



16 Oct 2020

Principal's Letter to Parents

Thanksgiving for Term 4, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Warmest greetings to all!

At the close of the 2020 academic year, we want to thank all parents for your love and support for our staff and the girls. This year has been exceptional year and we end the academic year on a thankful note. This year-end, please choose intentionally to celebrate areas of growth with your daughters. Do tell her how proud you are of her to see her overcoming / trying to overcome challenges that she has faced this year.

The following are some things for you to take note of as the academic year draws to an end.

1. Farewell to our Vice-Principals

We will be bidding a fond farewell to Ms Chua Nga Woon (VP Admin) and Ms Aileen Sim (VP). They joined PL in Dec 2017 and has been so much a part of the family since. The brief 3 years seemed like a much longer time when we look at how much they have contributed towards PL in the short time. We wish them God's blessings as they take a break from work to look into personal matters, and to serve God and the community in other capacities.

2. Sec 3 Self-Paced E-Learning (26 Oct – 6 Nov 2020)

Sec 3.1- 3.8 girls have been given schedules for self-paced E-Learning in the upcoming School holidays. Completing this learning responsibly will provide our girls with a stronger foundation for their Sec 4 curriculum next year. Girls who do not have access to a home-based internet connection via a computer, can access the free-to-loan computers at the school library.

3. New Dismissal Time for Term 4, Week 6

Please note that with the start of the 2020 O-Level exams, the exams will be held in the afternoon. The dismissal time for Sec 1 - Sec 3 PL-Lites will be at **12.50 p.m. from 19 Oct 2020**. The girls are encouraged to go home for lunch. They should not be hanging out at the malls or the community spaces.

At the end of the day's programme, Sec 1 & Sec 2 girls can be picked up at the school covered carpark. Sec 3 girls can be picked up at the Block 134 HDB carpark to ease congestion.

The schedule for Term 4 Week 6 activities is shown in the table:



Date	Programme
19 – 22 Oct 2020 Mon to Thur	Start of O-Level exams Normal lessons continue for Sec 1 – Sec 3
23 Oct 2020 Fri	Last day of school year Farewell Assembly

4. Student Leadership Development– 2020 Mega Camp (non-residential)

Mega Camp is an annual Student Leadership Camp specially organised by student leaders, for selected Sec 2 and 3 student leaders of our school. Our leaders look forward to the camp every year to come together and experience the outdoors and grow together in leadership competencies, anchored by Kouzes and Posner's 5 Practices of Exemplary Leadership. This year, our camp is a 2-day non-residential camp which will be held on 9 & 10 Nov 2020 at MOE Outdoor Adventure Learning Centre @ Dairy Farm. National safe management measures will be fully adhered to. Operating within the safe measures, 2020 Mega Camp seeks to fulfill its original objectives while keeping our leaders and teachers safe.

5. Promoting Cyber Wellness

We would like to emphasise the importance of practising safe and responsible use of computing devices during the holidays. Please refer to the following relevant Cyber Wellness resources for parents on:

(a) Managing screen time from the Media Literacy Council:

<https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/ParentGuideGraphicUpdated29-July.pdf>

(b) MOE cyber wellness resources for parents

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/docs/default-source/document/parent-kit-on-home-based-learning/parent-kit---cyber-wellness-for-your-child.pdf>

6. 2021 MOE FAS application

A Singaporean student is eligible for MOE FAS if she meets the following criteria

- 1) Gross Household Income \$2,750 or below, **OR**
- 2) Per Capita Income \$690 or below (per capita income = Total Household Income / No of Household Members)

Application Form for 2021 MOE FAS and more information can be found on our website

<https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/useful-links/financial-assistance>.

If you marginally miss the criteria, you can still apply and you may be considered for School based financial assistance, which will provide benefits similar to that of MOE FAS.

Parents are encouraged to apply early so as to receive text books and other benefits without delay.

7. Travel Declaration & Monitoring of Health after Year-End Holidays

Singapore Citizens and PR students should continue to defer overseas travel unless it is permissible under the prevailing MOH travel advisory.

Please note the following points for consideration as you make travel plans for your child/ward.

- a) Border measures, health protocol and requirements for entry may change over time depending on the public health situation in the respective countries. Please check on these requirements

by visiting the website of Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) at [<https://www.ica.gov.sg/covid-19/ArrivalSG>] and the Ministry of Health (MOH) at [<https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19>].

- b) Actual time spent overseas will be limited since travelers need to adhere to Singapore’s requirements for entry as well as travel requirements in the country of travel;
- c) Individuals would need to pay for the full prevailing SHN (up to \$2,000 at an SHN Dedicated Facility, if required) and swab-test costs (chargeable up to \$300) at the point of re-entry;
- d) Individuals would need to bear the cost of COVID-19 treatment in case of infection, if they left against prevailing MOH travel advisories.
- e) In case of changes in travel restrictions by Singapore or other countries, there is a risk that students may not be able to return in time for the start of the school year in January 2021.
- f) For graduating International Students (IS), arrangements are being made for online collection of national examination results (O-/N-levels), and
- g) IS are required to apply for and obtain an entrance permit from ICA prior to their return to Singapore.

