



Through School To Nation

CHANGKAT CHANGI SECONDARY SCHOOL

13 Sep 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

INFORMATION AND PROGRAMMES FOR TERM 4 2021

Time passes by quickly. As we near the end of the academic year with one more term to go, our teachers are already preparing ahead for 2022. You would have read in the news that all secondary schools and Junior Colleges will have regularly scheduled **Home-Based Learning (HBL)** days from 2022. This **Blended Learning** approach/programme will provide Changkateers more time and opportunity to pursue their own interests and develop the mindsets and habits for self-directed learning. The HBL days will take place once a fortnight, excluding examination periods. On these days, Changkateers will spend about four hours on curriculum studies and about one hour to pursue their own **Student-Initiated Learning (SIL)**.

In preparation for Blended Learning, we have equipped all our Secondary One to Three students with Apple iPad and Pencil in Term Two this year. We have also run cyber-wellness programme and activities to inform Changkateers on how they can use their **Personal Learning Devices for Positive Learning**. Another key piece we have started conversation on is the **revised Timetable 2022**. Changkateers will receive a revised timetable starting next year where there will be a day for HBL and SIL every fortnight. In this new timetable, while some of you may prefer school to start later, there are also parents/guardians who may prefer the school to end earlier. This is just one of many issues that we have to balance in the revised Timetable 2022. We also have to consider how we can keep initiatives such as staggered recesses, snack breaks that align with Changkat's focus on enhancing student well-being. We will provide further details once we have worked out the revised Timetable 2022.

I am pleased to share with you that Changkateers continue to excel in various areas. Our students have performed well at the recent **Mid-Year O Levels Mother Tongue examinations**. We achieved 100% passes in 4E Chinese, 4E Tamil, 4E Chinese Language B Syllabus, 5NA Chinese and 5NA Malay. This is the strongest performance of the 5NA cohort in the past three years.

Individual Changkateers have worked hard to become the best in their respective fields. I wish to highlight some of their achievements. Master Sergeant (National Cadet Corps) Alfred Seetoh Xiao An (4N2) and Master Sergeant (National Cadet Corps) Nur Natasha Binte Mohamed Riduwan (4N3) have attained the **Outstanding Cadet Award 2021**. This award is presented to graduating cadets who hold the Master Sergeant rank and have contributed significantly to the unit.

Changkateers have also performed well in competitions. At the recent **4th Primary and Secondary School Chinese Language Text Recital Competition**, Claudia Goh Zhe Min (1E2) achieved the Lower Secondary Individual Award (Silver) while Looi Pei Yin and Ng Ki Wing (3E1) achieved the Upper Secondary Group Award (Silver). These achievements are a result of teachers' and students' hard work and effort.

Our staff constantly hones their craft and strives for innovation. Our Level Head (Mathematics), Mr Poh Wei En, was recently awarded **The Commendation Medal** during the National Day Awards 2021. The Commendation Medal is awarded to an individual who has distinguished himself through commendable performance and conduct or significant efficiency, competence



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and devotion to duty. Our Lead Teacher, Dr Perema Ramasamy, was recently awarded the **Palm Leaf Award (Platinum)** by Girl Guides Singapore. This award is conferred on uniformed members who have rendered distinguished service to Girl Guides beyond the unit level. Our teachers, Mr Sim Chong Ghee, Mr Jason Zhuo, Mr Ong Kian Beng, Mr Mohamed Syafiq, Mr Sebastian Thng, Ms Norhafizah and Ms Siti Nurhidayah have also shared their best practices in teaching and learning at the recent **Teachers' Conference 2021**.

In celebration of our **55th Anniversary** with the theme "*Celebrate with Gratitude, Learn with Passion*", I am proud to share with you that the whole school community has completed 52 Acts of Gratitude to date. Through these acts of gratitude, we hope to teach Changkateers the value of gratitude and how they can show their appreciation to those in their community.

To help your child/ward have a positive Term 4 experience, we have prepared the following key information for your attention:

1. Ensuring Safety and Security of Students

1.1 Safe Management Measures

As Singapore transits to the endemic state with the gradual easing of community Safe Management Measures (SMMs) and in line with the MOE's direction, the school has made the following changes with effect from 10 August 2021 (Tuesday), regardless of students' vaccination status:

- Indoor and outdoor mask-on activities are allowed in groups of up to five pax;
- In-person CCAs may resume. In addition, in-person activities involving external vendors or conducted at external venues, may also resume, up to a cap of 50 pax (in strict adherence to national guidelines);
- In-person centre-based lessons for all cohorts, including non-graduating cohorts, to resume.

