

18 March 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

#### **INFORMATION AND PROGRAMMES FOR TERM 2 2024**

Welcome back to Term 2! We hope your child/ward has had a fruitful March Holidays and is ready to learn and excel in the new term.

We are sad to share that the First Principal of Changkat Changi Secondary School (CCSS), Mr Eugene Wijeysingha, passed away on 2 March. CCSS is the first school that Mr Wijeysingha had led as a Principal. He went on to serve as Principal at Temasek Junior College and then Raffles Institution. In between the tenures, he also held several positions in the Ministry of Education, such as assistant director of education and deputy director for school organization. He will always be fondly remembered as Principal of CCSS from 1967 to 1973. He embodied humility in his leadership and inspired others to emulate him. As the First Principal of CCSS, he had laid the strong foundations for CCSS to thrive and flourish today. Our Changkat family extends our heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones.

From 1966 till today, under the steady leadership of Mr Wijeysingha and previous Principals, Changkat Changi Secondary School has grown from strength to strength. I am pleased to share with you that CCSS is one of 18 schools in Singapore specially selected to be hosting school for the upcoming International Summit on the Teaching Profession (ISTP). Other selected schools include Raffles Institution, National Junior College, School of Science and Technology, Singapore Sports School and Commonwealth Secondary School. ISTP brings together education ministers, union leaders and other teacher leaders from high-performing and rapidly improving education systems to identify best practices and engage in open conversations on how best to strengthen the teaching profession and raise student achievement. Singapore was invited to the 13<sup>th</sup> ISTP last year held in Washington D.C., USA. The Ministry of Education, Singapore will co-host the 14<sup>th</sup> ISTP with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and Education International (EI), from 22 to 24 April 2024. The theme for this ISTP is 'Reimagining Education, Realising Potential'. CCSS is proud to be part of this international summit on education and showcase our educational best practices to the world!

Changkateers continue to strive for excellence. Five of our Changkateers (Lucas Tan Guan Hong, Phang Jun Qi, Loo Wen Xin from 3A, Rico Tan Jun Hong from 3B and Nur Iqmal Yaqin Bin Shaerul Nizam from 3D) recently took part in the annual F1 Challenge @ Hwa Chong Institution. The team had to design their F1 race car from scratch and put it through various tests in speed, design and popularity. They did well and obtained 3<sup>rd</sup> position overall. At the National School Games 2024, our 'B' Division Sepak Takraw boys played with resilience to achieve 4<sup>th</sup> position overall. We are proud of all our students' achievements!

At the recent 'O' Level results release, 98% of our students are eligible for studies in postsecondary institutions (Junior College/Millennia Institute/Polytechnic/Institute of Technical Education). Many subjects have performed better than last year's percentage passes. In particular, the Sec 4 Express cohort had achieved 100% passes in Art, Biology, Chemistry, Higher



Chinese, Higher Malay, Higher Tamil, Literature in English and Physics, while the Sec 5 Normal (Academic) cohort had achieved 100% passes in Additional Mathematics, Chinese Language, Design & Technology, Humanities (Social Studies/History), Malay Language, Nutrition and Food Science, Principles of Accounts and Tamil Language. This is an affirmation of the hard work our teachers have put in to support our students.

In Term 2, our Secondary One Changkateers will receive their Personal Learning Devices (PLD). The school has chosen the iPad to be the PLD as it is a powerful tool to inspire learning and it is light and portable. We believe, that through the use of the iPad and a Blended Learning approach, this will support the development of digital literacies and develop your child/ward to be self-directed learners.

Changkat Changi Secondary School will be celebrating our 58th Anniversary this year. Our 58th Anniversary theme is "Lead with Respect, Serve with Humility". We hope that staff and students are able to value learning from one another, being of service to others and encouraging others to succeed. We listen keenly and ask curious questions so that we stay humble. While doing so, we hope everyone can respect the community so that we can build a safe and supportive school community.

In May, CCSS will be leading two student exchange overseas trips – one to Lycee Saint-Exupery in Toulouse, France and another to Ji Nan Shi Er Zhong in Shandong, China. Both schools have been our long-term partner schools. Through these student exchange trips, we hope to develop in Changkateers confidence, deepen their understanding of foreign cultures and broaden their global perspectives.

