



19 March 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Greetings from New Town Secondary School!

2 We hope your child/ward had a restful and enriching term break and is rejuvenated for Term Two!

3 In Term 1, two key programmes provided the platforms for our students to actualise the school vision – the Start Right Programme (inclusive of the Secondary One Orientation) in Week 1 and the Cohort Experience Week in Week 8. The Start Right Programme enabled students to foster a sense of belonging to the school through team building activities that enhanced student-student and teacher-student relationships. The Cohort Experience Week provided activities that were customised to the learning of students at each level, and allowed them to recognise their own strengths, and be inclusive towards their classmates. This forged stronger friendships and class identities.

4 In Term 2, we will continue to enable your child/ward to flourish and live to his/her potential. One significant event is the Student Leaders' Investiture which would be held on 16 April during the Assembly period. It is an important milestone as we celebrate the outgoing student leaders and invest in the start of the leadership journey for the incoming student leaders. On 26 April, we will commemorate the successes of our students and staff and show our appreciation to our partners at New Town's 59th Commendation Day. As part of our sustained efforts to ensure that effective learning takes place while strengthening our school's caring and enabling environment, your child/ward will experience a specially curated Cohort Learning Week (20 – 21 May) during the last week of the term. The term will conclude with a Parent-Teacher Conversation (PTC) on 24 May. An invitation will be sent to you via the Parent's Gateway closer to the date.

School Attendance Policy

5 We would like to emphasise that learning is maximised through attending school. Please refrain from taking your child/ward away from school during term time. Students should not take leave during the school term for personal and family overseas travel. Approval from Principal / Vice-Principals need to be sought prior to the booking of any overseas trips for leave request with valid reason. Students who willfully travel overseas during term time will be marked absent without valid reason and their conduct grade will be capped at Good. Students are also to report to school punctually and be at the flag-raising ceremony venue before 7.35am.

CCA Stand-Down

6 All graduating students will officially stand down from their CCAs from Term 2 (18 Mar 2024) onwards in preparation for their GCE 'O' and 'N' level examinations. The freed-up time (Tuesdays: 3.30pm to 5.30pm and Fridays: 2.00pm to 5.30pm) may be used by subject teachers for additional after-school academic coaching. Graduating students may also arrange for consultation sessions with their teachers during the freed-up time. There will be a few selected students who will be representing the school in the National School Games (NSG), or external competitions and they will continue to attend CCA sessions till end of the season.

Term 2 Timetable

7 There is no change to the timetable for Term 2. You may refer to the school website at <https://www.newtownsec.moe.edu.sg/others/announcements/class-timetable/> for your child's/ward's timetable.

Term 2 Weighted Assessment

8 The Term 2 Weighted Assessment (WA2) will be conducted from 15 Apr 2024 to 9 May 2024. The schedule for the WA2 will be sent to your child/ward through his/her student iCON email. The same schedule is also attached in this parent letter (see Annex B) for your reference.

Advisory on Vaping and E-vaporiser

9 E-vaporisers are illegal in Singapore. Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, the possession, use or purchase of e-vaporisers carries a maximum fine of \$2,000. It is also an offence to import, distribute, sell or offer for sale e-vaporisers and their components. Any person convicted of such offences is liable to a fine of up to \$10,000, or imprisonment of up to six months or both for the first offence, and a fine of up to \$20,000, or imprisonment of up to 12 months or both for the second or subsequent offence. All prohibited tobacco items will be seized and confiscated.

10 MOE takes a firm stand against vaping. Vaping is categorised as a serious offence. When students are caught using or in possession of e-vaporisers, the prohibited product will be confiscated and their parents will be informed. Schools will report the offender to HSA and also manage vaping-related offences through existing disciplinary frameworks. These include taking school-based disciplinary actions, such as suspension or caning (for boys). Students caught vaping will also be placed on cessation support programmes where counsellors will guide them through their cessation journey to effect long-term behavioural change.

11 Parents have an important part to play in their children's education. There are resources and relevant information that parents can access on Parent Hub. Parents are encouraged to have a serious conversation with their children about vaping to prevent it from becoming a life-long habit. More information about the harms of vaping is available on Parent Hub at <https://go.gov.sg/parent-hub-vaping>.

12 We look forward to fruitful and meaningful learning in Term 2 with your child/ward. If you have any further queries, please contact the school at 6775 4140 or via email: ntss@moe.edu.sg.

