



St. Gabriel's Secondary School

Labor Omnia Vincit

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From the Principal's Desk 2010/03

19 July 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings! We are happy to update you on the latest developments in the school.

1 Youth Olympic Games (YOG): Our Involvement

Between Aug 14th and 26th Singapore will host the inaugural Youth Olympic Games under the auspices of the International Olympic Commission (IOC). Our school is the lead school in the group of schools that is twinned with and supporting Denmark, one of the 205 nations who are sending delegations of young athletes to compete.

As part of that support, we are hosting Mr Wilson Kipketer, an Olympic star athlete who is now an official with the Danish team. He will visit the school on Friday 20 August and address our students on Denmark, the Olympics, and the values of Excellence, Friendship and Respect that the YOG is promoting worldwide.

2 Award

We would like to congratulate two of our Gabrielite family members. Mrs Jenny Khaw, our Co-Curricular Programme Executive (CCPE) officer has received the "High Achievement Award 2010" from her supplying company, Aspire Educational Services. In addition, our teacher Ms Pan Shiyun is one of the 12 finalists for the Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA) for 2010.

3 New Family Members

We would like to warmly welcome the following teaching staff to our St Gabriel's School Family:

Name of Staff	Role / Areas of Specialty
Ms Angelia Pay	Teacher (English Language and Mathematics)
Ms Sathyapriya d/o Paskaran	Teacher (English Language and Literature)
Ms Crescentia Wang	Allied Educator (Teaching and Learning)
Mr. Imran Bin Lakariah	Allied Educator (Teaching and Learning)
Ms Adeline Yeo	Corporate Support Officer, (General Office)

We also warmly welcome to our school on attachment 9 NIE trainees and 5 MOE Scholars who are attached to classes and projects throughout the school. We thank

them for their support to the school in covering some relief duties and for their many other contributions. We wish them all an enjoyable and fulfilling stay with us.

4 Update on Achievements in 2010

S/N	Awards/Events/Competitions	Year/Achievement
1	Sustained Achievement Award (SAA) for Uniformed Groups	2010
2	Sustained Achievement Award (SAA) for Sports	2010
3	Sustained Achievement Award (SAA) for Aesthetics	2010
4	National Table Tennis B Division Boys	Top 3 individual positions
5	National Golf C Division	4 th
6	National Judo: C Extra Lightweight	Gold
7	National Judo: B Lightweight	Silver
8	National Judo: C heavyweight	Bronze
9	S6 Cluster Financial Carnival	Top 3 positions (Praxis Board Game) 3 rd position (for team)
10	Citi-YMCA Youth for Causes 2010	Received seed funding for environmental project.
11	National Youth Business Challenge (BizClub)	Silver Award; Most Engaging Earth-Friendly Sales Presentation Award

5 Assemblies

This is to remind parents that School assemblies are held on Tuesday afternoons in alternate weeks for Upper and lower Secondary students, starting at 1345 hrs. If cohorts are not required for assembly students will be dismissed at this time. However, they may be required to stay back by their Form or Subject Teachers for various matters such as CCA or remedial lessons.

Assembly time may occasionally extend beyond 1420 hrs depending on the duration of the presentation. The school will try to ensure that the maximum length of extension does not exceed **half an hour** – and only if necessary.

We seek your kind understanding on this matter. Please do not hesitate to call your son in the first instance, or the office if that fails, in order to clarify if your son is expected to be in school.

6 List of Coming Activities and Events

S/N	Date	Time Frame	Activities/Holidays
1	13/07/10, 20/07/10, 27/07/10	1415 – 1615 hrs	SFE Course – perfect Gentlemen (3 Sec 3 classes per week)
2	26/07/10 – 02/08/10	Reporting time: 1400 hrs, @ Hall.	GCE 'N' Level Exam – Oral (Mother Tongue Languages & Basic Mother Tongue Languages)
3	18/07/10 or earlier	-	CCA – Last day Sec 4E, 4NA, 4NT and 5NA

