



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

**HS PC 2023 Term 3**

**June**

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 pleased to welcome the following new staff who have joined 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>
Ms C Minnoli	Teacher / English Language
Mr Eugene Ling Jun Yi	Teacher / English Language
Ms Phang Shi Hui	Teacher / Chinese Language
Miss Qu Mei	Teacher / Chinese Language
Mr Amir Gany Bin Mohamed Ali	Teacher / Malay Language
Mr Alvin Lye Liang Qi	Teacher / Geography
Mr John Koh Li Hong	Teacher / Mathematics
Ms Chan Ying Ying	Teacher / Music
Ms Wee Boon Yen	Teacher / Nutrition and Food Science
Miss Jodi Tan	School Counsellor
Mr Cas Chiam Yak Quee	Operations Support Officer
Mr Mohd Ariff Bin Ali	Operations Executive

- 1.2 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 Annizell Cruz Chan	Level Head / English Language
Mdm Nor Suhailah Bte Abdul Rauf	Teacher / Malay Language
Mdm Saffiah Bte Mohammad Amin	Teacher / History

Mr Philip Deepak	Teacher / Mathematics
Mr Chia Huang Hao	Teacher / Music
Ms Quik Susan	Teacher / Music
Mr Nazirul Mubin	Teacher / Nutrition and Food Science
Miss Chua Yi Jun	Teacher / Science
Ms Lee Wen Lin	Teacher / Science
Ms Nur Irza Binte Samsuddin	Librarian

## 2. School Structures and Programmes

### 2.1 Blended Learning (BL) 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. Please refer to the table for a summary:

Term/ Week	Date	HBL
T3W2	5 July	HBL
T3W5	25, 26 & 27 July	HBL due to GCE O and N Levels Oral Examination.
T3W6	2 August	HBL
T3W8	16 August	HBL

On HBL Days, Secondary 1 to 3 students will follow the school's timetable, 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-bl> for the schedule (based on the timetable) 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 Practices in Semester 2 for graduating students. These practices aim 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, 20 June 2023**.

### 2.3 2024 Secondary 3 Subject Combination Briefing

The Secondary 3 subject combination briefing for parents of the current Secondary 2 students will be held on **Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> July** via Zoom. More details will be sent to parents and students via Parents Gateway (PG) closer to the date of the talk.

### 2.4 National Day Celebrations

The school will be commemorating National Day on **Tuesday, 8 August**. More details will be sent via Parents Gateway closer to the date.

### 2.5 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, 29 August**. CCA sessions will resume after the End-of-Year Examinations.

- 2.6 HS Staff Day 2023  
 HS Staff Day will be celebrated on **Thursday, 31 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  
 Please refer to the table below for the dates which the national examinations will be held. Your child 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 EXAM DATES**

<b>Oral Examination</b>	
CLB / MLB / TLB (Mid-Year)	Thursday, 6 July
CL / ML / TL	Friday, 7 July – Monday, 17 July (PM sessions only)
EL	Tuesday, 25 July – Thursday, 3 August (PM sessions only)
HCL / HML / HTL	Friday, 28 July – Thursday, 3 August (PM sessions only)
Foreign Languages	Thursday, 21 September – Friday, 22 September (Full Days) Monday, 25 September (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	Monday, 25 September (PM)
<b>Listening Comprehension (LC)</b>	
CL / ML / TL	Tuesday, 4 July (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Mid-Year)	Tuesday, 4 July (PM)
EL	Wednesday, 18 October (PM)
CLB / MLB / TLB (Year-End)	Wednesday, 18 October (PM)
<b>Practical Examination</b>	
Higher Music / Music Performing	Tuesday, 26 September – Friday, 29 September
Science	Wednesday, 4 October – Tuesday, 17 October
<b>Written Examination</b>	
End of Year Exam	Thursday, 19 October – Friday, 10 November