Yours sincerely,



Ari Manickam (Mr)
Principal

Calendar of Events* – Term 2

Dates	Events	Remarks
18 Mar (Mon) 21 Mar (Thu)	Sec 2 Geographical Investigation @ Casa Clementi - 18 Mar (Mon): S2-01 and S2-03 - 21 Mar (Thu): S2-02, S2-04 and S2-05	18 Mar: 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm 21 Mar: 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm
20 Mar, 03 Apr, 17 Apr, 15 May	VIA Action Days (Odd week Wednesdays) 20 Mar: Sec 1 and Sec 2, Sec 4Exp, 4NT and 5NA 3 Apr: Sec 1, Sec 2 and Sec 4&5 17 Apr: Sec 3 only 15 May: Sec 1, Sec 3 and Sec 4&5	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm
20 Mar (Wed)	NRIC Registration for Sec 3 students & selected Sec 2s	During curriculum time
20 Mar (Wed)	Sec 3 Critical Thinking Workshop	2.15 pm – 5.15 pm
20 Mar (Wed)	4NA Social Studies e-Examination Training	2.00 pm – 3.30 pm
22 Mar (Fri)	Sec 3 English School Oral Examinations Sec 4&5 MTL School Oral Examinations (No CCA training for Sec 3 students)	1.00 pm – 5.30 pm
27 Mar, 24 Apr, 08 May	Home-Based Learning (HBL) (Week 2, 6 & 8 Wednesdays)	
29 Mar (Fri)	Good Friday Public Holiday	
01 Apr – 09 May	After-school Academic Coaching (AAC) for graduating students	3.15 - 5.00pm Mondays & Thursdays (refer to PG Announcement sent 11 Jan 2024) AAC Science Practical has been added for Term 2 for the 4E5N Combined Science students on Tuesdays: 26 Mar, 2 Apr, 16 Apr, 23 Apr
05 Apr (Fri), 19 Apr (Fri)	Commendation Day Rehearsal	2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
08 – 09 Apr (Mon – Tue)	HPV Vaccination (for Sec 1 & 2 female students only)	During curriculum time
10 Apr (Wed)	Hari Raya Puasa Public Holiday	
12 Apr (Fri)	Sec 3 MTL School Oral Examinations Sec 4&5 English School Oral Examinations (No CCA training for Sec 3 students)	1.00 pm – 5.30 pm
15 Apr – 9 May	Weighted Assessment 2 Period	
16 Apr (Tue)	Student Leaders' Investiture	During curriculum time
17 Apr (Wed)	Sec 4&5 NAPFA 5-Stations Testing	2.00 pm – 5.30 pm

Dates	Events	Remarks
23 Apr (Tue)	Commendation Day Rehearsal (Back-up)	3.00 pm – 5.00 pm
26 Apr (Fri)	59 th Commendation Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School will end at 10.30 am on 26 Apr. - Selected students will be attending the event as audience. 	3.00 pm – 5.00 pm
01 May (Wed)	Labour Day Public Holiday	
03 May (Fri)	Sec 4&5 MTL Preliminary Examination	During curriculum time
10 May (Fri)	School Cross Country @ West Coast Park	8.00 am – 12.00 pm
13 – 17 May, 20-21 & 23 May	Sec 4&5 MTL O-Level Revision Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students sitting for GCE O Level MTL examinations only. - Students taking MTLB and students who are exempted from MTL are not involved in the revision programme. 	3.00 pm – 6.00 pm
15 May (Wed)	Sec 2 NAPFA 5-Stations Testing	2.00 pm – 5.30 pm
20 – 21 May (Mon – Tue)	Cohort Learning Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School dismissal per day may be different. - A separate letter will be sent nearer the time. - Last day of school for Term 2 is 23 May (Thu). 	
22 May (Wed)	Vesak Day Public Holiday	
24 May (Fri)	Parent-Teacher Conversation	8.00 am – 3.00 pm
27 May (Sat) – 25 Jun (Sun)	Term 2 School Holidays	
27 May (Mon), 28 May (Tue), 30 May (Thu)	Holiday Academic Support Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 27 May: For Sec 4&5 students not taking mid-year O-Level MTL examination. - 28 & 30 May: For all Sec 4&5 students. - Detailed schedule for the academic support programme will be sent via PG closer to date. 	Parents are requested to plan holiday travel after 30 May.
27 & 28 May (Mon – Tue)	GCE O Level MTL Examinations	As per national examination schedule

** Information is correct as at 15 Mar 2024. The list of events provided may not include all CCA trainings and/or any other programmes which your child/ward may be required to attend as the term progresses. Please look out for letters by the relevant teachers-in-charge via Parents Gateway (PG).*