



# Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)

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13 Sept 2019

Dear Parents/ Guardian,

## 2019 Sec 2 Term 4 Letter

Your child has journeyed with us through three terms of learning and we are now at Term 4 which brings with it conclusions and closures, reflections, and the hopes for new beginnings. We continue to cast our focus on developing passionate learners with an emphasis on the value of mastery. We hope that the efforts at developing self-awareness and self-management skills undergirding the responsible decisions that students have made over the past year will culminate in a celebration at platforms such as the Prize Presentation Ceremony and the 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert. Hence our theme for Term 4 is 'Celebrating Success'.

This Term, we bid farewell to our graduating students after they complete their N- or O-Level Examinations and we wish them every success in their future endeavours and God's kind mercies and blessings upon them when they leave our school gates. For the rest of our students, it is important that they consolidate their learning and prepare to demonstrate their efforts made throughout the year. For the staff, it is a good time for us to review what had worked for students over the past academic year and to do better for our students who will be with us in the next.

This Term, we celebrate the successes of our students; rejoicing with them as they reap the outcomes and consequences of their labour in all areas: be it in making progress in grasping difficult concepts, mastering the skillful delivery of a drop-shot, artfully dribbling a ball past opponents, executing a graceful spin, emoting a musical phrase, performing foot drills with precision, growing empathy and committing to service for others, or maturing in character with the right values and attitude.

Before closing the year, we will complete the remaining of our Sec 3 GEMS Challenge: the Humanities Model United Nations Challenge, Overseas Challenge to Thailand and China and the F1 Challenge in Abu Dhabi. In line with the theme of 'Celebrating Success', our students will also showcase their talents at the 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert at the Victoria Theatre. In addition, an Open House will also be held to showcase the school's programmes and the diverse gifts and interests of our GEMS to prospective students.

Your partnership with us is important to the success of your child. To facilitate the partnership, MOE and GovTech have developed a mobile app, the Parents Gateway (PG) that allows parents to engage closely with schools, receive information and to perform a range of administrative functions including giving consent for school trips. We are pleased to share that new functionalities have been added and details are provided in this letter. The school will continue to leverage this app for future communication.

We look forward to a new beginning in 2020 in the midst of the end to 2019. As we seek improvement and mastery in what we do, we model this value to our students and wish that they will always want to, and choose to, be better as they journey ahead. Hence, 2 weeks of remediation lessons (29 Oct to 8 Nov) for selected students will be held after the school ends to better prepare them for 2020.

We look forward to your partnership and I wish your child a successful Term.

Yours sincerely,  
Mr Wee Tat Chuen  
Principal

## KEY EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

### Key School-Wide Events in Term 4

1. The table below summarises some of the key school-wide events and dates in Term 4.
4. Further details are provided in the letter.

