



14 March 2025

# Principal's Letter to Parents

## *Thanksgiving for Term 1, 2025*

Dear Parents/Guardians

Thank you for your support and partnership. Special thanks to parents who supported our Sports Day at Bedok Reservoir this morning. Thank God for the safe and wonderful time at Sports Day 2025!

At our End-Of-Term Assembly yesterday, we asked our PL staff, teachers and PL-Lites the following.

After 10 weeks of Term 1 2025,

- What are you most **P**roud of?
- What was the **L**owest point? How did get back up?
- What is your most **M**emorable experience?
- What was your **G**oal at the start of 2025? Have you made progress? Is there a need to revise the Goal in Term 2?
- What is your **S**elf-Care (i.e. care for one's physical, mental and social health) plan this school holiday?

We, parents too, have much to be proud of as we have learnt and grown together as one PL family. We have overcome setbacks and challenges, and continue to create new memories with our precious PL-Lites. This school holiday, let's take time to revisit our goals and purpose for schooling with our girls – to nurture women of fine character with a passion for life and learning. This reflection is also self-care, where we engage our minds and spirits in preparation for another term of learning and growth in Term 2 together.

I have received positive feedback on our new time-table structure:

- "My child is home before 6.30pm for dinner with me!" – a parent
- "I have longer lunch breaks, and can chill and relax with my friends.." – a Sec 3 PL-Lite

The new time-table structure has contributed to earlier school and CCA dismissal timings, and longer lunch breaks for majority of our girls. As in most innovation and change, there will be benefits and there will be trade-offs. A concern is the longer queues at the popular canteen food stalls. To mitigate the queues, we thank our Parent-School Support Group (PSSG) for working with the school for a pilot 'pre-order food' initiative that will commence in Term 2. Our girls can pre-order their favourite foods and collect them from the PSSG station from Term 2. We will monitor the impact of this pilot project before making decisions on the next steps.

As I look back at Term 1, I truly have so much to be thankful for – your support and partnership, my colleagues' efforts and commitment, our girls' smiles and cheers. PLMGS is blessed. In the rest of this letter, please find some other key information as we mark the end of Term 1 and prepare to move into Term 2.

## 1. Thanksgiving

We give thanks for the excellence achieved by our 2024 N- and O-Level PL-Lites. We thank our parents/guardians for their unwavering support and the teachers who journeyed alongside the girls. Do refer to the school website for a breakdown of the N-Level and O-Level achievements. We continue to pray that our graduated girls will move on confidently to pursue their aspirations and make a positive difference with “a passion for life and learning”.

PL(Sec) 2024 N-Level results

URL: <https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/accolades/national-examinations/gce-n-level-2024/>

PL(Sec) 2024 O-Level results

URL: <https://www.plmgss.moe.edu.sg/accolades/national-examinations/gce-o-level-2024/>

## 2. Teaching and Learning Matters

### a. 2025 GCE O- and N-Level Examinations Time-Tables

The 2024 GCE O- and N-Level Examinations Time-Tables can be downloaded from the following websites:

2025 GCE N-Level (NA/NT) Exam Time-Table	<a href="https://file.go.gov.sg/2025-gce-na-nt-level-exam-timetable.pdf">https://file.go.gov.sg/2025-gce-na-nt-level-exam-timetable.pdf</a>
2025 GCE O-Level Exam Time-Table	<a href="https://file.go.gov.sg/2025-gce-o-level-exam-timetable.pdf">https://file.go.gov.sg/2025-gce-o-level-exam-timetable.pdf</a>

### b. Joy of Learning

National examinations are just one of the many learning experiences and outcomes of schooling. We have made significant changes to the education system in the past few years to nurture joy of learning in our students. After two more cohorts taking the GCE N- and O-Level Examinations, our current Sec 2 students will take the first Singapore-Cambridge Secondary Education Certificate (SEC) Examinations in 2027. The SEC examinations are part of a more inclusive and flexible approach to secondary education. The new system allows students to take subjects at varying levels according to their strengths and interests. Parents can support their children by encouraging regular revision and effective time management, focus on helping our girls discover their strengths and interests. Understanding their strengths, interests and passions will be the foundation in the pursuit of joy.

Learning in school is no longer about knowledge acquisition, taking examinations and attaining good grades. The deliberate reduction in school-based assessments and mid-year examinations not only frees up more time for students to explore and develop their interest and further nurture 21<sup>st</sup> Century Competencies, it also gives students the time and space to sense-make and apply what they have learnt, collaborate, connect with each other and be creative.

Term 1 Results Slips will be issued in Term 2 Week 2. Rather than focus on marks and final grades, we encourage parents to discuss learning and improvement strategies with your daughters. Encourage them for their efforts. I hope our girls will see each assessment as an opportunity for them to demonstrate what they have learnt (or not) and not be fearful of the outcome or disappointed by a grade.

