



St. Margaret's School (Secondary)

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1 February 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

St. Margaret's School typically kicks off the start of the year with specific and customised level programmes to allow students to ease into and prepare themselves well for the year ahead. Each level has a different focus.

Acclimatising our Secondary One students to their new school environment while engendering class bonding was a key focus of the Orientation Programme. Various activities such as a learning journey and finale performance helped to welcome them as the newest members of our St. Margaret's family.

This year saw the return of residential camps for our Secondary Two and Secondary Three students. Our girls experienced the rigour of camping in the outdoors while learning about key tenets of leadership, teamwork and resilience. Our Secondary Four and Five students had an interesting week of bonding activities that encouraged them to continue to provide positive peer support for one another through activities and have time to reflect and recalibrate their plans for the new year.

I hope that your daughter/ward has had many interesting tales to share with you after her level camp and programme.

The 2023 GCE O-Level results were released on 11 January 2024 and our heartiest congratulations to all our students for achieving this milestone! We hope that their entire school experience has been a formative one that has put them in good stead for whatever journeys that God has in store for them in the future. Our heartfelt gratitude also goes out to all parents who have supported your daughter/ward and worked alongside her as she prepared for the national examination.

Our students from the Sports CCAs have been preparing hard for the National School Games and we wish them the very best in the upcoming matches. The Performing Arts groups have also been putting in much effort as they rehearse for our school concert. Do join us on **Friday, 1 March**, as they showcase their talents in the concert themed '**#youarebeautiful**'. More details of the event can be found in this letter.

With the Lunar New Year holiday just around the corner, I pray that you will find the time to enjoy a blessed festive session with your family and friends.

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).

We appreciate your support and will continue to work with you closely. Let us all do our part to exercise personal and social responsibility and stay safe.

2023 GCE O-Level Examinations

Our 2023 graduating cohort achieved commendable results in the GCE O-Level Examinations. 92% 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 32% of them qualifying for admission to the Junior Colleges/Millennia Institute and 72% of them qualifying for Polytechnic courses.

School Concert

The school will be organising a concert on **Friday, 1 March from 7.15pm to 8.30pm**. Themed '#youarebeautiful', the concert promises a showcase of the rich tapestry of talent of our Performing Arts groups. The event will be held at the St. Margaret's School (Secondary) school hall. The sale of tickets to the public will be launched on Monday, 5 February and more details will be provided via Parents Gateway.

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. Lunar New Year Celebrations

The school will be celebrating the Lunar New Year on **Friday, 9 February**.

Students will report to school as usual by 7.30am for the flag-raising ceremony and will be dismissed at 10.30am. Details of the event will be provided to students nearer to the date.

3. Commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of Total Defence (TD40)

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Total Defence (TD40) in Singapore, with the theme 'Together We Keep Singapore Strong'.

The commemoration of TD40 will take place over two days. On **Wednesday, 14 February**, students will experience **Exercise SG Ready: Without Meat Wednesday**. During this day, our school canteen vendors will abstain from offering meat. We seek the support of parents/guardians to refrain from packing meat food items for your daughter/ward on this day.

On **Friday, 16 February**, there will be an **assembly programme** to further mark this milestone.

It is hoped that through these activities, students will delve into pivotal historical periods highlighting the challenges of daily food disruption faced by Singaporeans, and an appreciation for the resilience and unity demonstrated by our nation in overcoming these adversities. Students will also learn that every Singaporean has a part to play in our daily lives to ensure that Singapore is prepared for crises or disruptions, and that we remain resilient and united.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A

Support Structures for Student Well-being

Support Structures	Opening Hours/Contact Details	Location
<u>Drop Inn Too</u> Students may have a chat with our Senior School Counsellor, Ms Cynthia Kong.	Mondays – Fridays By Appointment (dial extension 223 or 104) <u>E-appointment System</u> https://go.gov.sg/smsscareacontact	Classroom Block (B02-13)
<u>Education and Career Guidance (ECG)</u> Students/parents may get in touch with our school's ECG Counsellor, Ms Ang Hui Min for their ECG queries.	Mondays and Thursdays (7.30am to 5.00pm) <u>Email Address</u> ang_hui_min@schools.gov.sg <u>e-appointment System</u> https://go.gov.sg/smssecg	ECG Room outside the library (A03-03B)
<u>The Lighthouse</u> Students may unwind with board games and card games during their recess and lunch.	Tuesdays and Thursdays (9.00am – 11.15am & 1.30pm – 3.30pm) Wednesdays (9.40am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 3.30pm) Fridays (9.00am – 11.15am & 2.30pm – 4.00pm)	“Lighthouse” in the Canteen