



St. Margaret's Secondary School

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3 February 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The new academic year has been set in motion smoothly and I trust your daughter/ward has transited well into the new year and enjoyed the new experiences.

In January, our 2021 Secondary Four Express and Secondary Five cohort received the results of their GCE O-Level Examinations. The results of our students are indeed commendable. We credit that to the support from their families, the dedication of our staff and the resilience and diligence of the girls. Our students are well-poised to take up the challenges of the future and we wish them the best.

Tuesday, 1 February also marked the start of the Lunar New Year. May you and your families find joy and hope even as you gather, albeit in smaller groups. Let me take this opportunity to wish you a Happy and Safe year ahead.

180th Anniversary Celebrations

Along with the recent announcement (dated Thursday, 20 January 2022) on our school's name change to St. Margaret's School (Secondary) with effect from 1 January 2023, we also celebrate the 180th year of the founding of our school.

To commemorate this milestone, there will be a host of activities, resonating with our shared heritage, legacy and school motto, which will be organised together with St. Margaret's Primary School. Exciting events to look forward to during the course of the school year include:

- **Virtual Heritage Trail (Heritage)**
To celebrate St. Margaret's rich heritage, audiences will embark on an online adventure to explore a series of sites and places in and around the school, allowing them to discover more about the school's rich history and culture.
- **Virtual Concert & Family Activity Box (Legacy)**
An online concert with its theme aligned to Maria Dyer's legacy of love and service to the community will be organised. We hope that audiences will be enthralled and thoroughly engaged as they participate in the online concert with accompanying interactive elements.
- **#LetitShine180 (School Motto)**
To live out the school motto, "Charity, Patience and Devotion" during our 180th Anniversary, there will be a calendar of activities for staff and students to carry out acts of kindness and love.

Do look out for news on the above forthcoming events in subsequent issues of the Principal's Letter and our social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram). We look forward to your support as your daughter/ward participates in these activities.

Safe Management Measures- Reminders

As we continue to ride the wave of the pandemic, we seek your cooperation to work together to ensure that the school remains a safe place to be in. Please remind your daughter/ward to have a working TraceTogether token with her at all times.

Students who are unwell should seek medical attention as soon as possible. The doctor will then assess the need for a confirmatory Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test or an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) to be administered.

If your daughter/ward tests negative, the doctor will advise her accordingly. If she tests positive, she should avoid coming to school and return to school only upon expiration of her medical certificate. Please inform her Form Teacher of her absence from school as soon as possible. Do refer to <https://www.covid.gov.sg> for the latest MOH 1-2-3 Protocols.

Should your daughter/ward be a close contact with a COVID-19 positive case or live in the same household with the infected individual, she is legally required to self-isolate immediately and take an ART self-test within 24 hours. She can report to school for the day if the test is negative. Please inform her FT of the ART results.

2021 GCE O-Level Examinations

We congratulate our 2021 graduating cohort for achieving stellar results in the GCE O-Level Examinations. 92% of our Secondary 4 Express students qualified for admission to the Junior Colleges/Millennia Institute and 98% of them qualified for Polytechnic courses.

Our Secondary 5 Normal (Academic) students also did well with 44% of them qualifying for admission to the Junior Colleges/Millennia Institute and 72% of them qualifying for Polytechnic courses.

For Graduating Students

1. Education and Career Guidance Fair

The Education and Career Guidance (ECG) Fair, comprising a series of activities from now till April, provides our graduating students with the opportunity to explore education and career pathways.

Through the sharing by our partners comprising professionals from various industries and educators from institutes of higher learning, the ECG Fair allows our students to gain awareness of the skills, knowledge and attitudes that allow one to contribute and thrive in the various industries, so as to make informed decisions of the courses to apply for after the national examinations.

The content featured during the ECG Fair has been carefully curated to provide the students with good perspectives of the work involved as well as the skill sets and mindsets needed to thrive in this volatile landscape. More details about the ECG fair can be found in Annex A.

For All Students

2. Commemoration of Total Defence Day

The theme for Total Defence Day 2022 is “Together We Keep Singapore Strong”, as a continuation from previous years. To align the event with our Margaret’s 180th Anniversary, we will celebrate the school pioneers, notable alumni and individuals who have contributed to St. Margaret’s Secondary School and the nation.

Learning from the stories of the school pioneers and alumni, students will develop the social conscience and will to demonstrate and exemplify our school motto, “Charity, Patience, Devotion”, to the larger community and country. Students will learn about how they can contribute to Total Defence by strengthening our social and psychological defence.

This year, we will be commemorating Total Defence Day on Monday, 21 February (for Secondary 3, 4 and 5) and Tuesday, 22 February (for Secondary 1 and 2).

3. Support Structures for Student Wellbeing

To cater to the well-being of our students, the following support structures are available:

Support Structures	Opening Hours/Contact Details	Location
<u>Drop Inn</u> Students may drop in and chat with our befriender, Auntie Thelma.	Tuesdays and Wednesdays (9.00am – 4.00pm)	Classroom Block (B04-12)
<u>Drop Inn Too</u> Students may have a chat with our school counsellor, Ms Cynthia Kong. They may also send a request to speak to the school counsellor via https://go.gov.sg/SMSSCareLink .	Mondays – Fridays during recess	Classroom Block (B02-13)
<u>The Lighthouse</u> Students may unwind with board games and card games during their recess and lunch. Safe Management Measures will be put in place for all students who visit The Lighthouse.	Tuesdays and Thursdays (9.00am – 11.15am & 1.30pm – 3.30pm) Wednesdays (10.00am – 12.20pm & 1.30pm – 3.30pm) Fridays (9.00am – 11.15am & 2.30pm – 4.00pm)	Canteen
<u>Education and Career Guidance (ECG)</u> Students/parents may get in touch with the ECG Centre at MOE for their ECG queries.	Email: MOE_ECG@moe.gov.sg Phone: 6831 1420 E-appointment system: https://go.gov.sg/moe-ecg-centre	-

As you support and guide your child, 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 the learning and well-being of your daughters/wards.

Yours faithfully,



Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A

Details of the ECG Fair

The ECG Fair consists of the following segments of learning.

Segment	Schedule	Platform
A. Learning about themselves and the Industries Students learn about the industries they are keen in at their own pace using curated resources and fill in their responses in their ECG Fair journal.	February	Student Learning Space
B. Conversations with the Professionals and Educators (2 sessions) All Secondary 4 and 5 students are required to <u>attend both sessions</u> before completing relevant parts in their ECG journal. More details will be provided to the students nearer the dates.	Wednesday, 9 March & Wednesday, 30 March 4.30pm – 5.30pm	Zoom Webinar
C. Multiplying Learning Students share their reflections and learn from one another during their CCE lesson.	Monday, 4 April	CCE Lesson