

# St Gabriel's Primary School



## Parent Notification

February 2023

### Highlights:

**A Note from the Principal**

**School-based Assessment Policy**

**Focus of the Month**

**School-wide Programmes / Activities**

**General Administrative Matters**

*For detailed schedules, please refer to the School Calendar on the school website.*

### A Note from the Principal

Dear Parents,

The Beginning of the School Year Mass was held on Tues 31 Jan with Father Paul Ngo as the main celebrant. Students, staff and parent volunteers prayed together as a school for God's blessings for the safety and well-being of everyone. It was a special occasion as it also coincided with St Louis Marie De Montfort's 350<sup>th</sup> birthday. We were reminded of our founding father's virtues and how he made a difference to our lives with the opening of the Gabrielite schools. We hope our Gabrielites will be inspired to live out the virtues.

After-school programmes such as supplementary, remedial, LMM and CCA have begun. As this constitutes a great effort from the teachers and boys, we hope that it will be meaningful and helpful for our boys' holistic development. CCA is a platform for our boys to develop resilience, learn teamwork and lead a healthy lifestyle. It is also important for them to manage their time well so that their academic work is not neglected. Above all, having enough rest and good nutrition is essential for their growth and development. We thank our parents for the strong support for the various programmes.

With the full resumption of programmes, the school will be organising a variety of events beyond the classroom curriculum to provide for the holistic development of our boys. The rest of this Parent Notification will highlight the upcoming programmes in the next one to two months which we hope parents will support by reinforcing the messages to the boys. For example, Safer Internet Day requires parental guidance at home to ensure our boys navigate cyberspace and social media in a safe and responsible way. We hope you will find the programme updates useful as we work in partnership to provide consistent guidance to our boys.

Thank you for signing up for this week's PTM. We hope that you will have a meaningful session with the teachers.

Labor Omnia Vincit

**Mr Martin Tan**  
**Principal**

## School-based Assessment Policy

### School-based Assessment Policy

To nurture our students to be lifelong learners and further enhance the holistic development of students. All Mid-Year Exams (MYE) will be discontinued for all levels with effect from 2023. This will free up time and space to allow the school to provide our students with deeper and more enriched schooling experiences.

With the removal of the MYE, our school will monitor students' learning and growth by drawing on multiple sources of assessment information and interactions with students.

To this end, we have a range of assessments, both formal and informal, to ascertain students' learning progress and subject mastery.

Formal ones are **Weighted Assessments** such as the End-of-Year Exams (EYE) and Weighted Reviews (WR). Informal ones are **Non-Weighted Assessments** such as bite-size revisions, performance tasks, classwork and homework. Collectively, these are multiple sources of information to give the teachers and the parents additional feedback on our boys' progress. This also reduces excessive focus on testing and academic results, and places greater emphasis on students' well-being and their lifelong learning.

(Note: **EYE** = End-of-Year Exams; **WR** = Weighted Reviews; **NWA** = Non-weighted Assessments)

SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENTS					
LEVELS	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	TERM 4	REMARKS
PRIMARY 1	Nil	NWA	NWA	NWA	Removal of Weighted Assessments for P1 and P2 (effective 2019)
PRIMARY 2	NWA	NWA	NWA	NWA	
PRIMARY 3	NWA	WR 1 (15%)	WR 2 (15%)	EYE (70%)	Removal of Mid-Year Exams for all levels (effective 2023)
PRIMARY 4	NWA	WR 1 (15%)	WR 2 (15%)	EYE (70%)	
PRIMARY 5	NWA	WR 1 (15%)	WR 2 (15%)	EYE (70%)	
PRIMARY 6	WR 1 (15%)	WR 2 (15%)	PRELIM (70%)	NATIONAL EXAM (PSLE)	

The detailed Assessment Plan for the respective levels have been uploaded through notifications via Parents Gateway in Week 4. These are also made available in the school website. Subsequent updates to the assessment plans (if any), will be uploaded in Parents Gateway by the start of each term.



Mr John Lim  
Vice Principal

## **Focus of the Month: Being a Leader, Sportsman and Achiever by setting goals**

### **Focus of the Month – Being a Leader, Sportsman and Achiever by setting goals**

As part of our character development programme, we aim to develop our students to be a Leader, Sportsman and Achiever. One way of helping them do so is to guide them in their goal setting process. Hence, it is crucial that Gabrielites view goal setting holistically. Goal setting involves a holistic perspective of the student and covers both the academic and non-academic aspects. We do this through a series of G.R.O.W sessions where they are taught strategies and skills on how to improve themselves in the respective areas.

