



9 Sep 2024

Principal's Letter to Parents

Term 4, 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to the final term of this academic year!

As we move into Term 4 where our graduating girls will be taking the national examinations and the Sec 1 to 3 girls will be taking their end-of-year examinations, let us constantly remind ourselves that examination results and academic performance do not define our children. How can you better support your child in her learning and preparations? Will you join me to help our PL-Lites end the academic year feeling positive, confident and passionate about school and life?

At Assembly this morning, I shared about my involvement and learning from a NIE research project on "Youth Purpose at the Heart of Student Well-Being" (<https://singteach.nie.edu.sg/2021/12/22/youth-purpose/>). The research showed that "high achievement without purpose is not sustainable in the long term – students "do" school and can be high achieving but have low purpose that stunts personal growth and well-being". Instead, "youth's purpose, meaning in life and social support systems significantly influence students' school and life satisfaction". And "support from parents was the strongest predictor of school and life satisfaction". If parents focus only on academic achievement, how can we then help our children discover life purpose and satisfaction, and nurture their overall well-being and growth?

Our parenting journey is never easy. I often feel guilty and question my ability as a mother, especially when I struggle with my child's decisions, responses and actions. I was encouraged by a recent article (<https://biblical-parenting.org/articles/looking-at-our-kids-through-gods-eyes/>) dated 2 Sep 2024, that "we are bound to fail, to give up, to run away. But we can always remember that He who created our kids will be our source of help and strength, our source of strategies and solutions". May the Lord our God continue to guide us to guide His children, our precious PL-Lites to shine.

Please see my letter dated 29 Aug 2024 for **Highlights of Key School Events in Term 4**. A summary of the early dismissal and non-school days in Term 4 can be found in **Annex A**.

1. Learning in this Final Lap for our Graduating Sec 4/5 and Sec 1 to 3 Girls

- a. Revision and Home Support. Our girls have verified their preliminary examination (except some 4E/5N subjects) and Term 3 WA results, and will be spending more time on personal learning and revision in this last lap. Some teachers may have also contacted you at the end of Term 3 or during the short Sept school holidays on your daughter's learning and progress.
You can ask your daughter to share her revision schedule or plan, and ask how she would like you to support her. Over meals and breaks, talk to her about life beyond the examinations and purpose, be present and listen. Or you can join the school by praying for all our PL-Lites, providing the conducive environment etc.

- b. For our Graduating Cohort. Besides the **Night Study Programme** from 11 to 19 Sep, the graduating girls' **Study Break** will also commence from Monday, 23 Sep (for majority, except our Sec 4N girls who will have their Phase 2 Intensive Lessons from 23 to 25 Sep) and they need not report to school. The girls are strongly encouraged to make appointments with their subject teachers for individual or small-group consultations from 23 Sep. Teachers may also contact individual students or small groups of students who may require more customised support. Last, the **JC DSA and Polytechnic/ITE EAE outcomes** were gradually released up until Monday, 9 Sep. The school is in the midst of collating the outcomes with the girls' help. Beyond this, parents can play a pivotal role in helping our girls make decisions about their post-secondary education pathways and their choice of future courses and careers. Before we can do so, we need to have up-to-date information. Here are some useful resources:
- i. Up-to-date information about **JAE application, posting process, course types and details** can be accessed here: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/admissions/jae>. For a compilation of information on post-secondary courses at **ITE, Polytechnics and Junior Colleges**, please refer to this URL: SchoolFinder / CourseFinder : <https://www.moe.gov.sg/schoolfinder>
 - ii. **Post-Secondary Education – MOE Web Resource**
This webpage helps your child/ward navigate the post-secondary education landscape. It provides information on the different post-secondary educational institutions and allows her to find pathway options that meet her strengths and interests. Please refer to this URL: <https://www.moe.gov.sg/post-secondary/>
 - iii. **MySkillsFuture Portal**
MySkillsFuture is a one-stop education and career guidance (ECG) portal that supports students in making education and career decisions across each education stage; and empowers them for life-long learning. Students can discover more about themselves through games and tools, explore the Singapore Education Landscape and learn more about the World of Work through videos and over 1000 job role information. The URL is <http://go.gov.sg/mysfsec>
 - iv. **Post-Secondary Scholarships**
For girls who aspire to take on scholarships after their secondary education, there is a full listing of the available scholarships. We will be engaging girls who have shown good potential to qualify for the scholarships in conversations. The scholarship details can be found here: <https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/instructional-programmes/post-secondary-scholarships> and <https://www.moe.gov.sg/financial-matters/awards-scholarships>

2. **Baccalaureate Service cum Graduation Day for Graduating Sec 4/5 Cohort**

We thank God that we will be able to hold our Baccalaureate Service cum Graduation Day for our graduating girls on Friday, 20 Sep. This has been a proud PL tradition that serves to mark a key milestone in the life of our graduating students as the school wishes them well in their endeavours beyond the national examinations. Parents of our graduating girls have been invited to attend the Graduation Ceremony after the Service.

