions to energy and food.

As the local COVID-19 situation has been stable over the past months, in alignment to prevailing national SMMs, our current school SMMs will remain unchanged. To maintain our preparedness in attendance and temperature-taking, and to educate our GEMs to take personal responsibility for their own health and social responsibility, we will be conducting a temperature-taking exercise in Term 3. Do remind your child to bring a working Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) with them.

We look forward to seeing every GEM in the new term and we will continue to journey alongside you and your child to nurture them into passionate learners, courageous leaders and caring citizens, grounded in Godliness, Excellence, Mastery and Service.

May God continue to bless all of you richly as we connect, nurture and inspire one another as a community.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Victor Owyong  
Principal

**(A) TERM 3 MAIN SCHOOL EVENTS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Jun 27 (Mon)	GM Prayer and Praise @ 3.30 pm, Zoom Meeting
Jul 1 (Fri)	Sec 4/5 Graduation Walk
Jul 3-4 (Sun - Mon)	Youth Day and School Holiday
Jul 5 (Tues)	GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension Examinations (All students will be dismissed at 1.45pm to provide a more conducive environment for exams)
Jul 10-11 (Sun - Mon)	Hari Raya Haji and School Holiday
Jul 12-15 (Tue-Fri)	Internal Security Department Mobile Exhibition (for Sec 2 and Sec 3 students)
Jul 19 (Tues)	HBL Day
Jul 21 (Thurs)	Racial Harmony Day Celebrations
Jul 25 (Mon) - Aug 3 (Wed)	Sec 4N Preliminary Examinations
Aug 3 (Wed)	HBL Day (For all except 4N, P42 and P43) Preliminary Chemistry Practical (P42 and P43)
Aug 4 (Thu)	National Physical Fitness Award Test (Sec 2)
Aug 5 (Fri)	Preliminary Physics Practical (P42 and P43)
Aug 8 (Mon)	National Day Celebrations (Students will be dismissed by 10.30 am)
Aug 9 - 10 (Tues - Wed)	National Day and School Holiday
Aug 11 (Thurs) - Aug 25 (Thurs)	Common Test 3 (For Sec 1 - 3)
Aug 12 (Fri)	Preliminary Biology Practical (P42)
Aug 16 (Tue)	Preliminary Combined Science Practical (P44 - P46, P51 - P52 and 4NA OSS students)
Aug 18 (Thurs)	HBL Day (For all except 4E/5N)
Aug 18 (Thurs) - Aug 31 (Wed) & 12 Sep (Mon)	Sec 4E/5N Preliminary Examinations
Aug 29 - 30 (Mon - Tue)	VIA Days (For Sec 1 to 3 on selected days)
Sep 1 (Thurs)	Teachers' Day Celebrations (Students will be dismissed by 10.30 am)
Sep 2 (Fri)	Teachers' Day School Holiday
Sep 3 (Sat) – Sep 11 (Sun)	Sept Break

## **(B) STUDENT WELFARE AND WELL-BEING**

Families facing financial difficulties may refer to the following government agency website for assistance: <https://supportgowhere.life.gov.sg/> . Alternatively, your child may approach his/her Form Teachers.

Families who need social-emotional support, parenting, financial or counselling services can refer to a Family Service Centre (FSC). You may visit this website to find the FSC nearest your home: <https://www.msf.gov.sg/dfcs/familyservice/default.aspx>

If your child needs a listening ear or emotional support, he/she may contact our full-time school counsellors (Mr Lewis Lam, at [lam\\_ying\\_hao@schools.gov.sg](mailto:lam_ying_hao@schools.gov.sg), or Ms Lim Soo Ling at [lim\\_soo\\_ling@schools.gov.sg](mailto:lim_soo_ling@schools.gov.sg)). They are located at the Counselling Centre in the D&T Block.

## **(C) STUDENT MANAGEMENT**

There has been a rise in the number of youths involved in vaping and tobacco-related offences in Singapore. Vaping at any age, and underaged smoking are illegal. All e-cigarettes, cigarettes and other types of vaporisers are harmful and can adversely affect health and families. Youths who are caught using or possessing such products will be reported to the Health Sciences Authority and disciplinary actions will be taken.

