



Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)

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2024 TERM 2 LETTER

Connecting and Celebrating GM100 with our GM Family!

Thank you for your strong support in our GM100 Family Carnival held on 2 March 2024! We give thanks to God for the beautiful weather that day. We are thankful to be able to celebrate our 100th Anniversary with such a strong turnout from our GM family (close to 3,000 Fun Passes were sold) including our GEMS, parents, alumni, partners, past and present staff and also elderly from the community. The exciting programmes that day provided opportunities for our GEMS to apply their creativity and leadership to serve others and these included the launch of the Carnival, a concert "Symphony of Celebration" by our Performing Arts CCAs, workshops (Terrarium), games and inflatables, Past vs Present Games and the Shopping Alley.

Celebrating God's Goodness through the Centennial Thanksgiving Service

Every year in Term 2, GMS(S) and GMS(P) would traditionally each hold our own Founders' Day and Thanksgiving Service. It is an occasion when we reflect on the year past and encourage staff and students for the good work done and give thanks to God. As we are celebrating our 100th Anniversary this year, the service would be even more significant and we have named it the Centennial Thanksgiving Service. We would be reflecting on the past 100 years and Celebrating God's Goodness! In addition, both schools will be holding this special occasion together to express our unity as one GM family. This will be held on 5 April 2024 at the Tan Chin Tuan Auditorium in ACS (Independent).

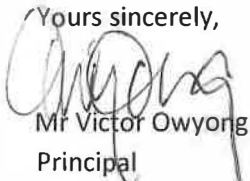
GMS' Centennial Commemorative Book, Graphic Novel and The Living Gallery

As a run up to the 100th Anniversary of the founding of Geylang Methodist Schools (GMS), we have undertaken work to document the heritage of our schools and captured it in two publications. Both the GMS' Centennial Commemorative Book (a Coffee table Book), and the Graphic Novel, "Seeds of Light", narrate the inspiring history of how GMS was established through a Christian mission, driven by a vision to be a beacon of light and hope for the Geylang community and beyond. Through this historical account, we illuminate God's faithful guidance, providence and love that consistently fortified the Christian character and capabilities of GMS empowering us to steadfastly fulfil our mission. Every student in GMS(P) and GMS(S) will receive a copy of the Graphic Novel, "Seeds of Light", as a special gift for GM100.

The Living Gallery is a Heritage Gallery and a Learning Space where students from GMS(P) and GMS(S) can explore and learn about the history and culture of the Geylang Methodist Schools. It uses a blended approach that incorporates the use of ICT, carefully curated artifacts and also informative displays. The Living Gallery also tells the stories of members of the GM family and through these stories, students learn about their love for GM and grow a deeper sense of pride and affiliation to GM. Both the GMS' Centennial Commemorative Book and The Living Gallery will be launched by Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister for Education, at the Centennial Thanksgiving Dinner on 6 April 2024.

Wishing you and your child every success in Term 2!

Yours sincerely,



Mr Victor Owyong
Principal

TERM 2 MAIN SCHOOL EVENTS

Date	Event
19 Mar, Tue	HBL Day
21 Mar, Thu	Speakers Series Session 2 for Sec 3 (3.00 to 4.00pm)
25 Mar, Mon	Good News Week (Sec 1)
26 Mar, Tue	Good News Week (Sec 4/5)
27 Mar, Wed	Good News Week (Sec 3)
28 Mar, Thu	Good News Week (Sec 2)
29 Mar, Fri	Public Holiday - Good Friday
5 Apr, Fri	Centennial Thanksgiving Service @ ACS (Independent)
6 Apr, Sat	Centennial Thanksgiving Dinner
8 Apr, Mon	HBL Day
9 Apr, Tue	Replace with Wed Time-Table
10 Apr, Wed	Public Holiday - Hari Raya Puasa
12 Apr, Fri	CCA stand down for graduating cohort
15 Apr, Mon	International Friendship Day Students Leaders' Investiture & Awards Presentation
15-19 Apr, Mon-Fri	International Friendship Day Week
18 Apr, Thu	Sec 4/5 Physical Fitness Test
22-26 Apr, Mon-Fri	Mental Health Week
23 Apr, Tue	Sec 2 Physical Fitness Test
24 Apr, Wed	HBL Day
1 May, Wed	Public Holiday - Labour Day
2-9 May, Thu-Thu	Common Tests for S1 to S5
7 May, Tue	HBL Day
8 May, Wed	Sec 4/5 Prelim Exam (MT P1 and P2)
9 May, Thu	Sec 4/5 Prelim Exam (MT P3, Art, NFS)
17 May, Fri	Sports Day at Bedok Stadium
20 May, Mon	HBL Day
22 May, Wed	Public Holiday - Vesak Day
24 May, Fri	Parent-Teacher Meet for selected students Eat With Your Family Day
School Vacation: 25 May (Sat) to 23 Jun (Sun)	

