



# Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)

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13 Sept 2019

Dear Parents/ Guardian,

## 2019 Sec 3 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.

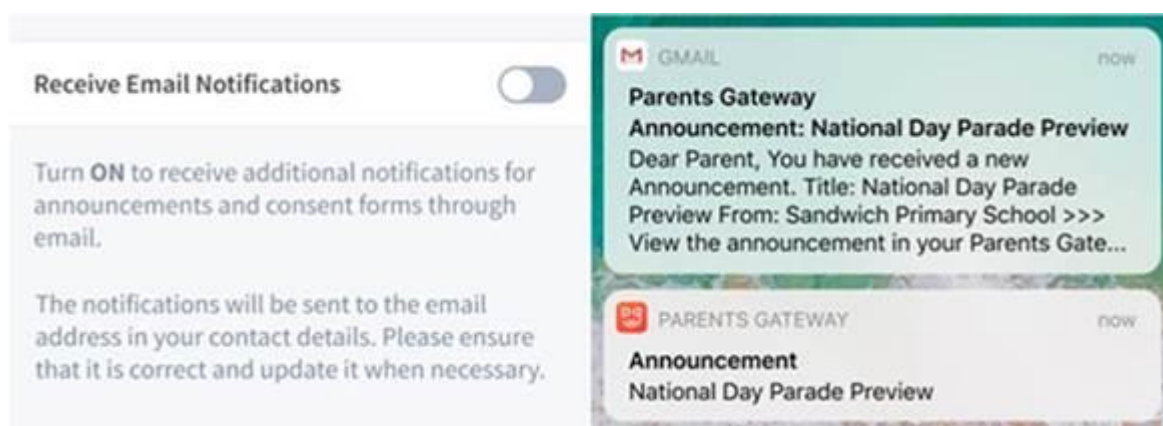
Date	Event	Level	Remarks
Fri, 13 Sept	CCA Stand Down	All	No CCAs until exams are over.
Mon, 16 Sept	GM Prayer and Praise at the MPR	All	Optional. 5pm to 6:30pm. Students, parents and alumni are warmly welcomed.
Mon, 16 Sept	E-Learning Day	Sec 3s only	Sec 3 students need not report to school.
Fri, 11 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.'

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

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

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

## **Humanities GEMS Challenge: Model United Nations (MUN)**

10. Selected Sec 3 students will take part in the MUN as a continuation of their GEMS Challenge during the Nov/ Dec school holidays. Details will be communicated directly to the students involved once we receive information from the organisers.

## **Overseas GEMS Challenge - OSL/ VIA (3 to 7 Nov)**

11. A team of 20 students and 4 teachers will be taking part in the second Overseas Service Learning (OSL) Journey to Chiangmai from 3 to 7 Nov 2019. The OSL Journey aims to inculcate the values of service and resilience, and develop problem-solving and leadership skills. The students will be conducting activities like the teaching of basic English, art-and-craft, sports and games skills to children in a primary school.

## **Overseas GEMS Challenge - Abu Dhabi**

12. We are happy to announce that 6 of our students have done very well in the F1 in Schools National competition. They will be representing Singapore to compete in the World Finals in Abu Dhabi at the end of Nov.

## **Overseas GEMS Challenge - China Trip (7 to 12 Nov)**

13. In line with the school's objective to provide a holistic education for our students, the Mother Tongue (MT) department has planned an Overseas Learning Trip to Shanghai & Suzhou, China. Through the trip, the students will be exposed to a wide array of experiences and challenged to take up tasks which will see them developing their courage and confidence. The trip also allows students to appreciate societal development trends and to be better prepared for the future.

### **SHINE Programme for Sec 3 N(A) and 3 N(T)**

14. As part of the post-exam programme, all Sec 3 N(A) and (T) 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.

15. Students will be given a choice of modules. These modules will provide a more 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 upcoming GM Open House 2019.

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

Time: During curriculum time.

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

16. 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.

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

18. 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!**

19. 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**

20. 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**

21. 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**

22. 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.

## **Education and Career Guidance**

23. Every year the school organises a Work Experience programme for Sec 3 students in Nov, where they will be attached to a company or organisation for a duration of one or two weeks. We are finalising the details with the relevant company/ organisations. Sec 3 students who are interested can sign up for this programme when application opens, or approach Mr Ng Jun Qiang or Ms Abelyn Quek for more information.

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

### **E-Learning Day**

24. Sec 3 students need not report to school on Mon, 16 Sept as it is an e-learning day for them. They will access work assigned by teachers via SLS. Students may call 67466503 ext 214 if they need any assistance with their accounts and passwords.

### **Humanities S3 Geographical Investigation Fieldtrip**

25. In line with the Geography syllabus and the geographical inquiry process through fieldtrip, all S3 Express Geography Elective and Geography (Core) students will explore Chinatown to investigate real-world tourism issues. They will learn about Chinatown's rich culture and how tourism has shaped Singapore's economic development. Details as follow:

Date: 17 Oct  
Time: 12:15pm – 4:30pm  
Venue: Chinatown  
Students: S3 Express Geography Elective and Geography (Core) students

### **Science**

26. As part of the students' project on sustainability and food waste management, the school has collaborated with our industry partner, Paya Lebar Quarter (Lendlease Pte Ltd) and facilitated a visit for the Sec 3 Applied Learning Programme (ALP) students to a waste management centre to understand how food waste is managed and how a food digester works in the context of STEM.

Date: 26 Sept, Thu  
Venue: Parkway Parade  
Time: 2:45 - 5:30 pm  
Students: Sec 3 ALP students

## 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

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

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

### English Oral Examination

29. Sec 3 E & N(A): 25 Sept 2019 (Wed) 2.30pm - 6.00 pm. The passages for reading and video stimuli will be uploaded in the SLS on e-learning day, 16 Sept, and students are expected to access the SLS to prepare for their oral exam.

30. 3 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.

31. 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.

### Post-Exam Remediation Lessons

32. 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

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

34. 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

35. 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