



13 Sep 2022

Principal's Letter to Parents

Term 4, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

Term 4 opened with the school focusing on the Term 4 Week 1 Thought For The Week (TFTW) "Have GRIT Will Travel". Major assessments take place in Term 4, and some of our girls may struggle with the different demands. On the first day of Term 4, I seized the opportunity to remind ourselves that schooling is more than tests and examinations. I recognise that our girls face other stressors such as expectations from self/others like parents, relationship problems, uncertainty of the future, among others. Let us work together to encourage our girls, your child/ward, to focus on the learning and improvement processes, and not just outcomes.

In a recent article "Taking Exams in the Right Spirit" (15 July 2022) by Ms Liew Wei Li, Director-General of Education, she shared that "Ultimately, when schools, teachers, and parents, role model the right perspectives and attitudes towards such milestones, our children will learn to build the resilience they need to face challenges in the future. Every setback is a learning opportunity; every mistake a second chance we give to ourselves. Our children's long-term growth matters more than the short-term results. Let us spur them on to be better versions of themselves – versions that you and I can be proud of." (see <https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/taking-examinations-in-the-right-spirit> for full article). Although the article focused on the PSLE, the key message to encourage all to pursue progress, not perfection, resonated with me.

Please see my last letter dated 1 Sep 2022 for **Highlights of Key School Events in Term 4**.

1. Update on Night Study Programme for Graduating Sec 4/5 Cohort

As mentioned in my last letter, the school will re-introduce the Night Study Programme to support our Sec 4/5 girls in this last lap of their national examination preparations from Thursday, 15 Sep, from 6pm to 8pm daily. The Programme will end on 27 Sep 2022. Our girls have received and reminded of the registration details today.

If you choose to pick your daughter/ward up in the evenings, please be informed that we will lower the carpark barriers at the main school gate from 7pm for safety reasons. The barriers will be raised from 7.45pm to allow parents to drive in for pick up. The school and school gates will be closed by 8.05pm.

Thank you for supporting the girls. We must also thank the teachers who volunteer to stay back in school to help the girls in their revision.

2. Baccalaureate Service for Graduating Sec 4/5 Cohort

After a 2-year hiatus, we thank God that we will be able to hold our Baccalaureate Service for our graduating girls on Friday, 23 Sep. This has been a proud PL tradition that services to mark a key milestone in the life of our graduating students as the school wishes them well in their endeavours beyond the national examinations.

We would like to thank PL Alumni, PL Parent-School Support Group (PSSG) and Paya Lebar Methodist Church (PLMC) for their tremendous support for this event.

3. Supporting our Girls in Decision-Making during Transitions

Our graduating girls are at their crossroads. Parents/Guardians can play a pivotal role in helping our girls make decisions about their post-secondary education pathways and their choice of future courses and careers. Before we can do so, we need to have up-to-date information. Here are some useful resources:

- a. **2022 Joint Admission Exercise (JAE) and Joint Intake Exercise (JIE) Booklets**
These booklets are compilations of the information on post-secondary courses at ITE, Polytechnics and Junior Colleges. Please refer to this URL: <https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/articles/announcements/2022-jae-jie-n-n-jie-o-information-booklet> (Details of the 2023 JAE will be updated by October 2022).
- b. **Post-Secondary Education – MOE Web Resource**
This webpage helps your child/ward navigate the post-secondary education landscape. It provides information on the different post-secondary educational institutions and allows her to find pathway options that meet her strengths and interests. Please refer to this URL: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/>
- c. **MySkillsFuture Portal**
MySkillsFuture is a one-stop education and career guidance (ECG) portal that supports students in making education and career decisions across each education stage; and empowers them for life-long learning. Students can discover more about themselves through games and tools, explore the Singapore Education Landscape and learn more about the World of Work through videos and over 1000 job role information. The URL is <http://go.gov.sg/mysfsec>
- d. **Post-Secondary Scholarships**
For girls who aspire to take on scholarships after their secondary education, there is a full listing of the available scholarships. We will be engaging girls who have shown good potential to qualify for the scholarships in conversations. The scholarship details can be found here: <https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/instructional-programmes/post-secondary-scholarships>

4. Post-Examination Programme for Sec 1 to Sec 3 Girls

Dates of the Post-Examination Programme were shared in my last letter. Preparations will start on Friday, 21 Oct. Sec 1 girls can look forward to their first overnight camp at PL. Like their juniors, the Sec 2 girls can also look forward to some outdoor activities. The Sec 3 girls will similarly experience extension of their learning in 2022, particularly in STEM.

Further details will be shared in time by the various Key Personnel in-charge. In view that we could only lately move ahead with the Programme details with the recent easing of SMMs, the school will fully fund these learning and enrichment activities. Co-payment for school enrichment activities is the norm school practice.

5. End-of-Year Prize Presentation

To celebrate student learning and successes, we will be presenting awards to students who have shown outstanding determination and resilience in overcoming challenges faced in their learning, as well as school life. The Prize Presentation will be held on Friday, 28 Oct 2022. We hope this presentation can encourage the students for their effort and inspire their peers as well.

6. Mega Camp – Secondary 2 and 3 Student Leadership Training Programme

Mega Camp is a 3D2N residential leadership development camp for identified Sec 2 and 3 student leaders of PLMGSS(S). This flagship leadership programme which enables our student leaders to learn and apply leadership competencies and skills through outdoor adventure education, will return in November 2022.

Mega Camp has a unique structure – where the camp is co-organised by an external partner, PLMGSS teachers and a selected group of student leaders form the student organizing committee. During the camp, each group will be facilitated by our own student leaders, under the mentorship of a PLMGSS(S) teacher and an instructor from our external partner. Highlights of the camp include a land expedition, a sea expedition, team-building games and activities that would challenge our leaders beyond their comfort zones, in a safe manner.

Teachers in-charge have shared the overview of Mega Camp 2022 with the student leaders. Further details will be provided to our student leaders shortly.

Thank you for your strong support as we commence the final school term of the year. I look forward to your continued partnership to end the school year positively and safely for all our girls and their families.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Amy Ng
Principal