



# UNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL

**VISION:**  
LIFELONG LEARNERS, INSPIRING LEADERS

**MISSION:**  
TO DEVELOP UNITIANS TO BE RESILIENT AND FUTURE-READY WITH THE PASSION TO SERVE AND LEAD

**VALUES:**  
RESPECT. COMPASSION. COMMITMENT. INTEGRITY. PERSEVERANCE

## COMMUNITY PARENTS NEWSLETTER

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Volume 19, Issue 1

2 January 2018

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**From the Desk of the Principal – 2018 Term 1**  
**Mdm Aini Maarof**

Dear Parents/Guardian,

On behalf of my team at Unity Secondary School, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year and to extend a very warm welcome to our 2018 Secondary 1 cohort.

2017 has been another year of achievements in Academics as well as Co-Curricular Activities and competitions.

The recent release of 2017 GCE N Level results saw many of our students achieving passes above that of National level. Our Sec 4NA and 4NT students did us proud with their very good achievements in the 2017 GCE N Level exams. Our Sec 4NA students had passes above that of National level for 10 out of 12 subjects. 85.9% of our students are eligible for promotion to Sec 5NA, compared to 76.6% at national level. Our Sec 4NT students had percentage passes above the National percentage for all subjects. For the first time, 100% of our Sec 4NT students passed at least 3 subjects.

Excellent achievements in CCAs and GCE N Level examinations reflect the strong commitment of our teachers in developing our students' potential and value adding their learning experiences. I like to thank all staff for their relentless efforts in nurturing and developing our students to be the best they could be. I would also like to thank all parents for their partnership and support in our work with our students.

The students' achievements also reflects our belief in our students' ability and potential aligned to our School Philosophy, "**Every Unitian is unique, has potential and can be an inspiration**".

Moving on to 2018, we will continue to develop our students to be adaptable, persevering and confident to respond to a changing world so that they could serve and lead others in the society.

Holistic Development of our students continues to be our key focus. We achieve this through implementing the Unity Total Curriculum (UTC), which comprises the **Academic and Student Development Programmes**. The **Academic Programme** aims to develop every student to become a passionate learner who is anchored on strong academic foundation while the **Student Development Programme** aims to develop the character and nurture every student to become a committed leader guided by sound values and effective life-skills. At the end of the 4/5 years of education in Unity Secondary School, our goal is to develop our student to be **A Confident Person, Conscientious Learner, Concerned Citizen and Critical & Inventive Thinker**.

For the next issue of the newsletter, we will not be printing the hardcopy. Instead we will be posting it in our website as e-newsletter. A notification sms will be sent to all parents when the e-newsletter has been posted on the website. This is part of our effort to leverage on the effective use of technology and adopting a sustainable environmental friendly practice.

I look forward to your strong support and partnership in putting our plans into action. I am confident that, as one Unity Family, we will see our Unitians growing and developing to become **Lifelong Learners and Inspiring Leaders**.

Thank you.

## **Strategic Thrust 1: Grow As a Team with Passion and Professionalism**

All staff are committed to grow as a team with passion and professionalism

### **1.1 Staff Appointment and Staff Movement**

Our Strategic Thrust 1, Grow as a Team with Passion and Professionalism, guides us in our journey towards building a strong staff who are committed to grow as a team with passion and professionalism. Staff appointment and renewal is an important process in the school to ensure our staff are given the opportunities to grow and contribute to their best ability.

The school is pleased to announce the following staff appointment with effect from 1 Jan 2018:

1. Mdm Khamilia bte Hanapi (HOD, Humanities)

The school would like to thank the following staff who have left Unity for their contributions and wish them all the best in their future endeavours:

No	Name	Designation/Department
1	Mr Mohamad Amran Shah	Vice Principal, Administration
2	Ms Keh Hui Hui	Subject Head Discipline, Science
3	Mrs Mita Dey	Teacher, English Language
4	Miss Tee Xinyi	Teacher, Mother Tongue Language
5	Mr Lau Chye Soon	Teacher, Mathematics
6	Ms Vivian Tan	Teacher, Humanities

The school would like to welcome the following new staff:

No	Name	Designation/Department
1	Mr Low Yee Fun	Subject Head, Physical Education
2	Mdm Rohaila	Senior Teacher, Mathematics
3	Mrs Christina Choo	Teacher, English Language
4	Ms Jessilyn Kang	Teacher, Science
5	Mr Muhammad Haikal bin Zahar	NIE Teacher, Science
6	Miss Chen Ru Ting Jaslyn	Teacher Intern, Science and Mathematics
7	Miss Michelle Toh Hui Ping	Teacher Intern, Science and Mathematics
8	Mr Muhammad Firdaus bin Madi	Counsellor Intern

