PAYA LEBAR METHODIST GIRLS' SCHOOL (SECONDARY)

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4 Sep 2025

Principal's Letter to Parents Thanksgiving for Term 3, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians

Recent developments in the national education landscape have highlighted a few issues that are very relevant to our youths today — vaping, bullying. From 1 September, new laws against vaping have come into effect, with stricter penalties in place, which you have been informed. As a school, we stand firmly with the Ministry of Education in upholding a zero-tolerance stance towards vaping. We will continue to educate our students about the health risks involved and guide them to make responsible choices, and we invite you to partner us on this important journey.

More importantly, we are reminded of the importance of maintaining a safe and caring environment for all, against any substance abuse as well as socio-emotional and psychological safety. At PL, bullying in any form, whether in-person or online - goes against the values we uphold. We seek your partnership in reinforcing respect, kindness, and empathy at home, so that our school remains a place where every girl feels secure and supported. We would like to share most of the 'hurtful behaviour' reported at PL takes place online. Hence, on the related topic of technology use, while digital tools open doors to powerful learning opportunities, we also want our PL-Lites to develop healthy boundaries. Balanced and thoughtful use of devices will help them to thrive without being distracted or overwhelmed. We hope you can also partner us to set and maintain these healthy parameters and guidelines on use of technology. We have to and can do this together for our beloved PL-Lites!

As we now enter the season of assessments, I would also like to remind us all that examinations are but one part of education. The true purpose of schooling lies in learning - in curiosity, growth, and resilience. Our girls often hold themselves to very high standards, which can lead to stress and self-doubt. This is where your presence makes the greatest difference: listen to them, encourage them, and help them find calm and perspective. Positive habits of managing stress and keeping balance will stay with them far beyond the classroom.

At school, our teachers, coaches, and instructors remain steadfast in guiding and supporting your daughters. They have dedicated countless hours to prepare lessons, revision practices, and encouragement, ensuring that learning is meaningful and balanced. This Teachers' Day, we pause to salute our educators for their commitment, creativity, and care. To all our teachers - Happy Teachers' Day!

Last, please find some information as we mark the end of Term 3 and prepare to move into Term 4.

1. Thanksgiving: 2025 Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) Results (June Sitting)

Praise the Lord for the positive GCE O-Level 2025 Mother Tongue Results (2025 June Sitting), released on 21 August 2025. Despite the challenges faced earlier in the year, our PL-Lites have

shown resilience and determination. We are happy to share that the results attained by the cohort are comparable to those of previous years, with some improvements. To God be the Glory!

2. Teaching and Learning Matters

- a. Last Lap for our Graduating PL-Lites
- Our S4E/5N PL-Lites have just completed their preliminary examinations, while our S4N girls will be preparing for their first GCE N-level written examinations after the September school holidays.
- Our S4N girls taking the GCE N-levels have reviewed their assessment papers and learning with their teachers in the past two weeks. We will continue to work with our S4N girls over the following 2 time-periods:
 - Phase 1 Intensive Lessons, 8-9 Sep. Details of time-tabled lessons have been issued to students and to parents via PG.
 - o Regular Timetable lessons for S4N(Academic) from 22-25 Sep.
 - Phase 2 Intensive Lessons, 29-30 Sep and 1 Oct. Details of the intensive sessions for the second-wave of subjects to be examined will be shared with students through the girls' email and to parents via PG.
- We will distribute the HDP with all our graduating Sec 4/5 PL-Lites' Reports Books on Friday, 26 Sep, which coincides with our Baccalaureate Service cum Graduation Ceremony. Our S4N girls will have their HDP Result Slips reflecting their performance in subjects taken at a More Demanding Level.
- To support our graduating cohort, we will continue with our Night Study Programme in Term
 Some of our graduating PL-Lites have requested a more conducive study environment in school. Night Study will be from 17 to 25 September, from 5pm to 7pm daily, unless less than
 girls sign up for that day.
- b. <u>Learning is key; NOT just Studying</u>. Our Sec 1-3 and some of our Sec 4 PL-Lites received their assessment papers over the past few weeks. How do we respond to these outcomes? I trust our parents/guardians are not focusing on the marks and grades alone, but on the overall learning and learning experiences of our PL-Lites.
- Sec 1-3 PL-Lites would receive their WA3 Results Slips in Term 3 week 10 (Wednesday)
- Sec 4/5 PL-Lites would receive their Preliminary Examinations Results Slips in Term 4 week 2 (Friday).