Sec 1 to 3 students will be dismissed from school at 10.30am on Friday, 20 Sep.

We would like to thank PL Alumni, PL Parent-School Support Group (PSSG) and Paya Lebar Methodist Church (PLMC) for their tremendous support for this event.

3. 108th Founder's Day on 11 Oct 2024

PLMGS will celebrate our 108th Founder's day on Friday, 11 Oct. Sec 1 to 3 students will attend the Founder's Day Service in the morning, and will be dismissed by 11.00 am. Students are to report to school at 7.30 am in full uniform with school tie.

4. End-Of-Year WRAP Up (Post- Examination) Programme for Sec 1 to 3 Girls

Dates of the End-of-Year WRAP Up (Post-Examination) Programme were shared in my last letter, from 18 to 25 Oct. As part of the post-examination programme, **We** take time to **Recharge, Reflect, Affirm & Play (WRAP)**. Highlights include the student-led showcase of their year-long student-initiated learning – Pursuing Life Skills in Every Experience (PuLSE) and our girls' initiative in planning for their own class-bonding activity. Further details will be shared shortly.

5. End-of-Year Prize Presentation

To celebrate student learning and successes, we will be presenting awards to students who have shown outstanding determination and resilience in overcoming challenges faced in their learning, as well as school life. The Prize Presentation will be held on Friday, 25 Oct 2024. We hope this presentation can encourage the students for their effort and inspire their peers as well.

6. PL Mega Camp for Student Leaders

PL's flagship student leadership development programme, Mega Camp, will take place from 6 to 8 Nov 2024. The 3D2N residential camp will be mandatory for relevant Sec 2 to Sec 3 (and some Sec 1) student leaders (i.e. prefects, top 2-3 leaders per CCA, house captain/vice-captains, monitor council). Student leaders who are unable to participate are encouraged to engage their respective teachers-in-charge as soon as possible; appreciate those who already done so. Further details will be shared with relevant parents in October.

Please note that school vacation will be from **16 Nov 2024 to 1 Jan 2025**. If you are planning for a family holiday, we appreciate that you plan it during the school holiday period. The last school day for the entire school is Friday, 25 Oct because the school will be used as a venue for the GCE O-Level written examinations.

From Monday, 28 Oct, Sec 3 and selected lower secondary PL-Lites will have bridging lessons, preparing them for 2025.

CCAs will continue after 25 Oct in anticipation of the early competitions in 2025 and in preparation for the PLMGS Open House on Saturday, 16 Nov 2024. Some CCAs will resume from 16 December 2024. More details will be shared shortly

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and guardians for your strong support as we commence the final school term of the year. I look forward to your continued partnership to end the school year positively and safely for all our girls and their families.

Yours faithfully,
Ms Amy Ng
Principal

Summary of Early Dismissal and No-School Days in Term 4 (for Sec 1 to 3)

Date	Dismissal Time	Event
20 Sep (Fri)	10.30am	Baccalaureate Service cum Graduation Ceremony for Graduating Cohort
23 Sep (Mon) – 4 Oct (Fri)	At the end of relevant paper of the day	Sec 1 to 3 End-Of-Year Examinations
7 – 8 Oct (Mon – Tue)	<i>No school</i>	Marking Days
9 Oct (Wed)	<i>No school</i>	Home-Based Learning (Sec 1 to 3)
11 Oct (Fri)	10.30am	108 th Founder's Day
16 Oct (Wed)	12.50pm	GCE O-Level EL Listening Comprehension starts at 2pm
17 Oct (Thur)	12.15pm	GCE O-Level EL Paper 1 starts at 1.30pm
18 – 25 Oct (Fri – Fri)	From 1.00pm	End-Of-Year WRAP Up (Post-Examination) Programme Details will be sent to parents/guardians in October.