Term 2 promises to be an exciting term as the pursuit of excellence and the holistic development of Changkateers remain our priority. We look forward to your partnership, and the key information under the following areas are for your attention:

#### 1. Ensuring Safety and Security of Students

#### 1.1 Health Precautions

All students who have travelled out of Singapore during the March holidays are to wear a mask and seek medical attention promptly if they become unwell or develop respiratory symptoms such as cough or runny nose. They should also inform the doctor of their travel history.

It has been more than a year since the Disease Outbreak Response System Condition (DORSCON) level was adjusted to Green on 13 February 2023. During this time, we have been living with COVID-19 as an endemic disease and weathered two major infection waves without the need to impose further restrictions.

We seek the support of all parents/guardians and students to keep up to date with their vaccination and exercise social responsibility. In this way, we can continue to protect ourselves, our families, our friends and staff in school.



#### 1.2 Road Safety

Parents/guardians are encouraged to remind your child/ward on the importance of road safety inside and outside of the school. We seek your understanding to follow the correct traffic flow within the school compound and drop your child/ward only at the designated drop-off point at the foyer. Please also adhere to the speed limit (15 km/hr) in school especially when negotiating the right turn to the school drop off point at the foyer. To reduce congestion during wet weather, parents/guardians are to proceed toward the furthest end of the drop-off point so that more cars can be accommodated under the shelter. Parents/guardians are also reminded that right turns at the school gate is prohibited from 6.30 am to 8.00 am. If your child/ward is taking public transport, please also remind him/her to use the zebra crossings and designated footpaths when they are walking from the gate to the school building. Please encourage your child/ward to avoid crossing our school main gate during the peak period from 7.00 am to 7.40 am.

#### 1.3 Annual Health Check

The Annual Health Check by the School Health Service, Health Promotion Board, will be conducted for all Secondary 1 and 2 students from 1 April to 9 April 2024. Further details will be given to your child/ward nearer the date.

#### 2. <u>Developing Self Discipline and Responsibility</u>

#### 2.1 Handphone and Personal Learning Device (PLD) Policy

To nurture an environment conducive for teaching and learning, students are strongly discouraged from bringing expensive handphones or smartwatches. Should students decide to bring these devices to school, they must take personal responsibility to care for their own belongings and valuables. Students are encouraged to ensure PLDs are fully charged from home for use in school.

To encourage focus on learning, all handphones are to be kept and securely locked in your child/ward's personal locker during lesson time. Handphones may only be used at designated times and zones, namely the classrooms, the canteen and the foyer, during recess and before/after school.

The school takes a firm stand towards the misuse of handphones and PLDs in the school premises. Kindly remind your child/ward that handphones and PLDs will be confiscated by teachers should they be used in contravention of the school's guidelines.

#### 2.2 Responsible and Positive Behaviour

The school ensures a safe and conducive environment by reminding all students to show care and concern towards one another, school staff and members of the public. Students must not upload any materials (e.g. pictures, videos) onto social media or any public domain that will be harmful towards themselves, fellow school mates, staff or school.



#### 2.3 Punctuality to School

Please encourage your child/ward to plan his/her journey well. Your child/ward must be present and seated at the respective reporting venue by 7.50 am. This will inculcate the habit of punctuality and ensure that there is no loss of curriculum time due to late-coming. Students who are frequently late (6x or more) without valid reasons acceptable by the school will face disciplinary consequences such as suspension from school and/or a Fair conduct grade.

#### 2.4 Absenteeism

The school places great emphasis on student learning and hence strongly discourages frequent absenteeism as such behaviour disrupts the child's learning and affects his/her performance. Together with your support, we can develop and inculcate in your child/ward the right attitude towards school and learning, which he/she will carry with him/her in his/her future work and endeavours.

We seek your support to monitor your child's/ward's attendance closely and ensure he/she does not stay away from school wilfully. Absenteeism should be substantiated with valid reasons or documents. Students who are absent without valid reasons will face disciplinary consequences such as suspension from school and/or a Fair conduct grade.

#### 2.5 Attire and Grooming

All students must have proper grooming and attire. Hairstyle, hair colour and hair length must adhere to the school expectations as stated in the Students' Handbook.

All students are reminded that school shirts/blouses and House T-shirts must have nametags sewn on as stated in our Student's Handbook. Failure to do so may result in the need for disciplinary action.

Students are also reminded to arrive in school in their proper school skirts/shorts/pants. Students must not wear PE shorts when coming to school. PE shorts are only to be worn during PE lessons and/or CCA.