(A) STUDENT WELL-BEING

1 Discipline

We are appreciative of the close partnership from parents and guardians in nurturing greater self-discipline and better learning habits in our students. Continue to strengthen the mindset that it is a privilege to be able to come to school to learn and be punctual for school and school activities. Do reinforce the responsible use of mobile phones and personal learning devices, the need to pursue healthy activities and steer clear of harmful activities like vaping and smoking.

2 Safety and Security

Safety of our students continues to be our priority. Remind your child about safety while commuting to and from school. For those who drive, please adhere to the regulations given by the Traffic Police for driving within School Zones. Please drop off your child in the morning at Gate 4C, along Aljunied Road to ease the morning congestion along Geylang East Central.

3 Dental Services for Sec 1 and 3 (18, 20 and 21 Mar)

Health Promotion Board would be conducting its annual dental screening in our school campus. For Sec 1 students, you can still submit your consent by logging into <https://childconsent.hpb.gov.sg> before 15 Mar.

4 Mental Health Week (22 to 26 Apr)

Mental Health continues to be our priority and Mental Health Week is intended to raise awareness and provide strategies to better manage mental wellness. The week would begin with an assembly talk on managing anxiety on 22 Apr (Mon) and a mental health talk during CCE lesson on valuing life on 23 Apr (Tue). Booths will be set up in the canteen during the week for students to participate in some interactive activities.

(B) HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

1 CCA

CCA is an integral part of your child's learning experiences in school and every child is encouraged to attend CCA regularly. CCA for Sec 4 and 5 will stand down on 12 Apr to give our graduating cohort time to prepare for their national examinations. Those representing the school in the NSG competitions might have to continue and support would be provided for them. CCA will continue as usual for Sec 1 to 3 and also during common tests.

2 Centennial Thanksgiving Service (5 Apr)

Staff and students of GMS(S) and GMS(P) will celebrate God's faithfulness and goodness as one family.

- Level: All
- Venue: ACS (Independent), Auditorium 2
- Address: 121 Dover Rd, Singapore 139650
- Nearest MRT stations: One-North, Buona Vista, or Dover
- Bus Stop outside ACS (Independent): 33, 74, 166, 196 and 667
- Reporting time at venue: 8.45 am
- Dismissal time from venue: 11.30 am

More information (maps and directions) will be sent via Parents Gateway nearer the date.

3 International Friendship Day (15 Apr)

This is commemorated on 15 Apr annually. Various activities had been planned for the week to help students gain a better understanding of Singapore's relations with countries in the region and beyond. Asia is the world's fastest growing region, and Singapore continues to facilitate closer economic, political, social, and cultural cooperation within ASEAN, Asia and also at international platforms as international

cooperation remains key in our complex world. Through these activities, students will gain a greater awareness and appreciation of the geo-political realities in the region, as well as to nurture in our students the spirit of friendship and partnership amongst different people and countries.

4 After-School Engagement Programme

A variety of activities are offered after school by adult volunteers to engage your child. Do encourage your child to participate and spend their afternoons meaningfully.

Date: Mondays (You can refer to the calendar in the school's website for specific dates.)

Time: 2.45 to 4.15 pm

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

5 Sports Day (17 May)

- Level: All
- Time: 7.15 - 11.30 am
- Venue: Bedok Stadium

More information will be sent via Parents Gateway nearer the date.

