



Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)
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5 Sep 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

2023 Term 4 Letter

As we come into Term 4, we are glad to share that in the last three terms, with God's help and a team of dedicated and committed staff, we have been a beacon of light, connecting, nurturing and inspiring GEMS to make a difference in their community. Our Sec 1 worked on "Environment and Sustainability" and completed a project on 'Urban Heat Island' in collaboration with the Science Department. This helped them to better appreciate the current environmental challenges that we face and the part they can play. Our Sec 2 classes worked with different Senior Activity Centres in the Geylang community and through their interaction with the elderlies, they learnt to care and empathise.

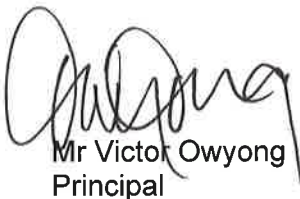
It is our aspiration to develop our GEMS into passionate learners through a rigorous and relevant curriculum and working alongside our GEMS, to foster in them a positive and self-directed disposition. In an environment where changes are expected, it is important to anchor our GEMS on sound values. Our teachers intentionally nurture the school values of Godliness, Excellence, Mastery and Service in our students, making every experience in GM a CCE experience.

Growth mindset continues to be an important focus of our work, helping GEMS to believe that effort and consistent hard work can improve their skills over time. We are confident that they will continue to be diligent and self-directed in their preparation for the end-of-year assessments and the national examinations.

We will end the school year celebrating the achievements and successes of our GEMS in a Prize and Presentation Ceremony on 26 Oct (Thu). At the Open House on 25 Nov (Sat), they will showcase their talents and strengths to Primary 6 students and parents keen to join GMS(S).

We look forward to your continuous partnership and we wish your child a successful Term 4 ahead. Keep safe and healthy!

Yours sincerely,



Mr Victor Owyong
Principal

(A) Key School-Wide Events

Date	Event	Level	Remarks
4 Sep (Mon) – 8 Sep (Fri)	Sec 3 Outward Bound School - J3-1, J3-5, J3-6, J3-7 Home-based Learning - J3-2, J3-3, J3-4	Sec 3	
9 Sep (Sat)	CCA Stand-down		
11 Sep (Mon)	Teachers' Day School Holiday		
12 Sep (Tue) - 15 Sep (Fri)	Sec 3 Outward Bound School - J3-2, J3-3, J3-4 Home-based Learning - J3-1, J3-5, J3-6, J3-7	Sec 3	
12 Sep (Tue) - 21 Sep (Thu)	N-Level Examinations (Part 1)	Sec 4N	Students are to report 45 minutes before their paper. Lessons will resume from 22 Sep (Fri);
12 Sep (Tue) & 20 Sep (Wed)	N-Level Listening Comprehension	Sec 4N	All other students will be dismissed at 1.45 pm
27 Sep (Wed) – 12 Oct (Thu)	End-Of-Year Examinations	Sec 1-3	Schedule had been distributed to students in Term 3 Week 10.
29 Sep (Fri)	Sec 4/5 Graduation Service	Sec 4/5	Students to report to school as usual.
2 Oct (Mon) - 10 Oct (Tue)	N-Level Examinations (Part 2)	Sec 4N	Students are to report 45 minutes before their paper.
2 Oct (Mon) –17 Oct (Tue)	Study Break	Sec 4E/5N	Students are encouraged to revise at home and e-consult their teachers.
4 Oct (Wed) 9 Oct (Mon) 17 Oct (Tue)	GCE O-level Chemistry Practical GCE O-level Physics Practical GCE O-level Biology Practical	Sec 4E	Students to report according to their shift reporting time.
12 Oct (Thu)	GCE O-level Combined Science Practical Exam	Sec 4E/5N & 4NA OSS	Students to report according to their shift reporting time.
18 Oct (Wed) - 10 Nov (Fri)	O-Level Written Examinations	Sec 4E/5N & 4N OSS	
18 Oct (Wed)	O-Level Listening Comprehension	Sec 4E/5N	All other students will be dismissed at 1.45 pm
13 Oct (Fri)	Marking Day	Sec 1-3	Students are not required to come to school

23 Oct (Mon)	Moderation & Promotion Exercise	Sec 1-3	Students are not required to come to school
26 Oct (Thu)	School Prize Presentation & Celebration Concert	Sec 1-3	
27 Oct (Fri)	Parent-Teacher Meeting (by request)	Selected Sec 1-3	Students should wear their school uniform for the meeting
25 Nov (Sat)	Open House	Selected Sec 1-3	Students who are involved will be informed closer to the date

(B) STUDENT DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

1 Student Welfare

With the End-of-Year Examinations for Sec 1-3 approaching, we encourage parents/guardians to monitor your child's mental and physical well-being. If your child is displaying some out-of-character behaviours like not sleeping or eating well or being quieter and withdrawn, please contact his/her Form Teacher or the school counsellors (Mr Lewis Lam or Ms Lim Soo Ling). For students who need financial assistance for essentials like food, stationery, or transport, they are encouraged to apply through their Form Teachers.

