



COMPASSVALE SECONDARY SCHOOL 康柏中学

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School Motto: *Realising the Star Within*

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Dear Parents/Guardians

UPDATES ON SCHOOL MATTERS FOR TERM 3 & 4, 2020

Resumption of CCA and School Activities

With effect from 27 Jul, Secondary Schools, JCs and MI have the option to resume CCA and school activities for non-graduating cohorts, subject to strict adherence to MOE guidelines on Safe Management Measures (SMM) and barring any shifts in the national posture on SMM (Primary schools will be able to resume after the end-of-year exam). The key considerations for safe resumption of activities are as follows:

- **Workload of teachers and students**

- Schools have the flexibility to decide when to resume CCA and school activities based on teacher and student workload, and whether it is meaningful to continue in reconfigured formats.
- For a start, CCA sessions should be conducted once a week, with a duration of not more than 2 hours per session.

- **Risk-based approach**

- Schools will only resume activities where risks can be contained and moderated by SMM guidelines, such as 1m safe distancing measures between students (2m for Physical Activities) or reconfiguration of activities that cannot maintain 1m safe distancing to multiple groups of 5, with 1m between groups (3m between groups for Physical Activities).
- To further mitigate risks, maximum number of students for CCA and school activities that involve intermingling of students beyond class and across levels will be capped at 20 per activity, with fixed composition to minimize intermingling.
- For CCA and school activities that cannot be reconfigured to adhere to SMM, schools will continue to suspend or deliver them through digital means (eg. eCCA). These include activities that involve high exposure to aerosol/splatters [eg. choir that involve singing, band wind instruments, uniformed groups foot drills and parade] or body contact; inter-mingling of students between schools [eg. combined schools CCA activities]; inter-mingling of students with the public [eg. activities conducted at an external venue such as CCA/learning journeys/VIA/enrichment conducted outside school] or other high risk activities [eg. overnight outdoor adventure camps].

- **Progressive resumption of activities to safeguard and support student well-being** - With the prolonged suspension of activities, schools will plan for a gradual transition back to CCA and school activities by commencing with activities that are of lower intensity and moderating student performance expectations. Schools will leverage the social interaction opportunities from CCA and school activities to promote social connectedness and positive network of support.

CCA teacher i/c's will plan for CCA activities for the rest of the year and inform their respective CCA groups in due course. Face to face CCA will start next week at the earliest for some CCA.

Student Well-being

- MOE has provided Health Education materials on SMM which Form teachers will go through with their form classes. We have conducted class-based student survey designed by MOE at the start of the term to get a sensing of our students' social-emotional needs, social support network and well-being, and identify students for closer monitoring and support, including those who are having difficulties coping emotionally, facing family-related challenges, or struggling quietly and not reaching out for help. Posters on signs of distress and coping strategies provided by MOE will be put up as visual reminders to help students look out for signs of distress in themselves and others, and prompt them to use strategies to cope with stress or difficult situations.
- MOE has also curated a "Hope Bank Lesson" - a 30-minute classroom activity for students to reflect on how they can tap on their personal and interpersonal resources. Students will be encouraged to create a "hope bank" and keep it close to them, to serve as a reminder that there are things they can do to cope and people to turn to in times of difficulty.
- In addition, as part of the school's focus on positive education, the Student Development Team will also be introducing a set of positive thinking messages via BOUNCE BACK acronym, to build student's resilience and help them rise above the challenges they face during this period that is filled with uncertainties.

*B*ad times don't last

*O*ther people can help if you talk to them

*U*nhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset

*N*obody is perfect

*C*oncentrate on the positives (no matter how small)

*E*verybody experiences bad times

*B*lame fairly

*A*ccept things you can't change

*C*atastrophising exaggerates your worry

*K*eep things in perspective

National Day Celebration (Fri, 7 Aug)

- This year's National Day Celebration marks the 55th anniversary of our country's independence. The theme "**Together A Stronger Singapore**" is a rallying call to Singaporeans to play our part to push forward and determine Singapore's future, in spite of the difficulties and crises. "Together" refers to Singaporeans uniting as one people, brought closer in binds of compassion and kindness, while "A Stronger Singapore" signifies our determination to emerge from the crisis stronger as a nation, with our best days ahead of us.
- With SMM in place, a modified version of the celebrations will comprise the Observance Ceremony and the National Day Celebrations segment. The Observance Ceremony will be broadcast to all classes in the morning while the celebration segment will be held in the classrooms. To make up for lost curriculum time, schools are encouraged to schedule a few lessons on the day. We have also incorporated NRIC ceremony for Sec 3 (NRIC registration exercise will be conducted later on 1 October) and NSF engagement session for Sec 4/5. Reporting times for all levels are as usual for school days and the staggered dismissal times will be 11.30am (Sec 1), 11.40am (Sec 2), 11.50am (Sec 3) and 12.00pm (Sec 4/5). There will be no second recess on this day.
- Mon, 10 Aug 2020 is National Day Public Holiday-in-lieu, students and teachers need not come to school.

