



4 Sep 2019

# Principal's Letter to Parents

## Thanksgiving for Term 3, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Warmest greetings to all!

### 1. Thanksgiving: 2019 Mother Tongue (MT) Results (June Sitting)

We want to thank our parents for your partnership in grounding our girls in the MT languages. This will continue to be one of our focus areas in PL(Sec) as we seek to build up our girls' bilingual capacities.

The Sec 4/Sec 5 girls received their GCE O-Level 2019 Mother Tongue Results (2019 June Sitting) on 22 Aug 2019. We thank God for:

- 100% passes in Sec 4E Chinese Language cohort with 33% of them receiving distinction grades (A1, A2) and 73% of them receiving at least a B3 grade.
- 100% passes for the Sec 4E/5NA Malay Language cohort with 50% of them receiving distinction grades.
- 90.9% of the Sec 4E/5NA Tamil Language cohort passed with 10% of them receiving distinction grades.

For girls who want to retake the MT Paper 1 and Paper 2 written exams, the next sitting will be on 6 Nov 2019 during the GCE O-Level exam period.

### 2. Thanksgiving: 2019 Special Awards

We are so proud of Yu Hao Lin (Class of 2018, currently in Raffles Institution) who received the prestigious Prime Minister's Book Prize from Ms Indranee Rajah at the 2019 Special Awards Presentation Ceremony held on 27 Aug 2019. The Prime Minister's Book Prize is awarded to top students to promote effective bilingualism in schools. Over the last few years, God has blessed PL(Sec) richly in enabling our PL-Lites to be awarded the highest national awards:



<b>MOE Special Awards</b>	<b>PL- Lites</b>
2007 Lee Kuan Yew Award for All-Round Excellence	Rachel Destinee Lee (Class of 2006)
2010 Lee Kuan Yew Award for Outstanding Normal Course	Chong Cheryl (Class of 2009)
2014 Lee Kuan Yew Award for Outstanding Normal Course	Mavis Saw Kai Lin (Class of 2013)
2016 Lee Kuan Yew Award for Outstanding Normal Course	Saraniya D/O Panichelvam (Class of 2015)
2017 Lee Kuan Yew Award for All-Round Excellence	Hannah Quek (Class of 2016)
2018 Lee Kuan Yew Award for All-Round Excellence	Ling Yin (Class of 2017)
2019 Prime Minister's Book Prize	Yu Hao Lin (Class of 2018)

### 3. Full Subject-Based Banding Pilot School

I would like to inform you that our school has been selected as one of the 28 pilot schools for Full Subject-Based Banding (Full SBB). This pilot will only involve the 2020 Sec 2 NA cohort, and while your child will not be involved in these changes, we thought it would be useful to provide you with general information about this pilot initiative for your awareness. There is no follow-up action required by you and your child, if your daughter is not in the 2020 Sec 2 NA cohort.






Please see **Annex A** for more details of this Full SBB Pilot.

### 4. 2020 Joint Admissions Exercise (JAE) for Sec 4E/5NA Students

With effect from 2020 JAE, students will be logging in to JAE-Internet System (JAE-IS) using SingPass (instead of their JAE Pin) to register for their JAE course choices, and subsequently to view their posting results. This is to align with the government initiative to use SingPass as the authentication mode to access government digital services. In preparation for the JAE, MOE has worked with SingPass agency to create SingPass accounts for Sec 4E and Sec 5NA students who have registered for 2019 GCE O-Level examinations (exclude Student Pass Holders who are not eligible for SingPass). Students who are issued a SingPass account would have received a PIN mailer sent to their home address. They are required to complete the setup of the SingPass account within 30 days upon receiving the PIN mailer.

