28 December 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians of Sec 1 Students,

1 Happy New Year and a warm welcome to our Deyi Family! We have planned a rousing start in Week 1 of the new School Year through the Level Camp. Through this, we hope to settle your child/ward in well from the start of Term 1, to be all ready for an enriching 2024 in line with our School Vision of students being **Active Learners** and **Gracious Citizens**.

School Communication System

2 The school is using an online system to take students' attendance. If your child/ward is absent from school, an automated SMS will be sent to your mobile phone with effect from 2 January 2024. The time of the automated SMS is as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9:00 am Wednesday: 10:00 am

Our school will use Parents Gateway (PG) as our main communication platform. Parents who are on board PG will receive information via mobile app.

School Hours

| DAY | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------------------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|
| School Start Time | 7.30 am | 7.30 am | 8.30 am* | 7.30 am | 7.30 am |

^{*} Late start day.

School starts promptly at 7.30 am daily except on Wednesdays, which starts at 8.30 am. Your child/ward is reminded to adhere to the timetable and be present in class in a timely manner, thereby cultivating and upholding the good habit of being punctual and prepared for lessons throughout the school year.

Blended Learning on 'Even-Week' Fridays

- 5 Through Blended Learning, we seek to enhance our students' schooling experience and further develop them into self-directed learners. To support this, our school will be implementing a '10-day' timetable in Semester 1 with <u>Blended Learning</u> days scheduled on even-week Fridays.
- There will be 4 Blended Learning days scheduled on even-week Fridays in Term 1. With this structure, students will be given more opportunities to hone their abilities to be self-directed and independent, and to develop passion and intrinsic motivation for learning in the process.



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Intended as a day of self-paced learning, a typical Blended Learning day includes 4 hours of non-timetabled asynchronous learning covering the curriculum, followed by approximately an hour of Student Initiated Learning (SIL) activity, starting with a short FT check-in time at 7.30 am. More details will be shared in Term 1 Week 2 during Form Teachers' time on Monday and Wednesday.

Student Handbook

To inculcate responsibility and good self-management, every student is given a copy of the Deyi Secondary School Student Handbook 2024 which contains detailed information on all school matters. Rules and regulations are listed clearly in the Student Handbook to help students identify acceptable and positive behaviours. Students are to note down schedules and homework using the Student Handbook.

Use of Mobile Phones (also printed in Student Handbook 2024)

- 9 Students need to exercise self-discipline, integrity and care when using their mobile phones. Students are to use their mobile phones in a socially responsible manner. All content shared and communicated via the mobile phone should be respectful, considerate and appropriate towards others.
- 10 Students are allowed to bring their mobile phones to school under the following conditions:
- (i) The mobile phone must be switched off during curriculum time. Putting the phone in silent mode will not suffice as it will still pose a major distraction to students.
- (ii) The use of mobile phone is confined to the 4 designated areas for the whole day. This will be in force the moment the student arrives in school.

Area 1: Canteen

Area 2: Sports Areas (courts, fitness area and indoor sports area)

Area 3: Study Pavilion

Area 4: Fover

- (iii) The mobile phone must not be used to take photos or videos in school, unless permission is given by the school authorities.
- 11 Students who do not comply with the above conditions on the use of mobile phones would have the privilege withdrawn.
- (i) The mobile phone, inclusive of SIM card, will be retained by the school for 1 week for the 1st violation of mobile phone rules, 2 weeks for the 2nd violation and 3 weeks for the 3rd violation.



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- (ii) Parent/Guardian is required to collect the mobile phone, inclusive of SIM card, personally after 1 week for the 1st violation, 2 weeks for the 2nd violation and 3 weeks for the 3rd violation.
- (iii) Recalcitrant offenders will have the privilege to bring mobile phones to school withdrawn.
- Please take note that students are responsible for their own mobile phone. The school will not be held responsible for any loss or theft of the mobile phone.

Homework Policy

The school believes that homework, when used appropriately, can reinforce students' learning, provide feedback on their progress and cultivate a healthy disposition towards continual learning. The school's Homework Policy guides teachers in setting well-designed homework to bring about intended learning outcomes, moderating the amount of time students spend on homework and providing timely feedback on marked assignments. Your child/ward will also be instructed to write down details of homework and tests in the Student Handbook, which you can refer to as well. We seek your understanding and support as our partners in education to ensure that your child/ward's learning benefits from the homework.