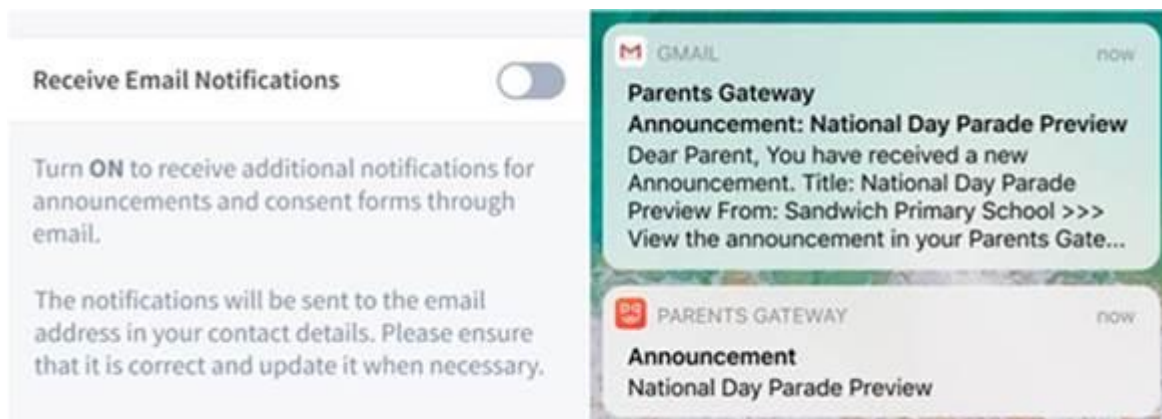
Date	Event	Level	Remarks
Fri, 13 Sept	CCA Stand Down	All	No CCAs until exams are over.
Mon, 16 Sept	GM Prayer and Praise at the MPR	All	Optional. 5pm to 6:30pm. Students, parents and alumni are warmly welcomed.
Fri, 11 Oct	Marking Day	All	Students need not report to school.
Mon, 14 Oct	CCAs resume	All	
Mon, 21 Oct	Moderation & Promotion Exercise	All	Students need not report to school.
Fri, 25 Oct	Prize Presentation Ceremony Parent-Teacher Meet (by appointment) Last Day of School	Sec 1 - 3	Students to report in school as usual and will be dismissed after the Prize Presentation Ceremony which is expected to end at 10:30am. Parent-Teacher Meet for parents who made an appointment.
Fri, 25 Oct	95 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert at the Victoria Theatre	All	This is a ticketed event.
Tue - Fri, 29 Oct - 8 Nov	Post-Exam Remedial Lessons	Selected Students	Selected students will be informed for the remedial lessons
Sat, 23 Nov	Open House	Selected Students	

### PARENT GATEWAY (PG)

2. PG is a mobile app specially designed for parents. Developed by MOE and GovTech, the app allows parents to engage closely with schools, receive information and to perform a range of administrative functions including giving consent for school trips, etc. We are pleased to inform you that there are some enhancements to the PG with the following functionalities:

- a. EMAIL NOTIFICATION – Parents now have the option to turn on email notifications. This feature will trigger an alert when there is a new message sent by Parents Gateway. Parents would still need to log in to the Parents Gateway app to view the entire message (announcements/consent forms) and respond to consent forms. These

multiple channels will ensure that parents do not, inadvertently, miss out on new announcements/consent forms sent by the school.



- b. APP UPDATE NOTIFICATION – When a new version of the Parents Gateway app is released, parents would receive an alert to update their current app to enjoy the latest version. Please note that this update feature would only be available to parents after they have upgraded their mobile version of Parents Gateway to v3.1.

3. How to access these new features: These new, carefully designed features are available from 20 Aug 2019 for parents. The Parents Gateway app will be automatically updated on parents' devices if they have enabled the auto-update feature. Otherwise, parents could also update their app through Apple App Store or Google Play Store to enjoy these features.



iOS: <https://apple.co/2s6twbX>

Android: <http://bit.ly/2Rqni8Y>

## STUDENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

### GM Prayer and Praise

4. The GM Prayer and Praise session is a time to receive wisdom from the Bible and to draw strength and grace from God and one another through prayer and fellowship. Students, parents and alumni who are interested are welcome to join us. Details as follow:

Date: 16 Sept, first day of the school term

Time: 5 - 6:30pm

Venue: Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)

### Student Welfare

5. Our former School Counsellors, Mr Nigel Wong and Ms Rosa, left the school in June and July. Ms Pauline Loh is our new School Counsellor. If you would like to refer your child to Ms Pauline Loh, you may contact her at 67466503 (ext. 244), or email her at [Loh\\_Puay\\_tze\\_pauline@schools.gov.sg](mailto:Loh_Puay_tze_pauline@schools.gov.sg).

## **Student Management**

6. Please be informed that in Singapore, vaporisers such as electronic cigarettes and the like are prohibited under the Tobacco Act. This legislation prohibits the importation, distribution, sale or offer for sale of such devices.

7. The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) takes a serious view on any person who contravenes the law. The following information is taken from the HSA's website: [https://www.hsa.gov.sg/content/hsa/en/Health\\_Products\\_Regulation/Tobacco\\_Control/Overview/Tobacco\\_Legislation/Prohibition\\_on\\_Certain\\_Products.html](https://www.hsa.gov.sg/content/hsa/en/Health_Products_Regulation/Tobacco_Control/Overview/Tobacco_Legislation/Prohibition_on_Certain_Products.html) 'Those guilty of the offence are liable to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both. Repeated offenders are liable to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.'

