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# NEW TOWN SECONDARY SCHOOL

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*Our Motto: To Forge A Better Life*

24 March 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Greetings from New Town Secondary School!

1 We hope your child/ward had a restful and enriching term break.

2 In Term 1, two key programmes helped students embody the school vision: the Start Right Programme in Week 1 and Cohort Experience Week in Week 8. The Start Right Programme fostered a sense of belonging through team-building activities that strengthened student and teacher relationships. The Cohort Experience Week offered level-specific activities, helping students recognise their strengths and embrace inclusivity, reinforcing friendships and class identity. Students found the programmes enriching and relevant, equipping them with valuable skills and deeper connections.

3 In Term 2, the school will commemorate its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with two key events: New Town's 60<sup>th</sup> Commendation Day and a Road Run at Marina Barrage. Under the theme ***Honouring Our Past, Forging Our Future***, these celebrations serve as opportunities to recognise and appreciate the collective efforts that have contributed to the school's continued growth and success.

4 The school remains committed to nurturing your child/ward, empowering them to flourish and reach their full potential. A key upcoming event is the Student Leaders' Investiture, which will take place on Thursday, 15 April. This significant milestone recognizes the contributions of outgoing student leaders while marking the beginning of a new leadership journey for the incoming cohort.

5 Additionally, the school has organised a series of field trips and learning journeys tailored to different student groups. These experiences are designed to enhance cognitive development by providing real-life applications of classroom knowledge. The term will conclude with a Parent-Teacher Conversation (PTC) on 30 May. Further details and an invitation will be sent via Parents Gateway closer to the date.

## **School Attendance Policy**

6 Regular school attendance is essential for optimal learning. Students should not take leave for personal or family overseas travel during the school term. If there is a valid reason for travel, approval must be obtained from the Principal or Vice-Principals before booking any trips. Students who willfully travel overseas without approval will be marked absent without valid reason, and their conduct grade will be capped at 'Good'. In addition, students are expected to report to school punctually every day and be at the flag-raising ceremony venue by 7.35 am.

## **Mobile Phone and Electronic Devices**

7 To ensure effective teaching and learning, we have set clear boundaries on handphone usage. Under the revised 2025 policy, handphones must be switched off and stored in lockers before FRC until dismissal, with usage allowed only before FRC and after school in designated areas. Students must secure their lockers, as the school is not responsible for any loss due to negligence. For learning, only Personal Learning Devices (PLDs) are permitted in classrooms. As a result of the revised policy, we noticed reduced distractions, greater classroom engagement and social interaction, and participation in sports during breaks. If handphones are found on students during curriculum time, the handphones will be confiscated and returned the following school day after school dismissal. Parent/Guardian will be informed if their child's handphone is confiscated. We would like to thank parents/guardians for your continued support towards our revised handphone policy.

## **CCA Stand-Down**

8 From 25 March 2025 Tuesday, all graduating students will step down from their Co-Curricular Activities (CCAs), allowing Secondary 3 students to take on key appointments within their CCAs. Subject teachers of graduating classes may use the available time slots (Tuesdays: 3.30 – 5.30 pm, Fridays: 2.00 – 5.30 pm) for After-school Academic Coaching (AAC), and students are encouraged to schedule consultations during these periods. However, those involved in the National School Games (NSG) or external competitions will continue CCA sessions until their season ends.

## **Values-in-action (VIA)**

9 To nurture our students into caring leaders, Term 2 will provide them with opportunities to initiate class and group VIA projects. These projects will empower students to become agents of change, actively contributing to the well-being of others. Please refer to Annex A for the VIA schedule, which includes some after-school sessions.

