



2 Jan 2025

Principal's Message - Semester 1 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year! Every new year brings fresh hopes and opportunities for us to undo misgivings of the past and build on the foundations we have laid prior. Last year, we shared the following key messages with Merahans:

- 1) **Regular attendance in school is important for academic progression.** Research has shown that missing school by 10% will have a negative impact on learning achievements. Similarly, being late for school will also affect learning progress.
- 2) **Set a goal and review their actions regularly** to see if they are on track to realising their goals.
- 3) **Be in control of their technological gadgets** and not let the gadgets control them. Technology is a double-edged sword depending on how the user wields it.

Our Merahans are growing up in uncertain and anxious times. In 2025, we hope to fortify the growth mindset of Merahans so they can see opportunities in challenges and adapt themselves accordingly rather than be shackled to their past. As adults, we can help our Merahans develop such a growth mindset by nudging them to problem-solve rather than solve the problem for them. When they experience success, affirm and encourage them to reflect on the actions that had led to the achievements. When they experience failure, encourage them to pick themselves up, dust off the pain and ponder what they can do differently to overcome the hurdle. Small little actions like these can turn into a blessing for themselves and others. If not immediately, then later in life.

Being our important partners, we would like to encourage you to continue partnering us to help our Merahans make informed and responsible choices in life and to develop a growth mindset. Together, we can nurture and support our Merahans to be Resilient, Caring and Self-directed.

We would like to thank the following colleagues who will be embarking on new chapters and adventures in Semester 1 2025: Mrs Lim Guek Lee (HOD/MT & Aesthetics), Ms Liao Xinwei (LH/Mathematics), Mr Winston Seow (SH/ICT), Ms Chong Oi Lin, Mrs Mathi, Ms Priscilla Lee and Mr Damon Choo (SECGC) and Ms Suzanne Eng (SH/PE &CCA).¹

We would like to welcome the following colleagues who have/will be joining us to support our Merahans who need us the most: Ms Janelle Tay (SH/Educational Support), Mr Subramanian (LH/Mathematics), Mrs Lim Guek Lee, Mr Wang Jia Le, Mrs Selvarani, Mr Andrew Lum (Senior ECGC), Ms Nithyasri (SENO),

Please refer to the Annex for list of school events in Semester 1.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Darren Chong
Principal

¹ With effect from Term 2 2025



Annex

2025 BMSS Term 1 Events

DATE	LEVEL	EVENT	REMARKS
January			
2 – 3 & 6 Jan	Sec 2 – 5	StartRight Programme	4E5N and 4T students will be heading out of school for ECG programme on 6 Jan.
2 – 3 & 6 – 7 Jan	Sec 1	StartRight Programme and Orientation	
8 Jan & 15 Jan	Sec 1	Sec 1 Transition Workshop (PM)	After school, details will be shared with the classes.
9 Jan	Sec 4 & 5	Polytechnic Open House	12pm to 3pm
	Sec 2	Commencement of Aesthetics Education Programme (AEP)	For all Sec 2 students: every Thursday until 3 Apr, from 2pm to 4pm.
17 Jan	Sec 1	Sec 1 Parent Engagement Day	From 4.45pm onwards
28 Jan	All	Lunar New Year Celebrations	Details will be shared with the classes.
29 & 30 Jan	All	Lunar New Year	Public holiday
31 Jan	All	Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day	Students do not need to report to school.
February			
4 & 5 Feb	Sec 4E5N	English Language Workshop	After school
7 Feb	Selected students	Global Merahan Programme (GMP) – Hosting of students from Samakkhithayakhom School, Chiang Rai, Thailand	
11 Feb	All	Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day	Students do not need to report to school.
18 Feb	All	Commemoration of Total Defence Day	
25 – 27 Feb	Sec 3NT&NA	Applied Learning Module at Schools (ApLM@Schools)	Full day
26 Feb	Sec 3E	Learning Journey to Singapore and Republic Polytechnics	
	Sec 2 PG1	Experience ITE Programme at ITE College West	Full day

