



St. Margaret's School (Secondary)

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the second semester of 2025.

I hope that you and your child had a meaningful June break, rejuvenated and ready to embark on the second half of the academic year.

A team of teachers and students went on a five-day cultural immersion and service-learning trip to Baray, Cambodia in the fourth week of the June holidays. The team engaged with two local schools and visited an organisation supporting individuals with special needs. The programme encompassed various activities including cultural exchanges with the locals, teaching conversational English, and learning basic Khmer language. The teachers and students also completed a mural painting for one of the schools, and distributed food packages and clothes to families in need. This initiative, part of our school's internationalisation efforts to develop citizens with a global outlook, proved invaluable in fostering cross-cultural understanding. It exemplified our students' commitment to community service while creating meaningful connections with others.

July promises to be an exciting month, so my advice will be for the girls to pace themselves well for the learning that is coming. Some highlights in July include the Youth Day Celebrations and Spirit Week activities, the Racial Harmony Day Commemoration and also the highly anticipated Annual Sports Day.

This semester, our graduating students will be sitting for their Preliminary Examinations as well as the GCE National Examinations. Students are encouraged to explore the different educational pathways available to them. Students who require assistance are encouraged to approach their Form Teachers or book an appointment with our Education and Career Guidance Counsellor, Ms. Brenda Lee, at <https://go.gov.sg/smssecg>.

Your unwavering support and partnership have been instrumental in nurturing our students at St. Margaret's. Thank you for working with us on your child's development. It is through this collaborative relationship that we can help them flourish and reach their full potential.

Health and Safety Matters

1. Temperature Taking Exercise

There will be a temperature-taking exercise on Wednesday, 9 July. Students should have a working Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) with them in school.

2. Managing Rising Temperatures

As we face rising temperatures due to urbanisation and climate change, schools, with guidelines from MOE, have existing measures in place to ensure the safety and well-being of students and staff when faced with higher temperature conditions. MOE's guidelines are aligned with NEA's Heat Stress Advisory.

Students are permitted to wear their PE t-shirt with their CCA skirt to ensure their comfort in school.

Please also encourage your daughters/wards to stay well hydrated during hot spells.

For All Students

1. Youth Day Celebrations and Spirit Week Activities

Our school's Youth Day celebrations and Spirit Week will be held in Term 3 Week 1 and 2 respectively. The event aims to promote school spirit and connectedness among students, as underscored by the theme "Refresh Your Spirit!". More details are found in Annex A.

In celebration of Youth Day, please note that Monday, 7 July is a scheduled school holiday.

2. GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension Examination

The GCE O-Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension Examination will take place on Tuesday, 8 July from 2.00pm to 4.30pm. To facilitate the preparation for this examination, please note the dismissal arrangement below:

Level / Students	Dismissal Time
Secondary 1, 2 and 3*	1.15pm
Secondary 3 Higher Mother Tongue students	12.05pm
Secondary 4 and 5	12.05pm

*Secondary 3 Non-Higher Mother Tongue Students

3. Student Leaders' Commendation Ceremony

To recognise the contributions and achievements of our outgoing student leaders and welcome the incoming batch of student leaders, the Student Leaders' Commendation Ceremony will be held during the Assembly period on Friday, 11 July.

4. GCE N and O-Level English Language and Mother Tongue Oral Examinations

The national oral examinations will be held in school for all graduating students from Monday, 14 July to Friday, 18 July. Students involved will be informed of their specific examination dates and times separately. To facilitate the administration of the examinations, the school will conduct home-based learning from Tuesday, 15 July to Thursday, 17 July.

Dates	Approximate Time	Remarks
Monday, 14 July Friday, 18 July	1.45pm - 5.30pm	Lessons as usual
Tuesday, 15 July Wednesday, 16 July Thursday, 17 July	Session 1: 7.30am - 12pm Session 2: 1.45pm - 5.30pm	Home-based learning (see point 5)

5. Home-based Learning (HBL) Days 2025 in Semester 2

HBL days are a regular feature of secondary school life, providing students with opportunities to become self-directed, passionate and lifelong learners. Lessons during the HBL Days will follow the timetable and are self-paced and synchronous.

Please note that HBL days in Semester 2 will be as follows:

Term	HBL Days
Term 3	3 consecutive HBL Days will be on 15, 16 and 17 July (Tuesday to Thursday). Please note that the GCE N-Level and O-Level English Language and Mother Tongue Oral Examinations will be conducted on these days. Students who are involved in these examinations will need to report to the examination venues for their papers.
Term 4	Friday, 19 September is a designated HBL Day

6. Racial Harmony Day Commemoration

Our school will commemorate Racial Harmony Day across two days - Friday, 18 July and Monday, 21 July. This year's commemoration centres on the theme "Our People, Our Food, Our Tapestry", complementing our Total Defence Day's emphasis on food resilience. We will explore how our food both connects our communities and mirrors Singapore's multicultural identity.

On 18 July, cohort-based activities will be conducted. On 21 July, we will celebrate our cultural heritage through traditional costumes and local delicacies. These experiences aim to demonstrate how shared food traditions can strengthen Singapore's social fabric and build a more cohesive society.

Students are welcome to wear their ethnic costumes on 21 July. They will receive guidance on appropriate dress code and conduct, along with detailed programme information, prior to the event.

7. Sports Day

To encourage a positive attitude towards physical fitness, sportsmanship and holistic wellness, the school will be holding the 2025 Annual Sports Day on Friday, 25 July at Yishun Stadium located at 103, Yishun Avenue 1. Students are to report to the venue by 7.30am. The event is expected to end at 11.00am. Students will be dismissed from the venue.

As a precursor to the Sports Day, the school will also be conducting heats for selected students on the first week of Term 3.

More information for parents/guardians will be sent via Parents Gateway.

Yours in partnership,
Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A – Overview of Youth Day Celebrations and Spirit Week Activities

Date	Activities
Friday, 4 July	Youth Day Assembly Programme
Tuesday 8 July to Thursday, 10 July	Various activity booths will be set up in the canteen to promote friendship, inclusivity and school spirit
Wednesday 9 July	Playdate @ St. Marg's 'Playdate @ St. Marg's' is a day when students can unwind and embrace fun by bringing a toy or game to school to engage in meaningful play with their friends during recess. This activity aims to encourage interaction among students, helping to build positive relationships as they take time to get to know one another better through play. Students will be briefed on the appropriate types of toys and games that can be brought to school. House points will be awarded for students who bring a toy or game to school to share with their friends.