## **(D) STUDENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

### **1 CCA matters/Unstructured Play**

CCAs will resume from Term 3 Week 1 for all Sec 1 to 3 students. The National 'C' Division School Games for Sports CCAs will also begin in Term 3. Our school will be represented in Badminton, Bowling, Basketball, Football, Netball, Softball, Table-Tennis and Volleyball.

To encourage play during recesses, the quadrangle and street soccer court are made available. Students are encouraged to practise safety during play and be responsible for one another's well-being. Borrowed equipment must be sanitised and returned to its rightful place after play.

### **2 After-school engagement programme**

A variety of activities are offered after school by adult volunteers to engage our students. Do encourage your child to participate.

Date: Mon (Refer to the calendar in the school's website for details.)

Time: 2.45 pm to 4.15 pm

Venues: Music Room (Dance), Dance Room (Guitar), SPR403 (Cajon), Sheltered Court (Basketball), Canteen (Study Groups)

## **(E) Updates on National Digital Literacy Programme**

1 Digital Literacy Courses for Sec 1s: To prepare your child better in learning with the Personalised Learning Device (PLD), all Sec 1 students need to complete a series of Digital Literacy Courses via SLS. These are self-paced modules assigned to students during HBL days and students should be able to complete each module within an hour.

2 Security of PLD for all students: Lockers had been installed outside every class and students should keep their PLDs in the lockers when they go for PE lessons, recess or lunch. PLD should be brought home at the end of every school day for charging. **Charging of PLDs in school is not allowed.**

3 ICT Support: Students who have issues with their ICT accounts or PLDs can refer to page 18 and 19 of the Student Diary for support.

### **(F) GM's Home-Based Learning (HBL)**

To nurture self-directed and independent learners who are passionate and intrinsically motivated, we have planned 3 HBL days in Term 3 on Jul 19 (Tue), Aug 3 (Wed) and Aug 18 (Thurs). Lessons on HBL days will follow the class Time-Table. All announcements, instructions and lesson materials will be assigned via SLS.

### **(G) SCHOOL EVENTS**

#### **1 Racial Harmony Day**

To commemorate this day on Jul 21, activities are planned to help students reflect on our shared experiences and values in a multi-racial and multi-religious society like Singapore. More information will be shared with your child nearer the day.

#### **2 NRIC Registration for 15-year-old students**

This will be conducted in school on Jun 29 (Wed) from 1.15 - 4.15 pm for Singapore Citizens (SC) and Permanent Residents (PR). All 15-year-old students involved in this registration should receive a notification from ICA. Parents are required to log into [go.gov.sg/icreg](http://go.gov.sg/icreg) with their SingPass to submit the NRIC registration online by Jun 26 (Sun) before the registration appointment in school on Jun 29. You are required to:

- Indicate child's particulars
- Upload child's photograph and supporting documents (where applicable)
- Make payment for your child's NRIC application (\$10 for SC / \$50 for PR)

#### **3 National Day Celebrations**

Celebrated on Aug 8 (Mon) with an observance ceremony and meaningful activities, this year's theme "Stronger Together, Majulah" is a call for all Singaporeans to forge ahead for a better future by being "Stronger Together" and united in our diversity. It focuses on how everyone in Singapore must stand united to overcome challenging times together and keep Singapore safe. It is also a time to appreciate the hard work and resilience of all as we embody the Singapore spirit and are "One United People".

#### **4 Teachers' Day Celebrations**

We will celebrate Teachers' Day on Sep 1 (Thurs). Led by the Student Council, the celebrations will include performances and games put up by students, CCA groups and also showcases GM's Talent-time 'GEMS Got Talent'.

### **(H) LEVEL ACTIVITIES**

#### **1 Sec 1 ACE Programme (for selected students)**

This programme helps our students start right, learning and practising various life skills and social-emotional learning competencies.

