



23 July 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians

1. We hope you have been keeping safe and well. We thank God for His blessings as we celebrate our nation's 56th birthday. The school has planned for National Day celebratory activities on 6 August (Friday), taking into consideration the prevailing Safe Management Measures (SMM). Please note that **school hours are as usual from 7.30am to 1.30pm on 6 Aug** and some lessons will also be scheduled on that day. This year's National Day theme, **Together, Our Singapore Spirit**, evokes our common Singapore identity and Singaporeans coming together as one united people. We look to reinvigorate the Singapore Spirit - encouraging our students to draw new strength from our 'can-do' spirit and embrace a 'dare-to-try' attitude, amidst challenging circumstances from COVID-19 and potential disruptions in the new decade. As part of the celebrations, all students are encouraged to wear red T-shirts. Please note that Tuesday, 10 August is a school holiday in lieu of National Day. Students do not need to report to school.
2. Our graduating classes will also be preparing for their PSLE examinations in Terms 3 and 4. We know that you will give the boys your fullest support and encourage them to put in their best effort, and stay in good health so that they can excel in all that they do. Please take the time to read all the Principal's Letters that are sent out as there will be information that requires your attention and support as we stand united in these times. May I take this opportunity to thank all parents for your support and assistance during this period, particularly in the implementation of Safe Management Measures so that our school remains a conducive environment for all students.

Tightening of Safe Management Measures (SMMs)

3. In line with the national shift to Phase 2 (Heightened Alert) [P2(HA)] from **22 Jul (Thu) to 18 Aug (Wed)**, to ensure the continued safety and well-being of students and staff, we seek your support and understanding to adhere to the following tightened SMMs:
 - a. Should your child or anyone in the same household as your child come under any of the following criteria:
 1. Be required to serve a Quarantine Order; or
 2. Has fever/flu-like symptoms/is unwell; or
 3. Is required to undergo mandatory testing due to a COVID-19 cluster (this excludes household members who are healthcare workers or who come from other sectors that require rostered routine testing),

our first line of defence would be for parents to keep their children at home. Please inform your child's Form Teacher immediately. They can return to school if their household members are tested negative for COVID-19. We will advise you on the necessary follow-up and also discuss how the school can support your child while he remains at home. Students and staff will be reminded to remain at home if they are feeling unwell. They should seek medical attention immediately and be tested. Students and staff staying with unwell family members with flu-like symptoms should not be in school either.

Additional Ringfencing Measures

- Parents are to note the tightened measures for individuals placed on Health Risk Warning by MOH. Samples of the Health Risk Warning (HRW) and Health Risk Alert (HRA) SMS notifications (**Annex A**) are attached for your reference.

	Examples of Possible Public Health Actions by MOH	School-Based Measures	
		For Students/Staff who have received "Health Risk Warning" or Health Risk Alert" SMS	For Students/Staff with Household Members who have received "Health Risk Warning" or "Health Risk Alert" SMS
<p>Health Risk Warning (HRW)</p> <p><i>Persons identified to be a casual contact of a COVID-19 case, or have visited specific higher-risk hotspots on the same day as a COVID-19 case</i></p>	<p>Individuals may be required to undergo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry PCR swab, isolate till negative test result Self-administered ART on D7 Exit PCR on D14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student/staff are to be placed on AA and will only be allowed to return to school if their exit PCR swab test is negative. <i>Note: Additional ART testing for staff on D4 and D11 is no longer required.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student/staff are to be placed on AA and can return to school as long as their household member's entry PCR swab test is negative, and their household member is well.
<p>Health Risk Alert (HRA)</p> <p><i>Persons identified to have visited hotspot areas or their vicinity</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exhortation for individuals to monitor health and to minimize social interactions for 14 days from date of last exposure 	<p><u>Students</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student will be strongly encouraged to be tested and monitor their own health. While they will be allowed to return to school, they will be advised to minimize their social interactions for the duration specified by MOH. <p><u>Staff</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff should undergo a PCR swab test as advised by MOH and would be allowed to return upon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student/staff may return to school.