The following SMMs will continue to be put in place to ring-fence our school against the risk of in-school transmission:

- strict adherence to wearing masks (surgical masks or reusable masks of equivalent effectiveness) at all times; students and staff should not talk when their masks are off.
- daily temperature-taking and visual symptom screening will be carried out for all students and staff. Students are reminded to have their Oral Digital Thermometer and TraceTogether (TT) token/app with them in school at all times.
- practise social responsibility (e.g. discipline of wiping down of shared surfaces and common items after use, mask-wearing, not coming to school if unwell with any COVID symptoms such as fever, runny nose, cough, loss of smell or if household members are unwell or when awaiting swab test result).
- all staff and visitors will be required to register their details via SafeEntry when entering the school.
- practise good personal hygiene (e.g. observance of regular hand-washing with soap in school and at home).
- frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces.
- observe safe distancing measures at all times both in school and out of school. Intermingling across classes and levels will not be allowed.



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- adhere to fixed exam-style seating in classrooms and 1m safe-distance seating arrangement in canteens.
- staggered recess timings by levels to reduce congestion. Snack breaks will still be provided at 1.15pm on Tuesdays to Thursdays and students are to wash their hands with soap and water before and after consumption of their snack.
- students are advised to head straight home once dismissed and not to congregate in groups with their friends at public areas.

1.2 2021 Updated Arrangements for the Year-End GCE N(A) and O-Level Written Examinations

The Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB) have updated the national examination arrangements to include the use of Antigen Rapid Tests and Polymerase Chain Reaction Tests for affected students on Leave of Absence (LOA) or Approved Absence. This will enable as many students as possible to sit for their papers while keeping students and staff safe.

Candidates who are tested positive for COVID-19, placed on Quarantine Order (QO) or Stay-Home Notice will not be allowed to sit for the examinations.

To minimise the risk of transmissions and reduce the number of students placed on QO or LOA, MOE will implement a study break for the following graduating cohorts:

- GCE N(A) Level: 4 September (Saturday) - 12 September (Sunday) and 1 October (Friday) - 3 October (Sunday) 2021
- GCE O-Level: 13 October (Wednesday) - 17 October (Sunday) 2021

During these periods, students are strongly encouraged to remain at home to revise for their examinations. Schools will remain open on weekdays for those who require additional support, including those whose home environments may not be conducive for learning.

SMMs will continue to be implemented in schools and examination venues, and during the study break to ensure the safe conduct of national examinations.

The updated arrangements have also been broadcast to all parents of Secondary 3 to 5 student groups via Parents Gateway with accompanying press release on 28 August 2021 (Saturday).

1.3 Building of Sheltered Walkway by Land Transport Authority (LTA)

We are pleased to inform you that LTA has commenced work to build a sheltered walkway from Simei MRT to our school's front gate and that of Changkat Primary School, including the pathway opposite the school. Do encourage your child/ward to take note of potential safety hazards in their journey to school while construction is taking place.

Work has also commenced to build an internal sheltered walkway from the school's Main Gate to the School Foyer. The project is estimated to be completed by the end of December 2021. During this period, the footpath from the Main Gate to the School Foyer will be closed for safety reasons. All students, staff and visitors are to enter the school from the side gate that is located nearer to the Changkat Primary School. The main gate will still be open for use by vehicles entering and exiting the school.



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1.4 Road Safety

Parents/guardians are encouraged to remind your child/ward on the importance of road safety inside and outside of the school. If your child/ward is taking public transport, please also remind him/her to use the zebra crossings and designated footpaths when they are walking into and out of school.

Due to the construction taking place at the school's Main Gate, parents/guardians driving into school should slow down and watch out for oncoming vehicles driving out of the school. Vehicles going out of school should also slow down and watch out for vehicles entering the school. We seek your understanding to follow the correct traffic flow within the school compound and drop your child/ward only at the designated drop-off point at the foyer.

Parents/Guardians who are waiting to pick up their child/ward should wait at the vacant parking lots available instead of at the foyer to reduce traffic congestion at the foyer.

2. Enhancing Positive School Experience

2.1 Graduation Ceremony for 4NA / 4E / 5NA

We will be hosting our Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2021 on **27 September (Monday), from 2.00pm – 5.00pm**. At the Graduation Ceremony, we will be celebrating the achievements of our graduating Changkateers and reliving memorable experiences they have had together since Secondary One. In view of SMMs, the Graduation Ceremony will be held in their respective classrooms. We warmly welcome all parents of Sec 4 and 5 students to be part of the Graduation Ceremony via zoom and will be sending out a separate invitation letter for you to indicate your attendance.