### 3. Student Services during 2025 March school holidays

Please note the opening hours for the school's General Office during the March School Holidays.

- Monday – Tuesday, 17 and 18 Mar (non-protected leave): 7.30am to 6.00pm
- Wednesday – Friday, 19 to 21 Mar (protected leave): 7.30am to 5.30pm

The Canteen will be closed during the March school holidays. Students who are returning to school for CCA practices and lessons may purchase drinks and food during their breaks from the vending machines which will be re-stocked daily. Students can bring and consume their own snacks during their breaks.

The School Bookshop will be closed during the March school holidays.

The PL Book-tique (School Library) continues to serve as a dedicated space for student to revise and address their learning needs. Opening hours for the PL Book-tique are shown below.

- Monday – Wednesday, 17 to 19 Mar: 8.00am – 5.00pm
- Friday, 21 Mar: 8.00am – 4.30pm

The library will be closed on Thursday, 20 Mar 2025.

### 4. CCA March Holiday Training Schedule

Please see attached for the March school holiday CCA training schedule. The respective CCA Teachers-In-Charge have informed the girls of the training in the March holiday leading up to the SYF Arts Presentation and on-going National School Games in Term 2.

### 5. Highlights of Key School Events

The following are highlights of our school's key programmes in Term 2, 2025. While Term 1 focused on "a friend who grows in wisdom and stature", our Term 2 Theme will be "A Friend Who Loves All" supported by the monthly foci shown below.

Month Focus	Dates	Key Events
Grow in favour with God and Man	24 Mar, Mon	Term 2 starts
	27 Mar, Thur	Sec 1 BLOOM Programme starts
	27 Mar, Thur	NKF Talk for selected Sec 4 students
	27 Mar, Thur	Sec 4/5 Science Practical Practice Session for selected students
	29 Mar, Sat	Methodist Walk@ACJC – Sec 1 students to represent PLMGS(S)
	<b>31 Mar, Mon</b>	<b>Hari Raya Puasa</b>
Love with <b>HEART</b> (Honour one another, encourage one another to pursue Excellence)	2 Apr, Wed	Sec 4/5 EL Oral Exam Day 1
	3 Apr, Thur	Home-Based Learning (Sec 1 – 5)
	3 – 5 Apr	Cultural Immersion Trip to Batam for selected Sec 3 students
	8 Apr, Tue	Symphony of Praise (Dress Rehearsal) for selected students
	9 Apr, Wed	Sec 4/5 MTL Oral Exam Day 1
	9 Apr, Wed	Sec 4/5 Science Practical Practice Session for selected students
	10 Apr, Thur	Sec 4/5 EL Oral Exam Day 2
11 Apr, Wed	International Friendship Day	

	11 Apr, Thur	Symphony of Praise (Dress Rehearsal) for selected students
	11 Apr, Fri	Girls' Brigade 86 <sup>th</sup> Enrolment Service & Parade@PLMC
	15 Apr, Tue	Symphony of Praise (Dress Rehearsal) for selected students
	16 Apr, Wed	Sec 3 EL Oral Exam Day 1
	16 Apr, Wed	Sec 4/5 MTL Oral Exam Day 2
	<b>18 Apr, Fri</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
	22 Apr, Tue	Symphony of Praise (Final Dress Rehearsal)
	23 Apr, Wed	Home-Based Learning (Sec 1 – 5)
	23 Apr, Wed	Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2025 for selected Sec 4 students
	23 – 24 Apr	GCE O-level NFS Coursework Practical Examination
	24 Apr, Thur	Sec 4/5 Science Practical Practice Session for selected students
	24 Apr, Thur	Sec 3 EL Oral Exam Day 2
	25 Apr, Fri	Symphony of Praise Concert
	25 Apr, Fri	Sec 4/5 last day for CCA (non-NSG and SYF)
	28 Apr, Mon	House Practice for all students – No CCA
Love with <b>HEART</b> (Adapt to differences, Respect one another, give Thanks for one another)	<b>1 May, Thur</b>	<b>Labour Day</b>
	2 May, Fri	S4E/5N Pathfinder Workshop for selected students
	2 May, Fri	Sec 2 Meet-The-Parents Session – Engagement on Education Career Guidance & Subject Combination Matters
	5 May, Mon	House Practice for all students – No CCA
	6 May, Tue	Sec 4/5 Science Practical Practice Session for selected students
	7 May, Wed	Home-Based Learning (Sec 1 – 5)
	8 May, Thur	Sec 4/5 Science Practice Practice Session for selected students
	8 May, Thur	Sec 3 – 5 EL Oral Exam Day 3
	9 May, Fri	Sec 4 & 5 2024 Cohort - Homecoming
	12 – 17 May	Cultural Immersion Trip to South Korea for selected Sec 2/3 students
	<b>12 May, Mon</b>	<b>Vesak Day</b>
	15 May, Thur	Tea with Year Heads
	16 May, Fri	Sec 4NA Pathfinder Workshop for selected students
	19 – 21 May	Sec 1 Outdoor Adventure Learning Cohort Camp
	19 – 21 May	Sec 2 Cohort Learning Journeys (details will be disseminated via PG nearer the event)
	19 – 21 May	Sec 3 Cohort Camp
	19 – 21 May	Sec 4/5 Applied Learning Module@PL
	22 May, Thur	Start of Sec 4/5 MTL Intensive
	23 May, Fri	Sec 3 NRIC Presentation Ceremony (TBC)
	27 – 30 May	Mid-Year Pit Stop Programme Highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec 1 Geography/Science LJ &amp; PL21 Showcase</li> <li>• Sec 2 Performing Arts-Based Learning Experience</li> <li>• Sec 3 ECG Conference</li> <li>• Principal's Dialogue Sessions with students</li> <li>• <i>Mid-Year Meet-The-Parents Session on 29 May</i></li> </ul>
	30 May, Fri	End-of-Term Assembly Combined Students Leaders' Dedication Service

