



St. Margaret's Secondary School

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Let our Light Shine!

1 March 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is heartening that in the last two months, most of our students have quickly established the routine of learning and formed and deepened their relationships with their friends. Indeed, the girls have shown much resilience and resolve as they learn in the process of growing and glowing.

It gives me great delight to share with you that the theme of the St. Margaret's 180th Anniversary celebrations is "Let Our Light Shine". This was launched together with St. Margaret's Primary School on Tuesday, 22 February. This theme draws inspiration from the verse in Matthew 5:16, which reads: "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven". To commemorate this significant milestone, we will reflect on our shared heritage, legacy and school motto through a host of activities. We look forward to sharing more details with you in due course, to welcome you to join in the celebrations together with your daughter/ward.

As a school, we will continue to be watchful to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. We anticipate greater loosening of the Safe Management Measures (SMM) so that more student interactions can take place in class, school and beyond. We are hopeful that some aspects of school like the National School Games will resume with SMM in place. We seek your support as we try to resume training for some CCAs.

The rest of 2022 could be challenging but as a St. Margaret's family, we will continue to uplift and uphold one another so that we can brave the ups and downs together. I am confident that St. Margaret's will respond positively to all the learning opportunities and "Let Our Light Shine!".

Updates on COVID-19 Management

Management of Students Who Test Positive for COVID-19

Students who test positive for COVID-19 on their self-administered Antigen Rapid Test (ART), **and** have **no or mild** symptoms, can book an appointment at the Combined Test Centres (CTCs) and Quick Test Centres (QTCs) to do a supervised self-administered ART test instead of seeing a doctor. More information on the CTCs and QTCs can be obtained from the MOH's website at <https://www.moh.gov.sg>.

Health Risk Notice (HRN)

With effect from Friday, 18 February, MOH Protocol 3 will be changed from an order to an advisory. The Health Risk Warning (HRW) will be replaced by the Health Risk Notice (HRN)

180
YEARS OF
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for close contacts identified by MOH under Protocol 3. Do refer to <https://www.covid.gov.sg> for the latest MOH 1-2-3 Protocols.

Students on the Health Risk Notice (HRN) are reminded to exercise personal responsibility and carry out a self-administered ART daily before reporting to school during their 5-day self-monitoring period. If tested positive on the ART, they must follow Protocol 2 or if unwell, see a doctor.

As part of the broad shift to self-responsibility, students who are close contacts (whether informed by MOH or by any COVID-19 case such as those on Protocol 2) are to moderate their social activities.

Individuals issued with a HRN can continue to obtain their ART kits through designated vending machines, to facilitate their self-testing during the monitoring period. ART kits will also be made available for sale at the school bookshop. We will provide support to students on HRN who are under the Financial Assistance Scheme. They can approach the General Office Front Desk for additional ART kits to supplement those issued by the MOH for daily testing.

Travel Declaration for March Holidays

To ensure that schools continue to be a healthy and safe environment for all, parents/guardians are required to make a travel declaration for your child/ward if she intends to travel for the holidays. The deadline for submission is **Friday, 11 March via the Parents Gateway application** (refer to <https://pg.moe.edu.sg>). If you do not have access to Parents Gateway, please inform your daughter's/ward's Form Teacher.

Only one parent is required to declare. If your child/ward is not travelling during the holidays, **no action is required** on your side.

Resumption of National School Games (NSG)

The NSG is an important milestone in the holistic development of student athletes and may resume in Term 2, pending changes to the national posture on SMM. Students who are fully vaccinated, recovered from COVID-19 (within 180 days) or medically ineligible for vaccination can participate in NSG sports.

More details on the NSG resumption will be provided at a later date.

March Holiday Activities

1. Mother Tongue Intensive Lessons

In preparation for the GCE O-level Mother Tongue examinations, intensive study sessions will be conducted on Monday, 14 March and Tuesday, 15 March for students from Sec 4-1 to 4-8 and Sec 5 who are sitting the GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Examinations in June this year.

