



St. Margaret's School (Secondary)

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3 April 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The first quarter of the year has given us time to offer our students a fresh experience of school with opportunities to interact, connect with one another and learn in myriad ways.

A key event where the school came together to interact, connect and learn was our Sports Meet held on the last day of Term 1. It was a novel event for almost all levels as this is the first held since 2019. The House spirit was almost palpable in the rousing cheers and spirited rooting for the athletes! The competitive as well as fun integrative races brought the students, staff and parents together as never before.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all parents for taking the time to attend the event. It is indeed heartening to note that so many of you also participated in the parent-daughter race and had great fun bonding with your daughters. Your willingness and enthusiasm at the Sports Meet meant so much to us and we truly appreciate your effort and support. At the end of the day, everyone was a winner – each heart beating for St. Margaret's. A photo montage of the highlights of the Sports Meet is available on our school website at <https://go.gov.sg/sd23highlights>.

With the National School Games and Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation in our midst, do continue to encourage and support your daughters. As we work alongside each other, we endeavour to ignite that spark to fire our girls' imagination. Our desire is that they will find joy as they learn continuously.

Thank you for being your girl's first lights.

Updates on COVID-19 Management

Please work with your child/ward in adherence to the spirit and intent of practising good personal hygiene, and to wash her hands frequently with soap and water. Students who are unwell should stay at home and seek medical attention where necessary.

Mother Tongue Oral Examination

As part of the overall assessment in Mother Tongue, students will be required to sit an Oral Examination. The scores of this examination will be incorporated into the End-of-Year Examination for the Secondary 1 to 3 students and the Preliminary Examination for the Secondary 4 and 5 students. The schedule for the Oral Examination is shown in the table below. Further details will be provided to the students by the Mother Tongue teachers prior to the examination.

Classes	Dates
S4-1 to S4-9 & S5-1	Tuesday, 18 April – Wednesday, 19 April
S3 Higher Mother Tongue	
S3-1 to S3-9	Thursday, 21 September – Friday, 22 September
S2-1 to S2-7	Thursday, 12 October
S1-1 to S1-7	Wednesday, 11 October

For All Levels

1. (New) “Gate G”

We are pleased to inform you that the school has constructed a new exit, “Gate G”. This gate faces the HDB public car park which is accessible via Queen’s Road.

This gate will only be used from 1pm - 7pm as an ‘exit’ gate. Parents/guardians are encouraged to arrange with your daughter/ward to use this new side gate to pick her up from the HDB carpark at Block 4 Queen’s Road.

Details of the gate and its location can be found in Annex A.

2. International Friendship Day

We will be commemorating International Friendship Day (IFD) on Friday, 14 April. The theme for IFD 2023 is ‘Singapore in Asia’. International cooperation remains key in our complex world. Asia is the world’s fastest-growing region, and Singapore continues to facilitate closer economic, political, social, and cultural cooperation within ASEAN and in Asia.

As the 32nd Southeast Asian (SEA) Games will be held in Cambodia in May 2023, it is both timely and appropriate to use the lens of sports to understand culture and promote understanding and friendship among ASEAN nations. Using the SEA Games as the platform to launch IFD will make it engaging for the students as well. Singapore is expected to send more than 500 athletes to participate in this year’s SEA Games. We hope to instill a sense of pride in Singapore and enable students to foster a better understanding of Singapore’s diplomatic relations with other regional countries through sports.

During the IFD commemoration, there will be a series of activities for our students to recognise the importance of connectedness between our neighbouring countries and understand how sports can be a vehicle to enhance Singapore’s friendship among our ASEAN neighbours. These activities include a poster design activity, an inter-House quiz and interviews with students who have participated in international sporting events.

3. Day off-in-lieu (DOIL) of Public Holidays for MOE Schools

With effect from Sunday, 1 January 2023, the Day off-in-lieu (DOIL) of Public Holidays has been revised for MOE schools. When a Public Holiday (PH) falls on Saturday, the next Monday or working day will be a designated DOIL for schools where schools will be fully closed on that day.

Please note that SMS(S) will hence be closed on Monday, 24 April as a designated day off-in-lieu for Hari Raya Puasa.

For Graduating Students Only

CCA Sessions for Graduating Students

CCA sessions for graduating students will be suspended from Thursday, 6 April or upon completion of the respective competitions and performances they are involved in (National School Games (NSG), Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation (AP) and Speech Day performances). The specific dates will be advised by the CCA teachers-in-charge.

Others

1. Livestream of Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation

Parents/Guardians are invited to view our Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) Arts Presentation (AP) via livestreaming at <https://go.gov.sg/syf23> or by scanning the QR code below. Links to the livestreams will only be active one day before the commencement of each AP category.



2. Work Attachment / Job Shadowing (WAJS) Programme

The Work Attachment / Job Shadowing (WAJS) Programme provides an avenue for our students to understand the work environment and cultivate better work habits. This year, Work Attachment / Job Shadowing opportunities will be made available to our Secondary 3 students between Monday, 6 November and Friday, 24 November for a duration of 5 to 10 days.

Parents/Guardians who are keen and able to support us in this programme could kindly indicate your availability/interest via the online form accessible at <http://go.gov.sg/wajs2023> or by scanning the QR code below by Friday, 28 April. We will touch base with you on the necessary follow-up to work out placement opportunities by May 2023.

Please forward your questions to Mrs Jean Tan (Subject Head/ECG & Partnership) at tan_lay_ching@moe.edu.sg.



3. Self-help Groups

There are self-help groups in Singapore that extend different kinds of support and assistance to families who may be in need. These include:

- Chinese Development Assistance Council (CDAC)
- Eurasian Association (EA)
- Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA)
- Yayasan MENDAKI (MENDAKI)

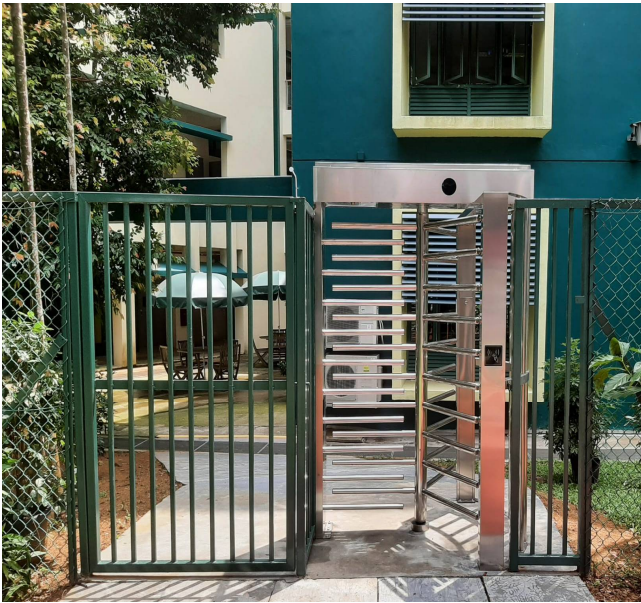
Parents/Guardians may refer to our school website at <https://go.gov.sg/smlinks> for curated information on the self-help groups and the type of support rendered.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A

New Exit - "Gate G"



View of Gate G
from the Queen's
Road carpark



View of Gate G
from inside the
school compound

