



1 February 2019

Newsletter to Parents – The February Edition

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

We are almost halfway through Term One and I hope your child is enjoying his/her learning experiences in school thus far. Having had the privilege to take a look at some of our Secondary Two students complete their Historical Inquiry tasks around the school compound, I could not help but envy how fun and interesting their History lessons are compared with mine!

Reaching out to our Community - XinminCares

Just like how the teaching and learning of History has changed over the years, our annual Spring-It-Up has also evolved into a new form, being its 11th run this year. On Saturday, 26 January, we reached out to our neighbours in a big way – going from door to door, presenting residents with mandarin oranges and a few festive greetings, before asking if they had old newspapers and clothing to donate. Funds raised are channeled to the needy families in the community via the Residents' Committee. Some of our Secondary Four students even went to the extent of blessing construction workers working at a nearby site with good wishes and mandarin oranges! Our Secondary One students, too, rose to the occasion, with many of them overcoming their initial reservations to bravely knock on residents' doors to convey their warm wishes for the upcoming festive season.

Celebrating our Students' Successes

That being said, some things remain the same amidst the many changes. As a cohort, our 2018 Secondary Four Express and Secondary Five cohorts, like the many cohorts before them, lived out our school values of resilience and espoused a mindset for excellence. They also supported one another in their preparations for the national examinations and their hard work paid off! In keeping with our Xinmin tradition, they did very well in their O-level examinations. We are proud of their achievements and would like to wish them the very best in their next stage of education.

Our Partners in Education

As we congratulate our graduating cohorts and look forward to celebrating the successes of our current students, we are mindful that this would not happen without your strong support. We hope you could encourage your child to participate actively in school activities and appreciate your care in minimizing disruptions to your child's curriculum time in school.

To facilitate communications between the school and parents, MOE and GovTech had co-developed the Parents Gateway mobile application. Details of how parents could download the app and access information disseminated through the app are available on our school website (<https://xinminsec.moe.edu.sg/stakeholders/parents-gateway-mobile-app>) as well as in this newsletter. We strongly encourage you to download the app as soon as possible as we aim to stop sending hard-copy letters and consent forms to parents by Term 2 this year (i.e. from 25 March 2019 onwards).

Another excellent way for parents to keep in touch with the school is via our Parents@Xinmin (P@X) platform. It is thus my pleasure to introduce to you our new P@X Chairperson for 2019, Ms Chew Hwee Mei. She is assisted by a Vice-Chairperson, Ms Clare Ter; Treasurer, Ms Rebecca Tee; and four Coordinators (Sec 1 Coordinator – Ms Goh Yar Lan; Sec 2 Coordinator – Ms Michelle Liaw; Sec 3 Coordinator – Ms Eileen Tan; and Sec 4/5 Coordinator – Ms Priscillia Pang). I hope you can find time to participate in some of the activities organized and network with other parents. Do also feel free to share your ideas and suggestions with them.

Staying Healthy

Lastly, we noticed a number of students falling ill over the past few weeks and would like to encourage all students to keep healthy. It would be good if you could encourage your child to have sufficient rest, stay hydrated and eat healthily.

Wishing one and all a joyous Spring Festival!

UPCOMING EVENTS IN FEBRUARY & EARLY MARCH

Chinese New Year Celebrations (4 February)

The school will celebrate Chinese New Year with classroom decorations, a concert and some other exciting activities on 4 February (Monday). Students will be dismissed at 11.30am and the school will be closed at 12pm.

Total Defence Day Commemoration (11 – 15 February)

To commemorate Total Defence Day on 15 February, a series of activities has been lined up. The following demonstrations or hands-on sessions will be conducted during recess breaks as part of emergency preparedness: basic first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (as part of Civil Defence); sharing on healthcare and palliative services (Social Defence); and sharing on SG Secure (Psychological Defence). During Character & Citizenship Education lessons, Form Teachers will engage students in discussions on Cyber Defence and how individuals can safeguard their personal data without falling prey to cyber criminals. On 14 February, students will watch an interactive skit organised by the Singapore Red Cross on the importance of blood donation (Social Defence). The commemoration will culminate on 15 February with a sharing by School Leaders about Military Defence, the importance of NS, and how students can prepare for NS in future.