The school believes that a strong home-school partnership is essential in character building of our students. Hence, we would like to partner with parents in helping our boys in this goal setting journey. One way this can be done is to foster a growth mindset with appropriate feedback that focuses on how Gabrielites can be a better version of themselves rather than be fixated on instant success, effortless performance and natural talent.

At times, it is necessary to spell out to them what “work harder” means. For example, rather than telling them to “work hard”, parents will need to model the effective preparation that they should do. Celebrate little successes when you see a positive effort and when they positively manage challenges and mistakes. This will help our students to enjoy the process of learning. After all, being a Leader, Sportsman and Achiever can only be done through effort and resilience.

Labor Omnia Vincit.



**Mrs Jessica Hoon**

**HOD Character & Citizenship Education, VIA & Community Partnerships**


## School-wide Programmes/ Activities

### Foundation Flag Day

Our children and youths are students who live in an ever-changing world. This calls for schools to better prepare their students with knowledge, skills, and values to meet the challenges ahead. Our family of seven institutions under St Gabriel's Foundation (SGF) will continue to faithfully implement the Montfortian Education Charter and combine our resources to develop our students as resilient and compassionate servant-leaders in the future.

Hand in hand, the community has always played a key role in shaping our students. This year, SGF is embarking on a Virtual Flag Day to bring the community together to help fund its programmes and operations.

The SGF appeals to your generosity to donate any amount. A donation of \$100 and above will be eligible for 250% of tax deduction.

Donate via Giving.sg Scan the QR code	Donate via Cheque
 <a href="https://www.giving.sg/stgabriel'sfoundation-sg/sgf-flagday2023">https://www.giving.sg/stgabriel'sfoundation-sg/sgf-flagday2023</a>	<p><b>Cheque payable to:</b> St Gabriel's Foundation</p> <p><b>Mailing Address:</b> St Gabriel's Foundation, 624 Upper Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 678212.</p>

Hand in hand, for the betterment of our students – we look forward to your support to reach our goal of raising \$150,000 through this Virtual Flag Day 2023.

More information will be sent out via Parents Gateway.



**Mrs Jessica Hoon**

**HOD Character & Citizenship Education, VIA & Community Partnerships**

## School-wide Programmes/ Activities

### Total Defence Day - Together We Keep Singapore Strong

The theme for Total Defence Day focuses on the many ways we can put Total Defence into action in our everyday lives. Total Defence remains relevant to deal with the ever-evolving threats and challenges to Singapore. These include misinformation, supply chain disruptions, and food security, which affect communities and Singapore's way of life. Every Singaporean has a part to play in our daily lives to ensure that Singapore is prepared for crises and disruptions and that we remain resilient and united.

In school, we strive to teach our Gabrielites to be accepting of differences and how as individuals, they too can play a part in building psychological and social defence and fostering trust even as our differences threaten to divide us. These will be done through a series of recess activities and classroom lessons.

Moreover, students are also encouraged to adopt a green lifestyle in their daily lives to protect the environment that they live in. This will be infused into the recess activities as it is also a form of social and economic defence. As mentioned in January's Parent's Notification, we strongly encourage the Gabrielite family to bring along clean and dry plastic bottles as part of the SGPS Green Plan. Students will be taught how to read off kitchen scales and how to categorize the items accordingly.

There will be a briefing for Gabrielites before the event.

<b>Dates of Collection</b>	14 February 2023, Tuesday	<b>Remarks:</b> Bottles (with caps preferred) must be dry and clean
	15 February 2023, Wednesday	
<b>Venue of Collection</b>	Outside Canteen	
<b>Time of Collection</b>	Respective Recess Timings	



**Mrs Jessica Hoon**

**HOD Character & Citizenship Education, VIA & Community Partnerships**

## School-wide Programmes/ Activities

### Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2023 will take place on 7 February 2023, with learning activities based on the theme '**Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online**'. The internet plays a significant role in the lives of children and young people, becoming integral to their social development as they get older. Talking to students about their life online and encouraging them to share their experiences is a key part of helping to safeguard our students' wellbeing.

In school, we will be learning more about Safer Internet Day during school assembly, Special Periods and recess during the week of 13 to 17 February (Term 1, week 7).

At home, five tips shown below will help you start, manage and maintain an open dialogue with your children about life online, and help you support them to use technology safely and positively. With your help, Safer Internet Day 2023 can be a springboard for conversations that shape how we talk about and respond to online issues, not just for one day, but throughout the whole year.

