



7 March 2018

# Principal's Letter to Parents

## Term 1, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The new school term has passed so quickly. We are thankful that the girls have settled down into the new school year and have continued to learn and grow up through the experiences that they have gone through this term.

### 1. Developing Executive Functions

Most girls I speak to, feel sufficiently mature to run their own lives. However, we see them being disorganized. They may not be responsible enough to understand the urgency of a task that they are given. Some lack the drive and motivation to exhibit on-task behaviours etc. Many of them, especially at lower secondary levels, need plodding by teachers or family members to get things done. As they grow up, they will continue to develop a set of mental skills that will help them carry out tasks to reach a final goal. This set of special skills is named **Executive Functions**.

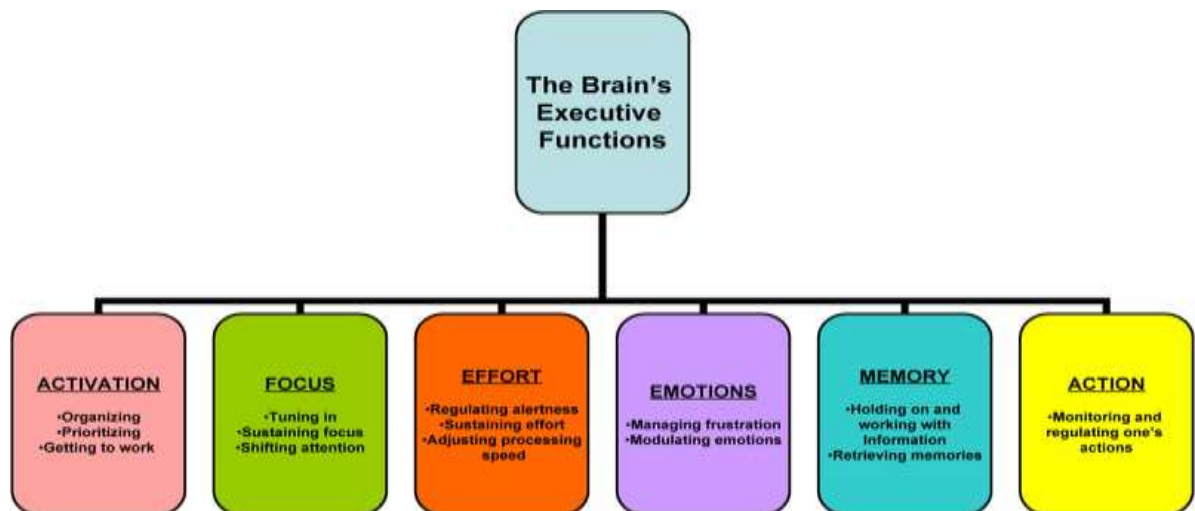


Image taken from <https://www.smartspeechtherapy.com/the-executive-functions-test-elementary-what-slp-s-and-parents-need-to-know/>

The research into helping to promote executive functions in our youths lists some useful practices that both school and home can encourage the girls to adopt. The following from Center for the Developing Child in Harvard University, is a useful reading written specially for us who parent adolescents:

<https://46y5eh11fhgw3ve3ytpwxt9r-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Activities-for-Adolescents.pdf>

I share this reading to help us learn how to continue to support the growth of our daughters.

## 2. Term 1 Results

Please be informed that the girls will be receiving their Term 1 Result slips on Thurs, 8 Mar 2018. Please use the March hols to help your daughters review her growth in learning and take proactive measures to close her learning gaps.

Terms	CA1	SA1	CA2	SA2
<b>Sec 1 – 3 Assessment</b>	Graded Assignments/ Projects/ Class Quizzes	T2 Common Tests	Graded Assignments/ Projects/ Class Quizzes	EOY Exams
<b>Sec 1 – 3 Assessment Weighting</b>	10%	30%	10%	50%
<b>Sec 4E/4N/5NA Assessment</b>	<b>T1 CT</b>	<b>T2 Prep Exam</b>	—	<b>T3 Prelim</b>

## 3. GCE N- and O-Level Examinations for Coursework Subjects

Coursework is a major component for subjects such as Art, Design and Technology, Food and Nutrition, Food Studies and Elements of Business Studies as shown in the table below.

Subjects	Weighting of Coursework	National Submission Deadlines
GCE N(T) Elements of Business Skills	40%	11 May 2018, 5 pm
GCE N(T) Design and Technology	70%	13 August 2018, 5 pm
GCE N(T) Food Studies	40%	9 July 2018, 5 pm
GCE N(A)-Level Food and Nutrition	60%	9 July 2018, 5 pm
GCE O-Level Art	60%	17 September 2018, 5 pm
GCE O-Level Food and Nutrition	60%	13 July 2018, 5 pm

Quality results for these subjects require commitment and consistent effort on the part of the candidates. It is thus essential for the graduating girls to adhere to the project timeline in order to complete and submit quality coursework as part of the national examination requirements.

## 4. Aptitude-based admissions exercises for O- and N-Level students

The following are upcoming aptitude-based admissions exercise that allows students to apply for and receive conditional offers for admission to polytechnics/ITE prior to receiving their final national exam grades. It allows the polytechnics and ITE greater flexibility to select and admit students based on their aptitudes and interests, apart from academic grades, thus allowing a wider range of talents to be recognised.

