



Vision: Nurturing Empowered, Future-Ready Hougeans of Character and Purpose

Mission: Care. Lead. Inspire. Partner.

Values: GratITUDE, Respect, Empathy, Adaptability, Trustworthiness.

HS PC 2024 Issue 2

March

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to the new school term! We hope your child/ward was able to rest and recharge during the short break.

1. Staff Movements

- 1.1 We are delighted to welcome the following new staff to our HS Family with effect from Term 2. They will bring fresh perspectives and expertise to our community and will engage our students in meaningful learning experiences.

Name	Designation
Mr Leo Sing Ann	Teacher / Chinese Language & CC of Sec 1U
Mr Mohamed Hairi Bin Nor Azmi	Teacher / Malay Language & CC of Sec 5A
Mr Marcus Aw Yu Kian	Teacher / Science & CC of Sec 4H
Mr Daniel Chong Jun Zheng	Teacher / Music & CC of Sec 1O
Ms Chen Xiuwen Elsa	Teacher / Humanities
Ms Ng Celeste	Teaching Intern
Miss Qu Mei	NIE Teacher / Chinese Language (2 to 26 Apr)
Mr Lai Chee Peng	Kitchen Assistant

- 1.2 We bid farewell to the following staff and thank them for their contributions to HS. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Name	Designation
Mrs Gloria Tan	Teacher / Humanities
Ms Thanalechmi Parmasivam	Teacher / Science
Ms Heng Li Ting, Jaslyn	Teacher
Ms Chan Clydi	Teaching Intern
Mr Darryl Chua Rui Heng	Teaching Intern

2. School Structures and Programmes

2.1 CCA Stand-Down

Our graduating students have officially stood down from CCA after 5 March 2024. We express our heartfelt gratitude for their invaluable contributions in their respective CCAs over the past four years. However, there are some graduating students who are representing the school in National School Games. These students will stand down from their CCA sessions once their commitments end.

2.2 Blended Learning

Term 2 HBL days and dates are as follow:

Term 2 HBL Dates	20 March, Wednesday
	4 April, Thursday
	15 April, Monday
	16 May, Thursday

- On HBL Days, Secondary 1 to 5 students will follow the school's timetable for the day, including the Recess period which will serve as a break for the students.
- To engage students in different modes of learning, teachers will leverage digital platforms e.g., SLS, Google Classroom. You may refer to this link: <https://www.hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/quick-links/HBL-SIL/hbl-sil/> for the schedule and subject-specific instructions.

2.3 HS 24th Speech Day

HS 24th Speech Day will be held on Monday, 15 April 2024. As the event falls on a Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day, only the award recipients, selected students from the Performing Arts CCA, selected Student Leaders, and Secondary 4/5 students will be required to report to school for the event at 7.45 am.

2.4 HS Student Leaders' Investiture

We will be celebrating HS Student Leaders' Investiture on Wednesday, 17 April 2024, from 4.00 pm to 6.30 pm under the theme '*Empower Today, Inspire Tomorrow*'. This event will signify the induction of new Student Councillors, Peer Support Leaders, CCA Leaders, Class Monitors and Sports Leaders. Further details will be provided closer to the event date.

2.5 HS Sports Carnival

HS Sports Carnival will be held on Friday, 26 April 2024. More information will be sent via PG on a later date.

2.6 Inspire@HS Series 2

Our Inspire Series 2 programme will take place on the 20, 21 and 23 May 2024. More information will be sent via PG on a later date.

2.7 Parents-Teachers Meet (PTM) for Secondary 1 to 4&5

PTM will take place for all students on Friday, 24 May 2024. More information will be sent via PG on a later date.

2.8 June holidays Extended Curriculum Time (ECT)

All graduating students will be required to attend lessons held during the first week of the June school holidays from 28 to 31 May 2024. Students who are involved in coursework will continue to come to school till 7 June 2024. More information can be found on our school website on a later date.

3. Examination Matters

3.1 National Examination Dates (for graduating students)

Please refer to the table below for the dates which the national examinations will be held. Your child/ward is expected to refer to the entry proof for details of his/her own examination. Please refer to the SEAB website for details of the national examination schedules. (<https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/#>)