### 5. Promoting Cyber wellness

On 21 Aug 2019, some of our parents attended the '*Parenting in the Digital Age*' talk organised by the Media Literacy Council and SUTD, supported by Google. There was very good feedback given, as the parents related to me what they learnt. The following are some useful resources for the top three issues raised at the talk:

S/N	Questions	Media Literacy Council's resources	Hyperlink
1	<p><b>Smartphone Usage</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “When should I allow my children to have their own phone?”</li> <li>• “How do I know if my child is ready for a smartphone?”</li> <li>• “What kind of rules can I set for my child when using the phone?”</li> <li>• “Are there apps I can use to protect my child?”</li> <li>• “I know some schools require the use of phones, but I am worried for my child.”</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.betterinternet.sg/parents-guides/smartphone-parent-guide">What is the right age to give my child a smartphone?</a></p>  <p><a href="#">Cliques Click</a></p> 	<p><a href="https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/Smartphone-Parent-Guide.pdf">https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/Smartphone-Parent-Guide.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/Clique-Click.pdf">https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/Clique-Click.pdf</a></p>
2	<p><b>Screen time</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “How do we manage a child's screen time?”</li> <li>• “Any tips to guide a child on managing his/her screen time?”</li> <li>• “What is your opinion about screen time on educational apps on ipad/mobile devices for children? My child is 4 years old and enjoys colouring, matching etc.”</li> <li>• “How do I know if my kid is addicted?”</li> <li>• “For parents with preschool kids, how can they better engage their preschooler in the area of screen time. How do we balance the pros and cons for the young minds.”</li> <li>• “What are examples of limit setting strategies parents can use with their children?”</li> <li>• “How do parents role model appropriate screen usage given that many are not exactly shining examples when it comes to this?”</li> </ul>	<p><a href="https://www.betterinternet.sg/parents-guides/parent-guide-graphic">How much time should my child spend staring at screens?</a></p>  <p><a href="#">A Parent's Guide to keeping Children Safe &amp; Smart Online</a></p> 	<p><a href="https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/ParentGuideGraphicUpdated29-July.pdf">https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/ParentGuideGraphicUpdated29-July.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/Safe-and-Smart-Online-Parent-Guide.pdf">https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Parents-Guides/Safe-and-Smart-Online-Parent-Guide.pdf</a></p>
3	<p><b>Cyber-Bullying</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “How do u define cyber bullying? Is vulgar messages on Whatsapp or reposting someone's picture on social media considered to be cyber bullying?”</li> <li>• “A child was often bullied. One example of online bullying - once someone added him to a chat group, many others leave the platform. What do you suggest for him to overcome this?”</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Educator's Guide to Cyber-bullying</a></p> 	<p><a href="https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Educators-Guides/Educators-Guide-to-Cyber-bullying--final.pdf">https://www.betterinternet.sg/-/media/Resources/PDFs/Educators-Guides/Educators-Guide-to-Cyber-bullying--final.pdf</a></p>

## 6. PLMGS 103rd Founder's Day Thanksgiving Dinner 2019

I would like to invite you to join us for our 103rd Founder's Day Thanksgiving Dinner. It will be a wonderful opportunity for parents and daughters, CCA and parent support groups to bond and connect as we share the joy of God's abundant blessings over PLMGS in the last 103 years.

If you would like to purchase tickets, please sign up via this link: <http://bit.ly/2SZav80> and submit your payment at the School General Office before 20 September 2019.

- Date:** Friday, 11 October 2019
- Time:** 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
(Guests to be seated by 6.45 p.m. Registration from 6 p.m. onwards)
- Venue:** The Fairmont Singapore, Stamford Ballroom, Raffles City Convention Centre, Level 4
- Cost:** \$100 for adults ; \$50 per student of PLMGS (sitting in the children's buffet section of the ballroom)
- Dress Code:** Shirt & tie (Gentlemen) / Cocktail dress or equivalent (Ladies)

## 7. Highlights of Key School Events in Term 4

The following are highlights of our school's key programmes in Term 4, 2019:

*Note: Cells in grey are specific information relating to our Sec 4/5 PL-Lites  
Cells in **Bold** are Public or School Holidays*

