



23 Mar 2020

Ref: BBSS20-125

Dear Parent/Guardian

1. School has re-opened for Term 2 as planned. It had been a tough term 1 with the COVID-19 outbreak and the precautionary measures that had to be taken to keep our staff and students safe. Students and staff who have travelled overseas during the March holidays have been placed on Leave of Absence (LOA) and will not report to school for 14 days upon their arrival to Singapore. Regardless, we will encourage all our students to begin the term with an end in mind and continue to adopt a positive and diligent work attitude that will help them to achieve their desired targets and goals for the year. To support them, there will be enhanced measures to continue to keep our students and staff safe.
2. The school has undergone thorough cleaning during the March holidays. Besides cleaning all frequently used contact points, attention is given to the cleaning of washrooms, ensuring hand soap is always replenished and making sure sanitary fittings such as water taps are in good working condition.
3. Here are some good news to start the new term (*Annex A* provides additional details, if any, of these achievements):

Domain	Achievement
Academic	Post-Sec Accolades: A-Level, 5 Distinctions Barnabas Sng Ren Le (4S1, 2017), Anglo-Chinese Junior College Koh Arron (4S1, 2017), National Junior College
CCA	Pinnacle Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform Groups (UGs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPCC – Gold Award NCC (Land Boys) – Distinction Award

4. In safeguarding the school environment for continued learning, the school had implemented the following from Wed, 5 Feb to maximise social distancing and ring-fence the school:
 - i) Held all morning flag-raising ceremonies in classrooms;
 - ii) Ensured social responsibility by sending students who are unwell with fever and/or flu-like symptoms home to see a doctor and recuperate at home;
 - iii) Suspended all outdoor learning journeys and activities where there is high risk of exposing students to large crowds;
 - iv) Ensure that CCAs and enrichment programmes were conducted in reduced group sizes;
 - v) Used technology such as Google Meet and YouTube Live! to conduct assembly programmes including the Student Council Presidential Election;
 - vi) Screened and registered all visitors to ensure that only those who meet MOH's guidelines are allowed into the school;
 - vii) Assigned fixed seating in classrooms with students taking up ownership to disinfect their tables and chairs daily, and special rooms weekly; and
 - viii) Staggered recesses with assigned class seating and daily wipe-down routines in the canteen and spaces that students have used.
5. With MOE's [press release](#) on 19 Mar, we will also take the following measures:
 - i) Suspend all after-school activities such as CCAs and after-school programmes until 5 Apr;
 - ii) Stand down the graduating cohort (Secondary 4 and 5 levels) from all CCAs immediately to start preparations for the national examinations;
 - iii) Cancel the Principal's Talks for parents/guardians of Secondary 2 and Secondary 4/5 students and send the slides with short accompanying notes via PG; and
 - iv) Subsume the annual cross-country event into individual class races in school during PE periods for class points to be awarded leading to the "class of the year" award in the continuation of building class spirit.

6. The rigours of our academic curriculum and programmes remains uncompromised as our teachers on Leave of Absence (LOA) will continue to engage their classes and students on LOA through broadcast and interactive technology as well as online assignments. Afternoon class remediation, programmes like STructured Remedial for At-Risk students (STAR) Programme and after-school individual consultations will continue. The Oral examinations will be rescheduled (affected students will be informed) onto CCA days to maximise social distancing. School-based assessments will continue for teachers to assess students' learning.

7. For the 2nd year since implementation, there would be no Semester Assessment 1 (SA1) except for the graduating cohort. The student-led Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) at the end of the semester on **Fri, 29 May** for all students paves the opportunity besides the regular correspondence between school-home to hear what your child has to share about his/her holistic progress in school. Do avail yourself to meet up with your child's teachers on that day.

8. The school had another successful run of Project Mi on 18 Jan. We would like to thank all parents, staff, Parent Support Group (PSG) members, alumni and community partners who had helped the school during Project Mi. This is an annual student-led Values In Action (VIA) initiative, running for the 9th year, that collects rice donations from the public and sending them to one-room flat residents and to charity organisations. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 situation, our students would not be able to continue with the next student-led VIA initiative, the 18th Blood Donation Drive which is to be held at the Bukit Batok Community Club Hall this Sat, 28 Mar.

9. To further safe-guard our school community, we seek your assistance in the following:
- i) If any household member(s) has returned from overseas within the past 14 days and develops a fever or starts to display flu-like symptoms, please ensure that he/she gets necessary medical attention as soon as possible.

While waiting for the outcome of medical diagnosis, we seek your understanding and cooperation in **informing us immediately and keeping your child/ward at home**. Please be assured that the school will minimise disruption to your child's learning by making arrangements for Home-Based Learning.

- ii) Please remind your child to exercise good personal hygiene practices, social responsibility and distancing measures even when they are not school. Students are strongly encouraged to avoid crowded places, gatherings and situations of prolonged mixing that could increase the risk of inter-class or inter-school transmission.

10. We all play an important part in times of crisis. Your vigilance and assistance will help us to keep our school as a safe place for learning for all. Thank you for your partnership and support especially for this period. Have a pleasant and healthy term ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mr Phua Huat Chuan
Principal

(This letter has been posted electronically on Parents Gateway. No signature is required.)

Details of Achievements

Domain	Achievement
Academic	<p>The school have received accolades from various JCs of ex-BBSSians (2017) who had done well for the 2019 A-Levels.</p> <p>Anglo-Chinese Junior College - Barnabas Sng Ren Le, 4S1, 5 Distinctions - Jonathan Teo Yue Xi, 4A1, 4 Distinctions</p> <p>National Junior College - Koh Arron, 4S1, 5 Distinctions</p> <p>Pioneer Junior College - Nur Syaza Bte Ramlan, 4A1, 5 Distinctions - Kong Zheng Hong, 4A1, 4 Distinctions - Shawn Koa Jun Kiat, 4A1, 4 Distinctions</p> <p>Eunoia Junior College - Wee Shin Chern Sean, 4S1, 4 Distinctions</p>
CCA (UGs)	<p>The National Police Cadet Corps (NPCC) had performed very well in 2019 and were awarded Gold for the NPCC Unit Overall Proficiency Award (UOPA) 2020 by NPCC headquarters. This award was hard earned with much efforts from both teachers in charge, volunteer adult leaders and cadets. This is their second Gold since its inception.</p> <p>NCC (Land Boys) continues to perform well and received Distinction in the Best Unit Competition Award for 2020. This award has been re-categorised in 2019 and the highest award is now a Distinction and not Gold. Thus, the unit would have achieved 4 consecutive Best Unit Awards including the 2 Distinction Awards achieved for 2018 and 2019 respectively.</p>

ANNEX B**1. Major School Events/Activities (23 Mar, Term 2)**

DATE	EVENT
Wed, 29 Apr to Fri, 15 May	Semestral Assessment 1 (SA1) period for Sec 4/5 students
Fri, 29 May	Student-Led Parent-Teacher Meeting for all students [8.00 am – 5.00 pm]
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (SAT, 1 JUN TO SUN, 30 JUN)	
Mon, 1 Jun to Tue, 2 Jun	GCE O-Level MTL Examinations
Mon, 22 Jun to Wed, 24 Jun	Art, D&T and F&N coursework for Sec 4E/4NA/5NA students