



# Greendale Secondary School

NURTURING TALENTS DEVELOPING CHARACTER INSPIRING LIVES

4 January 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians,

## **TERM 1 INFORMATION SHEET (01/2022)**

A happy new year to all and welcome back! We would like to extend a warm welcome to all Secondary 1 students, and their parents/guardians as well as new staff to the Greendale family. May you have a joyful and meaningful journey of learning at Greendale Secondary School.

As we start the new term, here is some important information you should take note of. If you have any queries regarding your child/ward's progress at any point in time, please do not hesitate to contact them. We hope that 2022 will be a year where your child/ward has ample opportunities to learn, *serve, lead and excel*.

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## **General Matters**

### **1. Staff Movement**

We welcome the following new staff to the Greendale family:

1. Mr Sulaiman B Mohamad Yusof, Principal
2. Mr Daniel Tan, Vice-Principal
3. Mr Muhammad Faidzil Farkhan, Humanities Teacher
4. Ms Karin Phee, Science and Mathematics Teacher

We also bid farewell to the following staff and thank them for their service and dedication to the school and our students' development.

1. Ms Amy Ng, Principal
2. Ms Carol Look, Science Teacher

3. Ms Bernice Lek, Humanities Teacher
4. Mr Kenny Cheong, Mathematics, Design & Technology Teacher

### **Staff Appointments**

We are pleased to share that the following staff have received formal appointment as key personnel.

1. Mr William Teng, Subject Head/Science
2. Mr Su Yan Xing, Assistant Year Head

### **2. School Term & Calendar**

<b>Semester 1</b>	Term 1: Tuesday 4 January 2022 to Friday, 11 March 2021
	Term 2: Monday, 21 March 2021 to Friday, 27 May 2022
<b>Semester 2</b>	Term 3: Monday, 27 June 2022 to Friday, 2 September 2022
	Term 4: Monday, 12 September 2022 to Friday, 18 November 2022

We seek the cooperation of all parents/guardians to refrain from taking your child/ward out of school during term time, as it is important for your child/ward to be present in school. The 2022 School Calendar, available in the Student Handbook (see below), reflects all planned assessments, level programmes as well as school terms and holidays.

### **3. Student Handbook**

The Student Handbook contains useful information for both students and parents/guardians and all students are required to purchase it. The handbook contains the following information:

Academic Programmes	Information on Assessment, Promotion Criteria and Post-Secondary Educational Pathways
Student Management and Discipline	School Expectations and rules with regard to daily attendance, punctuality, attire and grooming as well as students' conduct and behaviour

We request that you go through the handbook to better understand our school's expectations and rules and how approach assessment so that you can help your child/ ward in their time at Greendale.

To provide a safe and secure learning environment, we seek your cooperation to go through the sections on Student Safety and Security as well as the Special Room Safety Regulations with your child/ward. For road safety practices, you can also refer to the LTA website (<https://www.lta.gov.sg/content/ltaweb/en/walk-cycle-ride.html>) and the Singapore Road Safety website (<https://srsc.org.sg/>).

### **4. School Timetable**

Our timetable runs on a 10-day cycle with Days 1 to 5 for odd weeks and Days 6 to 10 for even weeks. This gives the school more flexibility to arrange subject lessons and address the needs and constraints of Full Subject Based-Banding (FSBB). Class Mentors (CMs) will go through the new timetables with the students so as to ensure that they are able to read the new timetables and are ready for school in the new year.

## **Learning**

### **5. Academic Assessment Structure**

At Greendale Secondary School, assessment is a means through which we continually strive for educational improvement. It is also a way for meaningful feedback for student development. With effective assessment practice, we hope that our students will be able to scale greater heights in their pursuit of excellence. We see teaching, learning and assessment of learning as interdependent. assessment is integral and serves the overall purpose to improve standards and processes while at the same time, serve as a means to measure them. Please refer to Annex A for the general assessment structure

## **6. Academic Support Structure and Schedule**

Subject teachers will organise afternoon programmes on Tuesdays and Thursdays for selected students starting Week 2 from Tuesday, 12 January 2021 onwards. Remedial sessions aim to help students who have encountered difficulties in meeting the stipulated academic requirements. Subject teachers may also invite other students to attend structured consultations on an ad hoc basis for clarifications.

There will also be bridging sessions are for

- S1 students who took Foundation Subjects at PSLE and are taking these subjects at a more Demanding Level
- S3 students who are taking subjects at a more Demanding level for the first time
- S5 students to bridge the gap between the N- and O-Levels.

