28 December 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians of Sec 4 and 5 Students,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome to the new school year! 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

- 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.



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 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.
- (ii) Parent/Guardian is required to collect the mobile phone, Vision: Active Leaners, Gracious Citizens Mission: Inspiring Lives, Nurturing Talents, Realising Dreams



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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.

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.

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, guizzes, presentations, group projects. WAs



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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.

Academic Support Programme (ASP)

To support our Sec 4 & 5 students in their preparation for the end-of-year GCE O-Level Examinations, we will continue with the School-Based Academic Support Programme in the afternoons, as we did with previous batches of students. The programme is designed to help students take personal responsibility in their preparation for the exams. The level and class-based timetables for the programme will be given to your child closer to the start date.

Health & Pandemic Readiness - 10 January (Wednesday)

- 17 As part of pandemic readiness, a Temperature Taking Exercise will be held on the morning of Wednesday 10 January.
- 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.

Chinese New Year Celebration – 9 February (Friday)

19 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!

Careers Day 2024 - 1 March (Friday)

One of the highlights of our Education and Career Guidance (ECG) programme is the annual Careers Day. All Secondary 4 and 5 students will be participating in Careers Day on 1 March from 7.30 am to 5.30 pm. In the morning, we will start with a career exploration programme. Through a combination of hands-on job taster experiences and authentic conversations with real world working professionals, the programme aims to kickstart our youth's journey of career exploration, supporting them to find motivation, identify possible options and over time, develop a better sense of direction towards a meaningful career.



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- To expose students to different course offerings available in a polytechnic upon graduation, all Secondary 4 Exp/NA and 5 students will be attending a workshop conducted by Nanyang Polytechnic in the afternoon from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm. Students will go through two rounds of course-advising sessions. The workshop will be conducted face-to-face at Nanyang Polytechnic. Students will be dismissed from school at 5.30 pm.
- Secondary 4NT students will be visiting ITE from 2.00 to 4.00 pm, where they will be given an opportunity to try out a range of fun and practical projects to help instil interest in skills and gain more insights about skills-related courses available in ITE. Students will be dismissed from school at 4.45 pm.

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 Mar (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

24 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)

- 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)

27 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 4 & 5s - 1 March 2024 Friday

- There will be an online Parent Engagement Session on 1 March 2024, Friday at 7.30 pm via Zoom. More details will be shared closer to the date. We look forward to your attendance for this event.
- We look forward to your continued support and partnership.

With Warm Regards,

Mrs Patty Gan Year Head (Upper Sec) Mdm Tan Shao May Vice-Principal (Upper Sec) Mr Chow Weisi Principal

