



Clementi Town Secondary School

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17 March 2021

Dear Parents/Guardian of Secondary 3 students,

The school will reopen for Term 2 on Monday 22 March 2021. In this Term 2 letter, I will provide updates on programmes which may be of interest to you as well as the activities in the school calendar that may involve your child/ward.

1 Strengthening Home-School Partnerships

In the months of March and April, we are organising some virtual engagement sessions and workshops for parents/guardians. These opportunities enable the school to share information about upcoming educational and social developments that involve your child/ward. In addition through practical tips and question & answer segment, we seek to strengthen our partnership with you for the growth of your child/ward.

Webinar for Parents/Guardians: National Digital Learning Programme (NDLP) and Purchase of Personal Learning Device (PLD) (Tuesday, 23 March 2021)

Last year, MOE announced that by the end of 2021, all Sec 1 to 3 students will own a personal digital learning device. There are different implementation phases for this nationwide programme. CTSS is in Phase 2 whereby it is expected that our students will purchase and have their own device delivered in Term 3. To assess the suitability of the devices and to study how teaching and learning might shift with NDLP, the school conducted a pilot study with some classes and gathered feedback from students and parents on their choice of PLD.

The school has since made our choice for the school-prescribed PLD and would like to provide more information to parents/guardians. **Sec 1 to 3 Parents/Guardians and Clementeens are strongly encouraged to attend the webinar on Tuesday, 23 Mar 2021, from 6.00pm to 7.00pm.** Details regarding the webinar will be provided in Parents Gateway nearer to the date.

Procedures on the purchase of your child/ward's personal learning device will also be sent to you via Parents Gateway.

For information on the roll-out of PLD in secondary schools, please click on this link: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/news/press-releases/20201229-blended-learning-to-enhance-schooling-experience-and-further-develop-students-into-self-directed-learners>.

Workshop for Sec 1 to 3 Parents/Guardians: Guiding Students to Use Technology Effectively for their Learning (Saturday, 24 April 2021, morning)

In a survey which the school conducted with parents/guardians in early March, more than 60% of respondents indicated that they would like more support in guiding their child/ward to use productivity tools to organise information and simplify tasks for efficiency. In this session, teachers from our National Digital Literacy Programme (NDLP) team will share some of the productivity tools or practices we intend to introduce to students with the roll out of NDLP. We also look forward to hearing from you some of the useful

technological tools or practices that you feel we should teach our students, and discuss how we can work together to develop our students into competent users of technology. Please save the date and look out for registration information via Parents Gateway.

Mid-Year Parent-Staff Interaction (PSI) (Thursday, 27 May / Friday, 28 May 2021)

Our Mid-Year Parent-Staff Interaction will be held via either phone call or Zoom (a video conference platform) this year. An announcement will be put up on Parents Gateway to invite you to register your mode of communication with the CCA Parent and/or Subject Teachers in May 2021. You will choose to meet the CCA Parent and/or Subject Teacher on *either* Thursday, 27 May *or* Friday, 28 May 2021.

2 School Activities in Term 2

41st Speech and Prize-Giving Day (Friday, 16 April 2021)

The school is celebrating our 41st Speech and Prize-Giving Day on Friday, 16 April 2021 at 3.30pm. Due to the current Covid-19 situation and as part of our safe management measures, the school will only be inviting our present Sec 4/5 Prize-winners and 2020 prize-winners to attend the ceremony held in our school library. As such, there will be no Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) in the afternoon on 16 April 2021. Students will be dismissed from school according to their timetable and staggered dismissal timings.

Our Sec 2 and 3 Prize-Giving Ceremony will be held during the morning assembly on Tuesday, 27 April 2021. Parents/guardians can still join in the celebration as both ceremonies will be broadcasted on Youtube Live on the actual days. Please look out for details via Parents Gateway in April.

Home-based Learning (HBL) Days for Sec 3 (Monday, 17 May 2021 & Friday, 28 May 2021)

HBL is an opportunity for your child/ward to experience a different way of learning and aids in developing his/her self-directed and collaborative learning competencies. HBL is also part of our emergency readiness efforts to ensure that Clementeens can continue to learn in the event of school closure.