- **DSA – JC**  
Please check the individual school website for the application period and procedures as they can vary from school to school  
(<https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/direct-admissions/dsa-jc>)
- **EAE – Polytechnics**  
Application timeline: end June 2018 (please check website in June)  
(<https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/direct-admissions/eae>)
- **EAE- ITE**  
Application timeline: end June 2018 (please check website in June)  
(<https://www.moe.gov.sg/admissions/direct-admissions/ite-eae>)

In Term 2, the Sec 4 and 5 girls who are interested to apply for DSA or EAE will start to prepare their application letters and portfolios. All girls preparing their applications must be clear about their passion areas and strengths (Use SkillsFuture portal and the RIASEC profiles <https://www.myskillsfuture.sg/content/student/en/secondary.html>) and write intentionally with specific examples why they are applying for the identified courses.

## 5. Upcoming Overseas Trips

The school will be organizing the following trips to deepen the girls' acquisition of 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies through rich learning experiences outside the classroom. Recruitment for these trips will be conducted when school reopens. More details on each trip will be given to the girls during the recruitment process. We will continue to be sensitive to the situations in the proposed countries and make changes to our plans whenever necessary to ensure safety.

- Overseas Faithful-In-Service 2018 (Brunei); 20/05/2018 to 23/05/2018
- Overseas Faithful-In-Service 2018 (Vietnam); 19/05/2018 to 23/05/2018
- English-Literature Cultural Immersion Trip (Australia, Melbourne); 28/05/2018 to 03/06/2018
- Twinning Programme - Kyung Hee Girls' High School (S Korea, Seoul); 27/05/2018 to 01/06/2018
- Mother-Tongue Cultural Immersion Trip (Taiwan, Taipei); 29/05/2018 to 04/06/2018
- Student Leadership & Cultural Immersion Trip (Malaysia, Penang); 09/07/2018 to 13/07/2018

## 6. Highlights of Key School Events in Term 2

The following are highlights of our school's key programmes in Term 2 2018:

Date	Key Events
19 Mar 2018 (Mon)	Term 2 starts Special Guest speaker: Dr Wee Hong Ling ( <a href="http://a-list.sg/profile-wee-hong-ling/">http://a-list.sg/profile-wee-hong-ling/</a> ) Annual Health Team Vist
21 Mar 2018 (Wed)	Welcome Assembly Fathers@School Anniversary
23 Mar 2018 (Fri)	Homecoming 2018 (Sec 4&5 2017 cohort)
28 Mar 2018 (Wed)	EAE Briefing for Sec 4/5 students
30 Mar 2018 (Fri)	Good Friday
1 Apr 2018 (Sun)	Easter Sunday
5 Apr 2018 (Thur)	Sec 4 and 5 EL Oral begins

Date	Key Events
6 Apr 2018 (Fri)	International Friendship Day
7 Apr 2018 (Sat)	A Special Day with Dad @ Fullerton Hotel
9 Apr 2018 (Mon)	N(T)-Level F&N Practical Exam
9-13 Apr 2018	Sec 3 NA/NT OBS
10 Apr 2018 (Tues)	O-Level F&N Practical Exam
13 Apr 2018 (Fri)	Sec 4 and 5 NAPFA Test
14 Apr 2018 (Sat)	Principal's Brunch with Parents
16-20 Apr 2018	Sec 3 Express OBS
18 Apr 2018 (Wed)	Sec 4E/5N/4N MT Oral Exam begins
20 Apr 2018 (Fri)	Sec 3 Subject Combination Briefing for Sec 2E/NA/NT students and parents (6.30 pm – 9 pm)  CCA Stand Down for S4/5
25 Apr 2018 (Wed)	Prefects' Installation
1 May 2018 (Tues)	Labour Day
2-14 May 2018	Sec 4/5 Prep Exam
2-8 May 2018	Sec 1-3 Common Tests
18 May 2018 (Fri)	S4/5 ECG Conference
19 May 2018 (Sat)	PSSG parents' Workshop on 'Children in New Media' (TBC)
24 May 2018 (Thur)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec 1-4/5 Teacher-Meets-Parents (<i>Collection of Report Books; PL-Lites are to come with parents to see their teachers to review their growth in the term</i>)</li> <li>• Post-Secondary Educational Institutes Fair (8 am - 5 pm)</li> </ul>
15-25 May 2018	S4E/5N MTL Intensive Revision
25 May 2018 (Fri)	Last day of Term 2
28 May 2018 (Fri)	GCE O-Level MT Exam
30 May – 1 June 2018	Sec 4/5 Revision Lessons
18 – 22 June 2018	Sec 4/5 Consultation with Teachers

Every Mon morning, 7.30 a.m. – 8.30 a.m.	<i>PrayingParents@PL</i> meets every Monday morning, 7.30 a.m. – 8.30 a.m. at the SFE room for a time of prayer and fellowship
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed of the month 7.30 a.m. – 8.30 a.m.	<i>Fathers@School</i> holds its monthly breakfast bonding session every third Wednesday of the month, 7.30 a.m. – 8.30 a.m. at the SFE room

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 Youtube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYt7DqDzahirCcpQI7hcxo9g>) and our Facebook page for the happenings in and around the school (<https://www.facebook.com/PLMGSAumni/>).

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

Warmest Regards,

*Mrs Quek*

Principal, PLMGS (Sec)