Date: Wed (Jul 6, 13, 20, 27, Aug 17, 24, Sep 14)

Time: 1.45 pm - 3.15 pm

Venue: Classroom

#### **2 Sec 2 National Physical Fitness Award Test (NAPFA)**

To provide students with the skills and knowledge needed in health and fitness management, all Sec 2s will take the NAPFA test in Term 3. The 2.4 km run will be conducted during the

respective PE lessons while the testing for the 5 stations will be conducted on Aug 4 (Thurs) from 2.45 pm.

### **3 Character and Citizenship Education Learning Journey for Sec 2**

This compulsory Learning Journey to the Singapore National Museum is for all Sec 2 students. The schedule is indicated in the table below and the YouTube link shares what to expect:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B97wMjR952s&t=19s>

H2-1, H2-2, H2-3	Jul 7 (Thurs)	Departure from school: 10.45am Dismissal Time from GM: 3pm
H2-6, H2-7	Jul 14 (Thurs)	
H2-4, H2-5	Jul 21 (Thurs)	

### **4 Sec 2 N(T) ACE Programme**

This is a programme to develop in our students the ability to reflect and lead through healthy living, service learning and sustainable living. 5 sessions are conducted in school with a learning journey to the Science Centre to further enrich their experiences.

Date: Tues (Jul 5, 12, Aug 2, 16, 23) from 2.15 pm - 3.15 pm, within curriculum time in class

Date: Tue (Jul 26); Learning Journey to Singapore Science Centre from 2.15 pm - 5.30 pm

For the learning journey, a 2-way transport will be provided and students will be dismissed from school.

### **5 Sec 2 N(T) Experience ITE Programme @ ITE College East**

Students will report to school in full school uniform for the usual morning assembly and a 2-way transport will be provided.

Date: Sep 14 (Wed)

Schedule:

7.15 am - 7.45 am (Morning assembly in school)

7.45 am - 12.45 pm (Programme at ITE, traveling time)

12.45 pm - 1.45 pm (Follow normal timetable. English lesson.)

### **6 MOE-OBS Challenge Programme for Sec 3**

As part of the National Outdoor Adventure Education Masterplan, the MOE-OBS Challenge Programme seeks to develop ruggedness, resilience, and build cohesion amongst youths. It provides an experiential platform for our Sec 3 students to face challenges positively through self-directed learning and to make the right choices that will influence their circumstances. This year, the 2 day-1 night programme will be held from Sep 7-8 in different parts of Singapore.

### **7 Sec 3 GEMS Challenge**

The GEMS Challenge training sessions will continue to be on selected Thursday afternoons. Most Challenges have been completed while the rest will be completed in Term 3. All activities will be done locally adhering to the latest safe management measures. Specific training dates and other details will be shared with your child by his/her teachers.

### **8 Sec 4 & 5 Graduation Walk**

All graduating students will embark on the annual graduation walk on Jul 1 (Fri) as a cohort. This year's activities will include aspects of Outdoor Education skills like path-finding and fire-

building to create shared memories with the class and teachers. The activity will be from 1.30 pm and students will be dismissed from school by 7.30 pm.

#### **(H) Student Leadership Development**

This term, we continue to build on the competencies of the various student leaders to enhance their competencies to serve the school community.

- a. Sec 2 Student Council Training - Jul 14 (Thurs)
- b. Sec 3 CCA Leaders Training - Jul 14 (Thurs)
- c. Student Council Trainees Training - Jul 21 (Thurs)
- d. Sec 3 GEMS Leaders Trainings - Jul 28 (Thurs) and Aug 25 (Thurs)  
This programme is designed to equip the new GEMS Leaders with skills in mentoring, facilitating and planning especially for the 2023 Sec 1 Orientation Camp.
- e. Sec 1 House Committee Training - Aug 25 (Thurs)

#### **(I) VALUES-IN-ACTION (VIA)**

GM's VIA is aligned to the school's Term 3 theme of "Making a Positive Difference". Sec 1 to 3 will embark on a series of VIA activities to nurture the ability to plan and implement ideas that will benefit others, develop greater confidence to speak, share and champion for a cause as well as the ability to reflect on their VIA experiences and be empathetic and caring citizens.

