



SERANGOON SECONDARY SCHOOL

11 Upper Serangoon View
Singapore 534237



30 March 2021

Through Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Mdm Tay Siok Hwa
Principal
Serangoon Secondary School

2021 Term 2 Letter – Lower Secondary

1. Welcome to Term 2 2021! Term 2 will be an exciting term with school events such as Student Leaders' Investiture and Prize Presentation Day, and the Mid-Year Examinations for Secondary 2, 4, and 5. In this letter, we would like to update you on:

- Updates on Key Events in Term 1
- COVID-19 Safe Management Measures
- School Hours
- 93rd Prize Presentation Day
- Term 2 Mastery Learning Programme
- Term 2 Weighted Assessments
- Mid-Year Examinations
- NRIC Registration
- Learning Week 1
- Term 2 Parent Engagement Session
- Updates on National Digital Literacy Programme
- School Expectations
- Repainting of School Campus
- School Canteen
- School-Home Partnerships
- Communication Channels



MOS with our five Peer Support Leaders

Updates on Key Events in Term 1

2. **Minister of State's Visit.** On 18 February, the Minister of State (MOS) in the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Ms Sun Xueling, visited to find out more about our school's support for students' mental well-being. MOS joined our Secondary 2H5 class for a Character & Citizenship Education (CCE) lesson on mental health, conducted by Mr Michael Chow and Mr Timothy Liew, our specialised CCE teachers. Five Peer Support Leaders were also involved in a dialogue session with MOS. Selected staff and students were thereafter engaged in media interviews. The visit was indeed a meaningful learning experience for our students, and a testament to our school's efforts to grow our students as we continue to empower our StaRs to SHINE.
3. **StaRs Programme 2021.** Our students have successfully completed the school's iconic cohort-level student development experience from 2 to 5 March. From outdoor activities to classroom-based virtual learning, the four-day non-residential programme has honed our students' social and emotional competencies and enabled them to grow holistically.



Students enjoying kayaking



Reflections around a mini-campfire!



Archery as a metaphor for target setting

4. **Term 1 Parent Engagement Webinars.** The two webinars conducted on 13 March (Sat) were well-received by parents, who found the sharing sessions informative and useful in guiding their child to make better informed choices. Parents can view the slides and recordings on the following websites:

- Upper Secondary Subject Combinations & Eligibility Criteria for 2022: <https://sites.google.com/moe.edu.sg/sec2sae2021/for-parents>
- Preparing for National Exams & Understanding Post-Secondary Education Options: <https://serangoonsec.moe.edu.sg/parents-n-students/upper-sec-matters/preparing-for-national-examinations-n-post-secondary-pathways>

COVID-19 Safe Management Measures

5. We continue to observe the prevailing safe management measures to safeguard the well-being of our students and staff. The latest updates are as follows:

- **TraceTogether (TT) Token Distribution.** The distribution of the TT tokens to students (only those who had given consent for collection) is scheduled from **22 to 31 March**. Advice on the carriage of TT tokens to school will be provided at a later date.
- **COVID-19 Vaccination for School Staff.** We are pleased to share that the majority of our staff would be vaccinated by May. This complements existing efforts to keep our school safe. As our staff come into contact with a large number of students, of whom a vast majority are not medically eligible for vaccination, this will further minimise transmission risks in our school.

School Hours

6. With effect from Term 2, the arrival timings for **Sec 2 and 3 students** have been **brought forward from 7.45 am to 7.40 am**. This is to provide more time for morning routines (e.g. one-to-one teacher-student interaction, motivational sharing), which are important for the development of our students, while still retaining staggered arrival timings to reduce congestion on public transport and at bus stops.