Please note that your child/ward need not report to school on Monday, 17 May and Friday, 28 May 2021. He/She will be expected to be completing his/her online tasks and assignments via e-Learning portals. The HBL instructions will be shared with your child/ward in his/her respective Google Classrooms during this period.

Leadership Handover Ceremony (Tuesday, 25 May 2021)

The Leadership Handover Ceremony will be held virtually during the Assembly period to give due recognition to our Secondary 4/5 Student Leaders for their faithful service to the school in their various capacities, and to witness these leaders' passing of the baton to our next generation of student leaders who are currently in Sec 3. We look forward to celebrating the achievements and growth of our Clementeens.

Sec 3 Mid-Year Enrichment (Thursday, 27 May 2021)

By this time, Semester 1 of the school year would have come to a close. We recognise the need to focus on your child/ward's holistic development. Hence on Thursday, 27 May 2021, Sec 3 students will undergo various enrichment activities which aims to imbue your child with the skills and values to help them grow holistically. More information will be provided via Parents Gateway closer to the date.

3 Safe Management Measures amidst Covid-19 pandemic

We appreciate your support and understanding throughout the first school term as the school seeks to safeguard the health and well-being of all students and staff. While the community cases in Singapore remains low, we will not let our guard down. We would like to remind our stakeholders of the following:

- a. If your child/ward is unwell with flu-like symptoms or has a fever of 38°C and above, do see a doctor as soon as possible for medical advice. Please do not send your child/ward to school. Do inform the school by calling our general line (tel: 6777 7362). We would need your child/ward's full name, level of study and CCA group.
- b. Please inform the school if any member of your household or your child/ward is issued Home Quarantine Order (HQO) or Stay Home Notice (SHN). The school will issue a Leave of Absence (LOA) to your child/ward, who should not come to school.
- c. Please inform the school if there is an adult member of your household who is unwell with flu-like symptoms and keep your child/ward at home. Your child/ward will be placed on Approved Absence (AA) for the period of duration of the medical leave of the one who is unwell.

4 Change in Reporting Time for Sec 2 and 3 Clementeens

In this letter, we would like to reiterate an earlier announcement posted on 12 March via Parents Gateway. Please take note that after this one-week school holidays, the reporting time for Sec 2 and 3 students will be at 7.35am, in line with Sec 1 and 4/5 students from Monday, 22 March 2021 onwards.

When we began the new school year, we continued with last year's practice of two staggered arrival timings at 7.35am and 7.45am across the levels as part of safe management. In Term 1, the school studied the arrival patterns of our students in the morning. We observed that many of our students are already arriving in school in a staggered manner. Student movement is also spread out via four gates and the foyer.

Upon review, we find that safe management can continue with a single reporting time at 7.35am for all Clementeens. Designated gates for each level of students will be retained. With the move to a single reporting time for all Clementeens, we will be able to recover some curriculum time for purposes such as:

- reading of English Language and Mother Tongue Language materials, which builds our students' literacy and self-directed learning habit;
- teacher-pupil interaction time, which enhances the caring culture of our school; and
- learning of some subjects, which are scheduled in the first few periods of the day.

We recognise this change of reporting time could entail adjustments for you and your family. We seek your support to guide your child/ward in his/her morning routines so that he/she can arrive in school punctually.

5 Conclusion

As your Sec 3 child/ward learns in school, he/she will also benefit from a conducive and supportive home environment. I would like to take this chance to encourage you to talk to your child/ward on his/her experiences in school and help him/her focus on the positive areas. This could be especially important as your child/ward is learning the academic subjects at greater depth and rigour than in lower secondary. In the learning process, your child/ward will inevitably encounter challenges and frustrations. Do reassure him/her that getting things wrong is part of learning and support him/her to persevere (which is one of our school values) through challenging situations. With your partnership, we can look forward to our Clementeens thriving in CTSS.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Helen Tan-Lee
Principal

(This is an electronic letter. No signature is required.)