		<p>negative swab test result. In the meantime, staff are to work from home. No case status needs to be given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is no provision for free PCR in MOH advisory, staff will be required to perform self-administered ART. 	
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Updates on Ringfencing Measures

5. Parents are to note the following updates and clarification to schools’ ringfencing measures:
 - a. If students/staff or their household members have undergone both an ART and PCR swab test, the student/staff should only return to school after the PCR test result is negative.
 - b. In alignment to a more extensive testing regime, MOH may place casual contacts of a confirmed case on phone surveillance, and conduct a mandatory swab at the end of their phone surveillance period.
 - i. Based on existing guidelines, if students/staff or their household members are on phone surveillance, **they would not need to be placed on Approved Absence**. The students and staff can continue to come to school whilst on phone surveillance.
 - ii. If required to take a mandatory swab test at the end of their phone surveillance period, he/she may be required to self-isolate until the test result is negative. In such cases, students will be marked as Absent with Valid Reason (Official).

Updates on SMMs

6. To safeguard the well-being of our boys and staff, we continue to do our best to keep the school safe. The school will maintain its holistic system of SMMs to keep our students and staff safe and prevent any potential spread in all aspects of school life.
 - a. The school will continue its enhanced cleaning regime. The students will stay in class groupings, with no intermingling, and use well-ventilated venues with fixed exam-style seating of 1m distancing between individuals (e.g. classrooms, canteens, science labs, special rooms).
 - b. All students and staff will be required to wear masks, and daily temperature-taking and wipe-down routines will continue. We seek your support to ensure that your child brings his thermometer and Trace Together token to school.
 - c. Face-to-face CCAs and after-school enrichment activities are suspended till further notice. Existing online CCAs will continue where applicable. CCA teachers will follow up with details via PG or SLS. Swimsafer during PE remains suspended.

- d. Curricular related school-based programmes will continue as follows: Remedials for Graduating Cohort, P5 and P6 Higher Chinese, School-based Dyslexia Remediation (SDR) Programme, Reading Remediation Programme.
- e. P2 to P5 Hinch (all subjects), P4 to P6 Thoburn (English, Math, Science) remain suspended.

The ACSian Heritage Trail in ACS(J)

- 7. The ACSian Heritage Trail @ ACS(J) aims to enable our students to have a deeper appreciation of the school's rich heritage in the context of the nation's development and to imbue a strong sense of belonging and identity as ACSians and as Singaporeans. Partially funded by the National Heritage Board and spanning 30 walls in the school, the trail will be set up by end September 2021 in conjunction with ACS135.
- 8. Through the lyrics of the ACS Anthem, the ACSian Heritage Trail retraces our roots, both as a nation and school, and highlights significant events. Designed to deepen our students' understanding and love for the school, community and nation, the trail will be integrated into our school curriculum and programmes such as Social Studies, Outdoor Learning, National Education Commemorative Days e.g. Racial Harmony Day and National Day, school celebrations e.g. Founder's Day and Honours Day, and school events e.g. P1 Orientation Day and Orientation Week.
- 9. Apart from engaging our current students in the school, the murals will be open to parents and the ACS family, subject to prevailing SMMs. We also welcome the community to visit our heritage trail, e.g. senior citizens from the Senior Activity Centres as part of our P5 VIA activity, kindergarten children who visit our school annually for P1 and P2 VIA projects and residents from Moulmein-Cairnhill Constituency.

