

GESS/2024/Admin/004

27 June 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We trust that you and your family have had some quality time together during the June break. We warmly welcome our Gessians back to school and we would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents/guardians for your active participation in the numerous activities such as our annual Cross-Country, Meet-Parent and Breakfast with Parents sessions. Thank you for affirming the good work of our staff and students and for your valuable feedback that enables us to review our plans to better serve our students. Our vision is at the core of all that we do; to mould our students to be Gessians of Excellence Standing and Significance. One way our parents/guardians can support us is by ensuring that your child/ward practises the school values of Integrity, Compassion, Resilience, Discipline and Respect in their daily life.

Term 3 will be eventful and fast-paced with events like Sports Fiesta, Racial Harmony Day, National Day and Teachers' Day. Students will also go through weighted assessments (WAs) and preliminary/national examinations. Our Sec 4/5 students will have to build up their momentum as they gear up for the national examinations. It is our hope that students apply the study habits and stress management techniques taught during their CCE lessons as they prepare for the various assessments. Parents/Guardians, your support is essential during this period. Continue to motivate your child/ward to give his/her best and to stay active, healthy and safe. If needed, please contact our Senior School Counsellor, Mr Sim Kwang Mong at sim kwang mong@schools.gov.sg for career counselling and Mrs Yap Hwee Ting at goh_hwee_ting@schools.gov.sg for special needs matters.

1. Staff Updates

We are happy to share that the following staff will be joining the GESS family in term 3:

- Mdm Goh Yuh Mein (HOD/Science)
- Ms Lim Hwee Mean (HOD/Mother Tongue Languages)
- Ms Tan Eu-Hsuan, Chloe (Teacher/Chemistry and English Language)
- Ms Liu Xudan (Teacher/Chinese Language and Chinese Literature)
- Ms Dawn Loh Yu Xin (Teacher/English Literature and English Language)
- Mr Lee Kam Chuen (Administration Manager)
- Ms Goh Hwee Keng (Administrative Executive)
- Ms Erma Nur Azura Binte Abdullah Shafi'e (STEM Instructor /Laboratory)

2. Temperature-Taking Exercise

At the start of every term, there will be a temperature-taking exercise. For term 3, it will be held on 3 July 2024. Kindly ensure that your child/ward brings along a working oral digital thermometer to school for the exercise. In our effort to build a caring community, every Gessian needs to demonstrate social responsibility.



3. Secondary 4 Normal (Academic) Achievers' Programme (AP), Secondary 4 Express / 5 Normal Academic Afternoon Study Programme (ASP) and Timed-Practice (TP)

Kindly take note that to support the graduating cohort in their preparation for the national examination, we would be conducting the above-mentioned programmes in Semester 2. The AP, ASP and TP programmes will begin from 2 July 2024, Tuesday.

During Sec 4NA AP sessions, the respective subject teachers will be conducting topical remedial lessons for identified students and provide them with practice questions to strengthen their concepts and skills.

For the Sec 4Exp/5NA ASP, students will be given a conducive venue in the school to do self-study and consultations with their subject teachers. ASP is compulsory only for identified students who have academic gaps to bridge. On days with TP sessions, students would be given practice papers for various subjects according to the school's schedule.

Please refer to the following tables for the respective timings and venues.

Sec 4NA Achievers' Programme (AP) - Term 3, Week 2 to Week 6; weeks 9 and 10				
Day	Time	Venues		
Monday, Wednesday	After curriculum	Respective classrooms		
and Thursday	hours	•		

Sec 4Exp/5NA Afternoon Study Programme (ASP) - Term 3, Week 2 to Week 4, Weeks 6 and 7, Term 4. Week 1

Day	Time	Venues
Monday	4.30 pm to 5.30 pm	
Wednesday	3.00 pm to 5.00 pm	Commence Room
Thursday	4.30 pm to 5.30 pm	

Sec 4Exp/5NA Timed-Practice (TP) - Term 3, Week 2 to Week 4, Weeks 6 and 7; Term 4, Week 1

Day	Time	Venues
Tuesday	3.00 pm to 5.30 pm	Respective classrooms
Wednesday	3.00 pm to 5.00 pm	
Term 3, week 4		
Term 4, week 1		
Friday	2.30m to 5.30 pm	_

4. Home-based Learning (HBL) Days

23 July to 25 July 2024 are HBL days for Sec 1 to 3 while the Sec 4/5 students sit for their GCE 'O' and 'N' oral examinations. Sec 1-3 students will be assigned online work that they are required to complete for curriculum continuity. Your assistance is needed to ensure that your child/ward is engaged in learning on these days. Kindly take note that there will be no other HBL days for this semester.



5. Weighted Assessments and Preliminary Examinations

Similar to Semester 1, weighted assessments will be spread across weeks this term for Sec 1 to 3 students who will also experience Alternative Assessment practices besides written tests.