The intent of these sessions is to bridge the gap in learning in terms of the content and/or rigour and demand of the subjects.

For each remedial/bridging/structured consultations day, these sessions will be conducted concurrently either at 2.45-3.45pm or at 4.00-5.00pm. This arrangement will allow the school to optimise learning support for students. In addition, some Secondary 4 students will have remedial on Monday after school or Friday before CCA starts. All identified students will be notified by the respective subject teachers. Please refer to Annex B for the schedule.

## **7. Lower Secondary Modular Programme – Food & Consumer Education and Design & Technology**

To help Lower Secondary students manage academic demands as well as ensure resource optimisation, the school adopts a modular approach for Food & Consumer Education and Design & Technology. Under the modular programme, students will focus on a specific subject for one semester before switching to a second subject in the next semester. The table below reflects the modular schedule for the respective levels.

Semester 1	Semester 2
Design and Technology	Food and Consumer Education

## **8. Cohort Experiences**

Our school's Applied Learning Programme (ALP) focuses on "Design, Code and Build" and Learning for Life Programme (LLP) is an integrated approach to learning and development in which abstract character attributes and specific skillsets are nurtured through concrete experiences by 'Learning by Doing'.

The following has been planned for the students as part of the ALP programme:

Secondary 1 (Term 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Basic Coding and electronics skills</li><li>• Arduino microcontroller and microbit coding</li><li>• Use of 3D printer</li></ul>
Secondary 2 (Term 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More advanced Arduino coding to create a wireless mobile user interface</li><li>• Apply Design Thinking process in competitions</li><li>• CAD Solidworks and Rapid Prototyping Machines</li><li>• Drone design and building</li><li>• Introduction to Artificial Intelligence</li></ul>

As part of the school's LLP, students will go through a Safe Riding Programme for Secondary 1 and Level Cohort camps for all. There are other programmes/activities such as Rock Climbing Level 1 Certification, Kayaking Level 1 Certification and Cycling Experience for Secondary 2 and 3 students. These activities are optional and involve programme fees (except cycling). Details of the above programmes, including the programme fees, will be released to students in due course.

### **9. Co-curricular Activities (CCA) Sessions**

Co -Curricular Activities (CCA) form an integral part of the school's co-curriculum and it is compulsory for every secondary school student. CCA provides students with opportunities to learn outside the classroom context, and is a platform for inculcating the school values (R<sup>3</sup>ISE) and encourages students to develop skills and competencies that would enable them to lead a meaningful and purposeful school life. Students are holistically developed through a student-centric co-curricular experience.

As part of the Start Right Programme, all students will be informed on the importance of regular attendance and active participation in CCA. The weekly schedule for all the CCAs in the school can be found on the school website. The school seeks your assistance in monitoring your child/ward's attendance in his/her CCA throughout the year. Information on the CCA grading system can be found in the Student Handbook (pp.59).

### **10. Personal Learning Device**

In March 2020, MOE launched the National Digital Literacy Programme (NDLP) to prepare our students to be future-ready by strengthening their digital literacy. One of the components is the introduction of Personal Learning Devices (PLDs) to all secondary schools whereby every student will own a school-prescribed PLD. As mentioned at the Reporting Day's Webinar, the school-prescribed PLD is the Acer Chromebook Spin R752TN. Students who are Singapore Citizens can use their Edusave to pay fully or partly for the PLD, after setting aside provision for payment of 2nd tier miscellaneous fees. Subsidies are available for students who require funding support to purchase the PLD. More information on the purchase of PLD for your child/ward will be provided via Parents Gateway in Term 1 Week 2.

### **11. Blended Learning**

Blended Learning (BL) is part of MOE's efforts to further develop our students' ability to be self-directed, passionate and lifelong learners. Home-Based Learning (HBL) days will be scheduled to complement teaching and learning in school. We will commence BL for all levels in 2022, with HBL days scheduled on selected Tuesdays. The dates for Semester 1 are as follows:

Term 1	25 Jan, 15 Feb, 22 Feb
Term 2	5 Apr, 12 Apr

Students will have a combination of asynchronous and synchronous mode of learning for 4 hours. In addition to this, they will have an hour of dedicated time and space to carry out their Student-Initiated Learning (SIL) in the areas of STEM, Aesthetics, Community and Environment Stewardship, Self-Development Life Skills and Healthy Living to explore their interest outside curriculum.

