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ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL

2 Jul 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Greetings from St Andrew's Secondary School! We are glad to furnish you with the following key information for the new academic term:

1. Key Events in Term 3;
2. Parent-Teacher Conference for Term 3;
3. Parents Gateway;
4. Reinforcing Social Skills at Home;
5. Security at St Andrew's Village;
6. Revised MOE Financial Assistance Scheme: Dyslexia Remediation; and
7. Acknowledgement of Contributions.

1. KEY EVENTS IN TERM 3

1.1 Temperature Taking Exercise (4 Jul, Thurs)

A temperature-taking exercise will be held on 4 Jul, Thurs. We seek your assistance in reminding your child/ward to have his thermometer on hand during school hours. Students may purchase a new thermometer at the school bookshop in advance, should theirs be faulty.

1.2 Youth Day Holiday (8 Jul, Mon)

Youth Day will take place on 8 Jul, Mon. It is a school holiday and lessons will resume on 9 Jul, Tues.

1.3 Home Learning Day for Secondary 1 to 3 students (23 Jul, Tues)

To encourage self-directed learning and allow students to revisit concepts at their own pace, Secondary 1 to 3 students will be using the Student Learning Space to access subject material and activities from home on 23 Jul, Tues. Lessons will resume on 24 Jul, Wed.

1.4 Streaming Options for Secondary 2 Students (22 Jul, Mon to 31 Jul, Wed)

All Secondary 2 students are required to submit their 2020 Secondary 3 course options via AdminBreeze from 22 Jul, Mon to 31 Jul, Wed. The confirmation of course options will

be conducted at end-October, after the End-of-Year Examination. General instructions on access and use of the AdminBreeze can be found on the school's website (see: <http://standrewssec.moe.edu.sg/others/for-saints>, "For Parents").

1.5 Parenting Talks (various)

Talks will be conducted on the following dates, as part of the Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme) Seminar:

- a) 13 Jul, Sat – Raising Responsible Teenagers;
- b) 3 Aug, Sat – Raising Competent Teenagers; and
- c) 21 Sep, Sat – Getting Teenagers Connected.

Kindly register for the above parenting talks at the following web link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfBU9OhTtyfVjcQVQ3P86JrZN_1Ly4w1yMhY45ZyIM1v9rWKg/viewform?usp=sf_link

1.6 Inter-class Games (5 Aug, Mon to 7 Aug, Wed)

To encourage students to lead an active lifestyle and forge stronger bonds of friendship, the school will be organising inter-class games (e.g. Frisbee, volleyball) between 5 Aug, Mon and 7 Aug, Wed. It will be open to Secondary 1 to 3 students.

1.7 National Day & Hari Raya Haji Holiday (9 Aug, Fri & 12 Aug, Mon)

The school will be celebrating National Day on 8 Aug, Thurs, and students will be dismissed at 10.30am. Lessons will resume on 13 Aug, Tues, because 9 Aug, Fri and 12 Aug, Mon, is a public holiday and Hari Raya Haji school holiday respectively.

1.8 157th Founder's Day (FD) and Partner's Appreciation Day (17 Aug, Sat)

A ceremony will be held on 17 Aug, Sat, to mark the founding of our school. This year's theme is: "Great is Thy Faithfulness". Founder's Day Tea will be held from 11.00a.m to 12.00p.m. The Partners' Appreciation Lunch will follow from 12.00pm to 1.30p.m. The main ceremony will take place from 2.30pm to 5.00pm.

1.9 Teachers' Day Celebration and Last Day of Term (5 Sep, Thurs)

Students will be organising a celebration for their teachers on 5 Sep, Thurs. They will be dismissed for the term at 10.00a.m. Term 4 will commence on 16 Sep, Mon. Parents should remind their son/ward that the most appropriate gift would be a handmade card with an encouraging message.

1.10 School-based Assessments

To guide your son/ward in achieving his personal best, please note the dates of the following school assessments:

- a) Secondary 1 to 3 students will sit for their Weighted Assessment 3 on 5 Aug, Mon, 16 Aug, Fri and 21 Aug, Wed.
- b) Secondary 1 to 3 Exp and NA Chinese Language Internal Oral Examination will be on 13 Aug, Tues to 27 Aug, Tues.
- c) Secondary 4 Normal Academic (NA) and 4 Normal Technical Preliminary Examination will be held from 29 Jul, Mon to 13 Aug, Tues.

- d) Secondary 4 Exp and 5 NA Preliminary Examination will be held on the following dates:
- 5 Aug, Mon (English Language papers);
 - 16 Aug, Fri (Biology Practical);
 - 21 Aug, Wed (Physics / Chemistry Practical); and
 - 26 Aug, Mon – 20 Sep, Fri.
- (Note: Checking of papers will be carried out on 23 Sep & 24 Sep, Mon & Tues)*

Detailed schedules will be furnished in due course.

1.11 National Examinations

Secondary 4 and 5 students will be sitting the following national examinations:

- Mother Tongue Language (MTL) 'O' Level Oral Examination from 9 Jul, Tues to 22 Jul, Mon.
- MTL 'O' Level Listening Comprehension on 23 Jul, Tues.
- MTL 'N' Level Oral Examination from 30 Jul, Tues to 2 Aug, Fri.
- English Language (EL) 'N' Level Oral Examination from 11 Jul, Thurs to 18 Jul, Thurs.
- Higher MTL 'O' Level Oral Examination 29 Jul, Mon to 2 Aug, Fri.
- EL 'O' Level Oral Examination from 13 Aug, Tues to 23 Aug, Fri.

