



St. Margaret's School (Secondary)

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1 August 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are well into Term 3 which is really a season of vibrant activities and cherished memories at St. Margaret's School (Secondary) to nurture core memories. To celebrate the verve of the young, we commenced the term with a spirited celebration of Youth Day and our much-anticipated 'Spirit Week' during the first week of July.

On 18 July, we commemorated Racial Harmony Day with students and staff wearing ethnic costumes, highlighting our society's rich cultural diversity. It was a wonderful opportunity for the St. Margaret's family to unite and appreciate the various races and cultures that contribute to our collective harmony. Witnessing the shared commitment to embracing our multicultural heritage was indeed heartening.

On 19 July, our annual Cross Country at the beautiful Singapore Sports Hub was a thrilling showcase of physical fitness, sportsmanship, and school spirit among our students. The energy and enthusiasm were palpable as everyone gave their best, creating an unforgettable day of camaraderie.

During this season, our graduating students have sat for their GCE N- and O-Level Oral Examinations, and started their Preliminary Examinations. We extend our best wishes to all students, confident that they will approach their examinations with determination and God's grace.

As we transition into August, the momentum continues to build. Preparations are underway for the National Day Celebrations on 8 August, a day of patriotic pride and community spirit. The term will conclude with the celebration of Teachers' Day, an occasion to honour the dedication and hard work of our teaching staff.

We deeply appreciate your continued support and partnership in nurturing and developing our girls to their fullest potential. Thank you for being an integral part of our school community.

Traffic Matters

To alleviate congestion at Prince Road and the main school gates during dismissal times, parents/guardians who are driving are encouraged to wait at the **Farrer Gardens carpark**, and for students to exit through Side Gate G (beside the classroom block).

Note that Gate G will be used for egress (exit only) after school hours.

Health Matters

(a) Managing Rising Temperatures

As we face rising temperatures, schools have put in place measures to ensure the safety and well-being of students and staff when faced with these conditions. MOE's guidelines are aligned with NEA's Heat Stress Advisory (<http://www.weather.gov.sg/heat-stress/>).

Students can continue to exercise the option to switch between the school full uniform and the House polo T-shirt and CCA skirt to manage the effect of the temperatures. Please encourage your daughter/ward to stay well hydrated during hot spells.

(b) Wearing of Face Masks

As part of our social responsibility, we encourage anyone with (residual) flu symptoms to wear a face mask.

Note also that the school is undergoing general repairs and repainting, which will continue until mid-September. If your daughter/ward is sensitive to dust, she may also wear a face mask during this period.

For All Students

1. National Day Celebration

The school will be having our National Day Celebration on **Thursday, 8 August**. Students are encouraged to attend school in their red and/or white attire for the celebration. They are to report to school by 7.30am and will be dismissed at about 10.30am.

"Together, As One United People" is the theme for this year's celebrations, a call to all Singaporeans to overcome uncertainties and seize opportunities together. The theme highlights the collective strength of Our People and underscores the importance of every citizen coming together to shape our future and uplift those around us. It encapsulates the essence of our Nation's success and resilience. The theme reflects the spirit of "Inclusivity, Community and Trust" that has enabled us to overcome and flourish in the last 59 years despite the challenges.

To foster a sense of togetherness, students and staff will come together to clean the school. Through that, students will express pride in their classroom/space as they take ownership of the space. Cleaning agents are provided and students are required to bring 2 pieces of cloth/rags for the cleaning of their classrooms or CCA-assigned areas. Class Community Managers and CCA Leaders have been briefed on how to lead their groups and what additional items are required for the cleaning activity.

As the canteen will be closed, we strongly advise students to have breakfast in the morning.

To ease traffic congestion, parents/guardians are strongly advised to pick up your daughter/ward at **the Farrer Gardens carpark (Gate G exit)**.

2. Teachers' Day Celebration

Teachers' Day in Singapore is celebrated on the last Friday of Term 3 and the school will be celebrating this meaningful day with our teaching staff on **Thursday, 29 August**. Students will report to school at 7.30am and be dismissed at 11.00am.

There will be an ACES Day workout to start the day, followed by exciting activities and a concert where students come together to show appreciation for their teachers.

Students are to report to school in their PE attire with CCA skirt for the ACES Day workout.

For Secondary 1, 2, and 3 Students Only

3. Suspension of Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)

All CCAs will be suspended from **Wednesday, 28 August**. CCAs will resume after the End-of-Year Examinations from **Thursday, 17 October**, unless communicated earlier by CCA teachers.

For Upper Secondary Students Only

4. Preliminary Examinations

The Secondary 4 and 5 Preliminary Examinations will be held as follows:

Classes	Examination Period
4N(A) & 4N(T)	<u>N(A) and N(T)-Level Preliminary Examination</u> Monday, 29 July – Wednesday, 7 August
4E/5N(A) & 4N(A) SBB	<u>O-Level Preliminary Examination</u> Monday, 12 August – Wednesday, 28 August

The examination timetables have been distributed to the students in T3W1. The timetables are also available on the school website under the “Resources for Students” section.