## **Strategic Thrust 2: Every Student, An Engaged Learner**

Every student can be an engaged learner and we are committed to develop all students to be self-directed learners and to achieve academic excellence

### **2.1 GCE 'N' Level Results**

Our Strategic Thrust 2, Every Student, An Engaged Learner espouses our commitment to build a strong academic foundation for our students for their further academic pursuit. It also sets the expectation for our students to strive for their best in achieving academic excellence. We are proud to share the joy of our 2017 Sec 4NA and Sec 4NT students who have performed well in the GCE 'N' Level Examination. 100% of our Sec 4NA students and 100% of our Sec 4NT students have attained three 'N' level passes. We share the pride and joy of the following students for their outstanding performance.

Sec 4NA students who have achieved an EMB3 aggregate of 11 points or less:

AUNI BISYARAH BTE AZMI	4N1	TAN WEI QI	4N3
ABIEL WONG JUN JIE	4N1	ETHAN KAENE NORONHA	4N3
EDNA WOON SI EN	4N2	OCA GLEN PAUL DUCA	4N3
NG ZHI LIN ANGELINE	4N2	NURSHAZWINA BTE MOHAMAD SANI	4N3
CHONG SHAO XUAN, WINNIS	4N2	LEK YAO ZHI	4N3
BERNARD LOW JING HENG	4N2	RACHEL TANG HUI XUAN	4N3
JETHRO TUNG KAI JIAN	4N2	LUKE AVINASH LIN XUHONG S/O S JAMESON	4N3
NADIA BTE ANUWAR	4N2		

Sec 4NT students who achieved at least 2 A's and 1 B:

CHIW YING XUAN	4T1
ALVIN SIA JIN NONG	4T1
AFIQ AMIRUDDIN B ZAZALI	4T1

## 2.2 GCE'O' Level Results Release

The results of the 2017 GCE 'O' Level Examinations will be released in mid-January 2018. We are looking forward to share the pride and joy of our 2017 Sec 4E and Sec 5NA students.

### **Strategic Thrust 3: Every Student, An Inspiring Leader**

Every student can be a committed and inspiring leader and we are committed to develop all students into leaders guided by sound values and effective life skills

## 3.1 Character and Leadership Development (CLD)

Our Strategic Thrust 3, Every Student, An Inspiring Leader, espouses our belief that every student is unique and can be developed as a committed and inspiring leader of self and others, and we are committed to develop all students into leaders of self and others. In this regard, the school has adopted a two-phased approach of ensuring that every student is able to *lead self and serve others*, and then to *actualize self and inspire others*. This approach is anchored on the five school values: respect, compassion, commitment, integrity and perseverance, and underpinned by the three principles of engaged leadership learning: *Heads, Hearts and Hands* (3H). The knowledge on values and leadership skills gained through both the formal and informal curricula, as well as opportunities that we provide our students through experiential learning form the platforms upon which character and leadership learning can be actualised. Specific Level Outcomes which encompass aspects of social and emotional competencies, the school values and school motto have been drawn out for each level. These Level Outcomes aim to equip and empower our students with relevant 21<sup>st</sup> Century Competencies to better prepare them for the future and to contribute back to society.

Sec 1: *A Unitian with self-awareness and self-management skills and the ability to lead self with respect and integrity.*

Sec 2: *A Unitian with social awareness and relationship management skills and one who shows respect and compassion to serve others.*

Sec 3: *A Unitian with the ability to make responsible and informed decisions regarding national issues, and one who demonstrates commitment and perseverance to actualise self.*

Sec 4 & 5: *A Unitian with the ability to respond to global issues and one who perseveres and inspires others as a leader.*

The CLD programme in the school includes the explicit teaching of values and life skills through the 4-period Character and Leadership Education (CLE) lessons in a week as well as the various experiential learning platforms provided for the character and development of the students in the areas of Character & Citizenship Education (CCE), Value-in-Action (VIA) programme, National Education (NE), Cyber Wellness Education (CW), Sexuality Education (SEd), Education and Career Guidance (ECG) and Co-Curricular Activities (CCA).

