



*Vision: Passionate Learners, Principled Leaders, Grateful Citizens.  
Mission: Care. Lead. Inspire. Partner. (CLIP)  
Values: GratITUDE, Respect, Ingenuity, Trustworthiness, Grit.*

**HS PC 2023 Issue 1**

**January**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Happy New Year! We hope you had the opportunity to engage with your child/ward in many fruitful and meaningful ways. We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to the parents of our Secondary 1 students for being a part of our HS Family!

## **1. Staff Movements**

- 1.1 This year, we welcome our new Principal, Mr Brandon Lee Thuan Sim. Mr Lee was Vice-Principal at Montfort Secondary School prior to this posting, and under his leadership, all of us will work closely with him to provide a holistic education for our Hougeans.

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff who are posted to the school. We look forward to working with them and tapping on their expertise to provide the best for our students.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Mr Lee Lis King	HOD/PE & CCA
Mr Low Yi En	HOD/Pupil Management
Mr Vicknesh S/O Kunnasekaran	Teacher/ Humanities
Mrs Gloria Tan	Teacher/ Humanities
Ms Joyce Lee	Teacher/ English
Ms Tan Yin Wei	Teacher/ English
Mr Chuck-e Han	Teacher/ English
Ms Rebecca Ho	Teacher/ Mathematics
Ms Lee Wen Lin	Teacher/ Science
Ms Melissa Lim	Teacher/ Science
Mr Muhammad Irwan Bin Jamal	Senior Teacher/ Mother Tongue
Mdm Fazillah Binte Mohamed Ismail	Teacher/ Mother Tongue
Ms Sun Junmo	Teacher/ Mother Tongue
Mr Lee Kai Tai	Teacher

Mr Mohammad Fauzi Bin Selamat	Teaching Support Officer
Mr Ct Karuppiah Arasu	NIE Teacher
Mr Matthew Ooi	NIE Teacher
Miss Lin Yunyi	Teaching Intern
Ms Juan Pei Ling	ECG Counsellor
Mdm Chan Kam Ling	Kitchen Assistant
Mr Abdul Kholiq Bin Sapie	Desktop Engineer

- 1.2 This year, we say goodbye to our Principal, Mr Ari Manickam as he is posted to New Town Secondary School as their new Principal. Mr Ari was posted to HS as Principal in 2017. In these six years, Mr Ari has been a caring and inspiring Principal to both staff and students. We thank Mr Ari for his leadership and we wish him all the best in his new school.

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Mdm Janisah Bte Johari	Senior Teacher/ Mother Tongue
Ms Sri Nabilah Binte Basri	Teacher/ Mother Tongue
Mr Lee Eng Keat	Teacher/ Mother Tongue
Ms Fang Xiaolu	Teacher/ Mother Tongue
Ms Rahimah Bte Abdul Rahman	Teacher/ English
Mr Paul Lim	Teacher/ English
Ms Amy Said	Teacher/ English
Mr Darryl Lim	Teacher/ English
Mr Hadrian Chin	Teacher/ PE
Mr Chew Mou Yi	Teacher/ Humanities
Mdm Esther Foong	Teacher/ Humanities
Ms Cheong Cheryl	Teacher / A & T
Mdm Saadiah Taib	Teacher/ A & T
Mr Khoo Zhihao	Teacher
Mr Jafri Bin Edres	Teaching Support Officer

Mr Christopher Tan	ECG Counsellor
Mr James Lim	Lab Assistant
Mdm Irene Tan	Kitchen Assistant

## 2. School Structures and Programmes

### 2.1 Principal-Meets-Parents (PMP) Sessions and CCA Open House

The Secondary 1 PMP Session and CCA Open House for Secondary 1s will be held on Saturday, 14 January 2023. Due to space constraint, we would only be inviting 1 parent of each Secondary 1 student to attend PMP and the CCA Open House with their child. Parents are encouraged to attend these sessions to know more about the school's programme and CCA programme and to guide their child in deciding his/her CCA choices.

PMP sessions for Secondary 2, 3, 4 and 5s will be held in school on Saturday, 4 February 2023. All parents are strongly encouraged to attend the session.

Information on the above sessions will be sent via Parents Gateway. Parents will be able to indicate their attendance by submitting their reply by the deadline.