## **NTSS Global Classroom**

10 Secondary 2 students will have the opportunity to participate in NTSS Global Classroom programme, an overseas immersion programme, organised by the school. This programme aims to develop students' 21st Century Competencies by enhancing their global awareness and cross-cultural capabilities. Through international exposure, students develop cultural sensitivity while gaining fresh perspectives that deepen their commitment and rootedness to Singapore. The programme will focus on Asian countries, particularly those within ASEAN. A student briefing will be conducted in Term 2 to provide more details. Students who are interested to participate in the programme must indicate their interest after consulting their parents or guardian.

## **Term 2 Timetable**

11 There is no change to the timetable for Term 2. You may refer to the school website at <https://www.newtownsec.moe.edu.sg/others/announcements/class-timetable/> for your child's/ward's timetable.

## **Term 2 Weighted Assessment**

12 The Term 2 Weighted Assessment (WA2) will be conducted from 14 Apr 2025 to 16 May 2025. The schedule for the WA2 will be sent to your child/ward through his/her student iCON email.

## **Parenting for Wellness**

13 The Singapore government launched *Grow Well SG* in January 2025, a multi-ministry initiative supporting families in fostering healthy habits in the digital age. In partnership with the Families for Life Council, it offers practical tips and activities for parents and children to enhance physical and emotional well-being. Explore ways to *Eat Well, Sleep Well, Learn Well, Exercise Well, and Bond Well* as a family at [go.gov.sg/growwellsq](https://go.gov.sg/growwellsq).

14 The Ministry of Education (MOE) launched the *Parenting for Wellness Toolbox* in late 2024 to equip parents with essential skills for strengthening parent-child relationships, supporting mental well-being, and navigating parenting in the digital age. Access the wellness toolbox at [file.go.gov.sg/pfw-toolbox-for-parents.pdf](https://file.go.gov.sg/pfw-toolbox-for-parents.pdf).

15 A Digital Parenting Workshop, "*I Can't Live Without IT! Understanding and Engaging Our Digital Natives*," will be organised in collaboration with TOUCH Parenting. This online Zoom session on 25 March (6.00 pm – 7.30 pm) will equip parents with strategies for managing children's screen time. A Parents Gateway (PG) letter was sent on 10 February 2025 - please refer to it for registration details.

## **Communication with Teachers**

16 In line with the Ministry of Education's Five-Day Work Week, parents are advised to contact teachers during weekdays between 7.30 am and 6.00 pm. Teachers are not expected to respond to parents' / students' queries during weekends or after 6.00 pm on weekdays except for emergencies. Teachers' email addresses are available on the school's website for parents' convenience. Parents/Guardians can also contact the General Office at 6775 4140 for further assistance.

