30 December 2019

Dear Parents/Guardian

Letter from the Principal (Term 1, 2020)

Greetings from Yishun Secondary School.

My staff and I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! In 2020, we look forward to developing your child/ward holistically by providing him/her with a meaningful learning experience in the classroom as well as beyond the classroom. Our school values of Respect, Integrity and Resilience will be our foundation as we strive to grow each Yishunite into a Thinker, Innovator and Contributor.

(A) School Reporting Time

Flag-raising and pledge-taking ceremony will commence at 7:30 am <u>every morning</u> (including Monday).

(B) School Attendance

For your child/ward to do well in school, consistent attendance is key. A medical certificate will be required if your child/ward is absent from school, tests and examinations. <u>Parent's letters are not accepted unless under exceptional circumstances</u>.

Students must be punctual for all school activities. Those who are late for school will be subject to disciplinary actions.

(C) Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)

We value your child's holistic development and as such, participation in CCA is crucial for your child. Every student is expected to choose a CCA of his/her interest and attend training sessions (usually once or twice a week).

We seek your support as we work towards establishing a strong home-school partnership for our students to help them develop the school values of Respect, Integrity and Resilience through CCA. If a child attends less than 75% of CCA training session without a valid reason, he/she will be awarded a FAIR conduct grade and will be ineligible for Edusave Awards or School Awards.

(D) Student Handbook

The student handbook is uploaded to the school website. Please familiarise yourselves with the contents of the handbook.

(E) Time-table

The time-table is uploaded to the school website. Please refer to the school website for details.

(F) Assessment Weighting

There will be no more than one weighted assessment per subject, per term.

	Terms 1 & 2		Terms 3 & 4	
Component	Weighted Assessment 1 (WA1)	Weighted Assessment 2 (WA2)	Weighted Assessment 3 (WA3)	Semestral Assessment (EYE)
Sec 1 to 3	Test 1 (15%)	Test 2 (15%)	Test 3 (15%)	55%*
	Terms 1 & 2		Terms 3 & 4	
Component	Weighted Assessment 1 (WA1)	Semestral Assessment 1 (SA1) / (MYE)	Continual Assessment 2 (WA2)	Semestral Assessment 2 (SA2) / (Prelim)
Sec 4 and 5		100%	-	100%

^{*} Includes 10% of Alternative Assessment which could be practical assessment, performance tasks such as projects / oral presentations / holiday assignments / quizzes etc from Term 1 to 3.

(G) Mid-Year Examination

From 2020 onwards, there will be no Mid-Year Examination for Sec 1 to 3 students. In view of this, lessons will be conducted to provide more in-depth study and learning experiences on various topics in the additional three teaching weeks.

Content outlines of all subjects and details of assessment will be uploaded to the school website by Tue, 31 Dec 2019.

(H) Weighted Assessment

In 2020, all Weighted Assessment (WA) will be scheduled on every Tuesday, 8:00 am to 9:00 am from Term 1, Week 3. Students must report to school by 7:30 am for the scheduled WA. Lessons will resume after 9:00 am. Please refer to the school website for the schedule of WA1 by Tue, 31 Dec 2019.

A student who is absent for WA or examination due to illness must produce a medical certificate from a certified doctor upon return to the school. The medical report/statement must clearly state the doctor's diagnosis, certifying that the student is unfit to take the test. Medical certificate without the doctor's diagnosis is considered not valid. Students who do not produce any medical certificate will be given zero mark for the paper they have missed. Medical certificates issued by Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioners and letters from parents will not be accepted as valid reasons.

(I) Consultation Schedule

Students who are selected for consultation will be informed by the respective teachers to bridge learning gaps for various subjects based on the consultation schedule which will be available on the school website.

(J) <u>Art/Music Elective Programmes (AEP/MEP) for Secondary One Students in Non-AEP/MEP Schools</u>

To grow the potential and talent of students across a wider range of domains at the secondary level, MOE announced (in May 2015) the setting up of AEP and MEP centres from 2016, to cater for students in non-AEP/MEP schools.

The secondary level AEP and MEP are four-year programmes. These programmes aim to develop students who have shown keen interest and passion for the arts, and focus on indepth and critical learning to deepen students' conceptual understanding of Art/Music. Students in the AEP/MEP will take Higher Art/Higher Music at GCE O-level.

Secondary 1 students in the Express course who demonstrate passion and talent in art or music, can apply to the AEP/MEP centres by **Tue, 14 Jan 2020.**

Students who are interested to apply to AEP/MEP centres will need to complete an online application via the following links:

AEP - https://bit.ly/2P2ASs0

MEP - https://bit.ly/2P6xnRd

Parents who wish to find out more about the AEP/MEP Programmes or the application process are strongly encouraged to contact:

- Mr Tan Hong Peng (Year Head) at tan_hong_peng@schools.gov.sg or
- Mr Fahmy (Subject Head/Art) at fahmy_bin_said@schools.gov.sg.

(K) Communication

In addition to information letters, SMS and Parents Gateway, the school uses its official website to disseminate timely information to parents and students.

Please visit http://www.yishunsec.moe.edu.sg/ to keep in touch with the latest development in Yishun Secondary School.