The Futurist Webinar (Thu, 13 Aug)

The school will be collaborating with the Education and Career Guidance Unit, Student Development Curriculum Division of MOE to conduct 'The Futurist' Webinar to help students understand the challenges faced during the COVID 19 pandemic and develop a positive mindset to turn challenges into opportunities. Our graduating cohort will get to meet industry professionals from Google Singapore and learn from them tips and insights to understand the changes in the world of work that have been accelerated due to COVID 19, the opportunities these changes bring, the new growth sectors and the skills needed, what employers are looking for and the related educational pathways to pursue. More details will be given to the students nearer the date.

Teachers' Day Celebration (Thu, 3 Sep)

- As an acknowledgement of the hard work of school staff this year to manage COVID-19, schools do not need to schedule lessons on 3 Sep. The celebrations will last 2-2.5 hours. Reporting times for all levels are as usual for school days and the staggered dismissal times will be 9.30am (Sec 1), 9.40am (Sec 2), 9.50am (Sec 3) and 10.00am (Sec 4/5). Canteen will not be open on this day.
- Fri, 4 Sep is Teachers' Day School Holiday, students and teachers need not come to school.

School/Staff/Student Achievements

- **BCA Green Mark Award (Goldplus)** – Our school has been awarded Building and Construction Authority (BCA) Green Mark Award (Goldplus) on 2 March 2020. The award is valid for 3 years and we will have the opportunity to share our green technologies and practices at BCA Green Mark events in future. BCA has three iterations of Green Building Masterplans and one major aspiration is greening 80% of Singapore's buildings by year 2030 (greening includes green buildings as a means to address climate change). BCA has prepared a survey to seek different stakeholders' perception of green buildings and gather ideas on possible initiatives. You are welcomed to share your views and ideas at <https://go.gov.sg/general-surveysgbmp2020> by 30 Sep 2020.
- **2020 NUS Geography Challenge** – Tee Hong Xun and Bryan Wee (both from 4E4) won a Silver and Bronze medal respectively which places them in top 30% of 90 teams from various secondary schools. Our team comprised also Nicole Teo and Nur 'Azimah (both from 4E4). Hong Xun has also been invited to take part in the 2021 Geography Talent Development Prog organised by MOE CPPD Geography Unit. This is an annual prog for selected students to deepen their subject mastery through seminars, field-based learning and career exploration sessions. 4 participants will get to represent Singapore at the 2021 International Geography Olympiad.
- **2020 Anderson-Serangoon JC Annual International Elementz Fair** – 111 teams across secondary schools, JCs and schools from ASEAN region took part in this annual competition of student-initiated projects to study the impact of science on society. Both of our teams won Gold awards. Team 1 (Neo Kai Qi 3E6, Ling Yi Jun 3E5, Marianne Poh 3E3, Venice Gunawan 3E3) investigated alternative energy source from fruit peel while Team 2 (Taha Jalil, Keane Tan, Victor Ang, Hadriel Lim, all from 3E3) investigated the efficacy of biosorbent in purifying water.

Ex-students

- **Nur Jasmine Bte Roslan (2017 4E5)** – 2019 GCE A Level Exams (7 distinctions) and Outstanding Student Leader award, Nanyang JC [Nur Jasmine was our Outstanding North Star awardee for 2017 graduating cohort]
- **Chua Wei Shao, Jorgenn (2017 4E5)** – 2019 GCE A Level Exams (5 distinctions), Nanyang JC
- **Lim Wan Ning (2016 4E5)** – Ngee Ann Poly Diploma with Merit in Information Technology and Diploma Plus with Certificate in Advanced Computing Mathematics and Certificate in Japanese
- **Dominic Ng Jun Yao (2016 4E4)** – Ngee Ann Poly Diploma with Merit in Information Technology and Diploma Plus with Certificate in Advanced Computing Mathematics
- **Ong Shu Yi (2016 5N2)** – Republic Poly Diploma with Merit in Customer Experience Management with Business
- **Chin Jian Guang (2016 4E4)** – Republic Poly Diploma with Merit in Sports Coaching
- **Cheryl Bay (2019 4E4)** – Healthcare Scholarship awarded by MOH Holdings Pte Ltd

Best regards

Chia Chor Yann, Principal