6 Parent-Teacher Meet (24 May)

This would be held in-person this year. The objective of this meeting is to share more about your child's holistic progress in the first semester. More information will be shared closer to the date.

(C) LEVEL PROGRAMMES

1 Sec 1 Cohort Leadership Training

Sec 4 GEMS Leaders would facilitate a session to guide students to learn about self-leadership and effective communication through a series of classroom activities. The training is adapted from the Kouzes and Posner's Five Practices of Exemplary of Leadership: Model The Way. This is Part 1 of the 2 mandatory leadership modules organized for the lower secondary students.

Date: 21 Mar

Time: 3.00 - 5.30 pm

Venue: School

2 Sec 1 ACE Programme (Selected students only)

This is a programme to engage and equip our students with study skills and SEL competencies. Consent Form would be sent through PG.

Date: Tuesdays (16, 23 and 30 Apr; 14 and 21 May)

Time: 1.45 - 3.15 pm (Lunch will be provided)

Venue: In school

3 Personal Learning Devices (PLD) and Digital Literacy Information for Sec 1

3.1 The Chromebooks would be delivered and issued to your child on 1 Apr. To prepare your child/ward better in learning with their PLD, your child/ward is required to complete a series of Digital Literacy Courses via SLS. These are self-paced modules and students should be able to complete each module within 30 minutes.

	Lesson Title	Remarks
1	Managing schedule and tasks using digital tools like Google Calendar	Modules will be assigned progressively from Term 2 onwards.
2	Annotating digital files (using SLS)	
3	Annotating digital files Part 2	
4	Video Conferencing Tools	
5	File sharing	

6	Digital Mind mapping tools	
7	Online bulletin board	

3.2 National Digital Explorer (NDE) is a nationwide digital literacy programme designed to empower students to learn real world skills that would enable them to think critically and be more productive learners. The objectives are:

- To develop digitally fluent students equipped with the mastery of practical digital skills for future digital workplace
- To encourage students to be self-directed learners who take ownership of their learning

Your child will be provided with an account to access the e-Learning Portal for learning:


1. Workforce Document
2. Workforce Spreadsheet
3. Workforce Presentation

Upon completion of the modules, your child will be issued with a certificate of completion.

4 Device Management Applications (DMA) After-school Parent Options

The DMA software is installed in your child's PLD to provide a safer digital learning environment, and to prevent misuse of the device. You can choose from these 3 options to better manage your child access after school hours.

	DEFAULT	OPTION A Modify DMA settings	OPTION B Disable DMA settings
FILTERING OF WEB CONTENT	MOE / School sets the level of filtering	Parent can apply additional filters	No content filtering
CONTROL OF APPLICATIONS	Parent cannot install additional applications	Parent can install additional applications*	Parent can install additional applications*
LIMITS TO SCREEN TIME	School sets limits for screen time	Parent can modify limits for screen time	No limits to screen time
MONITORING OF CYBER ACTIVITIES	Parent can monitor child's browser history	Parent can monitor child's browser history	No data is collected Parent cannot monitor child's use of the device through the DMA

 Opting for the Default DMA setting for after-school use is the best option for parents who prefer not to or do not feel ready to manage their child's device use on their own.

You can request to change your current DMA option by emailing the school. The request will be processed by the school at the end of every month.

5 Sec 2 ACE Programme (Selected students only)

This programme aims to engage and equip our students with leadership skills and SEL competencies through service learning, sports and team building activities. Consent Form will be sent through PG.

Date: Tuesdays (26 Mar; 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 Apr; 14 and 21 May)

Time: 1.45 - 3.15 pm (Lunch will be provided)

Venue: In school

6 Values in Action (VIA) For Sec 2

Sec 2 students will engage the seniors at various Senior Activity Centres in Geylang Town. They would be learning to work collaboratively with their classmates to plan suitable activities to engage and bring joy to the seniors, eg, handicraft work, exercises, karaoke sessions and simple games. Through these activities, we hope to strengthen our students' sense of empathy and compassion for others.