COMPULSORY:

- **Should you decide to go ahead with travel plan for your child, you are required to submit Travel Declaration on Parents Gateway.**
- **To do so, go to [SERVICE > DECLARE TRAVELS], please indicate both the country and city of travel, and any city of transit, by 30 Oct 2020 (Friday). Only one parent is required to declare.**

8. Year-end Holidays Essential Services

a. Bookshop Purchases

Walk-in Purchases

The School Bookshop will be located in the School canteen during the School Holidays.

Opening Timing:

- Mon – Fri: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sat: 9 am to 12 noon

11/11/2020	Wed	26/11/2020	Thu	07/12/2020	Mon
12/11/2020	Thu	27/11/2020	Fri	08/12/2020	Tue
13/11/2020	Fri	28/11/2020	Sat	09/12/2020	Wed
19/11/2020	Thu	30/11/2020	Mon	10/12/2020	Thu
20/11/2020	Fri	01/12/2020	Tue	11/12/2020	Fri
21/11/2020	Sat	02/12/2020	Wed		

Online Purchases

Online ordering will be available on the vendor website <https://www.pacificbookstores.com/> from 4 Nov 2020.

You may arrange for home delivery at a cost of \$11.80, or self-collect (FOC) at school bookshop on the specific dates given to you when your orders are ready.

b. School Uniform Purchases

Some of our girls have outgrown their school uniforms. These girls resort to unbuttoning the top button on their blouse or unzipping their pinafore during the school day because their uniforms are tight and uncomfortable. We encourage girls to change their school uniforms (especially those transiting into the Upper Sec years), so that learning can be optimal during the school day.

Walk-in Purchases

Sec 2-4/5 girls may purchase their new school uniform at the Supplier’s outlet before 20 Dec 2020. After this date the supplier will focus on serving new Sec 1 girls.

School Uniform Supplier Shirley Season Wear

Address : 7030 Ang Mo Kio Ave 5, #04-55 Northstar@AMK, Singapore 569880
Contact : Tel: 6280 4917
Opening : Mondays to Saturdays : 12 noon to 6 p.m.
Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

Online Purchases

Online purchase is available at the vendor website <https://www.shirleyuni.com/>
You may arrange for home delivery at a cost of \$5.

c. School Canteen Opening Hours

The school canteen will continue to function during O-Level examination period: The *PL Manna* will have 2 stalls operating from 7.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. from 26 to 30 Oct 2020 and 3 Nov 2020 to support students taking the O-Level exams and to support students returning to school for CCAs.

d. Library Opening Hours

During the year-end holidays, the School Library *PL Book-tique* will be open every Mondays - Fridays, 8.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

9. Safe Management Measures During the Year-End Holidays

Students may return to school during the school holidays for self-study and scheduled school activities.

We will be:

- implementing visual checks, temperature-taking and signing-in to ensure that only those who are well can enter the school compound;
- maintaining strict safe-distancing measures in all areas; and
- requiring all to wear a face mask at all times and wipe down shared spaces/equipment after use.

Staff and students need to check-in and check-out on using SafeEntry on their phones.

10. 2021 School Terms and Holidays

Please refer to the following URL for 2021 School terms and holidays:

<https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/press-releases/school-terms-and-holidays-for-20201>

Our school's protected holiday periods for staff and students in 2021 are:

- March hols – 17 to 19 Mar 2021 (*Girls involved in the 2021 National School Games may be required to come to school for additional practices.*)
- June hols – 7 to 20 Jun 2021
- Sept hols – 8 to 10 Sep 2021
- Nov/Dec hols – 22 Nov 2021 onwards (tentative)

11. Highlights of Key School Events in Nov-Dec 2020 and in Jan 2021

The following are highlights of our school's key programmes in Nov-Dec 2020 and in Jan 2021. The plans are premised on an improvement in the national COVID-19 situation and gradual loosening of Safe Management Measures.

Dates	Key Events
9 -10 Nov 2020	PL Mega Camp for Student Leaders (non-residential)
25 - 27 Nov 2020	(Tentative) Release of 2020 PSLE results

Dates	Key Events
17 - 21 Dec 2020	(Tentative) Release of 2020 N-Level results https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/important-dates-for-candidates#board_1
22- 24 Dec 2020	(Tentative) Release of 2021 S1 posting results https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/national-examinations/national-exams-timetable#psle
Next working day after release of posting results	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>
24, 25 Dec 2020	Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
28 - 30 Dec 2020	2021 iDiscover Camp preparations
1 Jan 2021 (Fri)	New Year's Day
4 Jan 2021 (Mon)	2021 New Academic Year begins (2021 Term 1, Week 1) Principal's Welcome Assembly Sec 2 – 5 will be on a special Time-table for 4 Jan 2021
4 – 5 Jan 2021	<i>Sec 1 Orientation & CCA Talent ID</i>
6 – 8 Jan 2021	Sec 1 <i>iDiscover</i> Camp (non-residential) Sec 1 Parents-Meet-Principal (PMP) on 8 Jan
9 Jan 2021 (Wed)	Sec 2 Parents-Meet-Principal (PMP) 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Sec 3, Sec 4/5 PMP 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.
13 Jan 2021 (Wed)	<i>2021 CCA Fair</i>
15 Jan 2021 (Fri)	CCA Exploration starts
11 – 13 Jan 2021	(Tentative) Release of 2020 O-Level results https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/important-dates-for-candidates#board_1

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. Have a great year-end!

Warmest Regards,

Mrs Quek

Principal, PLMGS(Secondary)