



11 Sep 2023

Principal's Letter to Parents

Term 4, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians

Warmest greetings to all!

We embark on a last stretch before the 2023 school year draws to an end in about 7 weeks. We look forward to working with you to continue to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for our PL-Lites.

In this season of 'studying for examinations', many of our girls may struggle with high expectations and anxiety. I have shared and emphasised on the purpose of assessment as learning and growth. It would thus be apt for me to start Term 4 by encouraging our girls and parents to "Fix Our Eyes On Our Purpose". May *Jeremiah 29:11* - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." encourage our PL-Lites that they must not fear and be empowered to *Just Shine!*

Please see my letter dated 30 Aug 2023 for **Highlights of Key School Events in Term 4**.

1. The Last Lap for our Graduating Sec 4/5 Cohort

- a. **Night Study.** As mentioned in my last letter, our Night Study Programme is back to support our Sec 4/5 girls in this last lap of their national examination preparations from Thursday, 14 Sep, from 6pm to 8pm daily. The Programme will end on Friday, 22 Sep 2023. Apologies for the updated dates, which differ slightly from the Principal's Letter to Parents dated 30 Aug.

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

- b. **Study Break.** The graduating girls' study break will commence from Monday, 25 Sep and they need not report to school. The GCE N- and O-Level examinations would have also commenced. The girls are strongly encouraged to make appointments with their subject teachers for individual or small-group consultations from 25 Sep. Teachers may also contact individual students or small groups of students who may require more customised support.
- c. **Revision and Home Support.** Our graduating girls will be spending more time on personal learning and revision in this last lap. You can ask your daughter/ward to share her revision schedule or plan, and ask how she would like you to support her. Or you can join the school by praying for all our PL-Lites, providing the conducive environment etc.

- d. **Results of JC DSA and Polytechnic/ITE EAE.** The DSA and EAE outcomes were gradually released up until Monday, 11 Sep. The school is in the midst of collating the outcomes with the girls' help. Beyond this, 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:
- i. Up-to-date information about **JAE application, posting process, course types and details** can be accessed here: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/jae>. For a compilation of information on post-secondary courses at **ITE, Polytechnics and Junior Colleges**, please refer to this URL: SchoolFinder / CourseFinder : <https://www.moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder>
 - ii. **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/>
 - iii. **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>
 - iv. **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> and <https://www.moe.gov.sg/financial-matters/awards-scholarships>

2. Baccalaureate Service cum Graduation Day for Graduating Sec 4/5 Cohort

We thank God that we will be able to hold our Baccalaureate Service for our graduating girls on Friday, 22 Sep. This has been a proud PL tradition that serves 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. The service will be followed by our inaugural Graduation Ceremony, which parents will be invited to attend. More details will be shared shortly.

Secondary 1 to 3 students will be dismissed from school at 10.30am on Friday, 22 Sep.

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. 107th Founder's Day on 13 Oct 2023

PLMGS will celebrate our 107th Founder's day on Friday, 13 Oct 2023 as 14 Oct is on a Saturday this year. The Sec 1-3 students will attend the Founder's Day Service in the

morning, which is tentatively scheduled to end by 10.30am. Details of the service and dismissal timings will be shared in early Oct.

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, 20 Oct. Highlights include learning journeys on Singapore's sustainability efforts and outdoor education experiences, as well as how our PL-Lites can create a more inclusive PLMGS and Singapore. This year we have also been more intentional in nurturing student agency. For example our year-long student-initiated learning – Pursuing Life Skills in Every Experience (PuLSE) will culminate with a student-led showcase and our girls have been planning for their own class-bonding activity during the post-exam period. Further details will be shared in time by the various Key Personnel in-charge.

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, 27 Oct 2023. We hope this presentation can encourage the students for their effort and inspire their peers as well.

6. Overseas International Experiences in 2024

When designed and facilitated in support of the Learn for Life movement, internationalisation experiences can develop students to be future-ready. Our staff and teachers have been deliberating and are ready to commence our internationalisation efforts in 2024. Noting how COVID-19 and the related SMMs have limited their learning opportunities, the school would like to commence with the 2023 Sec 3 cohort in January 2024 to Batam, Indonesia. The trip in early-January will not disrupt the girls' learning in their critical year and instead, they can deepen their 21CC of global awareness and cross-cultural skills & sensitivities as well as develop fond memories together. In view of such, our 2023 Sec 3 Year Head had surveyed the girls earlier in Term 3 and will reach out to parents/guardians shortly.

Please note that school vacation will be from 18 Nov to 1 Jan 2024. The last school day for the entire school is Friday, 27 Oct because the school will be used as a venue for the GCE O-Level written examinations. From Monday, 30 Oct, Sec 3 and selected lower secondary PL-Lites will have bridging lessons, preparing them for 2024. Some CCAs may also continue after 27 Oct in anticipation of the early competitions in 2024 and in preparation for the PLMGS Open House on Saturday, 18 Nov 2023. If you are planning for a family holiday, we appreciate that you plan it during the school holiday period.

Again, 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 faithfully,
Ms Amy Ng
Principal