Sec 1 focuses on "Environmental Awareness" and embark on a project on marine conservation and Singapore's marine biodiversity. Our students will get to learn about marine life in Singapore waters and how they can play a part in marine conservation.

All Sec 2 will be attached to a Senior Activity Centre (SAC) and work on the theme "Singapore's Ageing Population", They will be exposed to the needs of the elderly to help them empathize with the elderly and think about ways to improve the elderly's well-being.

Sec 3 will explore the theme of 'Working for the Good of Society'. In Social Studies, they learnt about national concerns like ageing population, people with disabilities, underprivileged children and other current societal issues. Engagement talks with various beneficiaries are planned for them so that they can select and partner an agency for their VIA project. This project will continue the following year as their Sec 4 Capstone Project.

VIA sessions will take place during the following dates as follows:

<b>Sec 1</b>		
<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Session 1</b>	<b>14 July</b>	<b>3:00pm – 4:30pm</b>
<b>Session 2</b>	<b>11 August</b>	<b>3:00pm – 4:30pm</b>
<b>Session 3</b>	<b>29 August</b>	<b>2:00pm – 5:30pm</b>

<b>Sec 2</b>		
<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>Session 1 (VIA leaders only)</b>	<b>30 June</b>	<b>2:15pm – 3:15pm</b>
<b>Session 2 (VIA leaders only)</b>	<b>28 July</b>	<b>2:15pm – 4:15pm</b>
<b>Session 3</b>	<b>11 August</b>	<b>2:15pm – 4:15pm</b>
<b>Session 4</b>	<b>29 or 30 August</b>	<b>2:30pm – 4:30pm</b>

Sec 3		
Sessions	Date	Time
Session 1	30 June	2:45pm – 4:00pm
Session 2	21 July	2:45pm – 4:00pm
Session 3	11 August	2:45pm – 4:00pm
Session 4	29 or 30 August	2:45pm – 5:00pm

## (J) EDUCATION AND CAREER GUIDANCE (ECG)

The application period for the following Early Admissions Exercise (EAE) and Direct Schools Admission (DSA) to post-secondary institutions are as indicated:

Exercise	Application Period	For more information
ITE EAE	May 26 - Jun 1	<a href="https://www.ite.edu.sg/admissions/full-time-courses/nitec-and-3-year-higher-nitec/early-admissions-exercise">https://www.ite.edu.sg/admissions/full-time-courses/nitec-and-3-year-higher-nitec/early-admissions-exercise</a>
Poly EAE	Jun 23 - Jun 29	<a href="https://eae.polytechnic.edu.sg/eaeStudIns/men u.jsp?type=Introduction">https://eae.polytechnic.edu.sg/eaeStudIns/men u.jsp?type=Introduction</a>
DSA-JC	Varies from JC to JC (To check website)	<a href="https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/dsa">https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/dsa</a>

Students who wish to consult the ECG Counsellor, Ms Kathrine Yang, for any questions or to prepare for the above exercises can book an appointment with her through this link: <https://go.gov.sg/ecggms>

## (K) CURRICULUM MATTERS

### 1. English Language

The graduating cohort will take their National Oral Examination on the following dates:

- a. N(A)/N(T) Level Oral Exam: Jul 12-18
- b. O-Level Oral Exam: Jul 21 - Aug 1

### 2. Mother Tongue Languages (MT)

- a. O-Level Exam Matters
  - (i) MT B Oral Exam: Jul 6
  - (ii) MT Oral Exam: Jul 7 - 18
  - (iii) Higher Chinese Oral Exam: Aug 15 - 19
  - (iv) MT/MTB Listening Comprehension Exam: Jul 5
- b. N-Level Exam Matters
  - (i) MT/ Basic MT Oral Exam: Aug 3 - Aug 5
  - (ii) MT Listening Comprehension Exam: Sep 13
  - (iii) Basic MT Listening Comprehension Exam: Sep 12
- c. Sec 1 and 2 students offering Higher Chinese will embark on a heritage walk ( 走出校园 走进文化 ) organized jointly by the Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations and the Committee To Promote Chinese Language Learning. The heritage walk takes our students along different cultural routes to deepen their understanding of the rich and diverse

heritage that binds Singapore together. This will be conducted in school on Aug 6 (Sat) from 9.30 am to 11:30 am via Zoom.