We thank all parents/guardians for your encouragement and support to our graduating students, and in working alongside us in ensuring their well-being as they prepare for the examination.

5. Work Attachment/Job Shadowing Programme

Our school works closely with industry partners to provide authentic learning experiences for students through our Education and Career Guidance Programme. The programme includes the Work Attachment/Job Shadowing Programme (WAJS) for Secondary 3 students.

This year, the WAJS will be conducted from **Monday, 4 November, to Friday, 22 November**. Additionally, a Learning Journey to Barclays Bank will be held on Tuesday, 29 October, from 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm to expose students to the banking and finance industry.

Through the WAJS, we aim to give our students an accurate perspective of the workplace and the career opportunities available to them. The WAJS is an opportunity for our students to discover their own aptitudes and talents, understand the work environment, and cultivate better work habits.

Details of available vacancies, the duration of each stint, and the registration process for the Work Attachment/Job Shadowing programme have been emailed to the Secondary 3 students. Please encourage your daughter/ward to sign up for this enriching learning experience. Students applying for the attachments are encouraged to avoid making travel plans during the WAJS period.

More information on the WAJS can be found at <https://go.gov.sg/wajs2024details>.

For Secondary 1 Students Only

6. The Secondary 1 3D2N Outdoor Adventure Camp 2024 will be from **Monday, 14 October to Wednesday, 16 October**, after the End-of-Year Examinations.

The camp aims to allow our girls to experience and appreciate the outdoors, as well as to develop leadership and interpersonal skills.

Further details will be provided via Parents Gateway at the end of Term 3.


Others

7. Home-School Partnership Award 2024

The Home-School Partnership Award 2024 aims to promote collaboration between teachers and parents/guardians for the betterment of our students. This award recognises a teacher who:


- a) Proactively engages parents on ways to develop your daughter/ward
- b) Is helpful, approachable, effective and a good role model for students

We would like to encourage you to nominate a teacher for this award by Wednesday, 21 August through the online form accessible at <https://for.edu.sg/smhsp24> or via the QR code shown below.

Nomination Period	Online Form
Thursday, 1 August - Wednesday, 21 August	 https://for.edu.sg/smhsp24

8. Positive Parenting Programme (Triple P) Talks for Parents by MSF

Triple P aims to support parents in their parenting journey and to improve their relationship with their children. Our school has partnered with MSF and Lakeside Family Services to conduct a series of Triple P talks for parents:

Seminar	Date	Time	Registration
Seminar 1: Raising Responsible Teenagers & Raising Competent Teenagers	Saturday, 17 August	9.00am to 11.30am	 https://for.edu.sg/smtriplep
Seminar 2: Getting Teenagers Connected	Saturday, 24 August	9.00am to 11.00am	

The talks will be conducted online and parents can register your interest via the link or QR code shown above before Wednesday, 14 August, 5.00pm. Further details on the talks are found in Annex A.

Yours in partnership,

Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Positive Parenting Programme (Triple P) Talks for Parents by MSF



SEMINAR SERIES ON ZOOM 

Positive Parenting Programme



Are you struggling with managing behavioral issues with your teenager and looking for ways to improve communication and support?



St. Margaret's School (Secondary) in partnership with Lakeside Family Services presents the Triple P – Positive Parenting Programme. These seminars offer invaluable knowledge on positive parenting and provide practical tips to make raising teenagers more manageable, enjoyable, and fulfilling.

SEMINARS ARE HELD ON ZOOM.

 For more information, please contact Mr Daniel Lim (Head/Parenting Support Provider, Lakeside Family Services) at daniel-lim@lakeside.org.sg

 **17 and 24 Aug 2024 SATURDAYS 9-11:30am/9-11am**

SESSION 1 - 17 Aug 2024, Sat (9:00-11:30am)
Raising Responsible Teenagers and Raising Competent Teenagers

SESSION 2 - 24 Aug 2024, Sat (9:00-11:00am)
Getting Teenagers Connected

REGISTER NOW  <https://for.edu.sg/smtriplep> 



<https://for.edu.sg/smtriplep>

Brought to you by:



Triple P Certified Speaker



Caroline David

Counsellor, Family life Educator, Trainer

Ms Caroline David is a Counsellor and Trainer with a Masters in Guidance and Counselling from James Cook University, a Postgraduate Diploma from Institute of Systems Science (NUS) and a Bachelor of Science degree from NUS. She has 12 years of counselling experience having worked with children of different ages as well as parents. Through therapy, she has helped alleviate students' mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation and self-harm. Caroline is also involved in the rehabilitation programmes for inmates in the Singapore Prison System (SPS).



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