



GAN ENG SENG SCHOOL

1 HENDERSON ROAD, SINGAPORE 159561

TEL: 6474 5594 FAX: 6473 2479

Email: gess@moe.edu.sg

School Web: <http://ganengsengsch.moe.edu.sg/>

GESS/2024/Admin/001

4 Jan 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to another great year! On behalf of all staff, we wish you and your family a very happy and healthy 2024! We extend our warm welcome to all students, especially to the new Sec 1 cohort that has just joined the Gessian family.

2023 was filled with many achievements for GESS. GESS did exceptionally well in the Customised Validation Exercise which affirmed our good systems and processes for the holistic development of students. Many CCAs did very well too with the Uniformed Groups enjoying sustained excellent performance over the years. Three of our students in the Dragon Scout CCA were awarded the President's Scout Award on 6 Dec 2023. We are very proud of our Gessians. In the academic domain, the hard work of students and teachers has given us value-added results. These are but a few of our achievements. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to parents, School Advisory Committee, Gan Eng Seng Old Students' Association and Parent-Teacher Association for partnering us on this journey to nurture the best in every Gessian.

1. New Staff

Let us welcome the following new staff to the Gessian family:

Name	Designation
Mr Lee Fook Yew	Senior Teacher/ Chinese Language
Mr Jansen Tan	Senior Teacher/ Chemistry
Mdm Shinderjeet Kaur	Subject Head/ Character & Citizenship Education
Mr Koh Heng Meng	Admin Manager
Ms Claire Wong Kai-I	Trainee Teacher/History & Social Studies
Mr Ho Chan Hui	Trainee Teacher/Chinese Language & Chinese Literature
Ms Wong Meijing, Ashley	Trainee Teacher/English Literature & English Language
Mr Bryan Tan Xian Heng	Intern (Science & Math)
Ms Lee Jia Jie	Untrained Teacher (Math)

2. GCE 'N' level Results 2023

Our Secondary Four N-level students did us proud in the 2023 GCE N-Level examinations. This would not have been possible without parents'/guardians' support and teachers' close guidance. Our NT students achieved excellent results with 100% gaining admission to the Institute of Technical Education (ITE). 100% of our NA students were eligible for Sec 5 and 97.4% qualified for the Direct-Entry-Scheme to Polytechnic programme (DPP). 21 NA students obtained ELMAB3 of 8 points or less, with 19 from this group obtaining an 'Excellent' for their CCAs too. 5 students in our 2023 Sec 4 Normal graduating cohort received the MOE



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EduSave Character Award (ECHA) for good character. Heartiest congratulations to our 2023 N-Level cohort!

3. Sec 1 GESS Camp (4 & 5 Jan 2024) and Parent-Teacher Meeting (5 Jan 2024)

The Sec 1 GESS Camp which is non-residential will be held on 4 and 5 January in the school premises. The camp provides ample opportunities for our new Gessians to learn about and appreciate the school's heritage and culture and build better bonds with teachers and peers. The camp culminates in the Parent-Teacher Meeting on 5 January at 5 pm in the hall. We look forward to meeting all Sec 1 parents.

Programme	5.00 – 6.20pm: Principal's Address CCA Briefing National Digital Literacy Programme Initiation Ceremony 6.20 – 7.00pm: Form Teacher Interaction Time
Venue	School Hall & Classrooms

4. School-Based Assessment

As part of our school's efforts to balance the assessment load to better support and deepen our students' learning, the weightings for our School-Based Assessment (SBA) for Secondary 1 to 4/5 students in 2024 are as follows:

CESS Assessment Weighting Distribution 2024

Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
	WA1	WA2	WA3	End-of-Year Exam
Sec 1	10%	15%	15%	60%
Sec 2	10%	10%	10%	70%
Sec 3	10%	15%	15%	60%
Sec 4 & 5	15%	15%	70% (Prelim)	

*Assessment Weighting may vary for the Humanities subjects. Humanities teachers will provide more details to their students at a later date.

It is essential that our students put in their best for every assessment, hence, we seek your active partnership in ensuring that your child/ward revises his/her work regularly to strengthen knowledge and skills in the respective subjects.

5. Home-Based Learning (HBL) & Student Initiated Learning (SIL)

Home-based learning (HBL) provides students with opportunities to be self-directed, passionate and life-long learners. For 2024, HBL will only commence in February on even week Wednesdays. On Wednesdays of odd weeks, students are expected to be in school. Kindly take note too that one hour of HBL will be set aside for students to be involved in Student Initiated Learning (SIL). SIL provides a dedicated time for students to explore interests, pick up new skills and learn within and beyond their curriculum.



