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10 Sep 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

2021 Term 4 Sec 4&5 Letter

We are thankful that the first 3 terms had passed by safely with God's providence and grace. We are appreciative of the partnership with parents as we rolled out new initiatives to benefit our GEMS. In Term 4, we will continue to focus on developing GEMS as passionate learners, courageous leaders and caring citizens with emphasis on the value and theme of 'Mastery' and 'Celebrating Success' respectively.

This term, our graduating cohort will complete their N- or O-Level Examinations. We wish them every success and pray for God's kindness and blessings to be with them as they begin another chapter in their lives. For the Secondary 1 to 3, it is important that they continue to revise and consolidate their learning, actively seeking consultations for clarification. For the staff, we will begin our review and improvement process and continue to hone our competencies and skills to do better for the GEMS entrusted to us. Staff will continue to explore the use of technology and various applications so that teaching and learning can be more engaging and effective.

Aligned to the theme of 'Celebrating Success', we will affirm GEMS' achievements at the Prize Presentation Ceremony on 29 Oct (Fri) and showcase their diverse talents and strengths at the Virtual Open House on 27 Nov (Sat) as they share with P6 students and parents.

N-Level Listening Comprehension will take place on 13 and 14 Sep (Mon and Tues), starting from 2.30 pm. To provide a conducive environment for our 4NA/NT students, all other students will be dismissed earlier. There will be no CCAs, remedials/consultations in the afternoons on these days. The detailed dismissal times are as follows:

13 Sep (Mon): 1.15pm Sec 1, 1.20pm Sec 2, 1.25pm Sec 3, 2pm Sec 4E5N (after prelim paper)
14 Sep (Tue): 1.15pm Sec 3, 1.20pm Sec 2, 1.25pm Sec 1, 1.30pm Sec 4E5N

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, events that are planned may be modified or cancelled pending national guidelines. We also advise parents and students to defer all travel overseas unless it is permissible under the prevailing MOH's travel advisory. We require parents/guardians to make a travel declaration for your child/ward only if he/she intends to travel for the year-end holidays to ensure that schools continue to be a healthy and safe environment for all. Border measures, health protocol and requirements for entry may change over time depending on the public health situation in the respective countries. Please check on these requirements by visiting the SafeTravel website at [<https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg>] and the Ministry of Health (MOH) at [<https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19>].

We look forward to your partnership and we wish your child a successful Term 4 ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Wee Tat Chuen
Principal

(A) Key School-Wide Events

The table summarises some key events in Term 4.

Date	Event	Level	Remarks
13 Sept (Mon)	GM Prayer and Praise (5-6 pm)		Parents, alumni and students are welcomed.
13 Sep (Mon)	Sec 4E/5N Preliminary Examinations (Part 2)	Sec 4E/5N	Last day of Prelim Exam
17 Sep (Fri)	CCAs stand down	Sec 1-3	
24 Sep (Fri)	Sec 4/5 Cohort Games	Sec 4/5	Students to report to school as usual. Participation in cohort games is optional.
1 Oct (Fri) –14 Oct (Thu) 6 Oct (Wed) –14 Oct (Thu)	End-Of-Year Examinations	Sec 3 Sec 1-2	The schedule has been distributed to your child in Term 3 Week 10.
1 October (Fri)	Sec 4/5 Graduation Service	Sec 4/5	Students to report to school as usual.
4 Oct (Mon) –14 Oct (Thu)	Study Break	Sec 4E/5N	Students are encouraged to stay at home and e-consult their teachers to minimise exposure to COVID-19.
15 Oct (Fri)	Marking Day	All	Students need not report to school.
15 Oct (Fri)	CCAs can resume	Sec 1-3	Students will be informed by their CCA teachers.
25 Oct (Mon)	Moderation & Promotion Exercise	All	Students need not report to school.
29 Oct (Fri)	Prize Presentation Ceremony Parent-Teacher Meet (by appointment) Last Day of School	Sec 1 - 3	Students to report to school as usual. Staggered dismissal at 10.30am. Parent-Teacher Meet for parents who made an appointment.
27 Nov (Sat)	Virtual Open House		Students who are involved will be informed.

(B) SAFETY AND SECURITY

For parents/guardians who drive, we encourage you to drop off your child at Gate H, along Aljunied Road, where it is fully covered.

(C) STUDENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

1. GM Prayer and Praise

This will take place via Zoom on 13 Sep (Mon) from 5 to 6pm. It is a time to pray and fellowship, drawing strength and grace from God and one another. All are welcome. Zoom details will be sent out nearer the date from the respective staff and parents supporting this event. Please send an email to the school and address it to Mr Chin Khai Ying if you would like to be connected with the parent co-ordinator for this event.