7. The updated arrival, dismissal, and recess timings are:

Level	Arrival	Recess	Dismissal on Mon – Thu	Dismissal on Fri
Sec 1	7.30 am	10 – 10.30 am	As per class timetable https://serangoonsec.moe.edu.sg/parents-n-students/class-timetables	12.20 pm on odd weeks 12.30 pm on even weeks
Sec 2	7.40 am	10 – 10.30 am		12.30 pm on odd weeks 12.20 pm on even weeks
Sec 3	7.40 am	11 – 11.30 am		12.20 pm on odd weeks 12.30 pm on even weeks
Sec 4 & 5	7.30 am	11 – 11.30 am		12.30 pm on odd weeks 12.20 pm on even weeks

8. **Character & Citizenship Education (CCE) and Learning for Life Programme (LLP).** All Sec 1, 2, and 3 timetables have CCE/LLP during Even Week Wednesdays from 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm. Please refer to the detailed schedule for Term 2 in **Annex A** – students who are involved are required to attend the respective session(s) as part of the formal school curriculum, while students who are not involved will be dismissed at 1.30 pm on such days instead.

9. **Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs).** Sec 4 and 5 students will stand down from CCA after **9 April (Fri)**. Sec 1 to 3 students will stand down from CCA after **16 April (Fri)**. Students involved in the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentation will continue with their CCA until the day of their performance.

10. **After-School Engagement Programmes.** Please refer to the Term 2 schedule below for students involved in the respective programmes:

Programme	Schedule
Orion StaRs (for selected Sec 1-2 students)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sec 1: Programme to continue throughout Term 2. • Sec 2: In view of the preparation for the Mid-Year Examinations, the stand-down date would be from 16 April (Fri). Students will resume the programme from 20 May (Thu).
Mentoring by CARE Singapore (for selected Sec 2 students)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In view of the preparation for the Mid-Year Examinations, the stand-down date would be from 23 April (Fri). • Students will resume the programme from 20 May (Thu).

Programme	Schedule
Adventure for Life (for selected Sec 1-3 students)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The session dates for Term 2 are 25 March, 8 April, 15 April, 20 May, and 27 May (all Thu).

93rd Prize Presentation Day

- We will celebrate our 93rd Prize Presentation Day on **1 April (Thu), 12.00 pm**. The theme for this year's event is aligned to our school's direction for 2021, Sustaining Joyful Learning.
- The Prize Presentation Day marks a significant milestone for our school in celebrating the holistic achievements of our Serangoon StaRs in the areas of character, academics, aesthetics, sports, and leadership. Staff, partners, and alumni are also recognised for their dedicated service and valuable contributions to the school. Congratulations to all prize recipients!
- The celebration will be class-based, and the dismissal timing for each level is as follows:

Level	Time
Sec 1	12.40 pm
Sec 2	12.50 pm
Sec 3	1.00 pm
Sec 4 & 5	1.10 pm

Term 2 Mastery Learning Programme (MLP)

- To provide additional support for learning, MLP lessons may be conducted for students after school on the following days. Teachers will inform classes of the details of each MLP at least one day before the MLP session. We seek your co-operation that your child/ward attends MLP lessons so that he/she can be well-supported in his/her academics. Please refer to the schedule below:

Sec 1 & 2 MLP Schedule	
Day	Subject Area
Mondays	English
Thursdays	Math

Term 2 Weighted Assessments

- Weighted assessments can take different forms for different subjects: Class Tests, Projects, Coursework, or Assignments. For **class tests**, the schedule for Term 2 for **Sec 1** can be found in the table below.

Sec 1 Class Test Schedule for Term 2										
Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Subject(s)					English (ALL)					
					Literature (EXP and NA)					
					Math (ALL)					

Mid-Year Examinations (MYE)

- The Mid-Year Examinations (MYE) will be conducted from **4 to 11 May** for **Sec 2** and **30 April to 17 May** for **Sec 4 and 5**. The MYE timetable will be issued to students at a later date. Please refer to pages 19 and 20 of the Student Handbook for the Test/Examinations Rules and Regulations.
- For Sec 2, 4, and 5, there will be no examinations scheduled on **12 May** and **14 May**, and regular lessons will take place. Examinations feedback will be conducted from **19 to 21 May**. For Sec 2, **17 May (Mon)** will be E-Learning Day and Sec 2 students do not need to report to school.
- As announced by MOE, there will be **no Mid-Year Examinations for Sec 1 and 3**. This is to provide adequate time and space for students to adjust to the new subjects and the higher content rigour.
- Marking day will be scheduled on **18 May (Tue)** and there will be no school for **all Sec 1 to 5** students.