### 3. Humanities

Secondary 3 Core Geography students will embark on an online GI project on coastal studies where they will adopt the Humanities Inquiry approach to coastal fieldwork. They will learn to formulate hypotheses, apply inquiry skills and techniques to collect, analyse and present data and information. Through these GI activities, students will deepen their understanding of coastal processes and environment and share their knowledge on the challenges involved in decisions relating to mitigation and management of our fragile coastal environment.

Sec 2 and 3 students will experience the Internal Security Department mobile exhibition in school. This exhibition is also open to all other students during breaks and after school. This exhibition highlights past conflicts in Singapore involving race, religion, and terrorism. It also covers the evolving security threats in Singapore and worldwide.

### (L) ASSESSMENT MATTERS

#### 1. School-based Academic Assessment for Sec 1-3

Common Test 3 for Sec 1 - 3 will be held from Aug 11 - 25. The topics and schedule for the Common Test will be given later. In accordance with MOE's guidelines, the assessment weightings are as follow for all streams

Common Test 1	Common Test 2	Common Test 3	End-of-Year Exam	Total
15%	15%	15%	55%	100%

#### 2. Weightings for Modular Subjects at Lower Sec

##### a. Design & Technology

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Sec 1	Common Test (20%)	Coursework (80%)		
Sec 2			Common Test (20%)	Coursework (80%)

##### b. Food & Consumer Education

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Sec 1			Common Test (20%)	Common Test (20%) Coursework (60%)
Sec 2	Common Test (20%)	Common Test (20%) Coursework (60%)		

#### 3 School-based Preliminary Examinations for Sec 4/5

N-level Preliminary Examinations will be from Jul 25 – Aug 3 and O-Level Preliminary Examinations will be from Aug 18 – Aug 31 and Sep 12.

O-Level Preliminary Science practical examinations will be on Aug 3, 5, 12 and 16. Students will report to school according to their shift. The detailed schedule and reporting time will be shared in due course.



### **(M) GCE O-Level and N-Level National Examinations**

Various GCE O-Level and N-level EL and MT Oral and Listening Comprehension examinations will be held in Term 3 and your child will be briefed by their teachers. Do encourage your child/ward to take responsibility for his/her learning and conduct during the examinations. They are expected to take note of the dates of the exams, report punctually, to read the 'Examination Rules and Regulations For School Candidates' booklet carefully and to adhere to the instructions and rules.

### **(N) PARENTING TALKS**

2 parenting talks will be scheduled this term.

- a. The first talk is "Talk About Anything: Speak Love", conducted on Jul 2 (Sat).  
Synopsis: Human beings thrive on love. Children remember well how we made them feel. How then can we speak love that makes them feel loved? And would love spoken in any language be as well received? Get talking about love languages – the different ways we express and receive love – with practical takeaways to hone your skill of loving well!
  
- b. The second parenting talk entitled "Talk About Anything: Media & Technology" will be on Jul 16 (Sat).  
Synopsis: Screen and technology have become an inevitable and critical part of our lives – we depend on it for work and our children use it for learning at school and at home. How do we help our children minimise the use of screen time while maximising the positive impact of technology? Can parents and teens have a conflict-free conversation about media use and agree on digital boundaries? Get talking about how you can be a screen-smart family and use technology for meaningful connection!

Both talks are designed for parents to attend together with their child and conducted in the school premises.

Time: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm (Registration starts at 9 am)

Duration: 3.5 h

Capacity: 25 parent-child pairs

Cost \$10 per parent/child pair

Please call the General Office or email Mr Tan Wah Kum at [tan\\_wah\\_kum@schools.gov.sg](mailto:tan_wah_kum@schools.gov.sg) if you are interested. This face-to-face event is subject to COVID-19 developments.

**END**