



DUNEARN SECONDARY SCHOOL

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1 April 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome to the start of Term Two.

I am happy to have met many of you at the Meet Parents Sessions, Parent Support Group meetings and other school events, conducted in Term One.

Regardless of our modest school building, Dunearn Secondary School has set an expectation of excellence and high standards, both in the academic and co-curricular domains. The school continues to provide a holistic education and is committed to guiding and supporting each student to reach his/her full potential. Our staff remains committed to imbuing in our students a sense of integrity, responsibility and compassion, encouraging them to believe that, if they set their minds and hearts to it, they can achieve their aspirations. In doing so, it is our hope that our students will be well-positioned in future to give back to family, community and nation.

Academic Matters

This term, our school will be focusing on preparing your child/ward for the upcoming Mid-Year Examinations. One of the values that we have focused on during our weekly Values Talks is Resilience. In line with this value, it is of utmost importance that your child/ward revises his/her work consistently and persists despite setbacks that may arise. As the school and national examinations draw near, I urge you to closely monitor your child's work and revision schedule so that he/she will be well-prepared for the examinations. Your child/ward needs your encouragement and support especially in the area of developing the quality of resilience no matter what the circumstances.

Co-Curricular Matters

It is timely, at this point, that I provide you with a brief update on activities that have taken place in Term One and our students' achievements.

I am pleased to report that our Uniformed Groups continue to excel, clinching the following awards: NPCC - Unit Overall Proficiency Award (Gold), Scouts – Frank Cooper Sands Award (Gold), NCC – Best Unit Competition (Silver), Boys' Brigade – J M Fraser Award (Bronze), and SJAB – Corps Achievement Award (Silver). In particular, it is heartening to note that our Uniformed Groups continue to provide a wonderful platform for the identification and development of Student Leaders.

The school's sports groups have done well in zone competitions: Basketball B Division (Boys) – 4th and Sepak Takraw C Division (Boys) – 2nd. We look forward to further successes of our students in forthcoming competitions, which will continue in Term Two.

The school's Performing Arts groups will be involved in Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) competitions, which begin this term as well. We are very proud of our students in Choir, Guzheng Ensemble, Malay Dance, Modern Dance, Military Band and English Drama. They never fail to display passion, determination and discipline in their preparation for SYF.

We continue to place a high premium on developing our students in 21st century skills. In the area of ICT, our students' short video, 'Stop Animal Abuse' clinched the Merit Award, yet again, at the national Singapore Digital Media Awards competition.

In Term One, our students were privileged to be involved in Our Singapore Conversations Via the platform of CME lessons, Secondary One students, in groups of 4, interviewed their parents and relatives with regard to their aspirations for Singapore in 2030. The input gathered by the student teams was consolidated and forwarded to the government.

On the academic front, during Mother Tongue Languages Fortnight, students were given the opportunity to understand and appreciate the Mother Tongue Languages through experiential learning activities beyond the classroom. English Literature students had the rare opportunity to listen firsthand to well-known Singapore writers, Jean Tay, Gwee Li Sui and Jeffrey Lim, who visited our school.

Key Events in Term Two

As we move into Term Two, you may like to note the following key events and activities in the school calendar:

- § Annual Cross Country: 28 March, Thursday @ 7.30 a.m.
- § Speech and Prize Giving Day: 13 April, Saturday at 9.00 a.m.
- § Mid-Year Examinations (Secondary 1 to 3): 2 May to 16 May
- § EL and MT Examination (Secondary 4 Express and 5 NA): 2 and 3 May
- § Parent-Teacher Meeting (Secondary 1 to 3): 31 May, Friday

Details of the above events and activities are posted on the school website. We will also write to inform you regarding the relevant details.

Finally, we look forward to meaningful collaboration with you in nurturing your child/ward. We are always appreciative of your support. Should you have any feedback to provide to the school or teachers, the email addresses and contact numbers are listed at the school website at <http://www.dunearnsec.moe.edu.sg>/<http://www.bowensec.moe.edu.sg/>.

I wish you a meaningful and rewarding Term Two.

Yours sincerely

Mr Boo Hian Kok
Principal

RESPONSE SLIP

(To be returned to Form Teacher by Wednesday 3 April 2013)

To: Principal
Dunearn Secondary School

I acknowledge receipt of Principal's Termly Letter dated 1 April 2013.

Name of Student: _____ Class: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____