20. The above information is summarised in the table below:

Level	Fri 30/4	Mon 3/5	Tue 4/5 – Tue 11/5	Wed 12/5	Thu 13/5	Fri 14/5	Mon 17/5	Tue 18/5	Wed 19/5 – Fri 21/5
Sec 1	Lessons	Labour Day School Holiday	Lessons	Lessons	Hari Raya Puasa	Lessons	Lessons	Marking Day (No School)	Lessons
Sec 2	Lessons		MYE	Lessons		Lessons	E-Learning Day (No School)		MYE Feedback
Sec 3	Lessons		Lessons	Lessons		Lessons	Lessons		Lessons
Sec 4 & 5	MYE		MYE	Lessons		Lessons	MYE		MYE Feedback

NRIC Registration

21. Singapore Citizen and Permanent Resident students born in the year 2006 are required by law to complete NRIC registration this year. The registration exercise will be conducted on **30 April (Fri)** at the school.
22. Starting this year, the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority (ICA) has brought the NRIC registration exercise online. Hence, parents are required to login to <https://go.gov.sg/icreg> with their SingPass to submit the NRIC registration online by **27 April (Tue)**.
23. The NRIC registration exercise at school will be restricted to biometrics enrolment comprising fingerprints and iris. For smooth biometrics enrolment at school, we seek your assistance to complete the online NRIC registration by **27 April (Tue)**. Please note the payment for registration: \$10 for Singapore Citizens and \$50 for Permanent Residents. Parents will receive notification letters from ICA two weeks before the registration date which will provide complete information on the process. We will also keep you updated through the PG app and the school website.

Learning Week 1

24. Previously known as the Post-Examinations Programme, this programme has been renamed as Learning Week. This is to better reflect the myriad of activities planned for our students' holistic development in the last week of Term 2 and Term 4, including for Sec 1 and 3 students who do not have Mid-Year Examinations. We seek to enable our students to make connections between classroom learning and out-of-classroom learning; develop their character, social and emotional competencies, and skills; and deepen their sense of belonging to the school.
25. Learning Week 1 will take place on **27 and 28 May**. More details will be provided at a later date.

Term 2 Parent Engagement Session

26. We will be having a Parent Engagement Session at the end of Term 2. There are two parts:
- **For all levels between 28 May and 2 July**. In view of the COVID-19 situation, Form Teachers will contact parents/guardians through a phone call to update you on the progress of your child/ward holistically.
 - **For selected levels on 29 May (Sat)**. There will be Zoom Webinars on the following topics. We strongly encourage you to attend these talks, so as to better prepare your child/ward in their Sec 2 and 3 year:
 - Sec 2: Education & Career Guidance – Understanding Post-Secondary Options
 - Sec 3: School Programmes and Academic Sharing

Updates on National Digital Literacy Programme

27. We would like to thank all parents and guardians of Sec 1, 2, and 3 students for submitting your consent to purchase the Lenovo 500e Chromebook Personal Learning Device (PLD). We have collated your responses and have submitted the orders for the PLDs.
28. As there is a current worldwide shortage of components, we have been informed that there would be expected delays to the delivery of the PLDs. The estimated arrival of the shipment of the PLDs would be in **May 2021**. A notification letter will be issued to students when the PLDs are ready for collection.
29. As part of the National Digital Literacy Programme, all students will be given an MOE email account to facilitate their learning. This email account will allow students to communicate through email, access the Google Classroom suite of applications, and register accounts on other learning platforms. More details will be provided in due course.
30. Students have also been briefed by their form teachers about the standard operational procedures (SOPs) and routines of using the PLDs in school, and how to care for their PLDs.