The lessons will take place in school from 8.00am to 12.30pm.

2. Student Council Commendation Rehearsal

The Student Council Commendation Ceremony recognises the contributions of our 2021/2022 student councillors and formally welcomes the 2022/2023 batch of student councilors as they officially take on their leadership roles.

To prepare for the Student Council Commendation Ceremony, there will be a rehearsal for all student councillors on Friday, 18 March in school from 8.00am to 12.00pm. A separate consent form will be issued to students nearer the date.

3. CCA Sessions during the March Holidays

Students from selected CCAs are required to attend CCA sessions during the March holidays. The details will be made known to parents/guardians by the respective CCA teachers.

For All Students

4. 2022 School Magazine

The 2022 School Magazine will be ready in January 2023. Each graduating student will receive a complimentary copy.

The Form Teachers have collated the orders from the Secondary 1, 2 and 3 students in February and we will be providing complimentary copies of the magazine to those who have opted in to receive the magazine.

For Secondary Three Students

5. Work Experience Programme (WEP)


As part of our Education and Career Guidance programme, the WEP, held from Wednesday, 2 March to Monday, 25 July, provides opportunities for our Secondary 3 students to explore occupations in the working world and reflect on their aptitude and talents. Through the programme, students gain a clearer perspective of future career options and approaches to build their portfolio.

Under the WEP, students complete lessons on the Student Learning Space (SLS) to help them identify their strengths, interests and personal values. By researching on jobs or industries they are keen in, students will be able to gain greater insights and make more informed decisions on their education pathways and career decisions. Students will also share their learning with their classmates during CCE lessons. Do support your daughter/ward as she participates in the programme.

Others

6. Talk for Parents

There will be an online talk organised for parents/guardians on Saturday, 26 March:

Talk	Date & Time	Registration
Finding Common Ground Between Parents and Teens	Saturday, 26 March 2.00pm – 3.00pm	 https://go.gov.sg/smtalk22

More details can be found in the flyer in Annex A.

Registration for the talk closes on Tuesday, 22 March at 5.00pm. The link to access the talk will be sent via email to all registrants on Thursday, 24 March.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A

Talk for Parents Finding Common Ground Between Parents and Teens

Date: Saturday, 26 March

Time: 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Mode: Online via Zoom

Registration: Sign up for the talk at
<https://go.gov.sg/smtalk22>
or by scanning the QR code above.



Registration closes on Tuesday, 22 March at 5.00pm. Registrants will receive the details to access the talk via email on Thursday, 24 March.

Synopsis

Many parents find themselves facing resistance and rebellion with their teens. Many teens, too, are struggling to communicate with their parents and trying to seek their understanding. They can become temperamental, and many parents struggle to connect with them. Yet, deep inside these teens, they long for acceptance, approval, affirmation and love from their parents. Parents can be reassured that this talk covers the following areas which will help them connect with their teens:

- how to understand their teens today, their lifestyles, their behaviour, values, the demands on them, the influence of media and the challenges involved in parenting teens
- to explore the emotional needs of teens
- how to handle triggers in parent-teen relationships and the unmet expectations
- ways to bond through meaningful activities
- discover ways they can connect with their teens by active listening, validating and asking questions that invite teens to open up to them
- identify common mistakes made by them that obstruct meaningful connection with their teens

About the Speaker

Ms Harjit Kaur holds a Masters in Business Administration and Masters in Counselling awarded by Monash University. She has been a trainer in schools for the last 20 years. Ms Kaur has been happily married for 24 years and is a mother of two children aged 18 years and 20 years. She is passionate about family wellness and is a strong advocate for quality family life. As an accredited Triple P and Signposts practitioner, Ms Kaur had been actively conducting talks for parents in primary and secondary schools and in community platforms. She had received good reviews from both parents and the school personnel who admire her professionalism, dedication and sincerity in helping the parents.