



# ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope that you and your child / ward have had a fulfilling time during the June holidays to rest, recharge and bond with the family. The school has been undergoing general renovation and repair works through the June holidays, and the school will be having a fresh new look. All classrooms have already been refreshed with a new coat of paint, and external painting works will continue until early August.

In line with MOE's call to get all students to be involved in the cleaning of their own classrooms, the school will be getting our students to help keep their classrooms and the school environment clean. All teachers will be getting our students to spend at least a few minutes each day cleaning up their own classrooms, and we hope to cultivate in our students good daily habits as well as a greater sense of social and civic responsibility.

Here is a description of our recent achievements and the upcoming events in Term 3.

## Achievements in Term 2

1. It was an exciting Term 2 when we celebrated both the academic and sporting achievements of our students. Our Sports CCA groups worked hard training and taking part in various competitions during the Interschool Games. Sports Day on 1 April was also a time when we celebrated the athletic achievements of our own students.
2. Awards Day 2016 was especially significant as one of our alumni, Mr Zhang Jing Kang from the Class of 2011 was our Guest-of-Honour. Jing Kang was a 2014 SEA Games medalist in Archery. His story of how he overcame obstacles to rise to become a SEA Games medalist was most inspiring and resonated with the Awards Day theme of "Towards Our Dreams We Soar". It was a joyous occasion when we celebrated academic, leadership and CCA achievements.
3. We are also pleased to share the following student / CCA achievements with you.

Name of Students / CCA Group	Class/CCA	Achievement
Alan Tay	4E4	Achieved excellent results in the Individual Round of the NUS Geographical Challenge 2016. Selected to be in the NUS Geography Talent Development Programme (TDP) for 2017.
Seri Dewi Ismelati Bte Iskarnain	3E3	Selected for the advanced phase of the MOE-NAC Dance Talent Development Programme
Ren De Xian Anissa Idris Lim Jing Chew Ding Yao Yeo Wen Hui Woon Qi Hui, Venus	Sec 2, 3 HCL Group	Achieved "Best in Transport News" in the National Chinese News Making Competition 2016 organised by Tanjong Katong Girls' School
Netball 'C' Division girls	Netball	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place in the M1 Schools Challenge League 2016

## Health Advisory and Temperature-Taking Exercise

4. While there are no advisories against travelling to specific countries by MOH this June holidays, students returning from overseas trips, especially to areas that had sporadic cases of Zika virus infection, should take note of the following advisory:

- i) Look out for Zika symptoms upon return during the first 14 days.
- ii) Those who display any Zika symptoms should seek medical attention and inform the doctor of their travel history.

As part of the process of monitoring our students' health, the school will be conducting a temperature-taking exercise on **Thursday, 30 June 2016**.

## Key Events In Term 3

### 5. Youth Day, Racial Harmony Day, Hari Raya, National Day and Teachers' Day Celebrations

The second week of Term 2 will be a short school week as Youth Day falls on Sunday 3 July and Monday 4 July will be a school holiday. This will be followed by Hari Raya Aidilfitri on Wednesday 6 July. Muslim teaching staff and students will be dismissed earlier on Tuesday, 5 July at 10.45 am for festive celebrations.

Racial Harmony Day will be commemorated on **Friday 22 July**, in conjunction with Hari Raya celebrations. Following the yearly tradition of Racial Harmony Day, staff and students are encouraged to come dressed in ethnic costumes on this day to celebrate the diversity of cultures in Singapore.

The school will be celebrating National Day on Monday 8 August. With the theme of **Building Our Singapore of Tomorrow**, our school will be organising celebrations centred around the message of *Love, Gratitude and Appreciation* as aligned to the Positive Psychology Module of the CLC curriculum. Apart from penning personal messages of gratitude and appreciation for our country and all it has to offer, all our students and staff will be taking part in a uniquely 'Singaporean' mass dance during the National Day concert. The day's programme will include a parade segment to start off the celebrations, followed by a mini carnival helmed by our CCA groups and the National Day concert. Students will be dismissed at **10.45 am** on 8 August. Please note that 10 August is a school holiday.

### 6. Assessments in Term 3

The GCE 'O' Level MT Listening Comprehension Exam will be conducted on **Tuesday 19 July**. The GCE 'O' and 'N' Level Oral Exams for both Mother Tongue and English Language will be conducted at various periods in Term 3. Please refer to the calendar in the calendar of events on page 3 for the specific dates for all assessments, including Sec 1-3 Common Test 2 and the Sec 4 & 5 preliminary examinations.

Here's wishing you and your child / ward a successful Semester 2 ahead!