School Sports Partnership Programme (11 February – 6 September)

In collaboration with SportSG, Xinmin Secondary will be offering five sports to all Secondary Twos and Threes who wish to learn and/or further enhance their skills in the following areas: Football, Badminton, Cross-country, Floorball and Basketball. Sports SG Coaches will conduct training sessions once a week for 20 to 25 weeks, from February to September, for students who volunteer for this Enrichment programme. The cost of the programme is heavily subsidised by both the school and SportSG, and students will be required to pay only \$25 for the entire course. In addition, one of the main objectives of this partnership is to use sports as a platform for character development. Xinmin PE teachers together with SportSG coaches will aim to instill values such as sportsmanship, fair play and self-discipline during the training sessions. This is a wonderful opportunity for Xinmin

students to exercise, learn new skills, make new friends, get them away from their handsets and relieve their daily academic stresses. The Xinmin PE department hopes that parents will encourage their children to sign up for this programme. The deadline for signing up is 1 February 2019 (Friday). For further queries, please contact Mr Gabriel Tay, HOD PE/CCA, at tay_lye_hock_gabriel@schools.gov.sg.

XinminCares Community Outreach (from 18 February)

As part of our signature XinminCares programme, Secondary Ones and Twos will learn to befriend seniors from Thye Hua Kwan Nursing Home (Hougang) and elderly residents in the school's immediate HDB vicinity. Beginning from the week of 18 February, these fortnightly visits scheduled in their class timetables seek to help students learn about empathy, respecting the elderly as well as strengthen their confidence in speaking. The Secondary Twos will also be making hamper deliveries to the elderly residents during their visits. For any queries, please contact Subject Head for Character & Citizenship Education, Ms Jane Toh at toh_siew_fang_jane@schools.gov.sg.

Sec 2 Museum-Based Learning Journey for Art Education (4 – 22 February)

Museum-based learning is an integral component of Art education. It allows students to appreciate the stories behind the artefacts, and exhibits, and for students to make connections to society and culture. All Secondary Two students will be visiting National Gallery Singapore for a learning journey. The dates of the visits for each class are as follows:

Date	Class
Wednesday, 13 February	201 & 204
Friday, 15 February	205 & 206
Wednesday, 20 February	202 & 203
Friday, 22 February	207

All classes will depart from the school at 3pm on the days listed, and will return to school at 6.15pm. For more information, please contact Ms Tan Shun Ru at tan_shun_ru@schools.gov.sg.

Singapore National Youth Orchestra (SNYO) Concert (21 February)

The SNYO will be performing the following songs from operas in the Reflections Theatre on Thursday, 21 February at 2.30pm and 4.30pm:

MIKHAIL GLINKA – Ruslan and Ludmilla: Overture

GEORGES BIZET – Carmen Suite No. 1

PIETRO MASCAGNI – Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana, and Voi lo sapete from Cavalleria Rusticana

GIUSEPPE VERDI – Pace, pace mio Dio! from La forza del destino

RICHARD WAGNER – Prelude from Die Meistersinger

This event is open to all. Please contact Ms Edna Pan at pan_yuxin_edna@schools.gov.sg should you wish to attend the concert as limited seats are available.

Educational Pathway Talks for Parents (7 March)

We are organising a series of Educational Pathway Talks on Thursday, 7 March from 6.45pm to 9pm to keep parents and students updated about the entire suite of different post-secondary opportunities available for students. Representatives from various post-secondary education institutions have been invited to share the learning experiences their institutions offer. This information will help you and your child make better decisions with regard to their subject combinations and post-secondary education.