March			
6 & 7 Mar	Selected students	Global Merahan Programme (GMP) – Hosting of students from Srinagarindra the Princess Mother School, Phayao, Thailand	
11 – 17 Mar	Selected students	Global Merahan Programme (GMP) – Overseas trip to Jiangnan Middle School (JNMS)	
13 Mar	Sec 1 - 3	Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day	Students do not need to report to school.
	Sec 4&5	South 2 Cluster Education and Career Guidance (ECG) Day	
15 – 22 Mar	All	March Holidays	
17 – 19 Mar	Sec 4&5	Sec 4&5 Coursework Session	

2024 BMSS Term 2 Events

DATE	LEVEL	EVENT	REMARKS
March			
24 – 28 Mar	Sec 2, 4&5	Parent-Teacher Meeting (PM)	After school
April			
1 – 4 Apr	All	English Language Week	
1 – 3 Apr	Sec 4NT	Applied Learning Module at ITE (ApLM@ITE)	Full day
1 & 16 Apr	All	Photo-taking for staff and students	
3 Apr	Sec 2 PG1&2 Sec 3NT&NA	WorldSkills 2025	
3 & 15 Apr	Sec 1 PG3	Water Testing	
7 – 9 Apr	All	GROW Week Sec 1 and 3 – Camp at external venues Sec 2 and 4&5 – Activities in school <i>Students may have activities outside of school during GROW Week</i>	Parent notification on GROW Week will be sent via Parents Gateway.
10 & 11 Apr	All	Home-Based Learning (HBL) Days	Students do not need to report to school.
11 Apr	Sec 2	Upper Sec Subject Combination Briefing	After school
14 & 15 Apr	Sec 1 & 2 girls	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination	
15 Apr	All	Commemoration of International Friendship Day (IFD)	
16 – 25 Apr	Sec 1 & 2	Annual Health Screening	
16 Apr	15-year-old students	NRIC registration	
17 & 22 Apr	Sec 1 PG2	Water Testing	
18 Apr	All	Good Friday	Public holiday
23 April	All	Merahan Olympics Day (MOD)	
29 Apr	Sec 3 NA	Experience ITE Programme at ITE College West	Full day
29 & 30 Apr	Sec 4&5	Preliminary English Language oral examination	After school

May			
1 May	All	Labour Day	Public holiday
5 – 16 May	All	Mother Tongue Language Fortnight	
6 & 13 May	Sec 3	Igniting Passions Programme – student workshop	After school
7 May	Sec 1 - 3	Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day	Students do not need to report to school.
	Sec 4&5	Preliminary English Language or Mother Tongue Language oral examinations	
8 May	Sec 4E5N	Timed practice for science practical	
12 May	All	Vesak Day	Public holiday
13 – 15 May	Sec 2	English Language oral examinations	After school
14 May	Sec 4&5	Equipping for the Future Programme - interview workshop	After school
15 May	Sec 3NA	Learning Journey for Principles of Accounts	After school
19 May	Sec 1 - 3	Home-Based Learning (HBL) Day	Students do not need to report to school.
	Sec 4&5	Preliminary English Language or Mother Tongue Language oral examinations	
20 May	Sec 2	English Language oral examinations	After school
21 May	Sec 4&5	Make up preliminary English Language or Mother Tongue Language oral examinations	
22, 26 – 27 May	Sec 4E5N	Mother Tongue Language intensive programme	
22 May	Sec 2	Uncovering Strengths & Empowering Selves Workshop	
23 May	All	57th Speech cum Prize Giving Day	
	Selected students	BM Reunion	After school
27 May	Sec 2	Make up English Language oral examinations	
28 May	All	Heart & Sole Challenge (BMSS cross-country event)	Details will be shared with the classes.

29 May	All	Last day of semester 1	
29 & 30 May	Sec 1 & 3	Parent-Teacher Meeting	29 May afternoon and 30 May full day.
June			
2 – 5 June	Sec 4&5	Sec 4&5 Study Programme (Part 1)	
23 – 27 June	Sec 4&5	Sec 4&5 Study Programme (Part 2)	