2.2 Other Important School Events

Please note the following summary of other important school events in Term 4 2021.

Event / Programme	Dates
Graduation Ceremony (Sec 4NA / 4E / 5NA students)	27 Sep
Elective Modules by ITE (Sec 2NA students)	18 Oct to 21 Oct
2021 Sec 3 Subject Combination Exercise (Sec 2 students)	15 – 22 Oct
Release of Subject Combination Outcomes (Sec 2 students)	3 Nov
Aviation Day (Sec 1 – 3 students)	25 Oct
CCE Programme (Sec 1 – 3 students)	26 Oct
Service Leadership Day (Sec 1 – 3 students)	27 Oct
House Meeting (Sec 1 – 3 students)	
Deepavali Concert (Sec 1 – 3 students)	28 Oct



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Event / Programme	Dates
Last Day of School / Meet the Parents Session (Sec 1 – 3 students)	29 Oct
e-Open House	27 Nov (pending confirmation of release of PSLE results)

You may wish to note that Aviation Day in Changkat aims to promote passion in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education as well as to enhance our Applied Learning Programme (ALP) through engaging workshops beyond curriculum. STEM professionals from our industry partners and tertiary institutions such as Rolls-Royce and Singapore Polytechnic will be conducting the workshops. It will be structured within curriculum time during the post-exam week. All students from Sec 1 to 3 will be attending these workshops by the STEM professionals and the sharing will be conducted in different modes for the different levels.

3. Important Academic Matters

3.1 School Examinations, CCA Stand Down and Marking Days

All students are reminded to work hard to prepare for their respective examinations.

Test & Exam	Dates
End-of-Year Exams (Sec 1 to 3 students)	28 Sep to 8 Oct

The schedule for the End-of-Year Exams will be issued separately. In light of the examinations, CCAs will stand down from **13 September (Monday) to 15 October (Friday) 2021**. Students should focus on revision, and resume CCA activities only after their exams are over.

Please take note that **11 October (Monday) and 12 October (Tuesday) 2021** are Marking Days. Students need not report to school, and lessons will resume as usual on **13 October (Wednesday) 2021**.

3.2 2021 GCE O-Level and N-Level National Examinations

Please ensure that your child/ward comes prepared and is punctual for all papers.

2021 GCE N-Level Listening Comprehension Examination	Date
English Language Syllabus A / MT 'B'	13 Sep
CL / ML / TL	14 Sep
2021 GCE O-Level Listening Comprehension Examination	Date
English Language / MT 'B'	15 Oct
2021 GCE N-Level Written Examinations	Date



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Various Subjects	15 Sep – 22 Sep, 4 Oct – 13 Oct
2021 GCE O-Level Examinations	Date
Pure Physics Practical	4 Oct
Science (Biology/Chemistry/Physics) Practical	7 Oct
Pure Biology Practical	12 Oct
Pure Chemistry Practical	14 Oct
Various Subjects (Written Examinations)	18 Oct – 15 Nov

Para 3.2 shall be read in conjunction with Para 1.2. Reference can also be made to your Parents Gateway announcement or the seab website (www.seab.gov.sg) for the updated arrangement and the joint MOE-SEAB press release dated 28 Aug 2021 (Saturday).

3.3 Early Dismissal for Sec 1 – 3 Students During GCE O Level Exams

Due to the commencement of GCE O-Level written exam papers, take note that Sec 1 – 3 students will be dismissed at an earlier timeslot in the last two weeks of Term 4. This is to ensure a conducive environment for students taking the exams, as well as allow staff with national exam duties to report on time.

Day	Dismissal Time
18 Oct (Monday)	Sec 1: 1.15pm
20 – 21 Oct (Wednesday – Thursday)	Sec 2: 1.20pm
25 – 28 Oct (Monday – Thursday)	Sec 3: 1.25pm
19 Oct (Tuesday)	Sec 1: 12.20pm Sec 2: 12.25pm Sec 3: 12.30pm

This term letter can be downloaded from the school's website and Parents Gateway.

As we come to the end of academic year 2021, I would like to thank you for your continuous support and trust. You have placed trust in Changkat and our teachers to develop your child/ward to their fullest potential and given us the time and space to do so. Some of you have written to me in appreciation of Changkat's efforts in looking after your child's/ward's well-being. We are thankful for your feedback and aspire to strengthen home-school partnership to take care of the well-being of both staff and students.

Please stay safe and keep well. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Ho Ming Da
Principal,
Changkat Changi Secondary School