### 2.2 (a) Blended Learning

Blended Learning (BL) is part of MOE's efforts to further develop our students' ability to be self-directed, passionate and lifelong learners. As part of BL, in HS, Home-Based Learning (HBL) days will be scheduled once a fortnight on even week Wednesdays starting from Term 1 Week 6 for Secondary 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 students to complement teaching and learning in school.

- For Secondary 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 students, Term 1 HBL Days on even week Wednesdays are as follows : 8 February and 22 February.
- On HBL Days, Secondary 1 to 5 students will follow the school's timetable for Wednesday, from 7.30 am to 1.30 pm, including the Recess period which will serve as a break for the students.
- To engage students in different modes of learning, teachers will leverage on digital platforms e.g., SLS, Google Classroom. You may refer to this link: <https://hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/quick-links/hbl-sil> for the schedule and subject-specific instructions.

### (b) Student-Initiated Learning (SIL) on HBL days

As part of Blended Learning, there will also be an emphasis on student-initiated learning, whereby dedicated time and space will be provided to allow students to exercise agency, explore their interests and passions, and learn within and beyond the curriculum, as part of their student's development experience.

HBL Days will be less structured than a typical school day to provide students scope to exercise self-directed learning. It will comprise time for both curriculum coverage and student-initiated learning as shown on the next page.

## Structure of a HBL Day

	Curriculum Coverage	Student-Initiated Learning (SIL)
<b>Duration</b>	5 hours	1 hour
<b>Location</b>	Curriculum is designed for completion at home.	At home
<b>Format</b>	Asynchronous	Areas can include one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical/ Healthy Living</li> <li>• Aesthetics</li> <li>• Self-Development</li> <li>• Life skills etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Requirement</b>	To complete all work given.	To ensure following through of their SIL plan in a safe learning environment.

## SIL by Levels

Level	Duration
Secondary 1, 2 and 3	Term 1 Week 6 to Term 3 Week 10
Secondary 4 and 5	Term 1 Week 6 to Term 2 Week 9

All Secondary 1 to 5 students will start to plan their SIL with advice from their Character Coaches from Term 1 Week 2 onwards. A notification via Parents Gateway will be sent in Term 1 Week 5 for your consent of your child's/ward's SIL plan so that they can start to work on realising their SIL plan.

We seek your understanding and support to ensure that all expenses incurred from your child's/ward's choice of SIL activities will not be reimbursed by the school. Please ensure that they ask for your permission if they wish to sign up for any courses or workshops.

### 2.3 Start of CCA

CCA sessions will be held on every Tuesday and Friday, starting from 6 January 2023 for Secondary 2 to 5 students. Students will be briefed about the Sec 1 CCA selection and allocation during formation week, with more information to be shared via School Website in due course.

## 3. Examination Matters

### 3.1 2022 GCE 'N' Level Results

The 2022 4NA and 4NT cohorts have also done us proud by **achieving value-added results** at the GCE 'N' Level Examinations.

Secondary 4 Normal Academic	
Subjects with value-added results	Mathematics, Humanities and English Literature
Eligibility for PFP	11.7%

Eligibility for DPP	80.5%
Eligibility for 5NA	87%
<b>Secondary 4 Normal Technical</b>	
Percentage of students with at least 3 'N' level passes	92.7%

#### 4. Parent Support Group (Updates)

##### 4.1 Volunteering as a PSG Member

Parents of Hougang Secondary School are welcomed 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](mailto:hss.psg@gmail.com).

#### 5. Administrative Matters

##### 5.1 Update of Parents' Contact Information

The school needs to have parents' latest contact information to maintain close communication and for use during emergency.

Hence, students will be given the contact information that the school currently has. Parents are requested to verify if the information is correct and submit it (with information edited, if necessary) to your child's Character Coaches by **Wednesday, 25 January 2023**.

##### 5.2 School Smart Cards (For Secondary 1 Students)

Please note that all students entering Secondary 1 in January 2023 will be issued new Secondary level School Smart Cards (SSC). The cards will be issued to the students in due course.

While waiting for their Secondary level SSCs to be ready, students can continue to use their Primary level SSCs for concessionary travel till end April 2023. Students can still purchase the Bus Concession Pass (BCP) using their Primary level SSCs but they would need to purchase the BCP for Secondary School students.