Monthly Themes	Dates	Key Events
Honour Effort (Be Innovative, Be Outward Focused)	22 Aug – 2 Sep 2019	PLMGS(Sec) O-Level Prelim Exams
	22 Aug 2019 (Thu)	E-Learning Day II
	28 - 30 Aug 2019	PLMGS(Sec) Sec 2 MT Oral Exam
	5 Sep 2019 (Thu)	Official Last day of Term 3 Farewell Assembly, ACES day Teachers' Day Celebrations
	<b>6 Sep 2019 (Fri)</b>	<b>Teachers' Day School Holiday</b>
	<b>9 – 13 Sep 2019</b>	<b>Sep School Holidays</b>
	9 – 10 Sep 2019 (Mon-Tue)	Sec 4N Intensive Revision
	11 Sept - 8 Oct 2019	Sec 1 - 3 CCA stand down season
Honour Achievement (Be the Best We Can Be, Be Forward Looking)	16 Sep 2019 (Mon)	Praying Parents Appreciation Breakfast
	16 – 25 Sep 2019 7 – 18 Oct 2019	GCE N-Level Written Exam <a href="https://www.seab.gov.sg/docs/default-source/examination-timetable/2019gcenexamtimetable_25022019.pdf">https://www.seab.gov.sg/docs/default-source/examination-timetable/2019gcenexamtimetable_25022019.pdf</a>
	17 - 20 Sep 2019	Sec 3 EOY Science Practical Exam
	26 – 27 Sep 2019	Sec 3 EL and MT End-of-Year Exams
	27 Sep 2019 (Fri)	Sec 4 Baccalaureate Service Last Official day for 4N students (Study Break begins)

Monthly Themes	Dates	Key Events
	30 Sep – 8 Oct 2019	Sec 1, Sec 2 and Sec 3 End-of-Year Exams
	4 Oct 2019 (Fri)	<i>(Intensive lessons: - 30 Sept - 4 Oct 2019)</i> Last Official day for Sec 4.1, Sec 4.2 and Sec 4.3 (Study Break begins)
	8 Oct 2019 (Tue)	<i>(Intensive lessons: 30 Sept - 1 Oct, 4 Oct and 7 – 8 Oct)</i> Last Official Day for Sec 4.4, Sec 4.5 and Sec 5.1 (Study Break begins)
	2 – 8 Oct 2019	Intensive revision for selected group of 4E/5N students
	9 – 10 Oct 2019	Marking Days (Students do not need to report to school)
	11 Oct 2019 (Fri)	PLMGS 103rd Founder's Day Thanksgiving Service (All Sec 1- Sec 3 PL-Lites are to report to school)
	11 Oct 2019 (Fri)	PLMGS 103rd Founder's Day Thanksgiving and Reunion Dinner at Fairmont Singapore (Please sign up via this link: <a href="http://bit.ly/2SZav80">http://bit.ly/2SZav80</a> )
	19 Oct 2019 (Sat)	PSSG Family Day @ Sentosa (8.45 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
	21 Oct 2019 (Mon)	Parents Appreciation Breakfast
	21 Oct – 15 Nov 2019	GCE O-Level Written Exam <a href="https://www.seab.gov.sg/docs/default-source/examination-timetable/2019gceexamtimetable_09042019904a8759b0c1424c96287f07c451b768.pdf">https://www.seab.gov.sg/docs/default-source/examination-timetable/2019gceexamtimetable_09042019904a8759b0c1424c96287f07c451b768.pdf</a>
	23 Oct 2019 (Wed)	Christmas Service
	24 Oct 2019 (Thur)	P6 Fun Day
	25 Oct 2019 (Fri)	Last Day of School for Sec 1-3 PL-Lites
	<b>27 &amp; 28 Oct 2019</b>	<b>Deepavali Holidays</b>
	2 Nov 2019 (Sat)	Talk for P6 Parents on "Understanding the Sec and Post-Sec education Landscape"
	4 - 7 Nov 2019	PL Mega Camp for Student Leaders
	18 Nov 2019 (Mon)	Cambridge Dinner (for Sec 4/5)
	21 - 25 Nov 2019	(Tentative) Release of PSLE results
	19 - 23 Dec 2019	(Tentative) Release of N-Level results <a href="https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/important-dates-for-candidates#board_1">https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/important-dates-for-candidates#board_1</a>
	20, 23 or 24 Dec 2019	(Tentative) Release of 2019 S1 posting results <a href="https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/national-examinations/national-exams-timetable#psle">https://www.moe.gov.sg/education/national-examinations/national-exams-timetable#psle</a> 2020 Sec 1 Reporting day - Next working day after release of posting results
	<b>24 - 25 Dec 2019</b>	<b>Christmas Eve and Christmas Day</b>
	26, 27 and 30 Dec 2019	Prefects/Peer Lite Camp for Sec 1 Orientation Prep
In Praise and Gladness	<b>1 Jan 2020 (Wed)</b>	<b>New Year's Day</b>
	2 Jan 2020 (Thur)	(Week 0) First Day of the New 2020 Academic Year
	13 – 15 Jan 2020	(Tentative) Release of O-Level results <a href="https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/important-dates-for-candidates#board_1">https://www.seab.gov.sg/home/examinations/important-dates-for-candidates#board_1</a>

