



St. Margaret's School (Secondary)

111 Farrer Road, Singapore 259240
Website: www.stmargaretssec.moe.edu.sg

Tel: 6466-4525 Fax: 6466-6709
E-mail: stmargaretss@moe.edu.sg

3 February 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

January has ushered in an encouraging start to the new academic year with customised level programmes.

The level programmes are thoughtfully designed to align with each level's unique theme, fostering holistic development in our students.

- **Secondary One:** 'Spark your Adventure: Where Friendships & Dreams Begin'
Through the Orientation Programme, the school helped the students acclimatise to the new school environment and forge lasting friendships.
- **Secondary Two:** 'Magnetise your Compass: Align Passion with Potential'
The programme guided the students towards their future by initiating their Education and Career Guidance (ECG) journey with explorations of career interests and educational pathways.
- **Secondary Three:** 'Strive for Strength: Conquer Challenges, Forge Resilience'
We challenge the students through a residential camp, building resilience, teamwork, and leadership skills in an outdoor setting while building strong bonds with their peers.
- **Secondary Four/Five:** 'Shine from Within: Navigate Paths, Ignite Futures'
This programme helps our students to clarify their post-secondary options. They visited polytechnics and had interactions with industry professionals during the Professional Guidance Programme, preparing them to step confidently into their future endeavours.

I hope your daughter/ward has made a smooth start to the new year and is finding joy in the new challenges and experiences.

This year, many of our students are preparing and gearing up for the National School Games and Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation. We seek your partnership in guiding them to manage their various commitments effectively, allowing them to excel in their endeavours.

We are also happy to share that on 16 January, we were privileged to host the Minister of Education, Mr. Chan Chun Sing, at our school. Our staff and students guided Minister Chan and his delegation on a tour of our school and its facilities, showcasing our school's rich history, signature programmes, and the dynamic learning environments within our classrooms. The visit culminated in an engaging conversation between Minister Chan and our school community, where staff and students shared their thoughts on the challenges and aspirations for Singapore's educational future.

Health Matters

Please continue to work with your daughter/ward in adherence to the spirit and intent of practising good personal hygiene, and to wash her hands frequently with soap and water.

If your daughter/ward is unwell, please ensure that she stays at home and seeks medical attention if necessary. If she is recovering from respiratory-related illnesses, please encourage her to exercise social responsibility (e.g. by wearing a mask, minimising social interactions with big groups).

2024 GCE O Level Examinations

We congratulate our 2024 graduating cohort for achieving commendable results in the GCE O-Level Examinations. 90% of our Secondary 4 Express students qualified for admission to the Junior Colleges/Millennia Institute and 99% of them qualified for Polytechnic courses.

Our Secondary 5 Normal (Academic) students also did well with 67% of them qualifying for admission to the Junior Colleges/Millennia Institute and 100% of them qualifying for Polytechnic courses.

We are proud of the tenacity shown by the students and join their families in celebrating their progress and accomplishments.

For All Students

1. Support Structures for Student Well-being

To cater to the well-being of our students, support structures are available as shown in **Annex A**. Do look out for any signs of distress or behavioural changes and connect with the Form and Subject teachers should you have any concerns about her learning and well-being.

2. Commemoration of Total Defence 2025

Total Defence Day (TDD) will be commemorated on **Friday, 14 February**.

As part of the observance, students will take part in *Exercise SG Ready: Food Resilience Preparedness Programme*. During this activity, they will consume ready-to-eat meals provided by the Singapore Food Agency, simulating food disruptions and understanding the challenges Singapore may face in ensuring food security.

On this day, only two school canteen stalls will be opened.

An assembly programme will be held to commemorate Total Defence Day. Lower Secondary students will work on their artwork in celebration of SG60, while Upper Secondary students will participate in cohort-based discussions to reflect on Total Defence, particularly in building Singapore's food resilience.

3. Annual Cross-country 2025

To encourage a healthy lifestyle through physical fitness, holistic wellness and sportsmanship as well as to deepen a sense of connection with school and family, the school will be holding our annual cross-country at OCBC Square, Singapore Sports Hub on **Monday, 24 February**.

Students are to report to the venue directly by 7.30am. Selected students on duty may be required to report earlier. The event is expected to end at 10.30am and students will be

dismissed from OCBC Square thereafter. Should your daughter/ward be unwell on the day of the run, she should see the doctor promptly and remain at home until she recovers fully.

In the event of inclement weather, the cross-country run may be delayed and will continue if the situation permits. If weather conditions continue to be adverse, the event may be cancelled, and parents will be alerted via Parents Gateway.

If you are keen on joining your child/ward for the event, please indicate your participation at <https://go.gov.sg/smss2025cross>.

4. Self-directed learning

To effectively manage and optimise resources, in the event a subject teacher is unable to be in class for lessons after 2.00pm, students will be assigned curriculum-aligned work. Students should use the opportunity for self-directed learning and revision. The subject teacher will follow up with the class in the next lesson.

Administrative Matters

1. Update of Child Details via Students Detail Form (SDF) Portal

Parents/legal guardians will be able to view and update their information and information of their child/ward via the SDF portal at <https://pg.moe.edu.sg/forms/sdf> using their Singpass account.

Authorised caregivers can only submit their own information. The SDF portal will be accessible till the last day of Term 4 for you to provide timely updates.

2. Group Personal Accident (GPA) Insurance for Students

Your child is covered with a GPA Insurance which provides coverage when she is in school; participating in the school's activities, or any activity related to or endorsed by the school, including Home-based Learning days, Co-Curricular Activities and sports, regardless of the time at which such activities are conducted and whether the activities are conducted in the school, in Singapore, or elsewhere.

All claims should be submitted as soon as possible subjected to a cap of 365 days from the date of accident. Submission of claims can be done online via Income's GPA portal at <https://studentgpa.incomegroupins.com.sg>.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A

Support for Student Well-being

Support Structures	Opening Hours/Contact Details
<p><u>The Lighthouse (Canteen)</u></p> <p>Students may unwind with board games and card games during their recess and lunch.</p>	<p>Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.00am to 11.15am and 1.30pm to 3.30pm</p> <p>Wednesdays, 9.40am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm</p> <p>Fridays, 9.00am to 11.15am and 2.30pm to 4.00pm</p>
<p><u>Student Services Hub (Blk A, Level 3, next to the school library)</u></p> <p>Students may have a chat with:</p> <p><u>Special Education Needs Officer</u> Mrs. Christine Tay-Ho</p> <p><u>Student Welfare Officer</u> Ms. Grace Tay</p> <p><u>Senior School Counsellor</u> Ms. Cynthia Kong</p>	<p><i>Walk-in</i> Mondays to Fridays, 9.00am to 11.00am</p> <p><i>By appointment (other times)</i> E-appointment system: https://go.gov.sg/smsscarencontact</p>
<p><u>School Counsellor (Part-time)</u> Ms. Mok Sin Lai</p>	<p><i>Walk-in</i> Tuesdays to Thursdays, 9.00am to 11.00am</p> <p><i>By appointment (other times)</i> E-appointment system: https://go.gov.sg/smsscarencontact</p>
<p><u>Education & Career Guidance Counsellor</u> Ms. Brenda Lee</p>	<p><i>Walk-in (from 17 February 2025)</i> Mondays and Tuesdays, 7.30am to 5.00pm</p> <p><i>By appointment (from 17 February 2025)</i> E-appointment system: https://go.gov.sg/smssecg</p> <p><i>Appointment with ECG Centre at MOE</i> https://go.gov.sg/moe-ecg-centre</p>