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6. Health and Safety

Kindly take note of the following:

- School starts at 8.35 am on Mondays, hence, students will not have a recess break. Students are encouraged to have a good breakfast before school starts. The canteen stalls will be open early for students who choose to eat in school. Do ensure that your child/ward has a good breakfast not just on Mondays but every day.
- School will continue the Stay Cool, Stay Hydrated Campaign to encourage your child/ward to drink water. Do ensure that your child/ward brings a water bottle to school every day.
- Continue to emphasize personal hygiene to your child/ward and to wash the hands frequently with soap and water. If your child/ward is unwell, seek medical help and keep him/her at home to recover. If he/she is recovering from respiratory-related illnesses, encourage your child/ward to exercise social responsibility by wearing a mask and minimising social interactions with big groups.

Please take note that there will be a temperature-taking exercise on **Wednesday, 10 January**. Students should have a working Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) with them.

7. Road Safety Advisory

Student safety is important to all of us. On the first day of term 1, we have reminded students of road safety measures. We seek your assistance to advise your child/ward not to use digital devices such as mobile phones while crossing the road as this may reduce their awareness of any potential danger on the road.

For parents who are driving their children to school, kindly take note that there is a sign placed opposite the exit gate to the school informing drivers that they are not allowed to make a right turn after exiting the school between 6.45 am to 7.45 am. We urge all parents/guardians to follow this rule to avoid congestion within the school compound.

To help manage the traffic flow in the morning, kindly ensure that your child/ward prepares himself/herself to alight quickly from your vehicle. We would also like to appeal to all parents/guardians to co-operate with our school staff and security officers to enhance traffic safety in our school.

8. Communication with school

- a) All students will have a copy of the GESS Student Handbook by the end of week 1 of term 1. It contains useful information about school such as the school's directions, policies, rules and key programmes. Do spend some time to go through the handbook with your child/ward.
- b) Keep all communication to teachers within school hours (8 am to 6 pm) on working days and during school terms.
- c) Teachers are not expected to respond to parents' or students' queries after office hours, during weekends and school holidays.
- d) Appointments to see teachers (face to face or virtual) should be made at least 3 working days in advance. You may call the General Office to make the appointments or email the teachers. Email addresses of the teachers can be found in the school



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website: <https://www.ganengsengsch.moe.edu.sg/about-us/Our-Staff/key-personnel-and-form-teachers/>

9. Lockers

Do take note that from 2024, students will not be able to rent lockers as the locker rental suppliers are not able to meet the service standards required of the school. Do ensure that your child/ward packs his/her bag daily so that only the relevant books are brought to school.

10. Key information for school operation

General Office is open from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays. Parents/guardians who wish to make cash payment personally at the General Office are advised to do so on weekdays from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. The General Office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

11. Key Events and Important Dates for Term 1, 2024

Kindly refer to Annex A for key events and important dates for term 1.

We truly value your partnership in nurturing the best and striving ever onward!

Yours faithfully,

Ms Tan Hwee Pin
Principal



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Key Dates for Term 1 (2024)

Annex A

Dates	Event	Remarks (if any)
4- 5 Jan 2024 (Thu & Fri)	Sec 1 GESS Camp 2 days of non-residential camp for all Sec 1 students	
5 Jan 2024 (Fri)	Sec 1 Meet-Parent-Session 2024 (5 pm to 7 pm)	
12 Jan 2024 (Fri)	Sec 1 CCA Orientation (PM)	
16, 17 & 19 Jan 2024 (Tue, Wed & Fri)	Sec 1 CCA Trials & Auditions	
17 Jan 2024 (Wed)	Sports Wednesday	
2 Feb 2024 (Fri)	Sec 1 CCA first training	
7 Feb 2024 (Wed)	HBL Day for all levels	
9 Feb 2024 (Fri)	Chinese New Year Celebrations	School will be dismissed at 10.30 am
12 & 13 Feb 2024 (Mon & Tue)	Chinese New Year Holidays	
14 Feb 2024 (Wed)	Sports Wednesday	
16 Feb 2023 (Fri)	Total Defence Day Commemoration	
21 Feb 2024 (Wed)	HBL Day for all levels 4Exp/5NA MTL Oral Exams (AM & PM) 4NT/4NA EL Oral Exams (AM)	
28 Feb 2024 (Wed)	Photo taking for Sec 1&2 Sec 2 Code For Fun	
4 & 5 March 2024 (Mon & Tue)	Lower Sec HPV Immunisation Programme	
6 March 2024 (Wed)	HBL Day for Sec 1-5 students 4Exp/5NA EL Oral Exams (AM) 4 HCL Oral Exam (PM) 4NT/4NA MTL Oral Exams (AM) Sec 2 Code For Fun (PM)	
8 March 2024 (Fri)	Founder's Day Unboxing PLD Day For Sec 1 (PM)	
9 to 17 March 2023 (Sat-Sun)	Term Break	