GCE O-Level Examination Dates

Oral Examination	
CLB / MLB / TLB (Mid-Year)	Tue, 23 July - Thu, 25 July (PM)
CL / ML / TL	Thu, 4 July – Fri, 12 July (PM)
EL	Mon, 22 July (PM) Tue, 23 July – Thu, 25 July (Full Days) Fri, 26 July (PM)
HCL / HML / HTL	Mon, 22 July (PM) Tue, 23 July – Thu, 25 July
Foreign Languages	Wed, 18 September (PM) Thu, 19 September – Fri, 20 September
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	Wed, 25 September (PM)
Listening Comprehension (LC)	
CL / ML / TL	Wed, 3 July (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Mid-Year)	Wed, 3 July (PM)
EL	Wed, 16 October (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	Wed, 16 October (PM)
Practical Examination	
Higher Music / Music Performing	Tue, 24 September – Fri, 27 September
Computing	Fri, 11 October (AM)
Science	Wed, 2 October – Tue, 15 October
Written Examination	
Mid-Year CL/ML/TL	Mon, 27 May (AM)
Mid-Year CLB/MLB/TLB	Mon, 27 May (PM)
End of Year Exam	Thu, 17 October – Mon, 11 November

GCE N-Level Examination Dates

Oral Examination	
EL Syll A	Mon, 22 July (PM)
EL Syll T	Tue, 23 July – Thu, 25 July (Full Days)
CL / ML / TL, BCL / BML / BTL	Tue, 23 July – Thu, 25 July (Full Days)
Listening Comprehension (LC)	
EL Syll A	Tue, 10 September (PM)
BCL / BML / BTL	Tue, 10 September (PM)
EL Syll T	Thu, 12 September (PM)
CL / ML / TL	Thu, 12 September (PM)
Practical Examination	
Computer Applications	Tue, 17 September Thu, 19 September
Written Examination	
End of Year Exam	Mon, 9 September – Wed, 18 September
	Mon, 30 September – Tue, 8 October

4. Parent Support Group

4.1 Volunteering as a PSG Member

We continue to encourage parents of Hougang Secondary School to volunteer as PSG members. You may find out more on the website <https://hsspsg.blogspot.com/> or email the PSG EXCO at hss.psg@gmail.com.

5. Pupil Management Matters

5.1 Advisory on Vaping

E-vaporisers are illegal in Singapore. Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, the possession, use or purchase of e-vaporisers carries a maximum fine of \$2,000. It is also an offence to import, distribute, sell, or offer for sale e-vaporisers and their components. Any person convicted of such offences is liable to a fine of up to \$10,000, or imprisonment of up to six months or both for the first offence, and a fine of up to \$20,000, or imprisonment of up to 12 months or both for the second or subsequent offence. All prohibited tobacco items will be seized and confiscated.

MOE takes a firm stand against vaping. Vaping is categorised as a serious offence. When students are caught using or in possession of e-vaporisers, the prohibited product will be confiscated, and their parents will be informed. Schools will report the offender to HSA and also manage vaping-related offences through existing disciplinary frameworks. These include taking school-based disciplinary actions, such as suspension or caning (for boys). Students caught vaping will also be placed on cessation support programmes where counsellors will guide them through their cessation journey to effect long-term behavioural change.

Parents have an important part to play in your children's education. There are resources and relevant information that parents can access on Parent Hub. Parents are encouraged to have a serious conversation with your children about vaping to prevent it from becoming a life-long habit. More information about the harms of vaping is available on Parent Hub at <https://go.gov.sg/parent-hub-vaping>.

5.2 Punctuality (Reminder)

The school constantly seeks to inculcate sound values in our students and being punctual for school is one such value. Students who are late for school for two or more occasions are required to serve detention after school on the same day, during which, they will engage in self-study, reading and/or Corrective Work Order. All students required to serve detention must do so on the actual date of offence regardless of involvement in competitions, tuition classes, remedial sessions and CCAs. Recalcitrant offenders who do not respond positively to the school's intervention measures may face other disciplinary actions such as in-school/home suspension or caning (for boys).

5.3 School Dismissal (Reminder)

All students will be dismissed at 2.40 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. On Wednesdays, students will be dismissed at 2.30 pm and on Fridays at 12.30 pm.

5.4 Usage of Mobile Phone (Reminder)

For effective teaching and learning to take place, we need to set boundaries for our students. Mobile phones may be used only during these timings:

- Before 7.30 am (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday) and 8.30 am (Wednesday)
- During recess time (restricted to the canteen and the foyer area only)
- After the last period of the formal curriculum time

We would like to emphasise that students are to switch off their mobile phones during curriculum time. The mobile phones are to be kept in the bags or personal lockers. Mobile phones should also be kept out of sight and switched off/kept on silent mode during the change-over of lessons and while students are walking along the corridor.

If the mobile device policy is violated, the mobile phone will be confiscated immediately and kept under lock and key in the General Office. For the first and second offence (for the year), the phone will be confiscated up till 5.00 pm on that day. For the third offence and above (for the year), confiscated handphones will be returned only after 5 school days.

