



St. Margaret's Secondary School

111 Farrer Road, Singapore 259240

Tel: 6466-4525 Fax: 6466-6709

Website: www.stmargaretssec.moe.edu.sg

E-mail: stmargaretss@moe.edu.sg

2 April 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The month of April will be an important one especially with the start of the Mid-Year Examinations at the end of the month. During this period, do encourage your daughters to remain focused, put in their best effort and take care of their health.

1. Mid-Year Examinations Timetable and Reporting Time

As indicated in the March letter, the Mid-Year Examinations will be conducted from Thursday, 26 April to Friday, 11 May. The detailed examination schedules have been issued to students on Monday, 26 March. The schedules have been uploaded on the school website at <http://www.stmargaretssec.moe.edu.sg/>.

The reporting time for examinations will be based on the examination schedules given out to students. There will be no late reporting on the Wednesdays (2 and 9 May) that coincide with the examination period. All students sitting for the first examination paper of the day must report to school by 7.30am. For students who are not sitting for the first examination paper of the day, they need not come to school by 7.30am. However, they must be in school at least 30 minutes before the start of the examination that they are sitting for.

There will also be no late reporting on the Wednesdays (16 and 23 May) during the post-examination period. Students must report to school by 7.30am on these two Wednesdays.

2. International Friendship Day

The school will be commemorating International Friendship Day (IFD) 2018 on Friday, 6 April. The theme for IFD 2018 is 'Celebrating the ASEAN Community'.

Through the commemoration, we hope to inspire our students to understand and appreciate the importance of ASEAN and play an active role in fostering people-to-people ties, reinforcing our sense of togetherness and strengthening our ASEAN identity.

3. Annual School Cross Country

The school will be conducting our annual school Cross Country on Thursday, 12 April from 7.30am to 10.30am at West Coast Park. A letter with further details of the event has been given to students on Monday, 26 March.

Parents are invited to take part in the event by running alongside with their daughters. They can sign up via the online form accessible at <https://tinyurl.com/smsscrossover2018>.

4. University of New South Wales International Competition and Assessment for Schools

Secondary 2 and 3 Express students will be participating in the UNSW ICAS (Science) during curriculum time on Tuesday, 17 April. The competition assesses students' critical and analytical thinking skills and is a good opportunity for teachers and students to know how they have performed in these areas.

5. Student Council Commendation Ceremony

The Student Council Commendation Ceremony will be held on Friday, 20 April from 2.30pm to 5.00pm at St. Andrew's Cathedral. All student councillors, choir members, selected student leaders and student representatives are required to attend the event. Students will be dismissed from the cathedral after the service.



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6. Suspension of Co-Curricular Activities

Due to the forthcoming Mid-Year Examinations, all Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs) which do not have any national or zonal competitions in April will be suspended from Thursday, 12 April and resume after the examinations from Monday, 14 May.

7. Mid-Year Parent-Teacher Meeting for All Students (25 May)

The Mid-Year Meet-the-Parents sessions for all students will be conducted on Friday, 25 May from 8.00am to 4.30pm. A separate letter with more information about the session and how parents may book the time slots to meet their daughter's teachers will be issued to students on Monday, 16 April.

For Upper Secondary Students Only

8. Secondary 3 to 5 Mother Tongue Oral Examinations

The Mother Tongue Oral Examinations for all Secondary 3 to 5 students will be conducted from Monday, 16 April to Thursday, 19 April from 2.45pm – 6.00pm. The subject teachers will inform your daughters of the schedules in due course.

9. Science Practical Examinations

Sec 4E and 5N students will be taking their mid-year science practical examinations during curriculum time from Monday, 23 April to Wednesday, 25 April. During this period, lessons will continue as usual when the students are not scheduled for any practical examinations.

Others

10. Parent Education Series

A talk entitled 'How to Cope with Peer Pressure' will be conducted on Tuesday, 24 April. More details can be found on the brochure on page 3. If you are keen to attend the talk, please email the reply slip to Mrs Susan Tan, our FLE coordinator, at susanhong38@gmail.com by Tuesday, 17 April.

We thank you for your partnership.

Yours sincerely,
Lee Lin Yee (Mdm)
Principal



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How to Cope with Peer Pressure

Date: Tuesday, 24 April

Time: 9.00am – 12.00noon

Venue: St. Margaret's Secondary School (Learning Lab, Level 1)

Synopsis

Peer pressure is one of the most powerful forces that can affect your teenager for life. It may be a positive or negative influence, depending on how your teenager copes with it. Teenagers are going through various changes in their lives. The changes include physical, emotional and psychological changes that affect them socially as well as academically. Teenagers often seek to establish their identity and independence. They look for models and people to process issues with them. The influence of their peers plays a big part in shaping their future. If teenagers are not taught how to cope with peer pressure, it can have a negative effect in their lives, and this may result in their experimentation with tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, theft, gang violence, pre-marital sex and the consequences related to such activities.

Parents often believe that their children do not value their opinions. In reality, studies suggest that parents have tremendous influence over their children. No matter the age of their children, parents and caregivers should never feel helpless about countering the negative effects of peer pressure.

In this talk, parents will learn:

- What peer pressure is
- Why their teenage children succumb to peer pressure
- How to help their teenage children cope with peer pressure
- Practical tips to bond with their teenage children

Speaker's Profile: Mr Paul Goh is a trained counsellor, family life educator and author. He uses his counselling background to develop thoughtful, relevant and interactive life-skill programmes and workshops for children, youths and their parents to bring out their unique qualities and transform their lives. Paul has 15 years of experience and has conducted many programmes in more than 60 schools in Singapore. He believes strongly that everyone has the ability to change and the potential to be better. Paul is certain that parenting is the most important job in the world. Good parenting is about providing love and care for children in a warm and secure environment and helping them learn the rules of life. A positive and cohesive family environment lays the foundation for children to develop good self-esteem. Recently, he published his first illustrated storybook 'The Ostrich and the Tiger' with the vision that the book will trigger parents to think more about their parenting methods and inspire children to be brave, kind and make a difference.

Reply Slip (Closing Date: 17 April 2018)

I / We would like to attend the "How to Cope with Peer Pressure" talk by Mr Paul Goh.

Number of People Attending: _____

Name of Parent: _____

Name of Child: _____ Class: _____

Contact Number: _____ (HP) _____ (H)

Email Address: _____

Please send replies & enquiries to Mrs Susan Tan @ HP: 81136388; Email: susanhong38@gmail.com