The sessions allocated for VIA program are as follows:

Session	Date	Time
Session 1	2 May	2.45 – 4.00 pm
Session 2	9 May	2.45 – 4.00 pm
Session 3	13, 14 or 15 May	To be confirmed

7 Sec 2 Physical Fitness Test

Physical Fitness Testing is compulsory unless students are medically exempted. The 2.4 km Run will be conducted during PE lessons and the 5-station tests would be held on 23 April from 2.45 to 5.45 pm. A copy of the NAPFA standards can be found in the students' diary.

8 Sec 3 MOE-OBS Challenge

Thank you for the prompt completion of the e-registration of your child for the MOE-OBS Challenge. Students would be attending a medical examination held in school on 20 March. The cost would be borne by the school.

Date: 2 to 6 Sep

The following week (9 to 13 Sep) would be a make-up September break for Sec 3. We seek your understanding not to plan any holiday plans during this period.

9 Sec 3 Learning Journey to S.E.A. Aquarium

Interested Sec 3 students could sign up for the learning journey as part of their Education and Career Guidance (ECG) experience to understand the career opportunities available. A one-way transport will be provided. The sign-up details and dismissal time would be given closer to the date.

Date: 10 May (Fri)

Time: 2.15 - 4.45 pm

Cost: approximately \$33

10 Sec 4/5 Physical Fitness Test

Physical Fitness Testing is compulsory unless students are medically exempted. The 2.4 km Run will be conducted during PE lessons while the 5-station tests would be held on 18 Apr (Thu) from 2.45 to 5.45 pm. A copy of the NAPFA standards can be found in the students' diary.

(D) ACADEMIC-RELATED PROGRAMMES

1 Mother Tongue (MT)

1.1 MT Reading Programme

For Sec 1 ML students, they would be buying the story book 'Tuai Padi Antara Masak'. The cost is \$12 and this would be deducted from the child's Edusave account.

1.2 Sec 4/5 MT Intensive Programme

This would be held on 20, 21 and 23 May to better prepare our 4E/5N students for their GCE O-Level MT Examinations. The GCE O-Level MT and MTB examinations would be held on 27 May. More details would be given to your child nearer the date.

2 Humanities

The Speaker Series programme is a series of talks organised by the Social Studies unit, where speakers from various segments of society are invited to share on societal concerns. This helps our students better understand and appreciate the relevance of concepts and issues learnt. The first session was held in Term 1 and Singapore Food Agency, a Statutory Board established under the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment, shared the following:

- The amount of food required to feed a nation
- Macro threats to food supply
- Our food security strategy via the '3 food baskets'
- Boosting local production to meet the 30 by 30 goal and be climate/resource resilient
- How consumers can support and recognise local produce
- Information on good food safety practices for everyone

The second session would be held on 21 Mar by the Willing Hearts, a charitable organization that provides daily meals and other support services to the underprivileged and needy.

3 Remediation and Bridging Lessons (28 & 29 May)

These lessons will be conducted for selected students in the first week of the Term 2 break to help close learning gaps for topics taught in Semester 1. We seek your support to ensure your child's attendance and to plan family outings around these dates. The remediation schedule would be provided at a later date.

(E) ASSESSMENT MATTERS

1 Assessment Matters for Sec 1-5

1.1 Term 2 Common Tests would take place from 2 to 9 May.

1.2 The assessment weighting for Sec 1 to 5 is shown below:

All streams (E/NA/NT/G1/G2/G3)	Term 1 (Common Test)	Term 2 (Common Test)	Term 3 (Common Test)	Term 4 (End-of- Year Examination)	Total
Sec 1 to 3	15%	15%	15%	55%	100%

	Term 1 (Common Test)	Term 2 (Common Test)	Term 3 (Preliminary Examinations)	Total
Sec 4 & 5	15%	15%	70%	100%

1.3 The weighting for Lower Secondary Modular Subjects

	Common Test	Semestral Assessment	Total
Lower Secondary Design & Technology	20%	80%	100%
Lower Secondary Food & Consumer Education	30%	70%	100%

1.4 Lower Secondary Geographical and Historical Investigation, Sec 3 Social Studies Issue Investigation and Sec 3 Geographical Investigation for Elective and Core Geography were introduced in Term 1 would continue in Term 2. These will constitute the weightings in Term 3.