During this September break, our PL-Lites are encouraged to *rest*, *reflect* and *reconcile*. They are encouraged to be mindful of what they have learnt and what they are unsure of. Thereafter, our girls must take action to "make things right" and be confident of their learning and level of competence. Learning is not studying which could mean reading and memorisation for our girls. Learning takes place when the outcome is clear, is the process and experience to achieve those outcomes, for e.g. practice of skill, application of a concept etc.

The Sec 1 to 3 End-of-Year (EOY) Examination Schedule is already available on our school website (https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/2025-secondary-1-to-3-eoy-exams-timetable/). Our PL-Lites have been informed of the topics to be tested by their subject teachers." We urge parents/guardians to continue to support and encourage our girls. For a start, ask your daughters these questions beyond the instruction of "Go and Study!":

• What are the key learning outcomes of? [Suggest to break down to Topics/Units of the Subject]

- What are your learning difficulties when learning? [Do not accept 'I cannot solve the problem' or 'I do not understand. Ask 'why' and 'what' if you receive such responses, and for specifics like 'which question?'.]
- What is your plan to address the learning gap in...? [Please go beyond 'making notes' and challenge our girls to apply what they have learn.]

Importantly, reassure them that we will appreciate their improvement efforts, and they should too. We will not be disappointed by the final marks or grades as long as we can witness the improvement efforts and attempts.

3. PLMGS 109th Founder's Day

Our 109th Founder's Day Thanksgiving Service will take place on Friday, 10 October 2025. Sec 1 to 3 PL-Lites will report to school at their usual timing in full school uniform. They will be dismissed by 11 a.m. The Guest-of-Honour is Rev Reuben Ng, President of the Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC) of The Methodist Church in Singapore.

This will be followed by our 109th Founder's Day Thanksgiving Dinner in the evening, organised by the PL Alumni. It will be a wonderful opportunity for parents and daughters to bond and connect as we share the joy of God's abundant blessings over PLMGS in the last 109 years.

Important details of the 109th Founder's Day are as follow.

Date: Friday, 10 October 2025

Time: 7pm to 10pm

(Guests to be seated by 6.45pm. Registration from 6pm onwards.)

Venue: Orchard Hotel

Cost: \$120 for adults; \$60 per student of PLMGS (sitting in the children's

buffet section of the ballroom)

Dress Code: Shirt & tie (gentlemen) / Cocktail dress or equivalent (ladies)

If you would like to purchase tickets for the 109th Founder's Day Thanksgiving Dinner, please sign up via this link: https://tinyurl.com/plmgs109

4. CCA Training during September, November and December Holidays

There is no CCA training this September holiday except Choir which is preparing for an upcoming performance at our 109th Founder's Day. Our Choir girls were informed of the training earlier in Term 3. CCA will stand down from Tuesday 9 September for the end-of-year examinations. CCAs will resume on 16 October till 21 November 2025. CCA will also resume on 15 December for some selected CCAs. Please see the enclosed September, November and December Holidays training schedules in the Annexes.

5. Student Services during September Holidays

The school canteen, bookshop and printing services will be closed during the September school holidays.

The library will remain open as usual (except on 5 September 2025, which is Teachers' Day School Holiday) to allow girls to revise and address their learning gaps.

Opening hours for school library:

Monday - Thursday: 8.00am to 5.00pm

Friday: 8.00am – 4.30pm

Please note that the library will also be closed on 10 September 2025 for our librarian's annual training.

6. Traffic Congestion Mitigation Measures

To alleviate traffic congestion along Lorong Ah Soo during morning drop-off, parents are strongly advised to utilise alternative alighting points including the carparks at (1) HDB Blocks 138 and (2) 134/135, or (3) the Primary School back gate at Jalan Lokam. Parents are to refrain from obstructing the yellow box junction outside the carpark, as stationary vehicles cause considerable delays to vehicles exiting the carpark facilities. Distributed drop-off arrangements and adherence to traffic regulations will reduce congestion and minimise disruption to the surrounding community.



7. Highlights of Key School Events in Term 4

The following are highlights of our school's key programmes in Term 4, 2025. Our Term 4 Theme "A Friend Who Will 'Look Up, Lift Up" is supported by the monthly foci shown below.