17 We look forward to a fruitful and meaningful learning in Term 2 with your child/ward.

Yours sincerely,



Ari Manickam (Mr)  
Principal

**Calendar of Events\* – Term 2**

Dates	Events	Remarks
26 Mar (Wed)	Sec 3 Pure Geographical Fieldwork Sec 4 Pure Physics Nuclear Radiation Workshop	2.00 pm – 5.30 pm 2.00 pm – 4.30 pm
27 Mar (Thur)	Sec 1 – 3 MTL Writing Workshop	3.00 pm – 5.30 pm Selected students
28 Mar (Fri)	Digital Management Workshop for Parents over Zoom	6.00 pm – 7.30 pm refer to PG Letter (posted on 10 Feb)
31 Mar (Mon)	Hari Raya Puasa Public Holiday	
1 Apr (Tues)	Academic Excellence Awards Ceremony	2.00 pm – 3.00 pm
2 Apr, 16 Apr, 30 Apr, 14 May	Home-Based Learning (HBL) (Week 2, 4, 6 & 8 Wednesdays)	
4 Apr (Fri)	Sec 3 EL School Oral Examinations Sec 4 & 5 MTL School Oral Examinations (No CCA training for Sec 3 students)	1.00 pm – 5.30 pm
7 Apr (Mon) – 26 May (Mon)	After-school Academic Coaching (AAC) for graduating students	3.15 - 5.00pm  (refer to PG Announcement sent 23 Jan 2025)
8 Apr (Tues)	Commendation Day Technical Rehearsal	3.00 pm – 5.30 pm
9 Apr (Wed)	Sec 1 – 3 EL Speak Programme Sec 3 Culinary Enrichment Workshop Sec 4 & 5 Wonders of Science Demonstration Workshop	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm Selected students
11 Apr (Fri)	Sec 3 MTL School Oral Examinations Sec 4 & 5 EL School Oral Examinations (No CCA training for Sec 3 students)  Commemoration of International Friendship Day	1.00 pm – 5.30 pm
14 Apr 2025 to 16 May 2025	Weighted Assessment 2 Period	During curriculum time
15 Apr (Thur)	Student Leaders' Investiture	During curriculum time
18 Apr (Fri)	Good Friday Public Holiday	
22 Apr (Tues)	NTSS 60 <sup>th</sup> Commendation Day Full Dress Rehearsal	3.00 pm – 5.30 pm
25 Apr (Fri)	NTSS 60 <sup>th</sup> Commendation Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School will end at 10.30 am</li> <li>Selected students will be attending the event as audience.</li> </ul>	2.30 pm – 5.30 pm
29 Apr (Tues), 2 May (Fri) 13 May (Tues) 16 May (Fri)	Sec 4 & 5 VIA session Students will choose 1 of these 4 dates to work with the organisation that they are liaising with	Tuesday: 3.00 pm – 5.30 pm  Friday: 2.30 pm – 5.30 pm
1 May (Thur)	Labour Day Public Holiday	
7 May (Wed)	Sec 1 – 3 ICT Ambassadors on National Digital Explorer Sec 3 Pure Biology at Natural History Museum Sec 4 & 5 Wonders of Science Demonstration	2.00 pm – 5.00 pm Selected and Interested students
8 May (Thur)	Sec 1 – 3 VIA session  Sec 4 & 5 NAPFA 5-Stations Testing  Sec 3 Science Centre Perfumery Course	3.00 pm – 5.30 pm  2.00 pm – 5.30 pm  2.00 pm – 4.00 pm
9 May (Fri)	Road Run @ Marina Barrage	8.00 am – 12.00 pm
12 May (Mon)	Vesak Day Public Holiday	

16 May (Fri)	Sec 4 & 5 MTL Preliminary Examination	During curriculum time
21 May (Wed)	Sec 2 (level-wide) Music Experience	3.00 pm – 6.00 pm Esplanade Concert Theatre
22 May (Thur) 26 – 29 May (Mon – Thur)	Sec 4 & 5 MTL O-Level Revision Programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students sitting for GCE O-Level MTL examinations only.</li> <li>• Students taking MTLB and students who are exempted from MTL are not involved in the revision programme.</li> </ul>	3.15 pm – 5.00 pm (2.00 pm – 4.00 pm on Wed only)
30 May (Fri)	Parent-Teacher Conversation	8.00 am – 3.00 pm Selected students only
31 May (Sat) – 29 Jun (Sun)	Term 2 School Holidays	
2 Jun (Mon)	GCE O-Level MTL Examinations	As per national examination schedule
2 - 6 Jun, (Mon – Fri) 25 Jun (Wed)	4N Holiday Academic Support Programme 4E5N Holiday Academic Support Programme  Detailed schedule for the academic support programme will be sent via PG closer to date.	Parents are requested to plan holiday travel after 3 June. (*6 June- students doing coursework)
4 Jun (Wed) – 6 Jun (Fri)	Girl Guides' Camp	Sec 1 – 3 Girl Guides
5 Jun (Thur)	Combined Sports' Camp	Sec 1 – 3 students in Sports CCA
30 Jun (Mon)	Start of Term 3	All students

*\* Information is correct as at 18 Mar 2025. The list of events provided may not include all CCA trainings and/or any other programmes which your child/ward may be required to attend as the term progresses. Please look out for letters by the relevant teachers-in-charge via Parents Gateway (PG).*