2. Student Management

We continue to partner parents in their efforts to encourage our GEMS to be regular and on time for school. We hope to continue to improve on this positive trend. As students are spending more time on their digital devices, we encourage parents to monitor your child's screen time and usage and help them to be more responsible users of social media.

3. CCA Matters

CCAs will stand down from 9 Sep (Sat) to ensure students have sufficient time to prepare for the End-Of-Year Examinations. CCAs will resume on 16 Oct (Mon). Year-end training schedules and camps will be made known to the students in due course.

4. After-School Engagement (ASE) programme

The following activities had been planned by adult volunteers to engage our students.

18 Sep (Mon) - Appreciation Lunch

25 Sep (Mon) & 2 Oct (Mon) - Study Group Sessions (attendance is optional)

Time: 2.45 to 4.15 pm

5. Student Leadership

We will consolidate the learning of our student leaders and hone their competencies and skills to lead better the following year. Consent forms for the activities will be issued closer to the dates.

- a. Sec 2 and 3 CCA Leaders Meeting - 19 Oct (Thu)
- b. Lower Secondary Class Committee meeting - 19 Oct (Thu)
- c. Student Council meeting - 26 Oct (Thu)/ Day Camp - 7 Nov (Tue) & 8 Nov (Wed)
- d. House Committee Day Camp - 31 Oct (Tue) & 1 Nov (Wed)
- e. GEMS Leaders Preparatory Camp - 15 to 17 Nov (Wed to Fri)
- f. GEMS Leaders Booster Session - 27 Dec (Wed)
- g. Sec 1 Peer Ambassadors training - 19 Oct (Thu), 2:45 - 4:15 pm and 30 Oct (Mon), 1.00 - 5.00 pm.

6. Parent-Teacher-Meeting (PTM)

Students will receive their results slips on 26 Oct (Thu) for parent's acknowledgement and signature. The signed results slips will be collected on the first day of school in 2024. PTM is on 27 Oct (Fri) and it is only for a selected group of students and upon request for the rest. Students need not report to school on that day. You will be notified if the school requires you and your child/ward to meet to discuss his/her progress. If you wish to speak to the teachers, you may request for this through the form teachers.

7. GMS(S) Open House

Our Open House will be held on 25 Nov (Sat) from 9.00 am to 12.00 pm, showcasing our curricular and co-curricular programmes. Our Principal will also be addressing prospective students and parents. More details will be shared on the school's website and Facebook page nearer the date. Students involved will also be informed nearer the date.

(C) LEVEL ACTIVITIES

1. Sec 1 ACE Programme (for selected students)

This programme which started in February has helped our students start the year right with the learning and practice of SEL competencies. Students connected with significant adults who journeyed with them through the year as they learn and grow. The final session In Term 4 is on 13 Sep (Wed). As such, on other Wednesdays, students will be dismissed after their last lesson.

- Date: 13 Sep (Wed)
- Time: 1.45 – 4.00 pm
- Venue: SPR 101 & SPR 102

2. SHINE Like MADD Programme for Sec 1 and 2

As part of the post-exam programme, all Sec 1 and 2 students will take part in the SHINE Like MADD Programme workshops which aim to broaden students' learning experiences and meet their varied learning needs through applied learning. This programme is an extension of our Student-Initiated Learning programme. Students will collaborate and learn together based on their interest and passion.

These workshops are subsidised by the school and the amount payable by each student is \$30. Further information on the workshops, schedule and payment method will be shared at a later date. Please note that students will need to pay \$30 for the programme if they are absent without valid reason.

3. Sec 1 Learning Journey to Lifelong Learning Institute (LLI)

Students will participate in a series of activities at LLI to discuss the future of work and consider their education pathways as part of their Education and Career Guidance (ECG) experience. A one-way transport from school will be provided. Students will be dismissed from LLI at the end of the programme. Do note that vehicles will not be allowed to wait at the pick-up point at LLI to avoid traffic congestion.

F1-1 to F1-4	F1-5 to F1-7
Date: 18 Oct (Wed) Time: 1.30 - 5.30 pm Venue: LLI (11 Eunos Rd 8, S408601)	Date: 26 Oct (Thu) Time: 1.30 - 5.30 pm Venue: LLI (11 Eunos Rd 8, S408601)

4. Subject Combination Matters for Sec 2

After the End-Of-Year Examinations, Sec 2 students will select their 2024 Sec 3 subject combinations. Another briefing will be conducted with the students on 16 Oct (Mon) from 12.45 to 1.15 pm.