1.12 Structured Remedial and Study Programmes

To prepare students for the Common Tests and upcoming national examination, the following programmes will be conducted:

- Structured Remedial Programmes for Secondary 1 to 3 students will commence on 15 Jul, Mon.
- Self-Study Programme for 4E & 5NA students will be held from 22 Jul, Mon to 26 Jul, Fri and from 19 Aug, Mon to 23 Aug, Fri in Term 3.
- Intensive Revision for Secondary 4NA and 4NT students (Phase 1) will be held from 26 Aug, Mon to 4 Sep, Wed.

2. PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE (PTC) FOR TERM 3 (4 SEP, WED)

- 2.1 A PTC for selected Secondary 1 to 3 students will be held at classrooms on 4 Sep, Wed, from 2.00p.m to 6.00p.m. We request that your son/ward attends this conference with you. Students will be dismissed at 1.00pm for the PTC.
- 2.2 Parents involved will be able to select a preferred meeting time using the PTC Online Booking Application on the school's Learning Management System: MC Online. **Bookings will be open from 27 Aug, Tues to 3 Sep, Tues.** General instructions on access and use of the application can be found on the school's website (see: <http://standrewssec.moe.edu.sg/others/for-saints>, "For Parents"). Should you experience technical difficulties, you may contact the following helplines:

- MC Online Helpdesk: 6777 5198
(On weekdays, 7.00a.m to 7.00p.m, and
Saturdays, 7.00a.m to 2.00p.m)

- School's ICT Executive: 6285 1944
(On weekdays, 8.00a.m to 5.00p.m)

3. PARENTS GATEWAY

- 3.1 Parents Gateway is an app that enables parents to engage closely with schools and on-the-go. Users will access school announcements and can perform a range of administrative functions, including travel declarations and giving consent for school trips.
- 3.2 If you have not already done so, and as hardcopy letters will no longer be provided, we invite you to download the free Parents Gateway mobile app on your mobile phone, via:
- a) <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.moe.pgp&hl=en> (Android users); or
 - b) <https://itunes.apple.com/sg/app/parents-gateway/id1267198708?mt=8> (Apple users).
- 3.3 Do note that users will require their SingPass account details for login. Should you encounter any technical issues with logging on to the Parents Gateway app, please contact our Administration Manager, Mr Harithev at 62851944 or email us at sass@moe.edu.sg.

4. REINFORCING SOCIAL SKILLS AT HOME

- 4.1 To best support your child's/ward's growth, you may wish to reinforce three skills they have learnt last semester, for continued application in the coming months.
- 4.2 Key steps for these social skills are as follows:
- a) *Organising Task and Time*
 - 1) List all the tasks to be done.
 - 2) Estimate the time needed to complete each task.
 - 3) Rank tasks based on deadlines, time needed and importance.
 - 4) Prepare a schedule for your tasks.
 - 5) Complete tasks according to your schedule.
 - b) *Completing Homework Well*
 - 1) Find out the homework for today.
 - 2) Take the required materials home.
 - 3) Begin your homework without delay.
 - 4) Focus. Do it well. Finish it!
 - 5) Keep your completed homework in your school bag.
 - c) *Completing Classwork Well*
 - 1) Listen carefully to instructions.
 - 2) Think about what you need to complete the work. Ask questions, if necessary.
 - 3) Begin your work without delay.
 - 4) Focus. Do it well. Finish it!
 - 5) Check your work. Take note of any other work to be done.

5. SECURITY AT ST ANDREW'S VILLAGE (SAV)

- 5.1 Kindly note that there has been a change in the security company at our school, and include stricter requirements for visitors across SAV to ensure a safe environment for students and staff within its premises.
- 5.2 A key responsibility of the guards is to ensure that visitors are issued with passes and display them at all times. We seek your cooperation in registering at the guardhouse when visiting our campus.

6. REVISED MOE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME (FAS): DYSLEXIA REMEDIATION

- 6.1 Parents or guardians of students with dyslexia, please be informed that MOE has made these revisions to the FAS for dyslexia remediation:
 - a) The income criteria for 100% subsidy has been aligned to that of the MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS). 2019 applications submitted before this revision will be auto-aligned with effect from 1 April 2019, if they meet the income criteria for the 100% subsidy. These students would be informed of the revision in subsidy amount through the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.
 - b) The school-based financial assistance scheme may also be used to subsidise the Main Literary Programme (MOE-aided) fees for students with dyslexia under foster care.

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

- 7.1 Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to all parents/guardians for their generous support at our 7th Saints Food Fair on 30 May, Thurs. We are particularly grateful for parent volunteers and families who sponsored the event, and made it a memorable one for all of our students.
- 7.2 We wish to express our gratitude to the parent volunteers who helmed the Self-Study Programme for our graduating students. Parent volunteers provided a conducive environment, including afternoon snacks, for our students during their revision period in the days leading up to their examination.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Marion Tan
Principal