School Expectations

31. Students coming in after 7.30 am (for Sec 1, 4, and 5) or after 7.40 am (for Sec 2 and 3) are late for school and will be required to serve detention. We encourage students to arrive in school at least five minutes before the respective reporting time. This will help them frame their mind and prepare themselves to learn for the rest of the day.
32. With face masks mandatory due to COVID-19, students can wear the **half school uniform** (PE shirt with pants/skirt) on all days. Members of Uniformed Groups (UGs) can also wear their UG pants/skirts with their boots/shoes on Wednesdays and/or Fridays.
33. The **proper** wearing of face masks is paramount. Students must wear their face masks properly, covering their nose, mouth, and chin at all times. They are only allowed to remove their masks during meal times and PE lessons. After their meals or PE lessons, they must immediately wear back their masks. Consequences will be given to students who do not wear their masks despite reminders and warnings, and these consequences include detention and suspension from school.
34. As a school, we strive to inculcate appropriate and responsible device usage in our students. Unless allowed by teachers for learning purposes during lessons, handphone usage is restricted to before 7.25 am and after dismissal. Handphones are not allowed during recess, so that students can focus on taking meals or interacting with peers. Parents/Guardians can contact the General Office at 6385 1589 if you need to contact your child/ward urgently.

Repainting of School Campus

35. The repainting programme, scheduled once every five years, was executed with safety and business continuity as our prime considerations. We are happy to share that the works went according to plan and is due for completion by **early April 2021**. Together with the refurbishment of our classrooms, library, and washrooms, we look forward to providing your child with a conducive learning environment in school.

School Canteen

36. We are happy to share that we have successfully selected a stall holder to operate the vacant halal food stall at our canteen. The stall has started operation on **29 March** after fulfilling all regulatory requirements. The reopening of the stall will offer added variety to the fare already available, and means that all eight canteen stalls are in operation.

School-Home Partnerships

37. To strengthen positive parent-child relationships, the Parent Support Group is organising a virtual programme on **27 May (Thu)** from **6.00 pm to 7.00 pm**.
38. Our Student Welfare Officer, My Joyce Gan, will share on **The Five Love Languages of Teenagers**, to help parents to better identify and communicate in your child's love language. This will be followed by a parent-child bonding activity on **Smartphone Photography 101**, where there will be tips shared on using our phones' cameras to capture beautiful shots with your family.
39. We encourage you and your child to participate in this programme. Please register via <https://go.gov.sg/psgprogramme1> or by scanning the QR code below:



Communication Channels

40. Teachers can be contacted at **6385 1589** during **weekdays** between **7.30 am and 6.00 pm**. Alternatively, you may reach our staff by sending an email to serangoon_ss@moe.edu.sg.
41. You may also wish to visit our school website (www.serangoonsec.moe.edu.sg) for updates and key information on our school programmes.

42. We thank you for your continued support of the school and our programmes. If you require any clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact the following personnel at 6385 1589:

- Mdm Low Siew Ping, Year Head (Lower Sec)
- Ms Lee Zhi Li, Assistant Year Head (Sec 2)
- Mr Kwek Cher Wei Dennis, Assistant Year Head (Sec 1) (Covering)

43. We look forward to your partnership in your child's/ward's educational journey. Together, we empower every Serangoon StaR to SHINE, for the growth of self and the good of others!