### Practical tips for starting a conversation about life online

01

#### Be positive and open minded about the internet

If your child mentions something you haven't heard of, ask them to show you, or explain in more detail.

02

#### Talk early and often

Talking openly about life online from an early age, can be a helpful bridge to sharing safety messages and addressing more difficult conversations at a later date.

03

#### Create a safe space for conversations

Sometimes, talking face-to-face can feel difficult, so talking alongside each other when out for a walk, or travelling in the car for example, are options that might make it easier.

04

#### Keep it relevant

To get a sense of how much they know and what support they still need, ask open-ended questions to let your child lead the conversations you have.

05

#### Be proactive

Working together to create an agreement, outlining how the internet and technology will be used within the family, is a useful way to set clear expectations and boundaries for your children.



Mdm Lim Jia Shyuan  
Subject Head / InfoComm Technology

## School-wide Programmes/ Activities

### NLB's Raising Readers Talk

The National Library Board (NLB) has rolled out their Raising Readers talk for 2023. This is an annual 30-min video presentation for parents of lower primary students, sharing ways to encourage children to enjoy reading, as well as book recommendations and eResources available to aid them in the process. The presentation also includes useful information such as how to sign up for library membership and borrow eBooks. We hope that this video is useful in encouraging parents to start their child's first steps to visit the journey and nurture a love for reading.

The video can be accessed through the link below:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1me\\_L2msE6QV5eTqI2jSgTjvtPzDiLs3I/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1me_L2msE6QV5eTqI2jSgTjvtPzDiLs3I/view?usp=share_link)

Please note that this video should not be redistributed, edited, or republished without prior arrangement with NLB. The content of this pre-recorded video has been updated as of December 2022 and is created uniquely for the outreach at St Gabriel's Primary School. Lastly, this video link is available to you from now till 15 February 2023. Thank you!



**Mrs Michelle Tan**  
Level Head, English Language

## General Administrative Matters

### 1. Public / School Holidays in February and March 2023

Students do not report to school on the following Public / School Holidays:

- **Saturday, 11 March 2023 to Sunday 19 March 2023 : March School Holidays**  
School resumes on Monday 20 March 2023

### 2. Reap The Laurels (RTL) 2023 – For Achievements in 2022

The Reap The Laurels ceremony will be held on **Friday 10 March 2023**. Students need NOT report to school on that day except for prize-winners who will be notified separately.

### 3. Photo-Taking for P1 and P6 Students for the 2023 School Smart Card

- MOE will be conducting the yearly photo-taking exercise for all students in P1 and P6 for the purpose of generating the School Smart Card (SSC). The photo-taking will be conducted by Transit Link's appointed vendor on behalf of MOE. The SSC serves as the student's identification card and can be used for concessionary travel on public transport and to borrow library books from the National Library Board and the school's library etc.
- The photo-taking session for our school is scheduled on **Tuesday, 14 February 2023**. Following the photo-taking, P1 students will get their SSCs by the end of March 2023, while the photos for P6 students will be used for the printing of Secondary SSCs when they are promoted to Secondary One in 2024. For P1 students, while awaiting the issuance of the SSCs, students can continue to use the Child Concession Card for free travel on public transport until 30 April 2023. Please be informed that all P1 and P6 students are to be **properly attired in their school uniforms** for the photo-taking session. Please also ensure that your child's/ward's hair is neat and tidy.

### 4. Updating of Student Details – Reminder

MOE had earlier requested for an update of parents' and child's information via Student Details Form (SDF) Portal for the purpose of providing educational services to your child/ward in MOE schools. All parents/legal guardians are requested to login to the SDF portal using your Singpass account to submit your information and information of your child/ward.

Please refer to the Parents Gateway announcement from MOE for the link and information on the completion of the exercise. All online submissions should be duly **completed by 31 January 2023**.

S/N	Description	Date of Post by MOE (Parents Gateway)	Remarks
1	Parents/ Legal Guardians/ Authorised Caregivers with P1 to P3 child/ ward	Tue, 3 Jan 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SDF portal can be accessed via desktop computers or mobile devices such as laptops and mobile phones.</li> </ul>
2	Parents/ Legal Guardians/ Authorised Caregivers with P4 to P6 child/ward	Fri, 6 Jan 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SDF portal will also be accessible till the last day of Term 4 for you to provide timely updates of your information and/or your child's/ward's information, if any.</li> </ul>

BP

**Ms Chua Bee Peng**  
Administration Manager 1