5. Sec 3 Learning Journeys to Various Industries

Interested Sec 3 students can sign up for the following learning journeys as part of their Education and Career Guidance (ECG) experience to understand the career opportunities in these sectors. A two-way transport will be provided. The sign-up details and dismissal time will be given closer to the date.

S.E.A. Aquarium	Yishun Health	National Gallery (TBC)
Date: 19 Oct (Thu) Time: 2.15 - 4.45 pm Cost: approximately \$30	Date: 24 Oct (Tue) Time: 2.00 - 4.30 pm Cost: NIL	Date: 24/ 25 Oct (Tue/Wed) Time: 2.00 - 4.00 pm Cost: NIL

6. Sec 3 NA Experience ITE Programme @ ITE College East

Students will report to school for the usual morning assembly. A two-way transport will be provided and students are to bring \$5 for lunch.

- Date: 20 Oct (Fri)
- Time: 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
- Students will be dismissed from GMS(S) at around 5.00 pm.

7. Graduation Service for Sec 4/5

This event will be held on 29 Sep (Fri) from 10:15 to 11:45 am, followed by a lunch reception. This Service acknowledges the contributions and achievements of our graduating students in the co-curricular areas and shares some advice for their journey beyond the gates of GMS(S).

8. Sec 4E/5N Study Break

A study break has been scheduled before the national examinations from 2 Oct (Mon) to 17 Oct (Tue). Students are advised to remain at home to do their self-revision or arrange for consultation sessions with their subject teachers. Students must also take note of their practical exam dates that fall during this study break period.

(D) ACADEMIC UPDATES

1. Post-Exam Remediation/Consultation for Sec 1-3

Remedial Lessons will be conducted for identified students to bridge their learning gaps and enhance their understanding before they return in 2024. These lessons will be conducted for 8 days from 30 Oct (Mon) to 8 Nov (Wed).

(E) ASSESSMENT MATTERS

1. National Examination Matters

Students sitting for the national examinations are reminded to bring their Entry Proof, NRIC or foreign identification documents and thermometers when they report to school.

1.1 GCE N-Level Written Examinations

- Part 1: 12 Sep (Tue) - 21 Sep (Thu)
- Part 2: 2 Oct (Mon) - 10 Oct (Tue)

4N students need not report back to school after Part 2 of the N-Level Examinations. They will be informed by their Form Teachers when the release date of results is confirmed.

1.2 GCE O-Level Science Practical Examinations

- Chemistry: 4 Oct (Wed)
- Physics: 9 Oct (Mon)
- Combined Science: 12 Oct (Thu)
- Biology: 17 Oct (Tue)

1.3 GCE O-Level Written Examinations

This will take place from 18 Oct (Wed) to 10 Nov (Fri). Students will take their study break immediately after the Graduation Service on 29 Sep (Fri), before their National Examinations.

2. Assessment for Sec 1-3

2.1 End-Of-Year Examination

The End-Of-Year Examination for Sec 1 to 3 will be held from 27 Sep (Wed) to 12 Oct (Thu). The exam timetable was distributed to your child/ward in Term 3 Week 10. Students need not report to school on 13 Oct (Fri), Marking Day and 23 Oct (Mon), Moderation and Promotion Day.

2.2 English Language Oral Examinations

Oral Exam Dates:

Sec 2E/ N(A)/ N(T): 26 Sep (Tue) from 2.15 to 6.00 pm.

Sec 3N(T): The oral examination will be conducted during the End-Of-Year examination. Students can refer to the examination timetable for details.

Students will be briefed by their EL teachers on how the oral examinations will be conducted and how to prepare for them.

2.3 Mother Tongue (MT)

Lower Sec MT Oral Examinations will be conducted during the end-of-year examinations and the schedule is indicated in the examination timetable. Oral passages had been given to the students to prepare and practice at home. In addition, teachers have also gone through with students during lesson time.

2.4 Dismissal Time due to national exams

In view of the national examinations, dismissal times will be adjusted for Sec 1-3 students. Please note that for some classes, the dismissal time stated below may not apply if they are involved in learning journeys and other scheduled activities.

Date	Level	Dismissal time
18 Oct (Wed)	Sec 1-3	1.45 pm
19 Oct (Thu)	Sec 1-3	12.45 pm
20 Oct (Fri)	Sec 1-3	12.15 pm
24 Oct (Tue)	Sec 1-3	1.45 pm
25 Oct (Wed)	Sec 1-3	1.45 pm
26 Oct (Thu)	Sec 1-3	1.45 pm

END