



NEWSFLASH

PASIR RIS SECONDARY SCHOOL

20 MARCH 2023

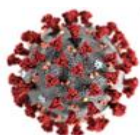
Dear Parents / Guardians,

We hope you have an enjoyable time bonding with your child/ward during the March vacation. As the nation emerges from the pandemic, vibrancy has returned to the school with face-to-face activities being conducted. At the Level Camps, school spirit shone brightly with cohort-level campfires conducted for the lower secondary and the Sec 2 students spent a night camping under the stars. We are pleased to share with you the highlights of Term 1 and the key events planned for Term 2.



2022 GCE O Level Examinations

Congratulations to our 4E5N students on their commendable performance at the GCE O Level examinations! About 9 out of 10 students in the cohort attained 5 or more O Level passes. More than a third of the candidates scored at least 4 distinctions and about 93.5% are eligible for JC / Polytechnic. We would like to thank all parents and teachers for playing an instrumental role in supporting our students to realise their potential.



SMMs Updates

In line with the stepping down of community measures announced by the Multi-Ministry Task Force on 9 Feb 2023, the SMM measures in school has been stood down from 13 Feb 2023.

Mask-Wearing. While mask-wearing in the school setting is not required, it is still an effective way to minimise the risk of infectious disease transmission. Staff and students who prefer to continue wearing masks are allowed to do so.

Attendance Matters (COVID-19 Related). For students who test positive through COVID testing (i.e. PCR+/Ag+), schools will continue to **mark their absence as 'Absent with MC'**. Students would not be required to produce a Medical Certificate (MC), doctor's letter or recovery memo to cover their absence. However, students are to submit photo evidence of the PCR+/Ag+

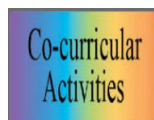
test result to their Home Teacher. Students should return to school if they no longer test positive, even if they still exhibit symptoms.

Strenuous Activity Participation (COVID-19 Related). Students with mild or asymptomatic Covid-19 infection should **avoid strenuous physical activity for 2 weeks after their first positive Covid-19 test (PCR or ART)**. Thereafter, they may gradually resume physical activity as tolerated.



Travel Declaration for March Holidays

For the March school holidays, parents/guardians are to make a travel declaration via Parent Gateway for their child/ward only if he/she intends to travel overseas. There is no need to submit the form if your child is not travelling. If there is a change in travel plan after declaration, please inform the school.



National School Games (NSG) and Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) 2023

NSG is an important milestone in the holistic development of student athletes. Our B-Division Sports Teams participated at the respective NSG East Zone and National Championships in Term 1. Our sportsmen and sportswomen have demonstrated grit, resilience, teamwork and leadership through the competitions. Our B-Division Football team qualified for the *NSG B-Division Football League One* for the first time and won a total of 5 out of 7 matches. The C-Division NSG Championships will be held in Terms 2 and 3. We wish the C-Division team excellence.

THE 5 Performing Arts CCAs viz. Concert Band, Chinese Orchestra, Choir, English Drama and Dance, will participate at the SYF Arts Presentation in Term 2. Preparation is underway and our students are exhibiting the passion and commitment, eager to present the very best at the SYF. We would like to thank parents for the strong support.



Sec 1 Outdoor Adventure Learning (OAL) Camp & Sec 3 MOE-Outward Bound School (OBS) Camp

Under the National Outdoor Adventure Education Master Plan, students will experience 2 outdoor camps in their secondary education. These camps provide opportunities for students to apply their learning in an authentic context through a variety of outdoor living experiences and adventurous activities.

The **Secondary 1** Outdoor Adventure Learning Camp will be a 3D/2N Residential camp from 24 to 26 May 2023 (venue to be confirmed). The **Secondary 3** 5D/4N MOE Outward Bound Singapore (OBS) Camp will be conducted in Term 2 (20 to 24 March for class 3E3 – E6; and 27 to 31 March for classes 3A1, 3A2 and 3T7) at the various OBS campuses *viz.* Ubin Camp 1 and 2, East Coast, Changi and Punggol. Details of the camp program and packing list can be found on the school website.



Annual Cross-Country at Bedok Reservoir

The school resumed face-to-face cross-country on 8 March 2023. It was heartening to see students persevere to complete the routes for the various categories and a display of camaraderie among students cheering for each other.

Mid-Year Exams!

Removal of Mid-Year Exams for all levels in 2023

As announced by MOE in 2022, mid-year examinations (MYE) for all levels will be removed this year. This is in line with MOE's direction to further enhance the holistic development of our students and their intrinsic motivation to learn for life, as well as reduce the excessive focus on examinations. The removal of MYE has freed up curriculum time, which will allow us to further pace the curriculum to deepen students' learning and cultivate the 21C competencies.



Personal Learning Device (PLD) for students

Students who opted to purchase the PLD through the school would have received their new devices. Note that all students are to bring their fully-charged PLD for lessons each day. In case of any technical or account-related issues, students may proceed to the school ICT Helpdesk to seek assistance.