- National Education Programme

National Education is taught as part of CLE lessons and infused in Instructional Programmes where appropriate. The school also commemorates the four core NE events, and provides lesson packages for the students to emphasise the significance of the NE events.

NE Core Events	Date	Commemoration
Total Defence Day	15 February	Term 1 Week 7
International Friendship Day	6 April	Term 2 Week 3
Racial Harmony Day	21 July	Term 3 Week 4
National Day	9 August	Term 3 Week 7

NE learning journeys which are aligned to the focus and CLD Level Outcomes of each level are also planned for the students. These learning journeys encompass multi-disciplinary approaches in the learning experiences of students, and seek to provide students with experiential platforms to better understand and appreciate Singapore.

These learning journeys include:

1. Civic District Trail (Self) for the Secondary 1 students,
2. Kranji Heritages (Community) for the Secondary 2 students, and
3. Learning journey to Singapore Discovery Centre (Nation) for the Secondary 3 students.

- Values-in-Action (VIA) Programme

As part of our Character and Leadership Development programme, students will be involved in a series of Values-in-Action (VIA) programmes. The purpose of the VIA activities is to instill in students a sense of compassion for the less fortunate, encourage volunteerism amongst them, as well as to provide opportunities for the students to put the values that they have learnt into actions while they lead themselves and serve others.

This year, The Lower Secondary Cohort will be rendering support to organizations of their preference (e.g. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), whilst the Secondary Three cohort would be initiating class VIA projects pertaining to social issues (such as reaching out to the ageing population or maintaining cultural harmony). The Secondary Four and Five students will be involved in Service Learning Projects in conjunction with International Friendship Day to raise awareness on global issues.

The following are the VIA activities that our students will be involved in for 2018:

Level	Activity	Period
Secondary 1	Raising awareness on Environmental Conservation	Terms 1 & 2
Secondary 2	Food & Fun Fair to help raise funds	Terms 1 – 4
Secondary 3	Class-Initiated VIA on Social Issues	Terms 1 – 3
Secondary 4 & 5	Service Learning Projects in Conjunction with International Friendship Day	Terms 1 & 2
All	Youth Day Appeal Recycling @ Unity Cleaners' Appreciation Day	Term 3 Terms 1 – 4 Terms 2 & 4

Besides the above activities, students are also given opportunities to be engaged in student-initiated VIA activities as well as VIA activities organised by their CCAs. An information form will be issued to you nearer the date of the activities to keep you informed of your child's involvement in the respective VIA programmes.

We like to thank the parents who have participated in the activities that have taken place in 2017 and would like to extend our invitation to all parents to join us for the VIA programmes in 2018. Please contact our VIA coordinator, Ms Ong Pei Ee, for further information.

### **3.2 Presentation of School Badge**

Since 2013, all Sec 1 Unitians have been presented with the school badge, bearing the new school crest, after the orientation programme. For 2018, all Sec 1 Unitians will be receiving the school badge at the Sec 1 Initiation Night on Friday, 5 January 2018 as part of inducting them during the Orientation Week.

**The wearing of the school badge identifies the student as a member of the Unity Community who takes pride in being a leader and who pledges to be guided by the school motto and the school values in actualizing the school vision of becoming Lifelong Learners and Inspiring Leaders.**



## **Strategic Thrust 4: High Care, Strong Discipline, Actualising Potential**

Through high level of care from the school, our students exude strong discipline and are able to realise their potential

### **4.1 Discipline**

Our Strategic Thrust 4, High Care, Strong Discipline, Actualising Potential, guides us in ensuring student well-being through providing a high level of care and discipline in the school, so that all students could carry themselves with a high level of self-discipline and personal pride. In this regard, the school emphasises much on decorum which is an important indicator of students' self-discipline and personal pride.

We believe in working closely with parents to monitor the students' decorum. The Discipline Committee has issued a Notification Letter to all parents to provide information on the Decorum Checks. Please acknowledge receipt of this information by signing on the **Reply Form** and returning it to your child's form teacher by **Monday, 08 January 2018**. The Discipline Committee will be conducting Decorum Checks regularly during morning assembly.

## **Strategic Thrust 5: Strong Organisational Capabilities, Effective Administration**

We develop strong organisational capabilities and effective administration to support students' and staff development

### **5.1 Mass Collection of Payment for Enrichment Programmes and Other Items / Materials**

To provide greater convenience for parents and students, the school will be conducting a mass collection exercise on Friday, 26 January 2018 for payment of students' enrichment programmes and lesson materials for the school year. Further details will be furnished nearer the date.