We encourage you to attend the talks with your child so that you could better guide your child in making his/her post-secondary choices. Please refer to Parents Gateway from 8 February (Friday) for details and instructions to sign up for this talk. If you have not downloaded Parents Gateway, you may refer below under Administrative Matters for instructions to download Parents Gateway.

ACADEMIC AND CO-CURRICULAR MATTERS

2018 GCE O-level Results

In the recent release of the 2018 GCE O-level results, 90.4% of our Sec 4 Express students are eligible for admission to a Junior College and 83.3% of our Sec 5 Normal (Academic) students are eligible for admission to a polytechnic. Our heartiest congratulations to all those who have achieved good results and to their parents/ guardians and teachers who encouraged them all the way.

Among our top students who obtained seven A1s, eight A1s and nine A1s are students who were also outstanding leaders in their respective CCAs. At our Speech Day on 5 April, we will be honouring students who have done well in the national examinations and have also excelled in other domains such as leadership, the visual and performing arts, service and sports.

Term One Weighted Assessments for Secondary One to Three (11 February to 8 March)

The Term One Weighted Assessments for Secondary One to Three students are scheduled to take place from 11 February (Monday) to 8 March (Friday). Unlike the common tests that were conducted in the first period of each day previously, Weighted Assessments are conducted in the form of class tests and performance tasks during normal lessons. The detailed schedule can be found on our school website.

MOE Sexuality Education in Schools – The Growing Years Programme

As our students mature and develop into adults, the MOE Sexuality Education Programme helps students understand the physiological, social and emotional changes that they experience. As the primary care-givers, parents are responsible for the health and moral values of their children. Please refer to the letter in Annex A for more information about the MOE Sexuality Education Programme. The school will require an acknowledgement from you concerning this.

Arts Showcases by Performing Arts CCAs

Some of the Performing Arts CCAs will be organising showcases to educate and enrich participants' understanding and appreciation of the arts. The showcases will also feature some of the

performances our students will be presenting at the Singapore Youth Festival 2019 Arts Presentation in April, with the line-up as follows:

CCA Involved	Name	Date	Time	Cost
Band	<i>Xinfony</i>	Saturday, 23 March	7 – 8.30pm	\$4
English Drama & Chinese Opera	Drama Night	Friday, 29 March	6 – 7.30pm	\$4

You may purchase/obtain tickets to the showcases through your child/ward from Week 8 (25 February onwards). For more information about the showcases, please contact Mr Josh Wong, SH/ Arts Education at wong_han_xian@schools.gov.sg.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Later Start on Wednesdays

As mentioned in the January Newsletter, school begins one hour later on Wednesdays. Students are reminded that the reporting time for school on Wednesdays is 8.20am. Flag-raising will begin at 8.30am. Students who reach school after 8.30am will be considered late.

Year Heads and Form Teachers for 2019

Here is the list of Year Heads and Form Teachers for 2019. As we have recently transited to a new email system, our teachers' email addresses have been revised and they are listed here as well as on our school website. If you need to enquire about matters pertaining to your child's/ ward's progress in our school, please email them.

We do know that some teachers may have shared their mobile contact with parents and students. However, we would appreciate it if parents 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 are occupied with lessons, CCAs, consultations or other activities. If the queries or requests made during working hours are urgent, parents should contact the school's General Office for assistance.

Name	Appointment
Mr Jeremy Tan <i>tan_kian_seng_jeremy@schools.gov.sg</i>	Assistant Year Head (Sec 1)
Mr Ganesan Selvarathnam <i>ganesan_selvarathnam@schools.gov.sg</i>	Assistant Year Head (Sec 1) [covering]
Mr Effendy Ahmadi <i>effendy_ahmadi@schools.gov.sg</i>	Assistant Year Head (Sec 2) [covering]
Mr Alan Ang <i>ang_tong_hock@schools.gov.sg</i>	Year Head (Sec 2 & 3)
Ms Ng Lee Hua <i>ng_lee_hua@schools.gov.sg</i>	Year Head (Sec 1, 4&5)