We value your feedback. If you wish to contact your child/ward's Form Teacher, Subject Teacher or CCA Teacher, you can email the school at *yishun_ss@moe.edu.sg*, addressing your email to the teacher. If you are calling the General Office (Tel: 6876 7129) to speak to any teacher, please do so during school days from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm and leave a message for the teacher.

We seek your understanding that teachers may only be able to respond on the next working day. If you have urgent queries and/or requests, the General Office will assist in the best possible way. We also seek your understanding that we do not expect teachers to respond to parents' and students' queries during the weekends and public holidays.

(L) School Guidelines and Rules

For information on our school guidelines and rules, please refer to the Student Handbook which is uploaded to the school website.

(M) Individual Student Details Report

In order for the school to assist your child/ward better, all parents/guardian are required to update 3 pages of the Individual Student Details Report for the school's reference. The verification will also include the medical record for your child/ward.

This will be issued to you through your child/ward. <u>Please verify, update the details, sign and include supporting medical documents for your child/ward to return to his/her Form Teacher by Mon, 6 Jan 2020.</u>

(N) Student Learning Space (SLS)

As part of Ministry of Education's (MOE) commitment to nurture future-ready learners, an online learning platform known as the **Student Learning Space (SLS)** has been developed by MOE in collaboration with students and teachers. It provides all students across schools with quality curriculum-aligned resources and teaching and learning tools. Our teachers will also use the teaching and learning tools in SLS to design lessons for students to explore and work collaboratively as well as facilitate students to learn at their own pace and be responsible for their learning. Your child/ward will have opportunities to explore SLS during and after school curriculum hours.

(O) Key Events

Temperature Taking Exercise

In line with our continued vigilance against health-related threats, the school will be conducting a Temperature Taking Exercise during Week 2, on Thu, 16 Jan 2020. <u>Please ensure that your child/ward has a working thermometer packed into his/her school bag.</u> There will be checks to ensure the serviceability of your child/ward's thermometer by Fri, 10 Jan 2020, for Sec 2-5 students.

Do note that Sec 1 students will be issued with a working thermometer on Thu, 16 Jan 2020.

Our staff will conduct visual screening at the gates and also at the foyer for students who arrive by car. All students are to proceed directly to their classroom.

Chinese New Year (CNY) Celebration

The school will be celebrating CNY on Fri, 24 Jan 2020. As it is the eve of Chinese New Year, school will end at 10:00 am on that day.

Please take note that Mon, 27 Jan 2020 is a designated public holiday and Tue, 28 Jan 2020 is a school holiday. School will resume on Wed, 29 Jan 2020.

Emergency Evacuation Exercise

In line with our continued vigilance and response to emergencies, the school will be conducting the Emergency Evacuation Exercise on Mon, 17 Feb 2020.

34th Speech Day

The 34th Speech Day will be held on Fri, 13 Mar 2020 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. This annual event recognises the achievement of students in their academic and co-curricular activities.

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccination

All Sec 3, 4 and 5 female students will be offered free HPV vaccination by Health Promotion Board to protect them against cervical cancer. Those who opt-in will receive the vaccination in school for dose 1 on 24-25 Feb 2020 and dose 2 on 20-21 Apr 2020.

Safety and Security

To ensure the safety of every child in the school, we will enforce security procedures. Visitors will have to register at the Guard Post before proceeding to the General Office.

If you drive your child/ward to school, you are encouraged to let him/her alight near the side gate (i.e. along the HDB car park connecting Chong Pang to Yishun Street 71).

The main gate is also open for drivers to alight your children at the school foyer area. Do follow the arrow directional signs in the school car park area for the safety of all motorists. To prevent severe congestion, all vehicles exiting the school during the morning are to turn out with a left turn only. We would also like to remind drivers not to let your child/ward alight at the front gate or the bus stop, for the safety of our students.

If your child/ward is in the habit of cycling to school, we strongly encourage you to invest in protective gear (at least a helmet), and encourage your child/ward to use it.

(P) Upcoming Calendar of Events for Term 1

Date	Activity	Remarks	
2-3 Jan	Sec 1 Orientation	Sec 1 students	
	Sec 2–5 Back to School Programme	Sec 2-5 students	
13-15 Jan (TBC)	GCE O-level Exam Result Release	Sec 4 & 5 students	
16 Jan	Temperature Taking Exercise	All students	
16 Jan	Fieldwork Tourism @ Gardens by the Bay	Sec 4E Geography students	
25-28 Jan	Chinese New Year	All students	
11 Feb	NFS Chef Programme	Sec 3E students	
13 Feb	NFS Chef Programme	Sec 4E, 4NA & 5NA students	
14 Feb	Total Defence Day Commemoration	All students	
18 Feb	NFS Chef Programme	Sec 3NA students	
24-25 Feb	HPV vaccination	Sec 3, 4 & 5 female students	
26 Feb	NRIC Registration for 15 year-old Students	Students who are 15 years old	
28 Feb	School Leaders-Parents Engagement & Parents-Teacher Conference [7pm-9pm]	Sec 4 & 5NA students	
2-4 Mar	Sports Education Programme	All students	
12 Mar	F&N GCE O-level Investigative Exam	Sec 4E & 5NA students	
13 Mar	34 th Speech Day	All students	
14-22 Mar	March School Vacation	All students	

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Regina Lee

Principal