



22 Sep 2020

Principal's Letter to Parents

Term 4, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support that you have rendered to our school in this exceptional year. Term 4 is a very short and hectic term for all of us. This letter is specially-written to equip us to support our daughters through Term 4. I hope that you will continue to partner us, as we all seek to end the year well together.

1. Choosing Sec 3 Subject Combinations in 2021

Students will explore the factors they can consider when deciding on the subjects they want to study at Sec 3. Students are encouraged to apply what they have learnt when planning for their own subject combinations.

- NA/Exp course: <https://go.gov.sg/choosing-subject-combi-2e2na>
- NT course: <https://go.gov.sg/choosing-subject-combi-2nt>

The current Sec 2 girls will be given a thorough briefing on the 2021, Sec 3 Subject Combinations on the week of 12 Oct 2020. This year, we will not be organizing a parents' briefing due to COVID-19 restrictions. We will, instead, be uploading all the briefing slides for parents' reference. For clarifications, the girls can ask the teachers during the briefing sessions or they can approach their Form Teachers thereafter.

2. Supporting your daughter through the examinations using the 5 Love Languages

Our school profiles the girls for their preferred Love Languages. During times of stress, it will be useful for family members to show support by speaking your daughter's preferred love language (Youtube introduction: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFl68ldjN4Q>).

Backed by research, the principle of love languages is: There are 5 languages that people respond to and feel loved by: Words of Affirmation, Acts of Service, Gifts, Physical Touch, and Quality Time.



Here are some practical information on speaking the 5 Love Languages for Teens:

Love Languages	What Parents can do to show the Love Language
Words of Affirmation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak words of praise that are <u>sincere</u> • Praise <u>specific</u> actions (e.g. “You studied for the whole hour without getting distracted. Good job!”, “You did a good job of getting your revision notes ready for maths.”) • Praise your teen in terms of her <u>efforts</u> (e.g. “I see you putting in more effort into trying to wake up earlier. Good work!”, “Thank you for helping out around the house more this week.”) • Speak words of affection with a focus on <u>personality</u> traits (e.g. “You are so steady. I like the way you think before you speak.”) • Speak <u>affirming</u> words in front of the family members.
Acts of Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loving service is an internally motivated and unconditional desire, to give one’s energy/effort to the teen. • Acts of service must be done with no intention to cause teen to feel guilt or a need for repayment. • Acts of service go a long way to encourage the heart especially when our teen is pressed for time (e.g. preparing a nice take-out breakfast for her before she rushes out of the house, instead the usual own breakfast prepared by herself in a rush.) • They should not create a sense of dependence on the teens (e.g. When teens were young, parents wash the clothes for them; when they are older, we teach them how to wash the clothes.)
Gifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gift-giving is not to be confused with paying teens for a service or rewarding them for doing a task you have asked them to do. • Make the gift <u>special</u> with a lovely note or a special ceremony/occasion. Words of affirmation that accompany the gift make the gift a strong vehicle of emotional love and support.
Physical Touch <i>(Note: Speak this language at the appropriate time, appropriate place and appropriate manner.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Appropriate Time</u>: This depends on the teen’s mood. When teen is angry, physical touch may come across as an effort to control. • <u>Appropriate Place</u>: Do not practice this in public settings and not in the presence of their peers. Your teen may feel embarrassed. • <u>Appropriate Manner</u>: Be flexible with the various ways – hugs, kisses, hair rubs, massages, arm-wrestling. Some teens may not like the same touches, especially if the manner stimulates feelings of dependence and insecurity. (e.g. Some touches may be perceived as ‘childish’ expressions of love.)
Quality Time <i>(Note: This means giving your teen your undivided attention. This is especially important of busy parents. It can be a powerful communicator of emotional love and support.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make time for <u>Family Togetherness</u>: This is important to remind our teen that her safe haven is at home and not out there ‘in the world’ or amongst her friends. Your teen needs to feel she is important to her parents. • Have <u>quality conversations</u>: Learn to speak ‘with’ teens rather than ‘at’ the teens. (Words of affirmation focus on what we are <u>saying</u>, whereas quality conversation focuses on what we are <u>hearing</u>.) • Use <u>Positive Frames</u>: Repeat your teen’s negative thoughts by framing it positively. Share your perspective, thoughts, feelings and de-escalate negative feelings.

3. 2020 PLMGS Founder’s Day Celebrations

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we are taking our 104th Founder’s Day celebrations (14 Oct 2020) on a class-based level and online. We continue to seek to be thankful for all that the school has been blessed with this year. Please see the invitation letter attached in **Annex A** for the evening online celebrations. We hope that you will take time to join us over our ZOOM webcast for the celebrations.