## **Well -Being**

### **12. Grooming Checks**

The school conducts regular grooming checks to ensure that our students are appropriately attired and ready for learning. Class Mentors will issue reminders for grooming and students will be given sufficient time to rectify any issues. Term 1's grooming check will be conducted on **Tuesday, 4 January 2022**. Students may refer to their Student Handbook for the school rules related to grooming (pp.21-23).

### **13. Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunisation Programme for Lower Secondary Girls**

The HPV immunisation programme is a new initiative by the Singapore government to provide vaccination for girls against Human Papillomavirus, which is the main cause of cervical cancer. In Singapore, cervical cancer is the 10th most common cancer and 8th most common cause of cancer death among Singaporean women. However, cervical cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. Recent studies have shown that girls immunised with the HPV vaccination early, at the age of 9 to 26, provides even greater protection against cervical cancer.

The school has arranged for HPV vaccination exercise for the lower secondary girls on 9 and 10 February. There are a total of 2 doses of vaccination. The second dose will be taken the following year for the Secondary 1 Girls. The vaccination will be taken during curriculum hours. Parents who have concerns may contact the school for clarification.

#### **14. Polytechnic Open Houses for Secondary 4/5 Students**

Secondary 4N(A), 4Exp & 5N(A) students attend Polytechnic Open Houses at the polytechnics each year to better understand their post-secondary education options. However, due to COVID-19, the polytechnics are holding e-open houses from 6 - 8 January 2022. We strongly encourage students and their parents to explore the respective websites, sign up for webinars offered and have conversations on future educational pathways.

<b>Polytechnic</b>	<b>Open house details</b>	<b>Website</b>
Ngee Ann Poly	Mode: Hybrid Sign up for both in-person or virtual programmes.	<a href="https://www.np.edu.sg/openhouse">https://www.np.edu.sg/openhouse</a>
Singapore Poly	Mode: Virtual Sign up for virtual campus tours, Q&A sessions, CCA showcase, parents' forum etc.	<a href="https://openhouse.sp.edu.sg/">https://openhouse.sp.edu.sg/</a>
Nanyang Poly	Mode: Hybrid Sign up for both in-person or virtual programmes	<a href="https://openhouse.nyp.edu.sg/">https://openhouse.nyp.edu.sg/</a>
Republic Poly	Mode: Hybrid Sign up for both in-person or virtual programmes.	<a href="https://www.rp.edu.sg/discover/openhouse">https://www.rp.edu.sg/discover/openhouse</a>
Temasek Poly	Mode: Virtual Sign up for virtual academic school webinars, CCA sharing, career talks etc.	<a href="https://www.tp.edu.sg/openhouse/">https://www.tp.edu.sg/openhouse/</a>

### **Sustainability & Development**

#### **15. Communication with 2022 Year Heads and Class Mentors**

The list of Year Heads and Class Mentors 2021 will be uploaded on the school website. If you need to enquire about matters pertaining to your child/ward's progress in our school, please email them.

We know that some teachers may have shared their mobile contact with parents/guardians and students. However, we will appreciate it if parents/guardians and students contact teachers during weekdays between 7.30am to 6.00pm. If teachers are uncontactable, we seek your kind understanding that they may only be able to respond the next working day as they may be occupied with lessons, CCA, consultations or other duties.

#### **16. Key Events and Activities in Term 1**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event / Activity</b>
January	4 to 7 Jan	Secondary 1 Orientation Secondary 2 to 5 Start Right Programme
	7 Jan	Secondary 1 Investiture cum CCA Showcase
	6– 8 Jan	Secondary 4/5 Polytechnic Virtual Open Houses
	14 Jan	Secondary 4/5 Meet-the-Parents Session (Webinar)
	31 Jan	Chinese New Year Celebration
February	1 – 2 Feb	Chinese New Year Holiday
	16 Feb	Total Defence Day Commemoration
	21 to 25 Feb	Class Test 1
	28 Feb – 4 Mar	Level Camp
March	11 Mar	Greendale Jogathon
	15 to 21 Mar	Term Break

### **17. General Office Opening Hours**

For parents/guardians who may need to contact the school, the opening hours of the General Office are:

- Monday to Thursday: 7.00 am to 6.30 pm
- Friday: 7.00 am to 6.00 pm
- Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays: Closed

During the school holidays, the school will be open from 7.00 am to 5.00 pm from Monday to Friday.