Yours sincerely,

Low SP

Mdm Low Siew Ping
Year Head (Lower Sec)

CCE/LLP Period Schedule for 2021 Term 2

Dates	CCE/LLP Period	Students Involved
31 Mar	Environmental Champs Training	Sec 1 to 3 Environmental Champs
	Cyber Wellness Ambassador Training 2	Sec 1 to 3 Cyber Wellness Ambassadors
	PSL Training 3 (including Class Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson)	Sec 3 PSLs, Chairpersons, and Vice-Chairpersons
14 Apr	Class Committee & PSL meeting with FTs	Sec 1-3 Class Committee and PSLs
	Prefectorial Board Meeting 08	Prefects
	Cyber Wellness Ambassador Training 3	Sec 1 to 3 Cyber Wellness Ambassadors
28 Apr	Sec 1 VIA	All Sec 1 classes
	PSL Training 3 (including Class Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson)	Sec 2 PSLs, Chairpersons, and Vice-Chairpersons
	Sec 3 VIA	Selected Sec 3 classes
12 May	PSL Training 1 (including Class Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson)	Sec 1 PSLs, Chairpersons, and Vice-Chairpersons
	Sec 3 VIA	Selected Sec 3 classes

Serangoon Secondary School – 2021 Terms 2 to 4 School Events, Programmes, and Holidays

Term 2						
Date (tentative)	Event	Sec 1	Sec 2	Sec 3	Sec 4 & 5	Parents/Guardians
22 – 26 Mar	4NT Elective Modules				√*	
29 Mar – 1 Apr	3NT Elective Modules			√*		
31 Mar	Student Leaders' Investiture	√	√	√	√	
1 Apr	Prize Presentation Day	√	√	√	√	
2 Apr	Good Friday (Public Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
16 Apr	International Friendship Day	√	√	√	√	
30 Apr	NRIC Registration	√*	√*	√*		
30 Apr – 17 May	Mid-Year Examinations		√		√	
1 May	Labour Day (Public Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
3 May	Labour Day (School Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
13 May	Hari Raya Puasa (Public Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
17 May	E-Learning Day		√			
18 May	Marking Day (No School)	√	√	√	√	
26 May	Vesak Day (Public Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
27 – 28 May	Learning Week 1	√	√	√	√	
27 May	Parent Support Group Virtual Programme					√
28 May – 2 Jul	Parent Engagement Session	√	√	√	√	√
29 May	Parent Engagement Webinars		√	√		√
29 May – 27 Jun	Mid-Year School Holidays <i>7 – 20 Jun: Protected time; no activities. (Students may have CCA and/or Mastery Learning Programme classes on other days)</i>	√	√	√	√	
31 May	O-Level Mother Tongue Examination				√	
1 Jun	O-Level Mother Tongue B Examination				√*	

Terms 3 to 4						
Date (tentative)	Event	Sec 1	Sec 2	Sec 3	Sec 4 & 5	Parents/Guardians
5 Jul	Youth Day (School Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
6 – 9 Jul	2NT Elective Modules		√*			
9 Jul	Careers Day			√	√	
20 Jul	Hari Raya Haji (Public Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
21 Jul	Racial Harmony Day	√	√	√	√	
6 Aug	National Day Celebrations	√	√	√	√	
9 Aug	National Day (Public Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
10 Aug	National Day (School Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
Aug	N-Level Preliminary Examinations				√*	
Aug & Sep	O-Level Preliminary Examinations				√*	
2 Sep	Teachers' Day Celebrations	√	√	√	√	
3 Sep	Teachers' Day (School Holiday)	√	√	√	√	
4 – 12 Sep	September Term Break	√	√	√	√	
Sep & Oct	N-Level Written Examinations				√*	
Oct	End-of-Year Examinations	√	√	√		
27 – 29 Oct	Learning Week 2	√	√	√		
Oct & Nov	O-Level Written Examinations				√*	
29 Oct	Parent Engagement Session; Last day of school for Sec 1 – 3	√	√	√		√
30 Oct – 31 Dec	Year-End School Holidays <i>21 Nov – 12 Dec: Protected time; no activities. (Students may have CCA and/or Mastery Learning Programme classes on other days)</i>	√	√	√		
1 – 10 Nov	Sec 3 Bridging Programme <i>3NA/3NT will end on 5 Nov</i>			√*		
4 Nov	Deepavali (Public Holiday)	√	√	√	√	

*For selected students only

Note: The above dates are subjected to changes in view of the COVID-19 situation.