4. Post-Secondary Local Scholarships offered by the Ministry of Education (MOE)

The MOE offers the following scholarships to outstanding students at the Post-Secondary/Pre-University levels:

- Art Elective Scholarship
- Bicultural Studies Programme Scholarship
- Humanities Scholarship
- Language Elective Scholarships
- MOE Pre-University Scholarship
- Music Elective Scholarship
- National Elective Tamil Language Programme Scholarship; and
- Regional Studies Scholarship

Information on eligibility criteria can be found at the MOE Local Scholarships website at <https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/scholarships> . We encourage parents and girls to visit the website and explore possibilities.

Our school website have also been updated with post-secondary scholarship information. Please refer to <https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/instructional-programmes/post-secondary-scholarships>.

5. Results of 2020 JC Direct School Admissions Exercises and Polytechnic/ITE Early Admissions Exercise (EAE)

The following groups of graduating students have taken time and effort to apply for DSA or EAE in Jul/Aug 2019 and have received their results:

- Sec 4/5 O-Level students who applied for DSA-JC
32% of our Sec 4/5 O-Level girls who applied for their DSA applications to the JCs through their CCA talent areas were successful and received conditional offers for admission to the JCs. Girls who are admitted through DSA-JC will have to meet the prevailing JC admission criteria to confirm their conditional offers.

For more information on DSA-JC, please refer to <https://beta.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/dsa/>

- Sec 4/5 O-Level students who applied for Poly EAE
54% of our Sec 4/5 O-Level girls who applied for Poly EAE, have received conditional offers for admission to their courses of choice prior to receiving their results at the National Exams. Girls who are admitted through Poly EAE will have to meet the prevailing polytechnic admission criteria to confirm their conditional offers.

For more information on Poly EAE, please refer to <https://eae.polytechnic.edu.sg/eaeStudIns/menu.jsp>

- Sec 4 NT students who applied for ITE EAE
72% of our Sec 4 NT girls who applied for ITE EAE, have received conditional offers for admission to their course of choice prior to receiving their results at the National Exams. Students admitted through ITE EAE will have to meet the prevailing Minimum Entry Requirements (MERs) for the offered ITE course.

For more information on ITE EAE, please refer to <https://www.ite.edu.sg/admissions/full-time-courses/nitec/early-admissions-exercise>

6. Study Break for Sec 4/5 girls

The Sec 4 N-Level girls and Sec 4/5 O-Level girls will be given a study break before the start of their written papers. During the study break, the girls are strongly encouraged to remain at home to reduce the risk of contracting the virus from the community. Consultations with teachers would be done remotely if necessary. The girls are not to come back to school during the study break, This is to minimise the risk of school-based transmission and reduce QO/ LOA numbers in the event of a confirmed case. We seek your help to closely monitor your daughter and to ensure that she stays at home and keep well.

7. Highlights of Key School Events in Term 4, 2020

The following are highlights of our school's key programmes in Term 4, 2020. The plans below are premised on an improvement in the national COVID-19 situation, e.g. drop in community infections, gradual loosening of Circuit Breaker measures.

Monthly Themes	Dates	Key Events
Praise God for Our Teachers	14 Sep 2020 (Mon)	Term 4 starts Principal's Welcome Assembly
	16 Sep 2020 (Wed)	(via Zoom) Fathers@School "What should I do in the future?" by Ms Tiang Ginn Wah, ECG Counsellor
	15 – 18 Sep 2020	End-of-Year Sec 3E Science Practical Exam Checking of School O-Level Prelim papers
	14 - 23 Sep 2020	GCE N-Level Written Exam Part 1 https://www.seab.gov.sg/docs/default-source/examination-timetable/2020gcenexamtimetable.pdf
	28 – 30 Sep 2020	N-Level Consultation (book online)
	24 – 25 Sep 2020	Sec 3 EL and MT End-of-Year Exams
	25 Sep 2020 (Friday)	Baccalaureate Service for graduating students Last school day for Sec 4N PL-Lites
	28 Sep – 6 Oct 2020	Sec 1 to Sec 3 End-of-Year Exams
Praise God for His Blessings	1– 13 Oct 2020	GCE O-Level Practical Exams
	2 Oct 2020 (Friday)	Last school day for Sec 4E/5N O-Level PL-Lites
	5 - 16 Oct 2020	GCE N-Level Written Exam Part 2 https://www.seab.gov.sg/docs/default-source/examination-timetable/2020gcenexamtimetable.pdf
	19 Oct – 12 Nov 2020	GCE O-Level Written Exam https://www.seab.gov.sg/docs/default-source/examination-timetable/2020gceoexamtimetable.pdf?sfvrsn=28176b65_10