Form Teacher	Class	Form Teacher
Ms Isabelle Lim Ji Yu <i>isabelle_lim_ji_yu@schools.gov.sg</i>	101	Ms Vanessa Chia Su Qing <i>vanessa_chia_su_qing@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Seetoh Lai Yip <i>low_lai_yip@schools.gov.sg</i>	102	Ms Kee Bee Hwa <i>kee_bee_hwa@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Asniza Hassan <i>asniza_hassan@schools.gov.sg</i>	103	Mrs Tiffany Lim Ying Xuan <i>loh_ying_xuan_tiffany@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Mohamed Firdaus Bin Mohamed Taib <i>mohamed_firdaus_mohamed_ta@schools.gov.sg</i>	104	<i>Ms Junice Chia [in Semester 2]</i>
Ms Pang Hui Chin <i>pang_hui_chin@schools.gov.sg</i>	105	Ms Nanthini Gunasekaran <i>nanthini_gunasekaran@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Junie Lim May Ling <i>lim_may_ling_junie@schools.gov.sg</i>	106	Ms Sophie Ng Lai San <i>sophie_ng_lai_san@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Grace Ng Yee Farn <i>chen_yee_farn@schools.gov.sg</i>	107	Mr Kevin Lu Wenqi <i>lu_wenqi_kevin@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mdm Abeyegoonasekera Rebecca <i>abeyegoonasekera_rebecca@schools.gov.sg</i>	201	Mr Lim Kok Chong <i>lim_kok_chong@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Chew Lye Heng <i>chew_lye_heng@schools.gov.sg</i>	202	Ms Tan Shun Ru <i>tan_chun_ru@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Kwek Yin Sy <i>chew_yin_sy@schools.gov.sg</i>	203	Ms Aminah Bte Mohd Nagieb <i>aminah_mohd_nagieb@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Yap Bee Leng <i>yap_bee_leng@schools.gov.sg</i>	204	Mr Wilson Hoe Jun Wei <i>hoe_jun_wei_wilson@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Kuo Yu-Hsuan <i>kuo_yu_hsuan@schools.gov.sg</i>	205	Ms Guan Jing <i>guan_jing@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr James Tan Wa-Wa <i>tan_wa-wa_james@schools.gov.sg</i>	206	Mrs Cindy Wong Hwee Kiang <i>oh_hwee_kiang_cindy@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Annie Ng <i>tan_annie_a@schools.gov.sg</i>	207	Mr Loo Wen Bin <i>wen_bin_loo@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Zhuang Haoyang <i>zhuang_haoyang@schools.gov.sg</i>	301	Mdm Norliza Binte Ali <i>norliza_ali@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Ten Yu Ping <i>ten_yu_ping@schools.gov.sg</i>	302	Mr Jimmy Sim Chin Min <i>jimmy_sim_chin_min@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Anny Roezza Abdul Aziz <i>anny_roezza_abdul_aziz@schools.gov.sg</i>	303	
Mr Andrew Lau An Rong <i>andrew_lau_an_rong@schools.gov.sg</i>	304	Ms Edna Pan Yunxin <i>pan_yunxin_edna@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Belinda Goh Ee Gek <i>lim_ee_gek_belinda@schools.gov.sg</i>	305	Ms Emily Lim Xin Yi <i>emily_lim_xin_yi@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Lee Kin Meng <i>lee_kin_meng@schools.gov.sg</i>	306	Ms Evelyn Lai <i>lai_mei_ling_evelyn@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Estee See Toh <i>seetoh_sijia@schools.gov.sg</i>	307	Ms Izyan Ayuni Bte Azmi <i>izyan_ayuni_binte_azmi@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Shanti Teo <i>shanti_b@schools.gov.sg</i>	308	Mrs May Ng <i>lee_lu_may@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Low Yan Jin <i>yan_jin_low@schools.gov.sg</i>	309	Mr Chow Zhen Zao <i>chow_zhen_zao@schools.gov.sg</i>

