



Vision: Nurturing Empowered, Future-Ready Hougeans of Character and Purpose.
Mission: Care. Lead. Inspire. Partner. (CLIP)
Values: GratITUDE, Respect, Empathy, Adaptability, Trustworthiness. (GREAT).

HS PC 2024 Term 3

24 June 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to the new school term! We hope your child/ward was able to rest and recharge during June break. Here are some programmes and activities to look forward to in Term 3.

1. Staff Movements

- 1.1 We are delighted to welcome the following new staff to our HS Family with effect from Term 3. They will bring fresh perspectives and expertise to our community and will engage our students in meaningful learning experiences.

Name	Designation
Mr Gan Yee Seng	Teacher / Design and Technology (D&T)
Ms Chin Tsu-Yii Yvonne	Teacher / Humanities
Mr Farizan Bin Md Amin	Teacher / Malay Language
Mdm Janisah Binte Johari	Teacher / Malay Language
Mr Ong Soon Kiat	Teacher / Mathematics
Ms Lorena Chew Nan Qin	Teacher / Principles of Accounts
Mr Saktun Bin Tulus	Teacher / Science
Mr Lee Kai Tai	Teacher
Mr Noh Danial Bin Abdul Hamid	Untrained Teacher / D&T and Science
Mr Spencer Lim Xiao Nan	Untrained Teacher / English Language and Humanities
Ms Shanice Teow Lay Teng	Untrained Teacher / Humanities
Ms Lim Pei Ying	Special Educational Needs (SEN) Officer (w.e.f. 13 May 2024)
Miss Luvethaa-Trish Naidu	Student Health Advisor (w.e.f. 30 May 2024)
Miss Lee Wei Qing, Amy	NIE Teacher / Chinese Language (8 to 12 Jul 2024)
Miss Soh Shi Ying Inez	NIE Teacher / Mathematics and Humanities (8 to 12 Jul 2024)

- 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
Mr Teo Lip Seng	Senior Teacher / Mathematics (w.e.f. 1 Jul 2024)
Ms Liang Qidi	Teacher / Chinese Language
Mr Ding Jen Han Vince	Teacher / Computer Applications (w.e.f. 1 Jul 2024)
Ms C Minnoli	Teacher / English Language (w.e.f. 1 Jul 2024)
Mr Lye Liang Qi, Alvin	Teacher / Humanities
Mdm Siti Sapiya Mohamad Sumr	Teacher / Malay Language
Ms Low Wee Kie Jasmine	Teacher / Music (w.e.f. 13 May 2024)
Mr Mohamed Said Embi	Teacher / Design and Technology
Mrs Goh Wai Yee	Teacher / Science
Mr Amir Gany Mohamed Ali	Teacher / Malay Language
Ms Ng Celeste	Teacher
Ms Fitriah Binti Osman	Special Educational Needs (SEN) Intern
Ms Nurul Shamsirbahri	Student Health Advisor (w.e.f. 3 Jun 2024)

2. School Structures and Programmes

2.1 Blended Learning for Sec1, 2 and 3 Students only

There will be some adjustments to Term 3 HBL. These changes are necessary due to the National Examinations taking place. The days and dates are as follow:

Term 3 HBL Dates	24 June, Monday 10 July, Wednesday 23, 24 & 25 July, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday (Due to GCE O and N Levels Oral Examination.) 5 August, Monday
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- 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.
- There will be no HBL for Secondary 4/5 students and they will attend school.

- 2.2 Timed Practice For Graduating Classes
The school will conduct Timed Practice in Semester 2 for graduating students. This aims to provide feedback on overall learning and familiarize students with national examination formats and conditions. For more details, you may refer to the letter sent out via Parents Gateway on **Monday, 17 June 2024**.
- 2.3 National Day Celebrations
The school will be commemorating National Day on **Thursday, 8 August**. More details will be sent via Parents Gateway closer to the date.
- 2.4 CCA Stand-Down
In preparation for End-of-Year Examinations, the last CCA session for Secondary 1 to 3 students in Semester 2 will be on **Tuesday, 27 August**. CCA sessions will resume after the End-of-Year Examinations.
- 2.5 HS Staff Day 2024
HS Staff Day will be celebrated on **Thursday, 29 August** in school. There will be no lessons for the day. Further details will be provided closer to the 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

3.2 **Preliminary Examination Dates**

4N Written Exams	Mon, 5 August – Fri, 16 August
4N CPA Practical Exams	Mon, 5 August
4E5N Written Exams	Thu, 15 August – Fri, 23 August
4E5N Science Practical Exams	Mon, 26 August – Wed, 28 August

3.3 End of the Year Examination for Secondary 1 to 3 students

Secondary 1 to 3 Written Exams	Wed, 25 September – Fri, 4 October
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4. **Pupil Management Matters**

4.1 Advisory on Vaping (Reminder)

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>.

4.2 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).

4.3 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.

4.4 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.

4.5 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.

4.6 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.

4.7 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.

4.8 CCA T-shirt (Reminder)

Secondary 1 to 3 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.

4.9 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.

5. **Administrative Matters**

5.1 Adjustment to Canteen Food Price (Reminder)

Following the first increment on 2 Jan 2024, the second increment will be \$0.20 for some food items or meals from 24 Jun 2024. The revision reflects the underlying cost of food items and help stallholders to sustain their business and livelihood, while keeping food affordable for students.

As part of the school's commitment to provide affordable healthy meals for all our students, do be assured that a standard meal - comprising one serving of

rice/noodle/pasta, meat, vegetable & fruit - will not cost more than \$3.40 following the adjustment. The subsidy rates for financially needy students have been adjusted where applicable.

6. Parent Support Group

6.1 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.

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 7:30am and 6pm. They are not expected to respond to parents'/ students' queries during weekends or after 6pm on weekdays except for emergencies.

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.

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 no.
2.1	Mr Gwee Chen Meng Javen (HOD/ICT)	63726655 (Ext:655)
2.3	Mrs Lee Yu Zhen (HOD/CCE)	63726654 (Ext: 654)
2.4	Mr Lee Lis King (HOD/PE & CCA)	6372 6653 (Ext: 658)
2.5	Mr Elangovan s/o V Muthoo (YH)	63726652 (Ext. 652)
2.2, 3	Mdm S Chitradevi (HOD/EL & Lit)	63726663 (Ext: 663)
	Ms Carmen Cheng (HOD/MT)	63726664 (Ext: 664)
4	Mr Low Yi En (HOD/ Pupil Management)	63726652 (Ext. 652)
5	Mr Sanker Ramaiah (Operation Manager)	63726645 (Ext. 645)
6	Mdm Li Huilin (SH/Humanities)	63726668 (Ext: 213)
7	Mr Khairul Adli Bin Rahmat (SSD)	63726665 (Ext. 665)

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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