### **5.2 Insurance Coverage for Students**

As part of the students' well-being and pastoral care, the school has purchased an insurance policy to insure students against accidents. The policy provides 24-hour worldwide accident coverage related to all school activities and/or CCAs both in and out of school. A summary of the policy coverage and benefits as well as the claims procedure can be found in the enclosed brochure.

### **5.3 Health Matters**

In relation to the school's continued efforts in safeguarding the well-being of students and staff, it is important for all of us to uphold a high degree of personal and social responsibility regarding health-related matters. These include:

- Maintaining a high standard of personal hygiene, including washing one's hands with diligence
- Student who feels unwell should not come to school and should see a doctor

The school will be issuing the **Student Medical Record Form** to students on the first day of school to collect and update information on the medical conditions of each and every student in the school. We would appreciate it if parents could complete the form and return it to the school by **Monday, 8 January 2018**.

#### **5.4 Road Safety**

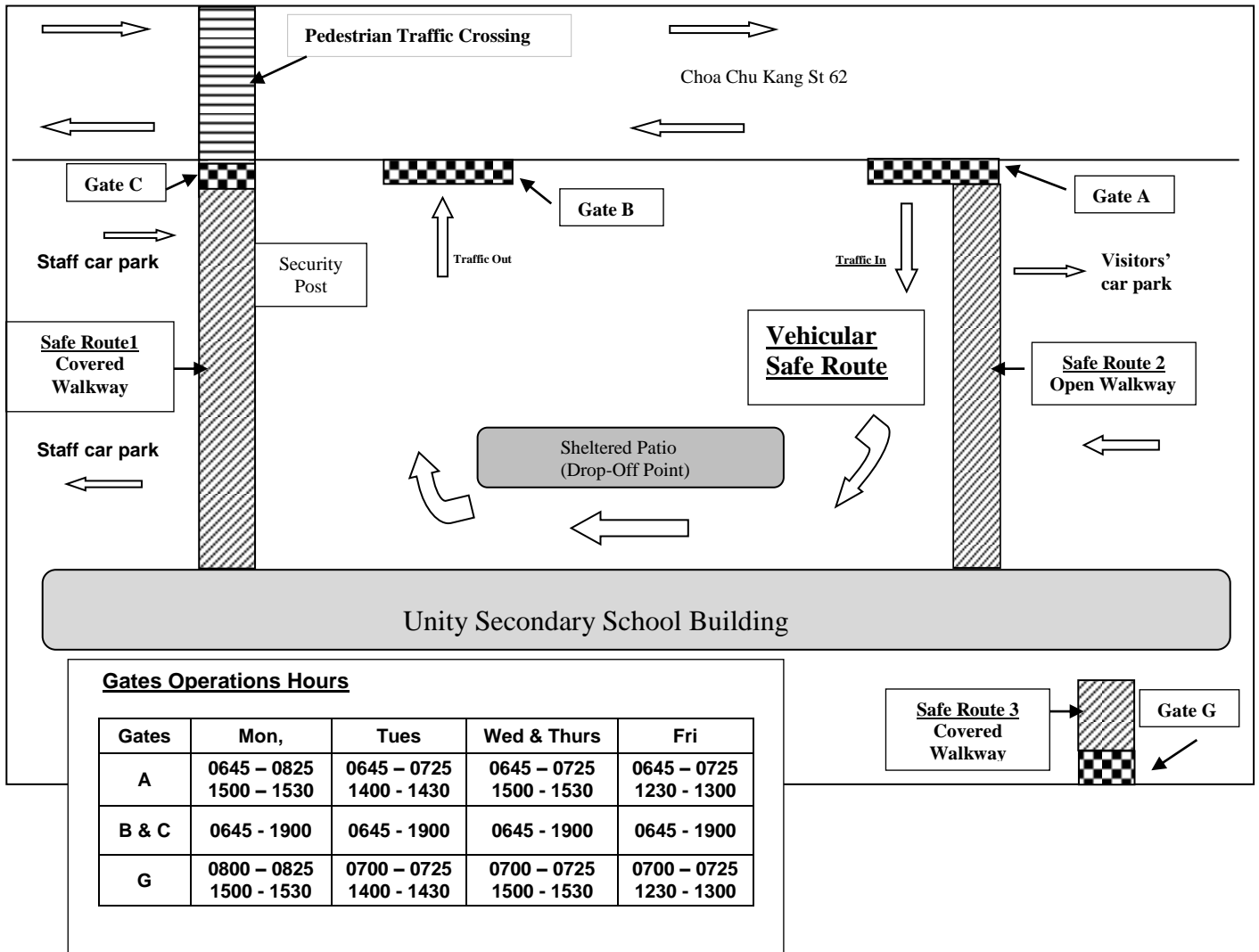
We like to seek parents' support in working with the school to ensure the safety of students when coming to and leaving the school premises. This is especially important as young children may not have the awareness and skills required to use the roads properly and safely.