Racial Harmony Festival

- 10. ACS(J) commemorated Racial Harmony Day (RHD) on Monday, 19 July with the theme of "Common Spaces, Connected Communities". To help students understand the importance of values like respect and empathy in their daily interactions with others, classroom activities and discussions were carried out. The Racial Harmony Day was the culmination of a two week Racial Harmony Festival.
- 11. During the Racial Harmony Festival, students deepened their understanding and appreciation for the culture of their Mother Tongue. For example, the Chinese Language students learnt more about the Dumpling Festival and Mooncake festivals and enjoyed activities and competitions centered on that theme. The Malay Language students were exposed to 'Malay Traditional Weddings and Celebrations. They learned about the highlights of a traditional Malay wedding and had the opportunity to make 'bunga manggar' and 'bunga rampai'. Last but not least, the Tamil Language students also explored the culture through poetry recitation, traditional art and henna.
- 12. The Aesthetics department also provided varied learning experiences through exposure to the art and music cultures of the three main ethnic races in Singapore. The P1 and P2s learnt about the Chinese culture, P3 and P4 the Malay culture and P5 and P6 the Indian culture. In their music lessons, the students watched informational videos which enriched their learning about cultural music and dances. In their art lessons, they created various ethnic artworks and also voted for their favourites among those submitted by their classmates.

13. Through the Racial Harmony Festival and Racial Harmony Day, we believe that each of our students would have grown in their understanding and appreciation for the rich diversity of cultures in Singapore.

Artist & Technology – SYF Art Exhibition 2021

14. The SYF Art Exhibition is a biennial event organised by MOE to celebrate the vitality and talents of the youth in the arts. It not only provides an opportunity for our boys to better appreciate art, it also allows our boys to showcase their artistic talents. The three groups of boys who took part in their respective categories impressed the art teachers with their independence, sense of ownership and curiosity in learning through the model making process. They collaborated well and creatively conceptualised to come up with the artworks. They also took the initiative to help one another to overcome the many challenges in the process of making their models. Their curiosity in learning and willingness to explore the various types of new materials for their creations were commendable. Through their artworks which are based on this year's theme of "Artist and Technology", we are assured that our boys were able to appreciate the role of technology in our daily lives and how it may further impact us in the future. The artworks by our boys for this online SYF Art Exhibition and can be viewed via the following links:

Category A (Lower Pri)	https://www.syf.gov.sg/syf/virtualexhibition/gallery-3?artwork=P004
Category B (Middle Pri)	https://www.syf.gov.sg/syf/virtualexhibition/gallery-2?artwork=P085
Category C (Upper Pri)	https://www.syf.gov.sg/syf/virtualexhibition/gallery-3?artwork=P181

Junior Superstars Competition

15. The Junior Superstars (JSS) annual competition is an opportunity for our students to showcase their singing talent and was held at the end of Term 2. This year, due to the COVID-19 Safe Management Measures (SMMs), we were unable to hold a live concert. Instead, the students made their own song videos for audition to be selected in the finalist round. The JSS Finals concert videos were shown to the P3 to 6 students during music lessons and they voted for their favourite soloists and group performances. All finalists and the winners from the voting will be awarded the "Finalist" and "Student Choice" trophies respectively. Participants who did not get into the finals will be receiving the "Honourable Mention" award.
16. The Winners for Student's Choice are Jay Mengi (P3/4 Solo category), Surge (P3/4 Group category) and Estovan Reizo Cheah (P5/6 Solo category). We would like to congratulate all the participants for their good effort.

CCA Achievements

17. We would like to congratulate our boys who have put in their best effort preparing for the following competition:

The 4th Singapore Primary and Secondary School Text Recital Competition

Lower Primary (Individual) Silver (2 Medalists)

Lower Primary (Group) Silver

Upper Primary (Individual) Silver (2 Medalists)

Upper Primary (Group) Bronze

Upper Primary (Group) Silver

Student Council 2021/2022

18. We are pleased to announce that the following pupils have been appointed as Student Council Members 2021/ 2022:

Head Prefect	Trevor Koh	5.8
Deputy Head Prefect	David Ong Xuan En	5.3
Deputy Head Prefect	Long Dengkai, Samuel	5.8
Member	Asher Lin Ruijie	5.4
Member	Lim Shi Jie, Christian	5.4
Member	Koh Brayen	5.4
Member	Toh Hong Zhi Adriel	5.7
Member	Wang Yanran	5.8
Member	Zeph Wan	5.8

PSLE Oral Examination

19. Students from P1 to P5 do not need to report to school on Thursday 12 August and Friday 13 August as the Primary 6 students will be taking their PSLE Oral Examinations. Please note that the school campus is strictly out of bounds on these days. The P6 students will be informed of the details of their oral examinations, including the exam dates and grouping. A separate PG notification will be sent to parents of P6 students regarding the Oral examination.

Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Screening Exercise for P3

20. The Ministry of Education will be carrying out the identification of students for the Gifted Education Programme 2022. We have invited all Primary 3 students to participate in the Screening exercise which will be held in our school on Wednesday, 18 August 2021. Students will be asked to work on English Language and Mathematics questions. More information about the Gifted Education Programme has been sent to the Primary 3 parents via Parents Gateway.

21. Please note that students who have opted not to participate in the GEP screening exercise are expected to attend school on 18 Aug which is regular school day.

My staff and I ask for your continued partnership and may God continue to watch over all your families as I wish you all good health and peace.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Chaillan Mui Tuan
Principal

Sample of Health Risk Warning and Health Risk Alert SMS Notifications

1. Health Risk Warning

Dear <masked NRIC>,

You have been identified to be at some risk of exposure to a COVID-19 case on <date of exposure>. On behalf of the Director of Medical Services, this SMS is to issue you with a 14-day Health Risk Warning (HRW) from <date of exposure> to <D14 of exposure>.

Under Section 55(1)(f) of the Infectious Diseases Act (IDA), the Director of Medical Services / Health Officer requires you to undergo..

[Option 1 (if day of activation is D1 – D10)]

..two Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tests, one as soon as possible and on <D14 of exposure>.

[Option 2 (if day of activation is D11-D14)]

..a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test, as soon as possible.

Instructions for the PCR test will be sent to you shortly. You will also be required to isolate yourself until confirmation of a negative result from your PCR test or until <D14 of exposure>, whichever is earlier.

[To add if day of activation is before D6]

In addition, you are required to take a self-administered Antigen Rapid Test (ART) on <D7 of exposure>, as an added precaution to protect you and your loved ones.

Failure to comply with this order may render you liable to be prosecuted for an offence. If found guilty of breach, you shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or both.

Further information regarding your HRW status can be found in the following link: go.gov.sg/hrw1-annex. For HRW enquiries, call 68765835. Thank you for doing your part to keep Singapore safe.

2. Health Risk Alert (2 possible versions)

Version 1

Dear <masked NRIC>,

You have visited a location on the same day as several other COVID-19 positive cases. Based on your SafeEntry records, you visited <location> on <date of exposure>.

You are strongly encouraged to minimize all social interactions until <D14 of exposure>. Please monitor your health and seek medical attention if unwell.

More detailed information regarding your HRA status can be found at: go.gov.sg/hra-annex. We seek your cooperation to adhere to the conditions of the HRA. For HRA enquiries, call 68765830.

Thank you for doing your part to keep Singapore safe.

Version 2

Dear <masked NRIC>,

You have visited a location on the same day as several other COVID-19 positive cases. Based on your SafeEntry records, you visited <location> on <date of exposure>.

On behalf of the Director of Medical Services, this SMS is to notify you that you have been placed on a 14-day Health Risk Alert (HRA) from <date of exposure> to <D14 of exposure>.

You are required to undergo a self-administered Antigen Rapid Test (ART) in the next 24 hours, on <D7 of exposure> and <D14 of exposure>, as a precaution to protect you and your loved ones. If you do not have ART kits at home, you may collect them at [..].

You are strongly encouraged to minimize all social interactions until <D14 of exposure>. Please monitor your health and seek medical attention if unwell.

More detailed information regarding your HRA status can be found at: go.gov.sg/hra-annex. We seek your cooperation to adhere to the conditions of the HRA. For HRA enquiries, call 68765830.

Thank you for doing your part to keep Singapore safe.