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.
23 Sep – 4 Oct 2019 Every Mon - Fri 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.	<i>Term 4 Night Study Programme @ School Library 'PL Book-tique'</i> will be held everyday in Term 4 Week 2 and Week 3 to pace our PL-Lites in their revision efforts as they work towards the year-end National or School-based Exams. Please refer to the announcement on NSP on the schools' website or on Parent Gateway for details.

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/PLMGSAumni/>).

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

Warmest Regards,

*Mrs Quek*

Principal, PLMGS(Secondary)

4 Sep 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

## FULL SUBJECT-BASED BANDING PILOT SCHOOL

I would like to inform you that PLMGS (Sec) has been selected as one of the 28 pilot schools for Full Subject-Based Banding (Full SBB). **This pilot in PLMGS(Sec) will only involve the 2019 Secondary 1 Normal (Academic) students promoted to 2020 Secondary 2 Normal (Academic).** While some of our daughters may not be involved in these changes, we thought it would be useful to provide all parents with general information about this pilot initiative for your awareness.

### Background

To provide a more customised secondary education experience for students, the Ministry of Education (MOE) will be rolling out Full SBB to secondary schools by 2024.

Full SBB will provide students with opportunities to study even more subjects at a level better suited to their strengths and interests.

28 secondary schools will start piloting aspects of Full SBB from 2020, to better prepare for the subsequent roll-out nationwide. By 2021, the pilot schools will have fully implemented the following aspects of Full SBB:

- a. Offering of Humanities subjects at a more demanding level from Secondary 2<sup>1</sup>
- b. Organising Secondary 1 form classes in new ways.

### For Our School, PLMGS(Sec)

In 2020, PLMGS(Sec) will start piloting:

#### **a. Offering Humanities subjects at a more demanding level from Secondary 2**

Students involved: 2019 Secondary 1 Normal (Academic) students promoted to 2020 Secondary 2 Normal (Academic)

- *Benefits from offering Humanities at a more demanding level*  
With this increased flexibility in customising our students' learning experience, we better recognise their strengths and nurture their intrinsic motivation to learn.

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<sup>1</sup> Humanities subjects at a more demanding level will be made available for Normal (Academic) and Normal (Technical) Secondary 2 students in the Full SBB pilot schools starting from 2020 and 2021 respectively.

## **b. Organising Secondary 1 form classes in new ways**

Students involved: 2021 Secondary 1 students

- *Benefits from new ways of organising form classes*  
This common learning experience creates a valuable setting for students to mingle, build meaningful friendships, and appreciate different perspectives. It can also help reduce the inadvertent labelling associated with streaming.

### **In Partnership**

I ask for your support in helping us implement this successfully as we fully believe this will benefit all our PL-Lites in the short and long term. Our school will spare no effort to ensure the quality of teaching and learning remains high throughout all our programmes.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs Quek*

Principal