



St. Margaret's Secondary School

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Let our Light Shine!

4 May 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The further easing of Safe Management Measures (SMMs) started on Tuesday, 26 April and we are so glad that the school will be able to enjoy almost every aspect of school, including morning assemblies in the school courtyard, recess in the canteen, to more unmasked activities during PE, sports, singing, wind instrument playing, speech & drama, and dancing.

After a hiatus of two years, April was exciting for it saw the resumption of the full range of competitions in the National School Games (NSG). We are happy that more students have been taking part enthusiastically in the games. The morning announcements during assembly about the progress of the games brought back greater normalcy to school happenings.

On Friday, 20 May, we will kick start our 180th Anniversary celebrations with "Ignite 180!". A series of activities have been planned for that day and we will be joined by the staff and students from St. Margaret's Primary School as well. We hope you will support your daughter/ward as she participates in the events lined up to commemorate this special milestone.

Friday, 27 May has been set aside for the Mid-Year Parent-Teacher Meeting so our teachers can connect with you about your daughter/ward's holistic development. We look forward to meeting up with you via Zoom then.

During the June holidays, there will be a period of protected time for staff and students. Do take the opportunity to bond with your daughters/wards by participating in the activities as part of the Family Activity Box and in the #LetItShine180! calendar to celebrate our 180th Anniversary.

Updated Safe Management Measures and Travel Declaration

In line with the further easing of community SMMs effective from Tuesday, 26 April, please note the adjustments made to recess and assemblies, and the requirement for travel declaration as shown below:

(a) Recess in the Canteen

Recess in the canteen for the Secondary 1 to 5 students have resumed from Thursday, 28 April.

(b) Whole-School Assemblies

The whole school will gather in the hall or courtyard for assemblies starting Tuesday, 17 May (Term 2, Week 9), after the Mid-Year Examination is over.

(c) SafeEntry Check-ins and TraceTogether Tokens

While SafeEntry Check-ins are no longer required, students are strongly encouraged to keep their tokens safely, as they may be needed when contact tracing needs to be stepped up due to a Variant of Concern.

(d) Travel Declaration for June Holidays

From Wednesday, 4 May onwards, parents/guardians are required to make a travel declaration for your child/ward if she intends to travel during the June holidays. More information will be provided via Parents Gateway on Wednesday, 4 May.

(e) Wearing of Masks

The school compound remains a mask-on environment. As such, students are required to wear their masks at all times except when:

- participating in specific mask-off activities (e.g. music, sports and performing arts CCAs)
- eating and drinking

180th Anniversary Celebrations: Ignite 180!

Friday, 20 May marks the launch of “Ignite 180!”, kick starting our 180th Anniversary celebrations. From the elements of excitement and exuberance in the word ‘ignite’, we hope to ignite all to shine as we commemorate this milestone with the unveiling of a host of activities resonating with our heritage, legacy and school motto.

Ignite 180! will see St. Margaret’s Primary School joining St. Margaret’s Secondary School for the first part of the following programme in singing the school song together. Other activities of the day include the following:

- **Virtual Concert & Family Activity Box (Legacy)**

Our students have been inspired to continue the legacy of love and service to the community which our founder, Mrs Maria Dyer espoused. Through the online virtual concert and making of cards for the Family Activity Box, the school has the opportunity to serve and give back to the community.

- **#LetitShine180 (School Motto)**

To live out the school motto, “Charity, Patience and Devotion” during our 180th Anniversary, there will be launch of a 180-day calendar of activities for staff and students to carry out acts of charity, patience and devotion.

We look forward to your support as your daughter/ward participates in these activities.

Examination Matters

1. Checking of Mid-Year Examination Scripts

Secondary 2, 4 and 5 students will be checking and receiving feedback on their examination scripts on Tuesday, 17 May and Wednesday, 18 May.

Students will report to school for the morning assembly by 7.30am on Tuesday and 8.40am on Wednesday.

Date	Level/Class	Reporting Time	Dismissal Time
Tuesday, 17 May	Sec 2	7.30am	1.55pm
	Sec 4 and 5	7.30am	2.25pm
Wednesday, 18 May	S2-1 to S2-6	8.40am	1.55pm
	S2-7	8.40am	1.25pm
	Sec 4 and 5	8.40am	2.25pm

2. English Language Oral Examination

The schedule of the End-of-Year English Language Oral Examination for the following classes is shown in the table below. Further details will be provided to the students by the English teachers prior to the oral examinations.