Weighted Assessment (WA)

In alignment with the Ministry of Education's effort to move away from an overemphasis on academic results, WAs will continue to be implemented in 2024. Each WA can take various modes, e.g. class tests, quizzes, presentations, group projects. WAs will be used by teachers to determine the extent of students' understanding in the respective subjects. Through WAs, teachers will be able to provide formative feedback as well as take remedial action during the course of the year. Details will be provided through your child/ward and can also be found in the Student Handbook.

Personalised Digital Learning Programme (PDLP)

As part of the National Digital Literacy Programme, all Sec 1 students will own a Personal Learning Device (PLD). The device chosen by the school is **Lenovo 300w Yoga Gen 4** (Intel N100 Processor, 11.6" touch screen, 128 GB SSD, Windows 11, Weight 1.27 kg, Stylus pen, 3 years warranty). The indicative price is SGD\$544 + GST. **The cost of the device can be paid using your child's Edusave account**. All are strongly encouraged to purchase the device through the school. More details will be provided in due course.



Health & Pandemic Readiness - 10 January (Wednesday)

- As part of pandemic readiness, a Temperature Taking Exercise will be held on the morning of Wednesday 10 January. All Sec 1 students will be issued an Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT).
- We seek parents' support to keep schools a safe environment for students. If your child is unwell, please ensure that he/she stays at home and seeks medical attention if necessary. If your child is recovering from respiratory-related illnesses, please encourage him/her to exercise social responsibility (e.g., by wearing a mask, minimising social interactions with big groups). We appreciate your support and will continue to work with you closely. Let us all do our part to exercise personal and social responsibility and stay safe.

Co-Curricular Activity (CCA)

CCA Days - Tuesdays & Thursdays

A holistic education provides students with a broad and deep foundation for lifelong learning. This includes learning not just in the academic areas. Equally important is the development of values and life skills in each child, to be better able to handle the challenges in life. CCA also supports students to discover their strengths, interests and talents. Hence, participation is compulsory at the secondary school level. Deyi's CCA days* are on Tuesdays and Thursdays**. Each session will last from 2.5 – 3 hours. The above information is presented in each student's timetable. Students will have their lunch in the school canteen, before reporting for their CCAs (according to their respective scheduled time).

*Schedule might vary due to competition/SYF requirements and other special activities.

**Some CCAs may be able to free up some Thursdays if the required training has been completed. Parents will be informed of the specific CCA training schedule.

For our new Sec 1 students, additional CCA information are in the following paragraphs.

Sec 1 CCA Trials - 16 January (Tuesday) to 8 February (Thursday)

19 Session 1 of Sec 1 CCA Trials will start on **Tuesday 16 Jan, 2.45 pm – 5.30 pm.** Sec 1 CCA Trials is compulsory for all Sec 1 students. There will be a total of **6 trial sessions** with the last session on **Thursday 8 Feb.** They will be scheduled for trials with all CCA groups which will allow them to make an informed choice when selecting their CCA.



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Sec 1 Sports Experience – 9 January (Tuesday)

Sec 1 Sports Experience will be held on <u>Tuesday 9 Jan, 2.45 pm – 5.30 pm</u>. This event is compulsory for all Sec 1 students. This sporting event seeks to provide all Sec 1 students with a day of bonding with their peers and seniors from various sports CCAs. Sec 1 students will be able to experience various sports such as Badminton (Boys), Basketball (Girls), Football (Girls), Volleyball (Boys) and Table Tennis (Boys and Girls).

Sec 1 National Education & Uniformed Group Experience - 11 January (Thursday)

21 Sec 1 National Education & Uniformed Group Experience will be held on Thursday 11 Jan, 2.45 pm – 5.30 pm. This event is compulsory for all Sec 1 students. Total Defence involves every Singaporean playing a part, individually and collectively, to build a strong, secure and cohesive nation. The National Education Committee, together with all the Uniformed Groups (UG) in Deyi have jointly organised this experience to foster a sense of common identity, pride and self-respect. It also allows our Sec 1 students to experience a day in the life of our UG cadets as they go through activities such as camp-craft, precision drills and first-aid training.