Please refer to **ANNEX A** for the letter reiterating the road safety policies of the school, jointly crafted by the school, Singapore Police Force and Land Transport Authority.

Also, we would appreciate if you could adhere to the following:

- Students are to use only **Safe Route 1, 2 and 3** to enter the school compound.
- Parents are to strictly follow **Vehicular Safe Route** to drop off your child
- Keep to the 15 kmph speed limit while driving into the school compound.
- Obey directional signs and follow lane markings that have been set up.
- Students are to alight at the designated drop off point (in front of foyer) and not anywhere else.
- Lorry with 2500 kg ULW will not be permitted to drop off students in the school compound.

## Safe Routes to enter Unity Secondary School



### Strategic Thrust 6: Synergistic Partnerships

We build synergistic partnerships with parents and other stakeholders to support students' and staff learning and growth

#### 6.1 Student Handbook 2018

Our Strategic Thrust 6 on Synergistic Partnership undergirds our efforts towards building synergistic partnerships with parents and other stakeholders to support students' and staff learning and growth.

The Student Handbook communicates key school information such as our efforts in providing academic learning, leadership learning, and pastoral care and discipline for our students as well as the school rules and procedures.

We strongly encourage you to go through the Student Handbook together with your child to have a better understanding of your child's learning journey in the school.



## **6.2 Sec 1 Initiation Night Cum Parents' Briefing**

We like to invite parents of Sec One students to attend the Sec 1 Initiation Night cum Parents' Briefing. Details of the programme are as follows:

Date: **Friday, 5 January 2018**  
Time: **7.00pm to 10.00pm**  
Venue: **School Hall**

The Sec One Initiation Night is a significant milestone for your child. During the Sec One Initiation Night, we will be witnessing the School Badge Presentation Ceremony and the Campfire performance prepared by your child. Your child is required (compulsory) to attend the Initiation Night and kindly ensure that they are in full school uniform.

## **6.3 Family Matters @ School Workshop**

Family Matters @ School will be organising two workshop in Term 1. The details of the workshop are as follows:

<b>No</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic (Parenting Talk)</b>
1	Saturday, 20 Jan 2018	0900 – 1200	Managing Transition P6 – Sec 1 by Adam Khoo Learning Technology Group (*Sec 1 Parents)
2	Saturday, 3 Feb 2018	0900 - 1100	The 5 Love Languages (All Parents)

## **6.4 Term 1 Parents Support Group (PSG) Activities**

<b>No</b>	<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Event</b>
1	12 Jan (Fri) 7.00 – 9.00pm	School Hall	PSG Games & Sports Session
2	19 Jan (Fri) 7.00 – 9.00pm	School Library	PSG Welcome Tea Session
3	2 Feb (Fri) 7.00 – 9.00pm	Conference Room	PSG Meeting 1 - 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter PSG-School Meeting - Election of 2018 PSG EXCO
4	23 Feb (Fri) 7.00-9.00pm	School Hall	PSG Games & Sports Session

