



St. Margaret's Secondary School

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1 April 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are well into Term 2 and we are thankful for your support and partnership in making the experience at St. Margaret's Secondary in Term 1 an enriching one for your daughters/wards.

In Term 2, a number of our students will be participating in the National School Games (NSG) and Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation (SYF AP). The forms and structures of NSG and SYF AP have been adjusted and modified according to prevailing safe management measures (SMM). We are glad that the students have the opportunities to participate in these learning experiences. We seek your continued support for the students so that they can gain the most of these learning experiences.

In Term 2, our Sec 2, 4 and 5 students will also be sitting the Mid-Year Examinations and the schedules are available on the school website.

We seek your support in partnering us in our efforts to create a holistic learning environment for your daughters/wards. Let us continue to encourage and support them in their various activities this school term.

Mid-Year Examinations

The Mid-Year Written Examinations for Sec 2, 4 and 5 students will be conducted from Tuesday, 27 April to Wednesday, 12 May.

Note that the Sec 1 and 3 students will continue to have their Weighted Assessments in Term 2. During the MYE period, the Sec 1 and 3 will report to school and have lessons as per usual.

(a) Reporting time for Sec 2, 4 and 5 Students during the Examination Period

The reporting time for the Sec 2, 4 and 5 students during the examination period will be based on the examination schedules given out. The detailed examination schedules were issued to the students on Thursday, 25 March. The schedules and duration of the papers have been uploaded to the school website and can be accessed via the link or QR code shown below:



<https://go.gov.sg/myeexamtt>

All students sitting the first examination paper of the day must report to school by 7.30am.

The reporting time on Wednesdays during the examination period are as follows:

Date(s)	Levels/Classes	Reporting Time
Wednesday, 28 April & Wednesday, 5 May	Sec 2	8.40am
	Sec 4 & Sec 5-1	7.30am
Wednesday, 12 May	S4-6 to S4-9 & Sec 5-1	8.40am
	Sec 2 & S4-1 to S4-5	7.30am

(b) Science Practical Examinations

The Mid-Year Science Practical Examinations will be conducted during curriculum time for the following classes:

Classes	Dates
Sec 4-1 to 4-5 & Sec 5-1	Monday, 19 April, Wednesday, 21 April & Thursday, 22 April

Lessons will continue as usual for students who are not scheduled for any practical examination. More information will be provided by the subject teachers in due course.

(c) Mid-Year Mother Tongue Oral Examinations

The Mid-Year Mother Tongue Oral Examinations for all Sec 4 and 5 students will be conducted as follows:

Date	Time
Tuesday, 20 April	2.45pm – 5.30pm
Friday, 23 April	3.00pm – 5.30pm

More information will be provided by the subject teachers in due course.

For All Levels

1. CCA Matters

(a) Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation (SYF AP)

The SYF AP is a celebration of the vitality of youth and provides an opportunity for our students to have a live performance on stage, and receive feedback from professional practitioners for learning and growth.

Selected students from the respective Performing Arts CCA will be representing our school in the SYF AP from Monday, 29 March to Monday, 26 April. More information from the respective Performing Arts CCA teachers-in-charge will be provided to Parents/Guardians of these students.

To ensure safe participation within current SMM, there will be no public audience at the SYF AP this year.

(b) National School Games

The National Sports Games (NSG) provides opportunities for our students to hone their mental strength, build resilience, bond and participate in inter-school competitions.

Selected 'B' Division girls from the following non-contact sports CCAs, namely Badminton, Bowling and Tennis CCAs, will be representing our school in the NSG from Monday, 29 March to Friday, 30 April. More information from the respective Sports CCA teachers-in-charge will be provided to Parents/Guardians of these students.

SMM, aligned with national guidelines, will be put in place for the various NSG competitions.

(c) CCA Sessions in Term 2

The following table lists the CCA sessions in Term 2 for the different levels:

Level(s)	Term 2 CCA sessions	Remarks
Sec 1 and 3	Selected students will be involved in the NSG and SYF AP.	In view of the NSG and SYF AP, there will be changes to the CCA schedule. Parents/guardians will be notified via Parents Gateway.
Sec 2	CCAs will be suspended due to the Mid-year Examinations from Friday, 9 April and resume from Monday, 17 May 2021 onwards.	Selected students will be participating in the NSG and SYF AP. CCAs for these participants will be suspended upon completion of the respective NSG and SYF AP events (specific dates as advised by CCA teachers-in-charge).
Sec 4 & 5	CCAs will cease for the graduating students from Friday, 9 April.	

2. International Friendship Day

We will be commemorating International Friendship Day (IFD) on Friday, 9 April. The theme for IFD 2021 is 'Singapore in the World'.

More than ever, COVID-19 has brought both challenges and opportunities for Singapore, and reminded us on the importance of international collaboration and cooperation. The changing global landscapes and the complexities of the world highlight the importance of maintaining good relationships and the need for our youths to recognise the importance of connectedness within and beyond ASEAN.

Through learning more about the rich diversity of cultures, our students can develop the spirit of friendship and collaboration, and chart the way forward for Singapore to connect with different countries in the global community.

3. Student Council Commendation Ceremony


The Student Council Commendation Ceremony recognises the contributions of our 2020/2021 student councillors and formally welcomes the 2021/2022 batch of student councilors as they officially take on their leadership roles.

This year, the Student Council Commendation Ceremony will be held on Friday, 23 April.

Others

4. Talk for Parents

There will be an online talk organised for parents/guardians on Saturday, 10 April:

Talk	Date & Time	Registration
Managing Exam Stress	Saturday, 10 April 2.00pm – 3.30pm	 https://go.gov.sg/smssporentstalk

Registration for the talk closes on Thursday, 8 April at 5.00pm. The link to access the talk will be sent via email to all registrants on Friday, 9 April.

More details can be found on the flyer in Annex A. Should you need more information on the talk, please contact Mrs Susan Tan, our school events coordinator, at susanhong38@gmail.com.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A

Talk for Parents Managing Exam Stress

Date: Saturday, 10 April

Time: 2.00pm – 3.30pm

Mode: Online via Zoom

Registration: Sign up for the talk at
<https://go.gov.sg/smssparentstalk>
or by scanning the QR code below:



Registration closes on Thursday, 8 April at 5.00pm. Registrants will receive the details to access the talk via email on Friday, 9 April.

Synopsis

The word 'stress' has become a part of our vocabulary these days. Some stress is good as it motivates one to put in effort. It is not uncommon today to see teenagers having trouble coping with academics and exams.

In this talk, the speaker will help parents gain hands-on tips on how they can assist their teenagers in coping with stress and managing their emotional reserves and to lay the foundation to a secure adult. The questions addressed are as follows:

- Why do different teens react differently to the same trying situations?
- What factors give rise to stress?
- How can parents recognise stress in their teens?
- How can exam stress be tamed?
- What role do parents play in helping teens manage their stress?

About the Speaker

Ms Harjit is a Family Life Educator and Counsellor, specializing in individual and group counselling, conducting training sessions and workshops on parenting matters. She is passionate about making a difference by sharing tangible techniques to bringing a shift towards behavioural changes and providing socio-emotional intervention for holistic support services to families.

She is a trained Triple P (Positive Parenting Program, University of Queensland) and Signposts (Parenting Research Centre, Australia) practitioner with a Masters in Counselling (Monash University).