Classes	Dates
S1-1 to S1-6	Monday, 25 July – Friday, 5 August
S1-7	Monday, 25 July – Friday, 29 July
S2-1 to S2-6	Monday, 15 August – Friday, 19 August Tuesday, 23 August – Friday, 26 August Monday, 29 August – Tuesday, 30 August
S2-7	Monday, 25 July – Friday, 29 July
S3-1 to S3-5	Tuesday, 13 September Thursday, 15 September – Friday, 16 September
S3-6 to S3-8	Monday, 19 September – Friday, 23 September
S3-9	Monday, 25 July – Friday, 29 July
S4-6 to S4-9	Tuesday, 24 May – Thursday, 26 May

For All Students

3. Activities on Friday, 13 May

Please note the following activities have been scheduled on Friday, 13 May for the various levels:

Activity on Friday, 13 May	Levels	Remarks
Home-Based Learning Day (HBL Day)	Sec 1 and 3	Students would not need to report to school on HBL Day. All lessons on this day follow the Friday timetable and will be conducted online asynchronously.
Marking Day	Sec 2, 4 and 5	Students are not required to report to school.

4. Dismissal on Thursday, 26 May

All students will be dismissed at 1.55pm on Thursday, 26 May. The last 2 periods for the day (12.50pm to 1.55pm) will be class administration time for Form Teachers to issue students' results slips and report books.

5. Mid-Year Parent-Teacher Meetings

The Mid-Year Parent-Teacher meetings for all students will be conducted online via Zoom on Friday, 27 May from 8.00am to 4.00pm.

The booking of time slots to meet your daughter's/ward's teachers will be made available on Parents Gateway from Friday, 13 May to Tuesday, 17 May.

6. Protected Vacation Time During the June Holidays

The MOE-scheduled protected vacation time for students and staff during the June holidays is from **Saturday, 4 June to Sunday, 19 June**.

Annex A lists the groups of students who will be required to attend some school programmes that fall within the above-mentioned protected vacation time.

More information will be provided to the students by their teachers.

For Secondary 1 Students

7. Development of Talents to Serve (DoTS)

The DoTS Programme aims to develop passionate inquirers and critical thinkers who extend their learning through taking part in a variety of activities. The knowledge and experiences gained through adopting an inquiry-mindset, motivated by interest and passion, will enable students to eventually make use of their knowledge in service to community or school.

Secondary 1 students may register their interest to participate in the DoTS Programme from Friday, 20 May to Wednesday, 25 May. Details of the registration process will be published on the DoTS microsite at <http://go.gov.sg/smssdots>.

For Secondary 2 Students

8. Familiarisation Trial for Secondary 2 Subject Combination Exercise

An online familiarisation trial for the Secondary 2 Subject Combination Exercise will be conducted for all Secondary 2 students in the last week of Term 2, from Thursday, 26 May to Tuesday, 31 May.

The trial will allow students to familiarise themselves with the Subject Combination Exercise that will be held in October.

More details will be provided by the Form Teachers.

For Graduating Students

9. Study Week for Graduating Students

To prepare for the national examinations, Secondary 4 and 5 students will be required to report to school from Monday, 20 June to Friday, 24 June for the following activities:

Dates	Classes	Time	Activity
Monday, 20 June – Friday, 24 June	S4-1 to S4-8 & S5-1	8.00am – 1.45pm	Timetabled lessons
Wednesday, 22 June – Friday, 24 June	S4-9		
Monday, 20 June – Friday, 24 June	S4-1 to S4-5 & S5-1	Conducted in the afternoon; Schedule will be given out by the English Language subject teachers	English Language Graded Oral Practice

10. Preparing Students for EAE and DSA-JC

(a) Early Admissions Exercise (EAE)

The Early Admissions Exercise (EAE) is an aptitude-based admissions exercise that allows Secondary 4 and 5 students to apply for and receive conditional offers to the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) or polytechnics prior to receiving their final grades at the N or O-Level examinations. Annex B lists the details of the timeline and application of the ITE EAE and Poly EAE.

(b) Direct School Admission for Junior Colleges (DSA-JC)

Direct School Admission for junior colleges (DSA-JC) allows O-Level students to apply to a DSA school before taking the GCE O-Level examinations. Students can apply based on their talent in sports, CCAs and specific academic areas.

They can apply directly to individual schools where the application period, procedures and selection criteria vary. Details of the DSA-JC can also be found in Annex B.

(c) Training Sessions


Training sessions will be organized by our school to prepare students who are keen on the EAE or DSA-JC. The dates of the training sessions can be found in Annex B. Details on how to apply for these sessions will be provided to the students in due course.

Please encourage your daughters to attend the training sessions should they be keen to apply for EAE or DSA-JC.

Others

11. Talk for Parents

There will be an online talk organised for parents/guardians on Saturday, 21 May:

Talk	Date & Time	Registration
Managing Gaming and Internet Behaviours	Saturday, 21 May 2.00pm – 3.00pm	 https://go.gov.sg/smtalk22

More details can be found on the flyer in Annex C.