Sec 1 CCA Carnival: 20 January (Saturday) & CCA Off-in-Lieu: 18 January (Thursday)

- Sec 1 CCA Carnival will be held on Saturday 20 Jan. This event is compulsory for all Sec 1 students. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend. It will showcase our school's diverse range of co-curricular programmes and CCA groups. These programmes inculcate sound values in our students, build strength of character and foster camaraderie. They also provide opportunities for students to develop leadership qualities. Our CCAs also incorporate the Values-in-Action component which helps students develop qualities such as care, concern and respect for others in society. Booths are set up for parents and students to interact with their seniors to discover what each CCA offers.
- 23 As the Sec 1 students will be having CCA Carnival on Term 1 Week 3, Saturday, **18 Jan (Thu)** will be declared as Off-In-Lieu. Sec 1 students will not be required to attend CCA on this day.

Sec 1 Aesthetics Experience – 23 January (Tuesday)

Sec 1 Aesthetics Experience will be held on **Tuesday 23 Jan, 2.45 pm – 5.30 pm.** This event is compulsory for all Sec 1 students. At Deyi, Arts Education is an integral part of our students' holistic development. With our mission "Arts Alive - Live, Work, Learn and Play with the Arts", we seek to create a vibrant arts culture through programmes that will provide our students with opportunities to discover their interests and talents. It also aims to nurture our students' character and groom them into gracious citizens of tomorrow while helping them develop their passion for the Arts. On this day, Sec 1 students will get to experience hands on activities with the 5

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Visual & Performing Arts CCAs (Art Club, Band, Choir, Movement and Dance, & English Drama Club) as well as interact with their seniors and instructors.

Chinese New Year Celebration – 9 February (Friday)

25 Students are to report to school by 7.30 am on 9 February, Friday. Your child/ward will be participating in various class-based activities to celebrate the occasion. School will be dismissed at 10.30 a.m. The principal and staff would like to wish all students and parents a Happy Chinese New Year! 新年快乐! 万事如意! 龙年行大运!

Track Meet (Student Handbook Calendar Update) – 6 March (Wednesday)

The traditional rivalry between the various level classes forms a vibrant backdrop to our intra-school competition sporting landscape. The Inter-Class Track Meet is a key annual Inter-Class event. The details are as follows:

Date: 6 March (Wednesday)

Time: 7.30 am - 11.30 am (estimated)

Venue: Serangoon Stadium (Uniformed Group ushers will be placed on route between

Serangoon MRT and Serangoon Stadium)

Participants: All students.

Remarks: 8 March Friday will now be a normal school day, and not a Blended Learning Day. Students will report to school from 7.30 pm – 12.30 pm. They will attend lessons based on their 6 March Wednesday timetable. Specific details will be provided to all students.

Use of Photos/Videos taken at School Events

27 Please note that photograph(s) or video images(s) of your child/ward may be captured at school events. We may use or publish such photographs and/or video recordings in school publications, website, social media channels, and other official school communication channels.

GCE N-Level Results 2023

We are delighted to share with you that our students performed well in the 2023 GCE N-Level Examinations. A number of subjects have obtained good overall passes and distinctions. We wish our graduands success in their future endeavours as they continue to bring pride to the Deyi family.



MOE Financial Assistance Scheme (MOE FAS)

- 29 Singaporean students who require financial assistance and wish to apply for the scheme can:
- (1) Obtain the application form outside General Office or download a copy of the MOE FAS Application Form and submit to the General Office
- (2) Submit online via https://go.gov.sg/moe[1]efas. For more information, visit Financial assistance | MOE

Parent Support Group (PSG)

30 Deyi Parents Support Group (PSG) aims to promote greater collaboration and communication between the school, parents and students. PSG would like to invite parents to be a more involved Deyian Parent by completing the "The Deyian Parent form" via QR quote or this link (https://forms.gle/F5kQs9jtPiD4PyBc7). PSG members will then receive invitations to school and PSG activities / events as well as the latest PSG news via the class whatsapp chat



groups. For more information, you can email the PSG at Devisspsg@gmail.com.

Parent Engagement Session for Sec 1s - 5 January 2024 Friday

- There will be a Parent Engagement Session on 5 January 2024 Friday at <u>6.00 pm</u> in School Hall. We look forward to your attendance for this event.
- We look forward to your continued support and partnership.

With Warm Regards,

Mr Derek Lim Mr Apollos Induchoodan Asst Year Head (Lower Sec) Vice-Principal (Lower Sec) Mr Chow Weisi Principal

