



Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)

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13 Sept 2019

Dear Parents/ Guardian,

2019 Sec 4 and 5 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 95th 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 95th 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

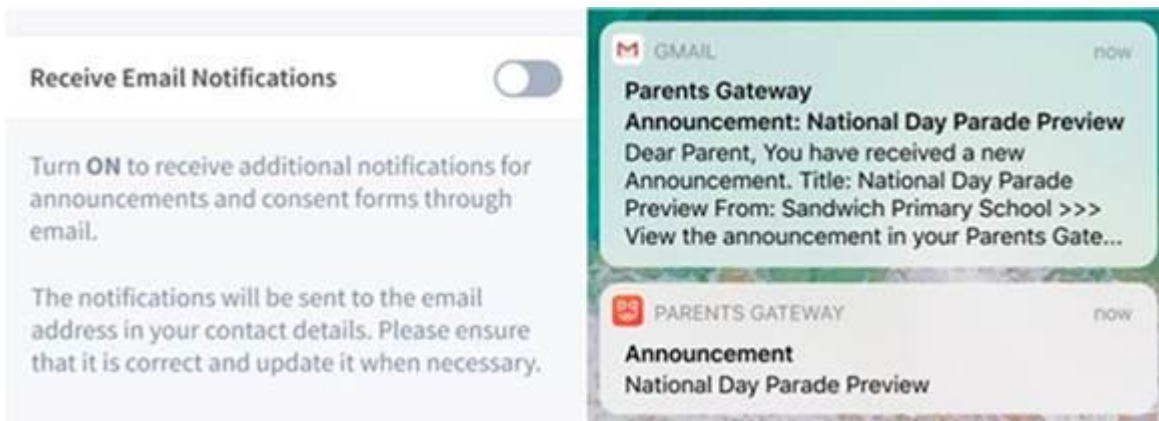
1. The table below summarises some of the key school-wide events and dates in Term 4.
4. Further details are provided in the letter.

Date	Event	Level	Remarks
Mon, 16 Sept	GM Prayer and Praise at the MPR	All	Optional. 5pm to 6:30pm. Students, parents and alumni are warmly welcomed.
Fri, 27 Sept	Sec 4/ 5 Graduation Service & Cohort Games	Sec 4/ 5s only	Students are to report to school as usual.
Mon-Fri, 7 Oct to 11 Oct	S4/ 5 Consolidation and Consultation Week	Sec 4/ 5s only	Sec 4/ 5s may revise at home or arrange for consultations in school.
Mon-Fri, 14 to 18 Oct	S4/ 5 Consolidation and Consultation Week	Sec 4/ 5s only	Sec 4/ 5s may revise at home or attempt timed-practice papers in school.
Fri, 25 Oct	95 th Anniversary Concert at the Victoria Theatre	All	This is a ticketed event.
Mon, 18 Nov	Celebration Night: Under the Stars	Sec 4/ 5s only	This is a ticketed event.

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/2Rqnj8Y>

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.

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 '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.'

Sec 4 Graduation Service and Cohort Games

8. The school's annual Graduation Service will be held on Fri, 27 Sept, from 11am to 12:15pm. This Service acknowledges the contributions and achievements of graduating students in the co-curricular areas and imparts advice for their journey beyond the gates of GMS(S).

9. To provide a respite for graduating students, sports and games are planned for them on the same day from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. Students can gather after their revision to engage in sports, exercise and to play a game or two with their subject teachers and peers.

95th Anniversary Concert: GEMS Alive! Build Up, Shine Forth!

10. Our school will be staging our 95th 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)

Celebration Night: Under the Stars

11. We look forward to celebrate our achievements with our graduating students for one last time. Details of the Celebration Night as follow:

Theme: Under the Stars
Date: 18 Nov
Venue: Mandarin Orchard Hotel
Time: 6:30pm – 9:30pm
Tickets: \$75

SUBJECT AND PROGRAMME ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Consolidation and Consultation Weeks

12. The 4E/ 5N Prelim exams will end in Term 4 Week 1, after which, students will receive feedback from their respective teachers. Lessons will then continue until Week 3 so that teachers can continue to revise with students.

13. Weeks 4 and 5 (7 Oct – 18 Oct) will be for consolidation and consultation. This would allow students to have more flexibility in the use of their time to do self-revision and to make appointments with their subject teachers to clarify any doubts they may have. It is optional for Sec 4E/ 5N students to report to school during this period.

14. In Week 5 (14 Oct – 18 Oct), timed-practice and feedback sessions will be available for students. Students can opt for this by signing up. Details will be made available to them closer to the date.

15. In summary, the weeks leading to the O-Level Examinations will be as such:

Weeks 2 – 3 (23 Sept – 4 Oct)	Attendance is compulsory. Lessons, Sci Practical Exams, Graduation Service & Cohort Games.
Week 4 (7 Oct – 11 Oct)	Attendance is optional. Consultation & consolidation.
Week 5 (14 Oct – 18 Oct)	Attendance is optional. Consultation & consolidation, and timed practice by dept.
Week 6 onwards (from 21 Oct)	Start of O-Level Exams.

ASSESSMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

National Exam Matters

16. All Sec 4 and 5 students are required to bring their Entry Proof, NRIC or foreign identification documents to the O-level examination venues.

GCE 'N' Level Written Examinations

17. The GCE N-Level Written Examinations will commence on Mon, 16 Sept 2019. The examination will be held over two periods:

Part 1: Mon, 16 Sept to Wed, 25 Sept

Part 2: Mon, 7 Oct to Fri, 18 Oct

Revision lessons will continue to be held for Sec 4 N(A) and N (T) students from Thu, 26 Sept to Fri, 4 Oct.

GCE 'O' Level Science Practical Examinations

18. The GCE O-Level Science Practical Examinations will be held on the following dates:

Combined Science: Thu, 3 Oct

Physics: Mon, 7 Oct

Chemistry: Thu, 10 Oct

Biology: Tue, 15 Oct

GCE 'O' Level Written Examinations

19. The GCE O-Level Written Examinations will be held from Mon, 21 Oct to Fri, 15 Nov.

ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Safety & Security

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

21. 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

22. 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