The Preliminary Examinations for the Sec 4/5 students will commence this term: Sec 4NT & 4NA: 2 Aug to 7 Aug 2024 and 12 Aug to 15 Aug 2024 Sec 4 Exp/5NA: 20 Aug to 28 Aug and 9 Sep 2024

6. Proud Moments

We are proud of your child's/ward's achievements in our CCAs:

CCA	Event	Category	Results
Table Tennis	South Zone Inter-School Table Tennis Championship (Girls)	B Division	3 rd
	National Inter-school Football Championship (Boys)	B Division	League 4 qualifiers
Football		C Division	League 3 qualifiers
	National Inter-school Cross Country Championship (Girls)	B Division	17 th
Cross Country		C Division	14 th
	National Inter-school Cross Country Championship (Boys)	B Division	3 rd
		C Division	12 th
Canoeing	National Inter-school Canoeing Championship (Girls)	B Division	4 th
		C Division	5 th
	National Inter-school Canoeing Championship (Boys)	B Division	9 th
		C Division	9 th



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Uniformed Groups

CCA	Event	Category	Results
NCC (Land)	NCC Unit Recognition Award	Unit	Distinction
Boys' Brigade	J M Fraser Award Excellence Honour Roll Award	Unit	Gold
NPCC	Unit Overall Proficiency Award	Unit	Distinction
Girls' Brigade	The Girls' Brigade Company Award	Unit	Silver
Dragon Scouts	Frank Cooper Sands Award	Unit	Excellence
SJB	Corps Achievement Award	Unit	Gold

Visual and Performing Arts

CCA	Event	Category	Results
Band	Asia Pacific Band Festival 2024	Team	Silver Award
Choir	31st Spring in the City 2024, Singapore International Choral Cantat organised by The Singapore-China Cultural and Educational Exchange Center	Team	Silver Award
Drama	International Science Drama Competition	Team	Finalist and awarded Outstanding Performer Award

We are proud of our eight senior Boys' Brigade boys who received the Founder's Award and they are: Clarence Yap (Ye Enjie), Federico Jeremiah Umadac, Hidalgo Vince Dwayne Nequinto, Htoo Myat Win, Isaac Luke Ng Le Yu, Jerome Loke (Lu Junting), Li Yin Tak and Yong Bin Zhi. The Founder's Award is the highest and most honourable award a Boys' Brigade (BB) boy can attain in the Seniors Programme.

We are also happy to share that the following St John cadets were awarded the Chief Commissioner's Badge, as part of the Cadet Proficiency Badge Scheme (CPBS): Brayden Kwok, Lim Jing Long, Xavier, Lim Yi Qing, Liu Jiayi, Low Yi Xin Ashley, Ng Yuxin Huang Yuxin, Shi Ze, Tay Chun Yong Jarett, Teo Zi Jie and Vikas Kumar.

We also share the joy with Louis Jacob Teo who attained the prestigious SPF-NPCC badge for his good performance in the National Police Cadet Corps.



Please follow us on our Instagram page <u>https://www.instagram.com/theofficialgess/</u> or facebook <u>https://www.facebook.com/SG.GESS/</u> for updates on our achievements and activities.

7. Important Dates for Term 3, 2024

Please refer to Annex A for information on some of the key events/ activities for term 3.

It is our hope that as our students go through this term and next, that as the significant adults in their life, we guide them in doing what is right and in making decisions that would positively impact them and the people around them.

ONWARD!

Yours sincerely,

Xou

Ms Tan Hwee Pin Principal

Integrity, Compassion, Resilience, Discipline, Respect



ANNEX A

Term 3 Key Events (Term 3, 2024)

Dates	Event	Remark (if anv)
28 June (Fri)	Annual Sports Fiesta (2.30 pm to 6 pm) Venue: GESS	
1 July (Mon)	Youth Day (School Holiday)	School is closed for Admin Staff Training
2 July (Mon) – 4 July (Thur)	Applied Learning Module for 3-1 and 4-1	Modules will be conducted in ITEs
3 July (Wed)	GCE 'O' Level MTL Listening Comprehension Examination	School will be dismissed at 12.45 pm for Sec 1-3, 4NA and 4NT students (who are not involved in the exam).
4 July (Thur) - 26 July (Fri)	 National Exams: GCE 'N' Level 22 Jul- 26 Jul: EL Oral Exam 23 Jul-26 Jul: CL/ML/BCL/BML/BTL oral exam GCE 'O' Level 4 Jul - 12 Jul: MT Oral Exam 22 Jul- 26 Jul: EL Oral Exam 23 Jul -26 Jul: HCL, HML & HTL Oral Exam 	not involved in the examp.
10 July (Wed)	Sec 3 Express EL Oral Exam	
19 July (Fri)	Racial Harmony Day Commemoration	Traditional art forms and food stalls led by staff and parents
2 Aug (Fri)- 7 Aug (Wed) & 12 Aug (Mon) to 15 Aug (Thur)	4NA/4NT Prelim Examination	
5 Aug (Mon) – 9 Sep (Mon)	4Exp/5NA Prelim Examination 5 Aug (Mon)- Chemistry Practical (PM) 12 Aug (Mon)- Physics Practical (PM) 14 Aug (Wed)- Science (Phy/Chem) and Science (Chem/Bio) Practical (PM) 14 Aug (Wed) -Biology Practical (PM)	
	20 Aug (Tue) – 9 (Mon) Sept: Written and Listening Comprehension papers	



7 Aug (Wed)	Sec 3NA & 3NT EL Oral Exam	
8 Aug (Thur)	National Day School Celebrations	School will be dismissed at 10.30 am
9 Aug (Fri)	National Day holiday	
14 Aug (Wed)- 20 Aug (Tue)	Sec 2 Oral MTL Oral Exam	
29 Aug (Thu)	Teachers' and Support Staff Day Celebrations	School will be dismissed at 11am
30 Aug (Fri)	Teachers' Day - School Holiday	
31 Aug (Sat) to 8 Sept (Sun)	September Holidays	Protected time for teachers is from 30 Aug – 4 Sep.
9 Sept (Mon)	Start of Term 4 Students are to report to school at 8.30 am	