Monthly Themes	Dates	Key Events
	7 and 8 Oct 2020	Marking Days (No school for Sec 1-3)
	9 Oct 2020 (Fri)	Leadership Workshop / Post-exam activities
	12 – 15 Oct 2020	Checking of EOY Exam papers
	14 Oct 2020 (Wed)	PLMGS 104 th Founder's Day Celebrations
	21 Oct 2020 (Wed)	2020 Christmas Celebrations
	23 Oct 2020 (Fri)	Last day of school in Term 4 for Sec 1-3 students
	10-13 Nov 2020	2020 Mega camp (non-residential)
	14-16 Nov 2020	Deepavali Holiday
	20 Nov 2020 (Fri)	Term 4 ends (Official last day)
	25-27 Nov 2020 (TBC)	Release of 2020 PSLE results
2021 School Theme: Through all the years of golden youth	15 Dec 2020 (Mon) (TBC)	Release of 2020 N-level results
	Week of 15 Dec 2020 (TBC)	Sec 1 Posting Results
	Day after Sec 1 Posting Results release	Sec 1, 2021 Registration (online only) <i>(More details will be released closer to this date. All purchases of school supplies, briefing sessions etc will be taken online.)</i>
	25 Dec 2020 (Fri)	Christmas Day
	29 – 30 Dec 2020	2021 iDiscover Camp preparations
	1 Jan 2021 (Fri)	New Year's Day
	4 Jan 2021 (Mon)	Term 1, 2021 starts Principal's Welcome Assembly https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/school-terms-and-important-dates#pri-sec-sch-term-2021

Every Mon morning, 7.30 a.m. – 8.30 a.m.	<i>PrayingParents@PL</i> meets every Monday morning via ZOOM , 7.30 a.m. – 8.30 a.m. for a time of prayer and fellowship. If you are interested to join in, do drop an email to Mrs Irene Angullia at irene_angullia@moe.edu.sg
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Please check the school website (<http://plmgss.moe.edu.sg/>) or the School Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PAYALEBARMGS>) for regular updates on the school programmes and other administrative matters.

Thank you for your support and for partnering us to care for your daughters.

Please stay healthy and keep well!

Warmest Regards,

Mrs Quek

Principal, PLMGS(Secondary)



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Honorary Treasurer
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Ms Amelia Champion
Ms Angela Tan
Ms Catherine Foo
Ms See Beow Tuan
Ms Seah Yang Hee

Honorary Member
Mrs Winnie Tan

Honorary Auditor
Ms Lee Phui Fong

School Representatives
PLMGS (Primary)
Mrs Joyce Ang

PLMGS (Secondary)
Mrs Quek Li Gek

Dear Alumni and Friends

PLMGS 104th Founder's Day Celebrations 2020

Join us for a night of praise and thanksgiving as we continue our tradition of giving Glory to God, and celebrate 104 years of His Blessings.

Date: Wednesday 14th October 2020
Mode: Zoom Webcast
Time: 8pm to 9pm
Registration: Please sign up here <https://tinyurl.com/plmgs104>

Or scan this QR Code



Theme: We're Together Again, Just Praising the Lord

Here are some of the items lined up for our **104th Founder's Day Celebrations**:

- *Join our interactive cyber celebration and sing along as we are led through some of our favourite hymns and choruses by our Alumni Singspiration Team.*
- *Be inspired by our keynote speaker, alumna Rev. Dr. Rachel Rajagopal*
- *Spot familiar faces amongst participants as we listen to the youthful voices of PL's singing ambassadors in our virtual choir.*
- *Enjoy snapshots from our Celebration Events Walking Together, Serving Together and Praying Together.*
- *Catch up with the Class of 1995 as they present their reunion item.*
- *Not to be missed, a very special 104th Birthday Cake-Cutting event.*

Do gather in groups of 5 for dinner prior to the Celebrations and join in on Zoom together after dinner!

We look forward to being together with you again, Just Praising the Lord.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Quahe-Lim Su-Lynn
President
Paya Lebar MGS Alumni Association

Ms Felicia Tan & Ms Ng Yew Cheo
Co-Chairpersons
104th FDC Committee