		Official Last Day of Term 2
	31 May, Sat	PSSG Family Event
	<b>31 May – 28 Jun</b>	<b>June School Holidays</b> (Protected Leave: 7 – 20 Jun 2025)
	2 Jun, Mon	GCE O-Level MTL Examinations and GCE O-Level MTL (B) Examinations
	3 – 6 Jun	Sec 4/5 Intensive Lessons/Consultations
	4 -5 Jun	Sec 1 Full SBB Inserts Bridging Programme
	<b>7 Jun, Sat</b>	<b>Hari Raya Haji</b>
	9 Jun, Mon	Hari Raya Haji Off-In-Lieu for schools
	23 – 26 Jun	Sec 4/5 Online Consultations (for students to register)
	30 Jun, Mon	Start of Term 3

Every Mon morning, 7.30am at SFE Room or 8am via Zoom	<i>PrayingParents@PL</i> meets every Monday morning either in school (SFE Room) or via Zoom, for a time of prayer and fellowship. If you are interested to join, please email Mrs Yolanda Gooi at yolagooi@gmail.com.
Once a term	<i>Fathers@School.</i> is a father-centric group set up to encourage active and involved fathering in PL through purposeful activities and workshops designed to strengthen father-daughter relationships. If you are interested to join, please email Mr Sebastian Teo at sebastian.teoch@gmail.com.

Please check the school website (<http://plmgss.moe.edu.sg>) for regular updates on the school programmes and other administrative matters. Do also follow us on our Facebook page for the happenings in and around the school (<https://www.facebook.com/PAYALEBARMGS>).

## 6. Tips for parents

Many parents have shared with me their struggles with their child's use of digital devices as well as their concerns for their daughter's mental well-being. PL has a strong partnership with Focus on the Family (Singapore), a VWO that aims to "help families thrive - amidst the pressures and demands of today's world, we seek to strengthen families by providing timely resources to nurture relationships." Below are some resources from Focus, which I hope you will find useful for your parenting learning journey.

No.	Title	Message Body	Link
1	5 Ways to Keep Your Kids Safe and Healthy Online	We live in a time where social media and short-form content are not just tools and sources of information, but a way of life. With the advent of AI chatbots and image generators, the online world presents as many dangers as benefits to our young. How can we keep our young safe and healthy online?	<a href="https://family.org.sg/articles/5-ways-to-keep-your-kids-safe-and-healthy-online/">https://family.org.sg/articles/5-ways-to-keep-your-kids-safe-and-healthy-online/</a>
2	How To Get Your Teens Off Their Screens and Into Their World	Parents are concerned, and rightly so. What with the increasingly sedentary lifestyles of our youth, reduced interaction time with family and friends, learning issues, sleep problems etc., how can we draw our young out from their digital shells and engage and connect with them meaningfully in the real world?	<a href="https://family.org.sg/articles/how-to-get-your-teens-off-their-screens-into-the-world/">https://family.org.sg/articles/how-to-get-your-teens-off-their-screens-into-the-world/</a>

3	How Not To Let Stress and Anxiety Get the Better Of You	Stress and anxiety affect people of all ages. While for some, stress works as a form of motivation, others find it overwhelming and anxiety-inducing. In today's fast-paced world, managing both stress and anxiety is a crucial skill, and this article presents some helpful stress management strategies for adults and youths.	<a href="https://family.org.sg/article/s/how-to-not-let-stress-and-anxiety-get-the-better-of-you/">https://family.org.sg/article/s/how-to-not-let-stress-and-anxiety-get-the-better-of-you/</a>
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This holiday, take time to rest, recharge and spend time with your family and daughter. Find out what goes on in her school life. Reinforce her good behaviours and set clear boundaries and expectations. Help our PL-Lites learn that they can and must take responsibility for their learning and growth too.

Thank you in advance for your continuous support and for partnering us to care for your daughter/ward.

Yours faithfully  
Ms Amy Ng  
Principal