## 2.6 CCA Stand Down for 4E/5NA/4NA

All Sec 4E/5N/4NA students will stand down from their CCAs from 5 April 2024. Students who are participating in the National School Games (NSG) competition or other competitions will stand down from their CCA after the event or 5 April 2024, whichever comes later.

#### 3 Important Examination Matters and Term 2 Events

#### 3.1 Schedule of Examination Dates for 2024

Test & Exam	Dates
Weighted Assessment 2	15 April to 10 May
GCE O Level Written Mother Tongue Exam	27 May



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Test & Exam	Dates	
GCE O Level Written Mother Tongue B Exam		
Weighted Assessment 3	22 July to 23 August	
Sec 4NA Preliminary Exams	22 July, 26 July, 29 July to 2 August	
Sec 4E and 5NA Preliminary Exams	15 August (Science Practical)	
	19 August to 28 August	
End-of-Year Exams (Sec 1 to 3)	23 September	
	26 September to 7 October	
GCE N Level Exams (Written)	9 September to 19 September	
	30 September to 8 October	
GCE O Science Practical Exams	2 October to 15 October	
GCE O Level Exams (Written)	17 October to 11 November	

The schedule for Weighted Assessments for the respective subjects and levels will be given out separately.

## 3.2 Progress and Completion of Coursework for GCE 'N' and 'O' Level

The coursework component for the GCE 'N' and 'O' Level Examination subjects is key to the overall performance for the relevant subjects. The completion of the coursework relies heavily on the students' self-discipline, perseverance in ensuring consistent effort and monitoring of their own progress. We seek your continued involvement in ensuring that your child/ward completes his/her coursework according to the deadlines. We also seek your understanding and cooperation if we need your child/ward to stay back after school for his/her coursework. The deadlines for the coursework subjects are as follows:

Subject	Stream	Date
Art	4NA(6125)	1 August, 5pm
Ait	4EXP/5NA(6123)	16 September, 5pm
Nutrition and Food Science	4NA(6073)	8 July, 5pm
Nutrition and Food Science	4EXP(6097)	29 July, 5 pm
Design and Technology	4NA(7055)	12 July, 5pm
Design and Technology	4EXP/5NA(7059)	26 July, 5pm

## **3.3 Upcoming School Events and Important Dates**

Please find the upcoming school events and important dates for the respective levels in Term 2 in the table below for your information.

Level	Stream	Programmes	Dates	Remarks
Sec 1	All	House Meeting #2	18 April	Curriculum Time
	All	Wellness Week*	16 - 23 May	
	All	Meet the Parents	23 - 24 May	
Sec 2	All	House Meeting #2	18 April	Curriculum Time



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Level	Stream	Programmes	Dates	Remarks
	All	Wellness Week*	16 - 23 May	
	All	NAPFA 2.4km Run Test	22 Apr	PM
	All	Meet the Parents	23 - 24 May	
Sec 3	All	House Meeting #2	18 April	Curriculum Time
	All	Wellness Week*	16 - 23 May	
	All	Meet the Parents	23 - 24 May	
Sec	All	House Meeting #2	18 April	Curriculum Time
4/5	All	Meet the Parents	23 - 24 May	
	4E and	MT Intensive Lessons	16 - 23 May	Curriculum Time
	5NA			
	All	NAPFA 2.4km Run Test	23 Apr	PM

\* More details on Wellness Week will be provided in a separate letter.

#### 4 Partnerships and Collaboration

#### **Deepening our Partnership with Parents/Guardians**

The partnership between school and parents/guardians is important to the learning and development of your child/ward. We hope to continue to work closely with parents/guardians to forge a deep partnership so as to achieve the vision of helping our students to *Learn with Passion, Serve with Humility and Succeed with Integrity.* The following are key events in our calendar for Term 2, and we look forward to your active partnership:

S/N	Name of Event	Date
1	58 <sup>th</sup> Annual Speech & Prize Giving Day and Student	5 April
	Leaders' Investiture	
2	Sec 1–5 Meet-the-Parents' Session/Briefing	23 and 24 May

Parents/guardians are encouraged to join the Changkat Changi Parents Support Group (CCSS PSG) and continue to play an active part in our school activities.

All in all, we aim to provide a positive school experience for your child/ward and look forward to your support to develop your child/ward holistically.

This term letter can be downloaded from the school's website. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

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Mr Ho Ming Da Principal, Changkat Changi Secondary School