1.5 Preliminary examination for the following papers will be held on 8 May and 9 May. The assessment weighting for these subjects is shown below:

Subjects (Stream)	Term 1 (Common Test)	Term 2 (Preliminary Examinations)	Total
Mother Tongue (O-Level) Art (O-Level) Nutrition & Food Science (O- and N-Level)	30%	70%	100%

2 EL Oral Examinations (Internal)

This would be held in the afternoons on the following days:

2 Apr (Tue) - 4N(A)/ 4N(T) OSS, 4N(T)

23 Apr (Tue) - 4E/4N(A) OSS, 5N(A)

21 May (Tue) - 3E/ 3N(A) OSS, 3N(A)/ 3N(T) OSS

All students are reminded to:

- Report punctually.
- Be in school uniform and have a proper haircut.
- Observe all examination procedures, rules and regulations.

Students who are absent due to illnesses must submit a medical certificate upon return to school.

3 MT Oral Examinations (Internal)

(a) 4E/5N/4NA(OSS)/ 4MTB/3HCL(O level CL) - 26 to 28 Mar

(b) 4NA/4NT(OSS)/4NT(BMT)/4HCL - 16 Apr

(c) 3E/3NA(OSS)/3NA/3NT(OSS)/3NT(BMT)/3HCL - 25, 26, and 29 Apr

(F) STUDENT LEADERSHIP

1 Student Leaders' Investiture & Awards Presentation (15 Apr)

This event recognizes Student Leaders appointed to the 16th Student Council Executive Committee and House Executive Committee, Sec 3 CCA Leaders, newly appointed Student Councillors and Peer Ambassadors. The academic awards would also be presented to our students who have done very well in 2023.

- Time: 2.15 - 4.00 pm
- Venue: Friendship Hall
- Levels Involved: Sec 2-5
- Sec 1s will be dismissed from school at 2.15 pm.
- A rehearsal will be held on 11 April (Thu) for student leaders and prize awardees.

2 Student Leadership Development

The recruitment drive for the Student Council and House Committee would begin in Term 2 Week 1. Lower secondary students who have the desire to serve are encouraged to be a part of the student leadership team. As part of our continuous effort to build the leadership competencies of student leaders, various training sessions had been planned.

- Lower Sec Class Committee meeting - 4 Apr (Thu)
- Sec 3 GEMS Leaders Training - 25 Apr (Thu)
- House Committee Training - 28 Mar (Thu)
- House Executive Committee only - 2 May (Thu)
- House Committee 2-day camp - 28 & 29 May (Tue & Wed)
- Student Council meeting - 28 Mar (Thu) & 16 May (Thu)
- Student Council 2-day camp - 24 & 25 May (Fri & Sat)

More information will be provided at a later date for all selected student leaders.

3 Peer Support Leaders (Peer Ambassadors)

The Sec 1 recruitment drive for Peer Support Leaders or Peer Ambassadors as they are known in GM will be in Term 2. These students should possess qualities of compassion, trustworthiness and relationship skills. They are responsible for befriending, helping and influencing their schoolmates positively so as to enhance their well-being and to resist negative peer pressure. Sec 1 students who possess these qualities are strongly encouraged to sign up when the recruitment begins.

There will be a Sec 1 Peer Ambassadors training on 9 May and 23 May from 2.30 to 4.00 pm.

There will be a Day Camp for all Sec 1-3 Peer Ambassadors on 27 May, providing a mix of talks and experiential activities to develop the desired dispositions and skills. More details will be provided closer to the date.

(G) PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

1 Parenting Talks

Parenting workshop on 18 May (Sat)

Topic: 16 Developmental Assets to raise a Confident and Motivated Child

Presenter: Speakers from Focus on the Family

Time: 9.00 – 11.00 am

Venue: Multi-Purpose Room in school

Signing up will be via Parents' Gateway from 31 Mar.

2 GM Alumni Association

GM Alumni AGM

Date: 23 Mar (Sat)

Time: 10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Venue: Multi-Purpose Room in school

All ex-students of GMS(S) and GMS(P) are welcome to attend. It is a time to serve the schools. More importantly, it is also a time to connect and network with your ex-schoolmates and even your ex-teachers. So do come and join us.

END