Yours sincerely,



Mr Eugene Lin  
Principal

### Calendar For Term 3

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>4 July</b>	Youth Day Holiday
<b>5 July</b>	Eve of Hari Raya Aidilfitri <i>(Please note that all Muslim students will be dismissed at 10.45 am on Hari Raya eve)</i>
<b>6 July</b>	Hari Raya Aidilfitri Holiday
<b>15 July</b>	Urban Challenge (in school)
<b>19 July</b>	GCE 'O' Level Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension Exam <i>(Please note that all students not sitting for the Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension Exam will be dismissed at 1.15 pm)</i>
<b>5 July – 16 July</b>	GCE 'O' Level Mother Tongue Oral Exams
<b>7 July – 14 July</b>	GCE 'N' Level English Oral Exams
<b>8 July; 22 July; 29 July; 5 August</b>	National Day Parade and Concert Rehearsals (Selected students only)
<b>22 July</b>	Racial Harmony Day celebrations
<b>26 July – 1 Aug</b>	GCE 'N' Level Mother Tongue Oral Exams
<b>Monday 8 August</b>	National Day Celebrations <i>(Please note the change in timing of the school day. Students are to report to school at <u>7.30 am</u> and will be dismissed at around 10.45 am)</i>
<b>9 August, 10 August</b>	National Day Holidays
<b>11 August – 18 August</b>	Sec 1 – 3 Common Test 2
<b>4, 5 Aug; 11 - 19 August</b>	Sec 4NA 4NT Preliminary Exams
<b>4, 5 Aug; 11, 12 Aug; 25 – 31 Aug</b>	Sec 4E 5N Preliminary Exams
<b>15 Aug – 29 Aug</b>	GCE 'O' Level English Oral Exams
<b>1 September</b>	Teachers' Day Celebrations
<b>2 September</b>	Teachers' Day School Holiday

## **Partnering Parents for Character Development - Responsibility**

Dear Parents,

In this issue, we are sharing on how parents can instil the value of responsibility through doing chores. We hope these reasons and tips will be helpful to you as you guide your teenagers towards becoming more independent, caring and helpful.

1. **Benefits of chores**

By doing chores, your teenagers see themselves as important contributors to the family. Holding them accountable for their chores can increase their sense of self-worth and actually make them more responsible as they will feel more capable for having met their obligations and completed their tasks. Not only that, according to a research done by Dr Marty Rossmann, Professor Emeritus at the University of Minnesota and Richard Weissbourd (Ed.D), psychologist from Graduate School of Education, shows that children who help out with home duties or chores actually do better in school and they are more empathetic and caring.

2. **Encourage, praise and show affection**

Do encourage and praise when your teenagers have done a good job in doing their chores. Try not to nag when they do not come up to your standards especially when they have not been doing chores before. Be patient and encourage them.

3. **Do not take over**

Try not to intervene and take over if your teenagers seem to take their time to complete their task. Sometimes they do that to test you. You should let them complete their tasks. In that way, they can experience the satisfaction they get upon completing the tasks. If they do not experience that satisfaction, it will only encourage their irresponsible behaviour.

4. **Stay clear of financial rewards**

It is about instilling values and it should not come to a point where the teenagers do the chores for the sake of extra money.

5. **Some possible chores for teenagers**

- Putting away their belongings
- Making their own beds
- Cleaning their own room
- Folding and putting away clean clothes
- Vacuuming, sweeping, dusting
- Setting the table
- Clearing the table
- Washing and putting away the dishes
- Feeding, walking family pets; cleaning birdcages and litter boxes
- Washing the family car

Article adapted from

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/family-dynamics/Pages/Household-Chores-for-Adolescents.aspx>

<https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/why-kids-should-do-chores#.V3Czxrh97rd>

## Walking Trail for the Term: The Southern Ridges



The recommended trail for this term is the Southern Ridges. There you can go on a hike in the great outdoors and also enjoy the serenity offered. Comprising 10 km of green, open spaces that connect Mount Faber Park, Telok Blangah Hill Park, HortPark, Kent Ridge Park and Labrador Nature Reserve, these ridges are great for walking enthusiasts, history buffs, shutterbugs, nature lovers, bird watchers and families looking for a different kind of family outing.

Steeped in history and one of the best spots in Singapore to enjoy panoramic views of the city, harbour and the Southern Islands, the Southern Ridges is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna too.

### Park Information

**Park Size/PC Length:** 10 km of green, open spaces that connect Mount Faber Park, Telok Blangah Hill Park, HortPark, Kent Ridge Park and Labrador Nature Reserve

#### **Park lighting hours and park opening hours:**

Lighting hours for Alexandra Arch: changing LED lights: 7 pm – 12 am daily

Lighting hours for Forest Walk: 7 pm – 12 am & 5 am – 7 am daily

Lighting hours for Henderson Waves: 7 pm – 7 am daily

Safety LED lights on bridges: 7 pm – 7 am daily

**More information on the different routes can be found on the following webpage:**

<https://www.nparks.gov.sg/~media/nparks-real-content/gardens-parks-and-nature/diy-walk/diy-walk-pdf-files/hortpark-and-southern-ridges.pdf?la=en>