Registration for the talk closes on Tuesday, 17 May at 5.00pm. The link to access the talk will be sent via email to all registrants on Thursday, 19 May.

Last but not the least, do take the opportunity to spend time with your daughters/wards and encourage them to use their time meaningfully during the forthcoming holidays.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Linda Lim
Principal

Annex A


Students required to attend the following school programme that falls within the protected vacation time

Subject(s)	Dates	Rationale
Graduating students offering the following subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art• Nutrition & Food Science	(Week 2 of the June Holidays) Monday, 6 June – Wednesday, 8 June	To prepare for the coursework component in the National Examinations


Annex B

Timeline and Application Details of the ITE EAE and Poly EAE

ITE EAE 2022 Timeline (For N & O-Level students)	
Application Period	Thursday, 26 May – Tuesday, 1 June
Interview Period	Tuesday, 21 June – Thursday, 28 July
Offer and Acceptance Period	Monday, 22 August – Friday, 26 August
Withdrawal Period	Monday, 29 August – Friday, 2 September


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

Poly EAE 2022 Timeline and Website for Application Details (For O-Level students)	
Application Stage	Thursday, 23 June – Wednesday, 29 June
Selection Stage	Monday, 4 July – Tuesday, 30 August
Offer & Acceptance Stage	Wednesday, 7 September – Monday, 12 September
Withdrawal Stage	Tuesday, 13 September – Friday, 14 October


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

Direct School Admission for Junior Colleges (DSA-JC)

Students can apply for DSA-JC directly to individual schools where the application period, procedures and selection criteria vary. Students can check the individual schools' websites for more details via the following QR code:



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

Training Sessions

Training Session	Date/ Time
ITE EAE – Mentorship by Subject Teachers & ECG Counsellor	Students may make an appointment to meet their Subject Teachers & ECG Counsellor
Portfolio Building Workshop	Tuesday, 17 May 3.00pm – 4.30pm
Poly EAE Personal Write-up Workshop	Tuesday, 31 May 12.30pm – 2.30pm
“Preparing for the EAE” (Admission to ITE/Polytechnic) (SLS – Online Asynchronous Lesson)	May – June
ITE EAE Interview Training by ECG Counsellor	Friday, 3 June 10.00am – 12.00pm
Barclays Polytechnic EAE/DSA Interview Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lecture Tuesday, 21 June 2.30pm – 4.00pm• Mock Interview Friday, 24 June 2.30pm – 6.00pm

Annex C

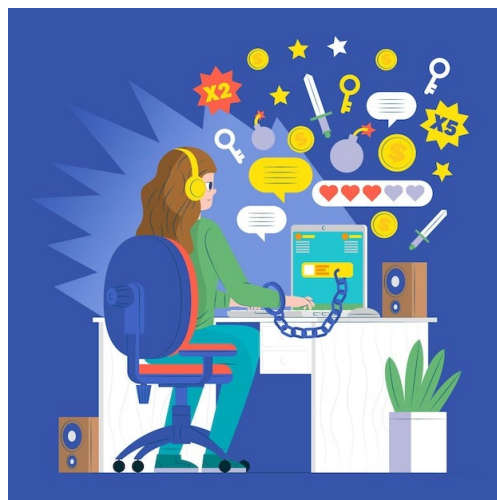
Talk for Parents: Managing Gaming and Internet Behaviours

Date: Saturday, 21 May

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 below:



Registration for the talk closes on
Tuesday, 17 May at 5.00pm.
Registrants will receive the details to access the talk via email on
Thursday, 19 May.

Synopsis

Many parents have shared that they have to constantly battle their children over their gaming and internet behaviours and habits. Some have shared that too much time spent on gaming has resulted in their children not doing well in their studies. Some others are worried about the negative influence of internet and social media over their children. While it is important to be ICT competent in today's world, it is true that there are indeed some online and gaming dangers that parents and their teenagers and children should be aware of.

In this workshop, parents will be equipped with knowledge about online risks and how they can better protect their children. Parents will also glean tips to help their children manage their internet and gaming behaviours so that they can start doing well in their studies. The speaker will also share examples of some strategies that parents have applied to help their children.

About the Speaker

Mr Michael Tan is a certified Advanced Behavioral Analyst and Consultant who holds a degree with a double major in Psychology and Human Resource Management. He is certified in MBTI and DISC psychometric systems and holds a professional diploma in training and development. Mr Tan is also a Licensed Education Success Coach and certified facilitator on the parenting and youth programs run by Focus on the Family. Mr Tan has conducted training and been a speaker at many schools, institutions, community clubs and companies. He has also trained teachers in schools and MOE HQ. Some of the topics that Mr Tan conducts workshops on include the AVK learning style, DISC and MBTI personality style, Kouzes & Posner leadership model, Memory techniques and Recall Strategies, Cognitive thinking style and Gardner's multiple intelligences.