Dates	Key Events
8 - 12 Sep (Mon - Fri)	1-Week School Holiday
8 - 9 Sep (Mon - Tue)	N-Level Intensive Revision and Consultation
15 Sep (Mon)	2025 Term 4 commences Principal's Welcome Address
15 - 23 Sep 6 - 14 Oct	GCE N-Level Written Examinations https://file.go.gov.sg/2025-gce-na-nt-level-exam-timetable.pdf
26 Sep (Fri)	2025 Baccalaureate Service & Graduation Ceremony for graduating students
	Sec 4/5 last formal day of reporting in school Sec 1-3 dismissed at 10.30 am
29 Sep (Mon)	Phase 2 Intensive Lessons for Sec 4N Small Group Consultation and Revision for Sec 4/5
	8 - 12 Sep (Mon - Fri) 8 - 9 Sep (Mon - Tue) 15 Sep (Mon) 15 - 23 Sep 6 - 14 Oct 26 Sep (Fri)

	26 Sep (Fri) - 8	Sec 1 – 3 End-Of-Year Examinations
	Oct (Wed)	https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/2025-secondary-1-to-3-eoy-exams-timetable/
Oct: Look Up	1 - 14 Oct	GCE O-Level Science Practical Examinations
to God		
to God	8 Oct (Wed)	GCE O-Level EL Listening Comprehension
N /D 1:6	9, 13 Oct (Thur,	Marking Days
Nov/Dec: Lift	Mon)	
Up our	10 Oct (Fri)	109 th Founder's Day Celebrations
Praises	14 Oct (Tue)	Home-Based Learning (Sec 1 – 3)
	15 Oct (Wed)	2026 Sec 3 Subject Combination online resources for
	, ,	Sec 2 students and parents (available on website)
	16 Oct (Thur) -	GCE O-Level Written Examinations
	10 Nov (Mon)	https://file.go.gov.sg/2025-gce-o-level-exam-timetable.pdf
	20 Oct (Mon)	Deepavali Holiday
	21 - 24 Oct (Tue	End-Of-Year WRAP UP Programme (Sec 1 – 3)
	- Fri)	*Details will be provided on a later date.
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	24 Oct (Fri)	Term 4 Farewell Assembly
		End-Of-Year Prize Presentation
		Last Day of 2025 School Year
	27 - 31 Oct (Mon	Sec 1-3 Bridging and Head-Start Learning (selected
	- Fri)	students)
	3 - 7 Nov (Mon -	Online self-paced learning S1-3
	Fri)	
	6 - 8 Nov (Wed -	PL Mega Camp for Student Leaders
	Sat)	
	12 Nov (Wed)	Cambridge Dinner for Sec 4/5
	22 Nov (Sat)	PLMGS(Sec) Open House and Principal's
	, ,	Engagement Session with primary school students and
		parents
	18 - 22 Dec	Release of 2025 N-Level Results (tbc)
	10 22 200	1 tologo ol 2020 it 2010 i toogilo (180)
	3 rd - 4 th week	Release of 2026 Sec 1 Posting Results
	Dec	2026 Sec 1 Registration Day (tbc)
	1 Jan 2026	New Year's Day
	(Thur)	Tion Tour 5 Day
2026 Theme:	2 Jan 2026 (Fri)	2026 School Year starts
ONE Perfect		Term 1 Welcome Assembly as PLMGS celebrates our
10 in Christ		110 th Anniversary!
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Every Mon morning, 7.30am at SFE Room or 8am via Zoom	PrayingParents@PL meets every Monday morning either in school (SFE Room) or via Zoom, for a time of prayer and fellowship. If you are interested to join, please email Mrs Yolanda Gooi at yolagooi@gmail.com.
Once a term	Fathers@School. is a father-centric group set up to encourage active and involved fathering in PL through purposeful activities and workshops designed to strengthen father-daughter relationships. If you are interested to join, please email Mr Sebastian Teo at sebastian.teoch@gmail.com.

Please check the school website (http://plmgss.moe.edu.sg) for regular updates on the school programmes and other administrative matters. Do also follow us on our Facebook page for the happenings in and around the school (https://www.facebook.com/PAYALEBARMGS).

8. Suggestion for Parents this September Holidays

As the one-week September holiday approaches, I encourage you to help your daughter use the break meaningfully. Beyond revision, it can be a time for rest, family connection, and healthy routines. You may find these resources helpful:

- **MOE Parent Kit** (https://www.moe.gov.sg/parentkit) bite-sized guides on how parents can support their child's well-being and learning.
- **HealthHub Singapore** (https://www.healthhub.sg) practical tips on stress management, sleep, and healthy living.
- **Mindline at Work** (https://mindline.sg/youth) an interactive site with self-care strategies and mental wellness resources for youths.

Together, may we help our girls grow not only in knowledge, but also in confidence and joy.

Yours faithfully, Ms Amy Ng Principal