5.5 iPads (Reminder)

iPads may be used during curriculum time for teaching and learning purposes. During classroom lessons where iPads are not required for learning, they should be put away and not accessed. Students should follow teacher's instructions on "screens up" and "screens down". If iPads are used inappropriately during curriculum time, disciplinary actions will be meted out accordingly.

5.6 Maintaining good behaviour at all times (Reminder)

The school places great emphasis on inculcating good habits in our students, such as the prudent use of time. As such, we would like to emphasise that students are not to loiter and misbehave in the neighbourhood after school. We urge you to strongly advise your child/ward to behave appropriately at all times especially while he/she is in school uniform.

5.7 Attire and Grooming (Reminder)

The school's grooming and attire policy is aimed at educating Hougeans to look smart and presentable at all times. Having proper attire and grooming is an outward

expression of students' readiness to learn. It is also important as it signifies the pride that students have for themselves and the school. To achieve the above intent, grooming and attire checks are carried out periodically throughout the year.

If the students' grooming and attire is not appropriate, a grace period of 2 days will be given for rectification with a follow-up check. Students who fail the follow-up check will be sent home to have the grooming issue/s rectified and parents will be informed.

5.8 CCA T-shirt (Reminder)

Secondary 1 to 5 students are encouraged to wear their approved CCA T-shirts on Tuesdays with school pants/skorts if they have no PE lessons. Students who have PE on that day will continue to report to school in their PE attire and then change into their CCA T-shirts during snack break, recess or after 2.40 pm. Students who do not wish to wear their CCA T-shirts are expected to be in school attire according to their respective class timetables.

Students are to wear full School uniform/School Polo-Ts on days with internal and national examinations.

5.9 Snack Break (Reminder)

There will be a 10-minute snack break on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 9.00 - 9.10 am to enhance students' well-being. Students may bring light and healthy snacks from home to consume in class during the break. Some examples of such snacks are sandwiches, muffins, fruits such as apples and bananas and energy bars. As a whole-school effort, the students will take ownership in ensuring good hygiene practices to keep their classrooms clean and conducive for learning.

6. **Safety Matters**

6.1 Road Safety

We would like to draw your attention to road safety along Hougang Street 93 which is situated between Hougang Primary and Hougang Secondary Schools. The Traffic Police has put up a "No Right Turn" (from 6.45 am to 7.30 am on Monday to Friday) signage opposite our main gate to ensure a smooth traffic and safety for all road users along Hougang Street 93. Despite this, we continue to observe motorists flouting the rule by making a right turn from the main gate and causing traffic congestion. To reinforce this, we have placed traffic cones outside our school's main gate to direct vehicles to turn left during morning peak hours. The Traffic Police would also be enforcing this no-right turn rule at Hougang Street 93. We urge all drivers to comply with the rule for the safety of your child/ward, students and public road users.



7. Communication with Teachers

- 7.1 In line with the Ministry of Education's Five-Day Work Week, parents are encouraged to respect teachers' personal time and space. Teachers can be contacted during weekdays between 7.30 am and 6.00 pm. They are not expected to respond to parents'/ students' queries during weekends or after 6.00 pm on weekdays except for emergencies. We seek your understanding and support on this.

All teachers' email addresses are available on the school's website for parents' convenience. Parents can also contact the General Office (tel. 6385 1990) for further assistance.

Contact of Key Personnel

Should you have queries on the matters listed in this newsletter, please contact the following Key Personnel in-charge:

2.1, 2.5	Mr Lee Lis King (HOD / PE & CCA)	6372 6658 (Ext: 658)
2.2	Mr Javen Gwee (HOD / ICT)	6372 6655 (Ext: 655)
2.3	Mr Quek Yong Cai (HOD / Science)	6372 6659 (Ext: 659)
2.4	Ms Uma Magheswary (SH/ Student Leadership)	6372 6668 (Ext: 204)
2.6	Ms Li Huilin (SH / Humanities)	6372 6668 (Ext: 213)
2.7	Mdm Lim Choon Ling (HOD/ Year Head)	6372 6653 (Ext: 653)
2.8	Mr Chow Poh Boon (HOD / Mathematics)	6372 6668 (Ext: 213)
3	Mdm Chitradevi (HOD / EL & Lit)	6372 6663 (Ext: 663)
5	Mr Low Yi En (HOD / Pupil Management)	6372 6652 (Ext. 652)
6	Mr Sanker Ramaiah (Operations Manager)	6372 6645 (Ext. 645)
7	Mdm Jolin Chang (Administration Manager)	6372 6646 (Ext. 646)

Do scan the QR code below to access our Instagram page and follow us to get regular updates on school activities!



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