S/N	Date	Time Frame	Activities/Holidays
4	20/07/10	During school hours	Australian English Comprehension Competition (Sec 2E only)
5	20/07/10	School Dismissed at 1310 hrs	GCE 'O' Level Exam – Mother Tongue Languages LC
6	21/07/10	Usual school hours	Racial Harmony Day Celebrations
7	05/08/10	During school hours	Australian Maths Competition (Sec 2E and 2NA only)
8	06/08/10	Dismissal Time: 1200 hrs	National Day Celebrations in school, followed by curriculum time
9	09/08/10	-	National Day
10	10/08/10	-	School Holiday – day after National Day
11	13/08/10	By 1700 hrs	Deadline for 'N' D&T Coursework
12	13/08/10 – 26/08/10	Reporting time: 1400 hrs @ Hall	GCE 'O' Level Exam – Oral (EL)
13	14/08/10 – 26/8/10	-	Youth Olympic Games (YOG 2010)
14	20/08/10	1000 - 1200 hrs	Visit of Mr Wilson Kipkeker, YOG Denmark
15	30/08/10 – 03/09/10	Refer to class timetable	Block Periods for Sec 4NA and 4NT students (for EL, MT and SS)
16	16/08/10 – 20/08/10	-	St Gabriel's Kindness Week
17	27/08/10	1000 – 1200 hrs	Project Work "Remarket Carnival" (Sec 3s)
18	27/08/10	By 1700 hrs	Deadline for 'O' D&T Coursework
19	30/8, 2-3/9 and 13 – 21/9	Refer to school examination timetable	'O' Preliminary Examination 2
20	30/08/10 – 03/09/10	-	Healthy lifestyle Week
21	31/08/10	0745 – 1200 hrs	Happy Heels – Healthy Hearts III – Indoor Sports Hall Fundraising Event / ACES Day / Teachers' Day Celebrations
22	01/09/10	School Holiday	Teachers' Day
23	06/09/10 – 12/09/10		School September break
24	06/09/10 (During Sep School Holiday)	SEAB Exam Timetable 0800 -1215 hrs 1400 hrs	GCE 'N' Level Examination: (1)CL/ML/TL & CLB/MLB/TLB (Written) (2) EL-Syll T (Listening Comprehension)
25	07/09/10 (During Sep School Holiday)	SEAB Exam Timetable 0800 - 1000 hrs 1400 - 1530 hrs	GCE 'N' Level Examination: (1) CL/ML/TL & CLB/MLB/TLB (Listening Comprehension) (2) (2) CHS (SS)
26	08/09/10 (During Sep School Holiday)	SEAB Exam Timetable 0800-1215 hrs	GCE 'N' Level Examination: EL(Syll A & T) (Written)
27	13/09/10	Refer to SEAB Exam Timetable 0800 - 1330 hrs	GCE 'N' CPA 2 (Practical)
28	14/09/10 – 17/09/10	Refer to school examination timetable	Prelim 2 for Sec 4NA & 4NT All subjects except EL/MT(CL, ML, TL) and CPA Practical)
29	14/09/10	Refer to school examination timetable	'O' Prelim 2 Science Practical
30	17/0910 or	-	CCA – Last day for Sec 1 – 3

S/N	Date	Time Frame	Activities/Holidays
	earlier		
31	20/09/10 – 01/10/10 (tentative)	-	Block periods for Sec 4NA & 4NT students
32	22/09/10 – 12/10/10	-	Block Periods for Sec 4E and Sec 5NA students
33	04/10/10 – 11/10/10	Refer to SEAB Exam Timetable	GCE 'N' Level Examination (written)
34	04/10/10 – 14/10/10	Refer to school examination timetable	SA2 for Sec 1 – 3
35	13/10/10	0900 – 1000 hrs	Operation Spick and Span for Sec 4E and 5NA
36	13/10/10	1000 – 1200 hrs	Graduation Ceremony for Sec 4E, 5N & 4NT
37	14/10/10	-	Start of Study Leave for Sec 4E/5NA students
38	15/10/10 and 18/10/10	-	Marking Days (Sec 1 – 3 students need not report to school)
39	19/10/10 – 22/10/10	-	Checking of SA2 scripts by students (Note: Critical that students are present to check their own exam scripts)
40	21/10/10	Refer to SEAB Exam Timetable	'O' Level Science Practical (Phy/Chem)
41	23/10/10	-	Gabrielite Foundation Flag Day
42	25/10/10 – 16/11/10	Refer to SEAB Exam Timetable	GCE 'O' Level Examination (written)
43	29/10/10	1125 – 1235 hrs	Operation Spick & Span for Sec 1 – 3
44	29/10/10	-	Last day of School for Sec 1 – 3
45	16-22/11/10	-	Special Needs OCIP (Overseas Community Involvement Programme) Service Learning Trip to Thailand

7 Happy Heels, Healthy Hearts III

St Gabriel's Secondary School needs all our stakeholders, benefactors, wellwishers and friends to assist in raising funds for the building of our Indoor Sports Hall (ISH).

The aim of this project is to enhance and upgrade the quality of space and facilities for Physical Education, Sports and Leadership Development. The total cost of building the Indoor Sports Hall is estimated at S\$4.5 million. The Ministry of Education will be subsidizing 95% of the total cost of the building. However, as a government-aided school we need to foot 5% of the total cost of the building, which is S\$225,000.