## Calendar of Events for Term 1

The following calendar of events aims to provide parents an overview of the schedule for the events and programmes planned in Term 1. It is accurate at time of printing. Should there be any changes, the school will inform parents through your child.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Level</b>
02 – 05 January	Sec 1 Orientation	Sec 1
	Leadership Learning Week	Sec 2 - 5
04 January	Polytechnic Open House	Sec 4 & 5
05 January	Temperature Taking Exercise	All levels
06 January	ECG The Apprenticeship Collective Session 1	Sec 2
10 – 11 January	CCA Selection Trial	Sec 1
11 January	Advance Elective Module 1	Sec 2
12 January	CCA Open House	Sec 1
13 January	ECG The Apprenticeship Collective Session 2	Sec 2
15 January	LMS Portal Training	Sec 1E4
	Catalytic Fractions Diagnostic Test	Sec 1NA/1NT
16 January	LMS Portal Training	Sec 1N1
	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
17 January	LMS Portal Training	Sec 1N2
18 January	LMS Portal Training	Sec 1T1
	Advance Elective Module 2	Sec 2
19 January	Art Learning Journey	Upper Sec
20 January	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
	ECG The Apprenticeship Session 3	Sec 2
22 January	LMS Portal Training	Sec 1E1
	Art Learning Journey	Sec 1
23 January	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
	LMS Portal Training	Sec 1E2
24 January	LMS Portal Training	Sec 1E3
	Learning Journey to Kieszania	Sec 1T1
25 January	Art Learning Journey	Sec 1
	Advance Elective Module 3	Sec 2
26 January	Unity Young Writers Festival (UWF) Poetry Writing Competition: Briefing & Workshops	Students from the Leaders of English Programme
	Art Learning Journey	Sec 1
27 January	ECG The Apprenticeship Session 4	Sec 2
29 January	Class Council Appointment Ceremony	All students
	Art Learning Journey	Sec 1
30 January	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
31 January	Art Learning Journey	Sec 1
1 February	Advance Elective Module 4	Sec 2
2 February	Geography Field Work (PM)	Sec 4N2 & 4N3
3 February	ECG The Apprenticeship Collective Session 5	Sec 2
5 February	Geography Field Work (PM)	Sec 4E1, 4E2 & 4E4
	Music Enrichment Module 1 (PM)	Sec 3T1
6 February	Class Council Induction Training	All students
	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
8 February	Advance Elective Module 5	Sec 2

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Level</b>
9 February	Sec 4 and 5 Parents' Briefing	All Sec 4 & 5 students and parents
10 February	ECG The Apprenticeship Collective Session 6	Sec 2
12 February	Music Enrichment Module 2 (PM)	Sec 3T1
13 February	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
14 February	Class Council Leadership Training	Class Council members
15 February	Total Defence Day Commemoration Chinese New Year Celebration	All students
20 February	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
21 February	English Learning Journey to SDC	Sec 3
22 February	Advance Elective Module 6	Sec 2
	Geographical Investigations	Sec 1NA
24 February	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2T1 & 2NA
27 February	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
28 February	West Zone 'Words Go Round' Literature Workshop (PM)	Sec 3 Pure Literature Students
	Class Photo-taking	All students
1 March	Music Enrichment Module 1 (PM)	Sec 4T1
2 March	Unity Council Appointment Ceremony	All students
	Sec 3 Parents' Briefing	All Sec 3 students and parents
6 March	YARE Programme	Selected Sec 2N
7 March	Lockdown & EHA Drill	All students
8 March	Advance Elective Module 8	Sec 2
	Music Enrichment Module 2 (PM)	Sec 4T1
9 March	Unity Run	All Students
	Unity Council EXCO Planning Camp (Full Day)	UC
10 March	Coastal Fieldwork at SE Johor	Sec 3 Pure Geography students
13 March	MTL Cultural Camp	Sec 2



02 January 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

**ROAD SAFETY OF STUDENTS**

We would like to seek your cooperation to work with the school in ensuring the safety of students coming to and leaving school. This is especially important as young children may not have the skills required to use roads properly and do not always fully appreciate the dangers presented. Their small physique also makes them less visible to motorists.

This letter reiterates the road safety policies of the school:

- a. Reduce vehicle speed and stay alert for pedestrians in the school zone.
- b. Cooperate with traffic marshals to ensure overall safety and smooth traffic flow.
- c. Let your child alight only at the designated drop-off point.
- d. Be advised not to violate traffic rules by driving recklessly or making illegal maneuvers such as turning into the school from the outer lane(s) of the road.
- e. Do not sound the horn indiscriminately.
- f. Help your child alight from the car on the side nearest to the kerb as quickly as possible.
- g. Reinforce correct road safety behavior such as using pedestrian crossings, and avoiding jaywalking or using a handphone while crossing.
- h. Remind your children to practise the kerb drill before crossing - "look right, look left, look right again, ensure all vehicles have stopped, raise your hand high up and cross the road briskly".
- i. If your child must cycle to school, ensure that he knows safe cycling rules and is a competent cyclist.

For the safety of everyone, enforcement action will be taken against motorists who violate traffic rules.

We thank all parents and guardians who have been the role models for our children.

On Behalf of SPF and LTA,

Mdm Aini Maarof  
Principal