Form Teacher	Class	Form Teacher
Mr Lim Kim Soon <i>lim_kim_soon@schools.gov.sg</i>	401	
Mr Bennett Lim <i>bennett_lim_chee_theng@schools.gov.sg</i>	402	Ms Ulrica Liang <i>liang_zhirong_ulrica@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Vivien Tay <i>toh_beng_qian_vivien@schools.gov.sg</i>	403	Ms Grace Heng <i>heng_hui_mien_grace@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mdm Xiao Yanfei <i>xiao_yanfei@schools.gov.sg</i>	404	Mrs Doreen Ng <i>yeo_meow_ling_doreen@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mrs Wong Pui Leng <i>tong_pui_leng@schools.gov.sg</i>	405	Ms Gwyneth Chua <i>chua_li_shan@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Mohamed Fayumi Bin Yusi <i>mohd_fayumi_b_yusi@schools.gov.sg</i>	406	Ms Wang Xuejuan <i>wang_xuejuan@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Ang Koon Yong <i>ang_koon_yong@schools.gov.sg</i>	407	Ms Lyn Song <i>song_meien_lyn@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Norhuda Binte Maksum <i>norhuda_maksum@schools.gov.sg</i>	408	Mr Peter Ho Siang Teng <i>ho_siang_teng@schools.gov.sg</i>
Mr Lin Shunyi <i>lin_shunyi@schools.gov.sg</i>	409	Ms Charlene Chan <i>chan_shu_min_charlene@schools.gov.sg</i>
Ms Norfarhana Binte Abdullah <i>norfarhana_abdullah@schools.gov.sg</i>	501	Mr Arthur Lee <i>lee_pei_pin_arthur@schools.gov.sg</i>

Implementation of Parents Gateway Mobile App for Two-Way communication from 25 March 2019

The Parents Gateway (PG) Mobile App is an initiative by MOE to enable parents to interact with schools more conveniently on administrative and financial matters. Parents will also be able to use this app to receive our monthly school newsletters, stay updated about our programmes, and submit online consent forms for their child's activities. The PG App will be implemented in all MOE schools in 2019. For parents with two or more children and they are in different schools, you will be able to receive notifications for all your children on the same PG App.

We currently send letters to parents through hard-copies that students pass to their parents. These include letters about termly and ad-hoc activities, as well as letters from the General Office about finance or billing matters. **From 25 March 2019**, the school will communicate with parents through **MOE's Parents Gateway (PG) Mobile App**. The timeline for implementation will be as follows:

January to 24 March 2019: Registration Phase

- Parents will need to download the PG App onto their mobile phone (available on iOS and Android platforms).
- Perform a one-time registration process.

February to 24 March 2019: Transition Phase

- Parents will continue to receive hard-copy letters through their children.
- Xinmin Secondary School will send out the same letters through the PG App.

25 March 2019 onwards: Implementation Phase

- Parents will receive letters, including consent forms, only through the PG App. The school will stop sending hard-copy letters to parents.
- If there are parents who are unable to access the PG App, the child's teachers will assist them separately.

For more information about Parents Gateway, you may refer to our website at <https://xinminsec.moe.edu.sg/stakeholders/parents-gateway-mobile-app> or contact our ICT Associate, Mr Terry Tan, at tan_joo_chen_terry@schools.gov.sg.

School Uniform Regulations

We would like to remind parents/guardians that all students are required to meet school uniform regulations which can be found on our school website under School=>School Rules and Regulations=>Attire and Grooming. If any student requires customization of the uniform in order to meet these regulations, the uniform supplier offers customization services. You can get the uniform supplier's contact from our school website under Students=>Resources=>Bookshop and Uniform Supplier.

We thank all parents for your continued support of the school and our programmes. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need further clarification. We can be reached via email at xinminss_email@schools.gov.sg or you can call us at 6288 9382.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Tan Kuo Cheang
Principal