



26 June 2023

**Dear Parents/Guardians**

**[Secondary 1] Term 3 Letter**

The school welcomes your child/ward back for the start of Term 3. We hope you and your family have enjoyed the June Holidays and spent quality time bonding with one another. We look forward to working with your child/ward for another semester of learning, growth and success.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your presence and support at the Parent-Teacher Meeting at the end of Term 2.

***Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)***

CCA, an integral part of our students' holistic learning experience in school, is a platform where students develop dispositions, competencies, and skills to lead themselves and their peers. In OPSS, we believe CCA is as important as academic lessons in the holistic development of your child/ward and prepares him/her to be future-ready. The school has set certain expectations regarding CCA participation and attendance, as communicated to you earlier in the year. We continue to seek your partnership in encouraging and ensuring that your child/ward attends all CCA sessions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you and your child/ward of the following:

- a. Students who are absent from any CCA session will have to submit an MC to explain their absence.
- b. Students with irregular CCA attendance may be accorded a 'Fair' conduct grade.

The last CCA session before the End-of-Year Examination will be conducted on Term 3, Week 9 to provide sufficient time and space for revision and self-study. CCA sessions will resume after the End-of-Year Examination, and students will be informed of the details by their respective CCA teachers.

***Home-Based Learning (HBL)***

Thank you for partnering us on this journey of developing motivation and self-regulation in our students through HBL. HBL is not only a day every fortnight for students to complete work assigned to them, but an opportunity for them to hone self-management and time-management skills which are essential for them to be future-ready. We recognise and expect that some students need greater guidance initially, but we believe that they can progressively become more self-directed in their learning through a gradual release of responsibility and with the sustained opportunities provided by the teachers. It is an important platform for them to hone the necessary skillsets to manage the nature of work and life in their future.



In Semester 2, HBL Days (Secondary 1 to 3 students) will be conducted on the following days.

Term 3: 28/6, 12/7, 25/7, 22/8

Term 4: 18/9

While students do not need to report to school on HBL Days, we seek your support to ensure that your child/ward is meaningfully and actively engaged in learning. The HBL Timetable will be made available on a HBL Microsite on the school website the day before each HBL Day.

### ***National Day Celebrations cum OP Sports Carnival***

The school has planned for our signature sporting event, OP Sports Carnival, in addition to National Day Celebrations, on 8 August 2023, from 7.30 am to 11.30 am. While we celebrate our nation's 58<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, we continue to encourage our staff and students to adopt and embrace a healthy and active lifestyle through mass participation in the OP Sports Carnival. Staff and students will enjoy and bond with one another through a line-up of sports and games. We welcome parents to join us for the morning's programme, where you may witness your child/ward actively participating in the National Day Celebrations and OP Sports Carnival. You may be delighted to know that parents may form teams in some of our Exhibition Matches. More details will be shared with you via Parents Gateway at a later date.

### ***Weighted Assessment 3 (WA3) Matters***

WA3 will be held between Week 4 to Week 8 of Term 3 during curriculum (lesson) time. Students will be assessed up to 3 subjects per week for WA3. They will be informed of the dates of their WA3 by their subject teachers and are strongly encouraged to note down the WA3 dates in their Student Organisers.

As WA is a bite-sized assessment of students' understanding of lessons and encourages students to revise their work consistently, students must continue to attend all CCAs and school-related activities during the WA period. For all assessments, the school emphasizes academic integrity as a core value. Any breach of integrity, such as cheating or leaking of WA3 questions, will result in the student receiving a zero mark for the assessment and he/she will be liable for further disciplinary actions.

Absence from school-based assessments must be covered by a valid reason. A Medical Certificate (MC) must be provided for absence due to health reasons, or the student may receive a zero mark as integrity and responsibility are critical school values we want to inculcate in all Orchidians.

### ***Baseline Digital Literacy Skills***

We are pleased to share that our Secondary 1 students are getting used to utilising their Chromebooks for in- and out-of-class learning. To better support their learning via these devices, they will be assigned learning modules on baseline digital literacy skills in the Singapore Student Learning Space (SLS). More details will be shared with students through



their Class Mentors. We seek your support in ensuring your child/ward assesses the learning in the SLS.

***Students' Health and Well-Being***

We thank all parents/guardians for work closely with us to ensure that our school remains a safe and conducive place for teaching and learning throughout this year. We would like to remind all that if your child/ward is unwell with flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat and/or runny nose), he/she should not attend school and instead seek immediate medical attention. We seek your understanding should we need you to bring your child/ward home if he/she displays any flu-like symptoms.

We look forward to a fulfilling term of learning for your child/ward and seek your understanding and full cooperation as our valued partners.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Mr Daniel Chung  
Principal