To help us meet this target, one of our fundraising projects will be "Happy Heels, Healthy Hearts III", a family mass walk to Serangoon Stadium on 31 August 2010

All students and staff have been given a fundraising card each to solicit donations for the event. We seek your cooperation support this initiative and to remind your son to return the card, correctly filled in, with cash, well before the due final deadline of 20 August 2010.

8 Absence from School

The school consistently emphasizes the 4 'A's; Attendance, Assignment, Attitude and Attention. If a student is not present in school, it is impossible for him to practise the 4 'A's. We urge parents and guardians to assist the school in ensuring that your child/ward attends school regularly.

9 Absence from Tests / Examinations

We would like to keep all parents/guardians informed that when students are absent from any assessment, the school will only accept a Medical Certificate (MC) to account for the student's absence. Students who are unable to produce MCs when they return to school will **not** be awarded marks for the assessments.

10 Post First Semestral Examination Matters

Results for the First Semestral Examination were released on 27 May 2010. The school would like to assure you that teachers are conscientiously reviewing the exam scripts with their respective classes. The main objective is to ensure that students do not repeat mistakes made and strive for improvement by filling their current gaps in skills and knowledge this semester.

Please ensure that you have signed your son's SA1 results slip in his Report Book and that it has been returned to his Form Teacher.

The school would like to reiterate the importance of students' attendance in school. Students must not absent themselves from school unnecessarily so as to ensure that they do not miss lessons, tests, remedial lessons and enrichment programmes. Students must uphold the school value of 'With the right attitude, we can achieve' and take all daily assignments and class tests seriously. 15% CA weightage for Semester 2 may include assignments, quizzes, tests and project work.

The school strongly encourages parents/guardians to monitor the academic progress of your child/ward towards improvement in their academic performance in Semester 2 which constitutes an important 60% of their overall performance for the year.

We ask that parents read and take careful note of the latest promotion criteria printed in the 2010 School Handbook your son has had since the start of the year.

11 Performance Tracking System (PTS)

The school is greatly encouraged that many parents/guardians are monitoring their sons'/wards' performance in school by logging on to PTS. For those who have not been logging in to PTS regularly, we strongly urge you to do so at <http://www.stgabrielssec.moe.edu.sg/> to retrieve important information such as test calendar, test results and announcements on project work or enrichment/remedial lessons. PTS can be found by clicking "Student Links" on the left side.

For the benefit of those who are not aware of how to get into your son's/ward's account, please note that by default, the User Name is the child's NRIC Number **including** the alphabet letter that comes at the end of the IC and the Password is the last 4 digits of NRIC Number **plus** the alphabet letter that comes at the end of the IC.

12 CCAs

We continue to emphasize the importance of your child/ward participating actively in a CCA. In line with MOE's aim for the holistic development of each student, it is compulsory for all Sec 1 – 3 students to actively participate in a CCA. Students who are absent from CCAs will have to submit MCs or parent/guardian's letters. Absentees without valid excuses and with less than 75% of attendance at CCA training, or students without a CCA, will be given 'Fair' as their Conduct grade. This will adversely affect the students' chances for the Edusave Awards for the year.

It is important to note that a student will be awarded CCA points only if he has attended at least 75% of the CCA training by the end of the year

13 Parents' Support Group

The school deeply appreciates the committed effort of PSG members. Some of the group's many contributions include the following:

- Making and selling gifts in celebration of Mother's Day in May
- Supporting the School Cross-country event at MacRitchie Reservoir
- Decorating the Hall for our Speech Day Celebrations
- Providing strong support for the "GabrieLite iCarnival 2010"
- Helping to design our "Happy Heels, Healthy Hearts III" fundraising card
- Providing support for the 2010 Kitago Exchange
- Continuing to raise funds for the Sports Scholarship fund and the Indoor Sports Hall for our students
- Donating generous sums for the Indoor Sports Hall and an Aesthetic group
- Starting an activity group for students who have gaps in their timetable during curriculum time.

We are proud and honoured to have a spirited and vibrant Parents' Support Group (PSG). Especially we thank the many parents who have chosen to remain in and support the PSG long after their sons have left our school.

For our PSG to be able to continue their strong support to the school, a strong membership is crucial. All parents are warmly encouraged to join the PSG as a member. Forms can be easily obtained from the school office.

Please feel free to contact the school at Tel: 62889470 for any clarifications.

Best Regards and God Bless

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Mr Marcel Lee
Principal