Blended Learning (BL)

Home-based Blended Learning days will continue to be implemented in Term 2 and the BL days in Term 2 for all cohorts are on 29 Mar, 12 Apr, 26 Apr and 10 May and 24 May.



English Language & Literature Festival

The English Language department will be organising a EL/Lit Festival in Term 2 Week 8 where students can participate in author's talks, master classes and exciting library activities to cultivate a joy of learning English Language and Literature. There will also be a learning journey to Tiong Bahru for the Sec 2 students to learn about Singapore's heritage and culture.



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S.T.E.A.M. Festival 2023

The S.T.E.A.M. festival for all Sec 1 to 5 students will take place in Term 2 Week 9. The aim of the festival is to raise students' awareness on an interdisciplinary approach to learning. Students will have hands-on opportunities for authentic learning with the application of critical thinking and problem-solving skills beyond their curriculum. Additional activities such as "Build-A-Device with a Scientist" and STEAM career fair will also be organised for interested students within the week to expose them to the possible STEAM-related career options as part of education and career guidance (ECG).



Strengthening the Home-School Link

We are delighted with the active participation from parents who managed to join the School Leaders and Key Personnel for the Breakfast Sessions conducted in Term 1 of 2023. The sessions have certainly helped to bridge our communication and partnership with parents.

Do look out for regular updates on our school website. In our efforts to deepen our support for our students, our teachers will continue to communicate with parents through Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTM) to update parents on the progress of their child.



Pop-Up Café, a new initiative

On 14 February 2023, in conjunction with Valentine’sDay, the school library was transformed into a café, with the theme ‘Love is in the air – Be kind!’, serving artisan tea, coffee, and finger food such as sandwiches and waffles. Students who participated in a quiz set up by the school won tickets to the café. This is the first out of the series of pop-up café to be launched throughout the year, as part of the school’s effort to promote student wellness. Stay tune to the next pop-up café in April, when we commemorate Earth Day 2023!



Green School Initiatives

In support of environmental sustainability and MOE’s target to reduce net carbon emissions from the schools sector under the Singapore Green Plan 2030, existing non-LED lights in standard school facilities (such as classrooms, canteens and staff rooms) will be replaced with more energy efficient LED lights from mid-2023.

As part of our effort to drive sustainability education at PRSS, the school will be commemorating the World Water Day on 22 Mar. There will be a Water Rationing exercise where students will learn about the importance of water security and the pressing need to protect our water resources. Students are encouraged to bring their water bottle as water coolers will be shut off for few hours on that day.

The theme for Earth Day (22 April) is “Invest in our Planet”. Students will learn that that they can help to protect ecosystems under threat, focusing on natural processes, green technologies and innovative thinking. In addition, students will participate in Recycling and Upcycling activities which will enable Pasirians to demonstrate the PRIZE value of being environmentally responsible. The school will support the Earth Hour movement by switching off all lights in school for an hour on 24 Mar.



Road Safety

In Feb 2023, the school partnered Land Transport Authority (LTA) to raise awareness on road safety and safe riding habits.

Students have been reminded to use the zebra crossings situated in front of school during arrival and dismissal times. For safe cycling, students are expected to have brakes affixed to their bicycles and to wear helmets when cycling on the roads.

Staff Matters

We welcome the following staff to the PRSS family:

Name	Designation
Mdm Leong Soo Mui	Corporate Support Officer
Mr Zachary Koh	Teacher/Bio & Chem
Ms Desiree Oh	Teacher/CL & Lit
Ms Pearlyn Chia	Teacher/EL & Social Studies
Ms Eudora Tan	Contract Adjunct Teacher/Music

Best wishes to the following staff who have left PRSS:

Name	Designation
Mr Haris Goo Eng	ICT Manager
Nang Bin Abdullah	

Important Dates in Term 2

Date	Event
20 - 24 Mar	Sec 3 OBS Group 1 (Express)
20 - 22 Mar	ApLM@ITE (3 NA/NT)
22 Mar	Water Rationing Exercise
29 Mar	Blended Learning Day
27 - 31 Mar	S3 OBS Group 2 (NA/NT)
4 Apr	SYF Jubilation Showcase
12 Apr	Blended Learning Day
13 Apr	International Friendship Day
26 Apr	Blended Learning Day
4 May	SC Investiture
5 May	Student Awards Ceremony & Learning Festival
10 May	Blended Learning Day
8 - 12 May	English & Literature Festival
15 - 18 May	STEAM Carnival
17 May	Champion's Tea (B Division)
23 May	Student Wellness Day
24 May	Blended Learning Day (Sec 2-5)
24 - 26 May	Parent-Teachers' Meetings
24 - 26 May	Sec 1 OAL Camp
29 - 31 May	Leadership Training Camp
27 May - 25 Jun	June school holidays
29 May	GCE O Level MTL Written Exams
30 May	GCE O Level MTLB Written Exams