#### 6. Pupil Management Matters

##### 6.1 Punctuality

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 or reading. 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.

##### 6.2 School Dismissal

All students will be dismissed at 2.40pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Wednesdays, students will be dismissed at 1.30pm and on Fridays at 12.30pm. School dismissal time for the Secondary 1 Students will be adjusted during the first week of school due to Secondary 1 Orientation Activities. Parents can refer to the Information on Secondary 1 Orientation Activities, including dismissal timing sent out via PG previously.

### 6.3 MOE Safe Management Measures (SMM)

In line with the easing of community SMMs, SMMs for schools are guided by the broad parameters presented below:

#### (A) Mask Wearing

Mask-wearing has been made optional except on public transport and in health care facilities e.g. clinics and hospitals. Mask wearing will be optional in the school premises. Please continue to remind your child to pack a mask in his/her schoolbag in the event that he/she is required to put it on outside of school.

#### (B) Being Socially Responsible

While MOH has stopped issuing health risk notices (HRN) to close contacts of Covid-19 positive cases. Parents are to alert the Character Coaches if their child in HS has tested positive for Covid-19.

#### (C) Wipe-Down Routine

Students will continue their personal hygiene habits and wipe-down routine of tables and shared equipment after use.

All the above SMMs will continue until otherwise advised, pending the national posture in response to the COVID-19 situation. For updates on the COVID-19 situation, you can visit [moh.gov.sg](http://moh.gov.sg) or sign up at [go.gov.sg/whatsapp](http://go.gov.sg/whatsapp) to receive the latest information via WhatsApp.

### 6.4 Usage of Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices

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

- Before 7.30 am
- 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 emphasize that our students are to switch off their mobile phones and any other electronic devices during curriculum time. The mobile phones are to be kept in the bags. Mobile phones/electronic devices 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/electronic device will be confiscated and kept under lock and key in the General Office. **Confiscated handphones/electronic devices will be returned only after 5 school days.**

### 6.5 iPads

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.

### 6.6 Maintaining good behaviour at all times

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.

### 6.7 Attire and Grooming

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.

### 6.8 Revised Uniform Guidelines

To provide greater degree of comfort and flexibility to students, the school has revised uniform guidelines which will take effect from Term 1 Week 2. Please refer to the e-GRIT Journal and school website for more details.

### 6.9 CCA T-shirt

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.

### 6.10 Snack Break

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.

## **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 pm. They are not expected to respond to parents'/ students' queries during weekends or after 6pm 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. 63851990) for further assistance.

## **8. Using Students' Images/Recordings for Publications**

### 8.1 Notice to Parents/Guardians

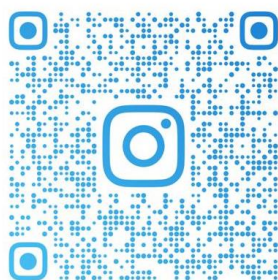
HS will be using students' images and/or recordings for school publications. Should parents/guardians have any concerns, kindly inform the school through your child's/ward's Character Coaches (CCs).

## Contact of Key Personnel

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

Items	Key Personnel (Designation)	Contact Number (Extension)
2.1	Ms Serina Tan (AYH/ Sec1) [PMP] Mr Lee Lis King (HOD/PE & CCA) [CCA Open House]	63726668 (Ext: 216) 6372 6653 (Ext: 658)
2.2(a)	Mr Javen Gwee (HOD/ICT)	63726655 (Ext: 655)
2.2(b)	Mdm Lim Choon Ling (YH)	6372 6653 (Ext: 653)
2.3	Mr Lee Lis King (HOD/PE & CCA) [CCA Open House]	6372 6653 (Ext: 658)
3	Mdm Chitradevi (HOD/EL & Lit) [National Exams]	63726663 (Ext: 663)
4	Ms. Li Huilin (SH/Humanities)	63726668 (Ext: 213)
5	Mdm. Jolin Chang (Administration Manager)	6372 6646 (Ext. 646)
6	Mr Loh Yi En (HOD/ Pupil Management)	63726652 (Ext. 652)
7,8	Ms Jesmine Chung (VP)	63851990

**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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