## **MOE-OBS Challenge Programme**

8. As part of the National Outdoor Adventure Education Masterplan, the MOE-OBS Challenge Programme seeks to develop ruggedness, resilience, and build cohesion amongst youths. The programme 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. Our 2020 Sec 3 students will be participating in a 5-day expeditionary course at Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) from 20 to 24 Apr 2020. You would have received a letter regarding the above programme, dated 2 Sept through Parents Gateway. Please remember to register your child/ ward online by 4 Oct 2019. The school will be arranging for the mandatory medical screening of your child. More details will be given a later date.

## **CCA Step-down dates and resumption date**

9. CCAs stand down on Fri, 13 Sept, to allow students to prepare for the end-of-year exams.

10. End-of-year holiday training schedules and camps for relevant CCAs will be made known to respective CCA members before the school holidays.

## **SHINE Programme for Sec 2 N(A) and 2 N(T)**

11. As part of the post-exam programme, all Sec 2 Normal Academic and Technical students will be going through the SHINE Programme. The SHINE Programme aims to broaden students' learning experiences and meet their varied learning needs through applied learning.

12. Students will be given a choice of modules. These modules would provide an in-depth look at the different skills and knowledge necessary for each module. Students have the opportunity to experience hands-on learning and present their work at the GM Open House 2019 and Prize Presentation Day.

Dates: 17\*, 18\*, 22, 23 and 24 Oct

Time: During curriculum time.

13. \*On Thu, 17 Oct, Sec 2 students would be dismissed at 4.45pm. Students would be informed beforehand should there be any changes in the time.

14. \*On Fri, 18 Oct, they would be dismissed at 3.45pm. Students would be informed beforehand should there be any changes in the time.

### **Lower Sec Prize-Presentation Ceremony and Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) (upon request)**

15. Students will receive their results slip on 25 Oct. Please acknowledge that you have seen your child's/ ward's results by signing on the results slip. Students will return the signed results slip to their form teacher on the first day of school in 2020.

16. The PTM is upon request. A response slip will be given to your child nearer to the date.

17. A Prize Presentation Ceremony will also be held on 25 Oct where we will celebrate our students' achievements. Students will be dismissed at 10.30am.

### **95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert: GEMS Alive! Build Up, Shine Forth!**

18. Our school will be staging our 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert on 25 Oct at the Victoria Theatre. The concert will feature our Aesthetics CCAs as well as students in other CCA groups. Tickets for the concert will be on sale in Term 4. Details as follow:

Title:	GEMS Alive! Build Up, Shine Forth!
Date:	25 Oct
Venue:	Victoria Theatre
Time:	7.30 pm – 9:30pm
Tickets:	\$15 (Stall); \$12 (Circle)

### **Student Leadership**

19. In line with the school's continuous effort to hone the leadership competencies and skills of all our student leaders, various camps will be held after the year-end examinations. We will begin with the 2-day 1-night House Committee Camp (1 Nov to 2 Nov), followed by the 2-day Student Council Camp (14 Nov and 15 Nov) and lastly the 3-day 2-night Orientation Group Leaders Preparatory Camp (19 Nov to 21 Nov). The consent forms for these camps will be made available at a later date.

### **Combined Sports Camp**

20. There will be a combined Sports Camp for selected Sec 2 and 3 CCA students conducted at the school premises from 25 to 26 Nov.

### **Open House**

21. The GMS(S) Open House will be held on Sat 23 Nov, from 9.00 am to 12.00 pm. Our school's curriculum and co-curricular programmes will be on display and our Principal will also be addressing prospective students. More details will be published on the school's website and facebook page nearer to the date. We would like to invite all P6 students and their parents who are interested to find out more about GMS(S) to attend the Open House.

## **SUBJECT AND PROGRAMME ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION**

### **Subject Combination Matters**

22. After the end-of-year exams, Sec 2 students will select their 2020 Sec 3 subject combinations. A separate briefing will be conducted with the students nearer to the date of selection on the selection procedures.

## ASSESSMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

### Sec 1 to Sec 3 End-of-Year Exam 2019

Level	Date
S1 & S2 E/ N(A)/ N(T)	2 Oct – 10 Oct
S3 E/ N(A) / N(T)	30 Sep – 10 Oct

23. Students need not report to school on Marking Day on Fri, 11 Oct. Lessons will resume on Mon, 14 Oct.

24. Students also need not report to school on Moderation and Promotion Day on Mon, 21 Oct.

### English Oral Examination

25. Sec 2 E & N(A): 17 Sept 2019 (Tue) 2.30pm - 6.00 pm. The passages for reading and video stimuli will be uploaded in the SLS before the Sept holidays and students are expected to access the SLS to prepare for their oral exam.

26. Sec 2 N(T): The oral exams will be conducted during the end-of-year exam. Students are expected to refer to the exams time-table for details. The passages for reading and video stimuli will be uploaded in the SLS 2 weeks before the start of the end-of-year exams and students are expected to access the SLS to prepare for their oral exam.

27. Details on how the Oral Exam will be conducted and how to prepare for the Oral exam will be provided by their respective English teachers.

### Lower Sec Mother Tongue (MT) Oral Examination

28. The MT oral exams will be conducted at the end-of-year exams. Students are expected to refer to the exam time-table for the schedule. MT teachers will also inform students of their schedule. The passages for reading and conversational topics will be uploaded to the SLS before the Sept holidays and students are expected to access the SLS to prepare for their oral exam.

### Post-Exam Remediation Lessons

29. The school will be conducting remediation lessons for selected students. The students will be selected based on their overall academic performance in 2019. The objective of the lessons is to bridge the learning gaps and to prepare them for 2020. The remediation lessons will be conducted from Tue, 29 Oct to Fri, 8 Nov.

## ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

### Safety & Security

30. To prepare our students for unexpected emergency situations, the school will be conducting an emergency preparedness drill in Term 4.

31. For parents/ guardian who drive, we seek your understanding to adhere to the instructions in [Annex A](#) and the regulations given by the Traffic Police for motorists driving within School Zones. Please note that with effect from 1 Apr 2019, motorists may be liable to

a fine of between \$100 to \$150 for making an unauthorized U-turn, and a fine of between \$400 - \$500 for beating a red light at the school zone.

### **Student Health Matters**

32. Parents are reminded to update the school about your child's pre-existing health conditions through the respective Form Teachers. Students with asthmatic conditions are to bring their own inhalers and medication. School is not able to dispense medicine to students. Hence students must bring their own medication.

END



**Traffic Advisory 2019**

Car Access into the School and Student Drop-off and Pick-up

The presence of a large number of vehicles entering and exiting the School compromises on the safety of students and increases the risks of accidents. To provide a safe environment for our students and to minimise the risk of accidents, we seek your understanding that car access into the school compound be limited to rainy days only. On normal days, we seek your cooperation in adhering to the following with regards to the student drop-off and pick-up:-

- For quick drop-off and pick-up, please use the lay by area at the school’s entrance along Geylang East Central. Please note that there will be no waiting at the lay-by area. (please refer to the map marked ★ )
- Queue patiently along Geylang East Central when dropping off your child in the mornings and avoid over-taking /cutting into vehicles that are ahead as this increases the risk of accidents.
- If you need to wait for your child/ward, use the URA car parks at either Block 106 or 107 Aljunied Crescent, opposite the School.

Also, please note that if you are driving from Aljunied Road, the traffic light junction outside Geylang Methodist School (Primary)’s entrance is a no U-Turn junction. You can make a U-Turn at the traffic junction about 500 m from the Primary School (please refer to map marked U).

Please note that with effect from 1st April 2019, motorists may be liable to a fine of between \$100 to \$150 for making unauthorized U-turn, and a fine of between \$400 -\$500 for beating red light at the school zone. More details are available in the Traffic Police Advisory attached.

We seek your understanding and cooperation on these matters so that we can create safe environment for your child/ward. Please do not hesitate to contact the School should you require further clarification.



★ Drop-off/Pick-up

U U-Turn junction