## **GCE 'N' LEVEL EXAM DATES**

<b>Oral Examination</b>	
EL Syll A, EL Syll T	Tuesday, 11 July – Monday, 17 July
CL / ML / TL, BCL / BML / BTL	Tuesday, 25 July – Thursday, 27 July
<b>Listening Comprehension (LC)</b>	
EL Syll T	Monday, 11 September
CL / ML / TL	Monday, 11 September
EL Syll A	Tuesday, 12 September
BCL / BML / BTL	Tuesday, 12 September
<b>Practical Examination</b>	
Computer Applications (CPA)	Tuesday, 19 September and Thursday, 21 September
<b>Written Examination</b>	
End of Year Exam	Wednesday, 13 September – Monday, 18 September
	Monday, 2 October – Tuesday, 10 October

### 3.2 Preliminary Examination Dates

4N English Language Oral Exam	Monday, 26 June
4E5N English Language Oral Exam	Wednesday, 28 June
4N Written Exams	Thursday, 3 August – Thursday, 17 August
4N CPA Practical Exams	Thursday, 17 August – Friday, 18 August
4E5N Written Exams	Friday, 18 August – Wednesday, 30 August
4E5N Science Practical Exams	Monday, 11 September – Wednesday, 13 September

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

Secondary 1 to 3 Written Exams	Monday, 25 September – Tuesday, 26 September Monday, 2 October – Friday, 6 October
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#### 4. Pupil Management Matters

##### 4.1 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.

##### 4.2 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.

##### 4.3 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 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.

###### (B) Being Socially Responsible

Parents are to alert the Character Coaches if their child in HS has tested positive for Covid-19.

Students may return to school, regardless of ART result, if they have only residual/mild systems or test AG+ but have no symptoms. However, students should exercise social responsibility by putting on a mask and minimizing close physical contact with others in a large-group setting.

###### (C) Wipe-Down

Students are advised to maintain their personal hygiene habits and are encouraged to clean 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.

##### 4.4 Attendance and Temperature Taking Exercise (ATTEx)

The ATTEx is conducted twice yearly and aims to:

- a. maintain schools' preparedness to re-activate the attendance and temperature-taking regime should the need arise; and
- b. educate students on personal responsibility for their own health and social responsibility.

The ATTEx for Term 3 will be conducted on **Wednesday, 5 July 2023**. In view of HBL Day for Sec 1 to 3 students, only Sec 4 and 5 students will be involved in ATTEx.

##### 4.5 Usage of Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices

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.**

#### 4.6 iPad (Personal Learning Device)

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". iPads may be confiscated and returned at the end of the lesson should student be found using it inappropriately during curriculum time.

#### 4.7 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.

#### 4.8 Attire and Grooming

The school's grooming and attire policy is aimed at educating Hougangians 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 inappropriate, a grace period of two 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.

#### 4.9 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.

(<https://www.hougangsec.moe.edu.sg/files/GRIT%20Handbook%202023.pdf>)

Secondary 1 to 5 students will be allowed to wear their approved CCA T-shirts on Tuesdays with school pants/culottes 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 2.40pm. Students who do not wish to wear their CCA T-shirts are expected to be in school attire according to their respective class timetables.

The following exceptions apply during school and national examinations:

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

#### 4.10 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, and energy bars, as well as fruits such as apples and bananas. 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. **Parent Support Group**

#### 5.1 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).

### 6. **Communication with Teachers**

- 6.1 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:

<b>Items</b>	<b>Key Personnel (Designation)</b>	<b>Contact no.</b>
2.1	Mr Gwee Chen Meng Javen (HOD/ICT)	63726655 (Ext:655)
2.3	Mdm Martini (AYH)	63726668 (Ext : 235 )
2.4	Mrs Lee Yu Zhen (HOD/CCE)	63726654 (Ext: 654)
2.5	Mr Lee Lis King (HOD/PE & CCA)	6372 6653 (Ext: 658)
2.6	Mr Elangovan s/o V Muthoo (YH)	63726652 (Ext. 652)
2.2, 3	Mdm S Chitradevi (HOD/EL & Lit) Mr Mohamed Fahizel (HOD/A&T)	63726663 (Ext: 663) 63726653 (Ext:653)
4 (except 4.3, 4.4)	Mr Loh Yi En (HOD/ Pupil Management)	63726652 (Ext. 652)
5	Ms Li Huilin (SH/Humanities)	63726668 (Ext: 213)

4.3, 4.4, 6	Ms Jesmine Chung (VP)	63851990
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**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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