2. Student Welfare

The Student Welfare Committee will be recruiting Sec 1 students as Peer Ambassadors at the start of Term 4. More information will be given to your child through the Form Teachers. Students who wish to be trained as Peer Ambassadors can notify their Form Teachers. Students who need financial assistance for essentials like food, stationery or transport are encouraged to apply through their Form Teachers.

3. Student Management

We appreciate the support from parents 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 for learning, we encourage parents to monitor your child's screen time and usage and help them be responsible users of social media.

4. CCA Matters

CCAs will stand down from 17 Sep (Fri) to ensure students have sufficient time to prepare for the End-Of-Year Examinations. They will resume on 18 Oct (Mon). Year-end training schedules and camps will be made known to the students in due course.

5. After-School Engagement Programme

This programme ended in Term 3. There will not be any After-School Engagement Programme this Term.

6. Prize-Presentation Ceremony and Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM)

Students will receive their results slips on 29 Oct (Fri). Please acknowledge and sign on them before they are collected back by their teachers on the first day of school in 2022. PTM is upon request. You can book the slots in the response slip which will be given to your child nearer the date. The Prize Presentation Ceremony will be held on 29 Oct (Fri) to celebrate GEMS' achievements and successes. Staggered dismissal will be from 10.30am.

7. Student Leadership

To develop 'Courageous Leaders', we will continue to hone the leadership competencies and skills of our student leaders. There will be various trainings/camps during the post-examination period, beginning with the House Committee Day Camp (30 Oct), the 3-day Student Council Camp (9-11 Nov) and finally the Orientation Group Leaders Preparatory Camp (17-19 Nov) and Booster Session (29 Dec). These trainings/camps will adhere to national safe management measures. Consent forms will be issued closer to the dates.

8. Virtual Open House

GMS(S) Virtual Open House will be held on 27 Nov (Sat) from 9 to 12 noon, showcasing our curricular and co-curricular programmes. Our Principal will also be addressing prospective students and parents. More details will be published on the school's website and facebook page nearer to the date. Students involved will be informed nearer to the date.

(D) LEVEL ACTIVITIES FOR SEC 4&5

1. Sec 4/5 Cohort Games

To provide a respite and healthy recreation, sports and games are planned on 24 Sep (Fri) from 2 to 5pm. They can engage in sports, exercise or play a game with their subject teachers and peers.

2. Graduation Service

This event will be held on 1 Oct (Fri) from 11:00 to 12:15pm, followed by a bento lunch. This Service acknowledges the contributions and achievements of our graduating students in the co-curricular areas and share some advice for their journey beyond the gates of GMS(S).

3. Sec 4E/5N Study Break

A study break will be implemented for the graduating cohort ahead of the national examinations. The study break is from 4 Oct (Mon) to 14 Oct (Thurs). Students are advised to remain at home to do their self-revision or e-consultation unless arrangements have been made with their teachers, with permission granted by the school.

(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

This will commence on 13 Sep (Mon), over two periods:

Part 1: 13 Sep (Mon) - 23 Sep (Thu)

Part 2: 4 Oct (Mon) - 14 Oct (Thu)

1.2 GCE O-Level Science Practical Examinations

These will be held on the following dates:

Physics: 4 Oct (Mon)

Combined Science: 7 Oct (Thu)

Biology: 12 Oct (Tues)

Chemistry: 14 Oct (Thu)

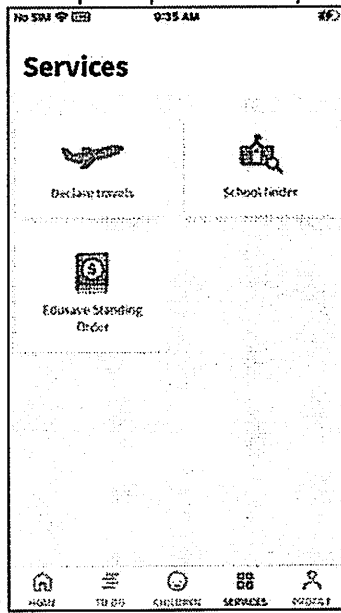
1.3 GCE O-Level Written Examinations

This will take place from 15 Oct (Fri) to 15 Nov (Mon).

(F) PARTNERSHIPS WITH PARENTS

1. Parents Gateway New Features

Two new services have been added to the [Services] tab in the parents mobile app: SchoolFinder and Edusave Standing Order. Parents can now have easy access to the websites.



SchoolFinder and Edusave Standing Order

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