



BARTLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL

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19 March 2024

Greetings and best wishes from Bartley Secondary School!

Welcome back to a new school term. The following are some updates on our events and important notices:

UPDATES ON TERM 1

1. T.E.A.M (TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE) DAY FOR SECONDARY 4 AND 5

T.E.A.M Day ('Together Everyone Achieves More') was incepted in 2023 to foster class spirit and team bonding, with the understanding that everyone goes further when they are able to work as a team. Given the favourable feedback from students, the school continued with T.E.A.M. Day this year by starting the year with a series of group-based intra and inter-class challenges on Day 1. Students and form teachers had to collaborate and coordinate with one another to meet their game objectives. Where there were solo activities like archery, students had opportunities to coach and encourage one another to hit the targets. Our next T.E.A.M. day will be held on 19 Apr 2024, when students will learn about the mechanisms of bowling operations and pit their bowling skills with one another. Look out for more details soon through Parents Gateway.

2. MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGE FORTNIGHT

2.1 The 2024 MTL Fortnight was held between 26 Feb and 08 Mar 2024 with the objective to engage students in the learning of their respective MTL through interactive and experiential learning in cultural and language activities.

2.2 Our Chinese Language students participated in making handicrafts such as Chinese door locks, paper rolling bookmarks and Xiang Nan. They also learnt wushu and played diabolo as well as Chinese chess. Our Malay Language students learnt Silat, performed Dikir Barat and created a vlog. They also tried out paper ketupat weaving and played traditional games. The Tamil Language students were engaged in poetry workshop, played Tamil traditional games and took part in an ICT quiz. This year, the girls also learnt the Karagam dance and the boys played Paraiyaatam drums. Overall, students were very positive about the experience and immersed themselves in authentic learning of their MTL through the activities.

3. BSS STEM WEEK

The BSS STEM Week, held from 04 to 08 Mar 2024, aims to spark students' interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics by showcasing the real-world relevance of STEM learning and its role in understanding the world. The week kicked off with an exciting experiment during the school assembly, designed to captivate students with science and connect it to their lessons. Students took part in a hands-on activity, building their own cotton reel tanks and snagged a limited-edition STEM Week badge, designed by Siti Syarifah from 4E4. Additionally, Secondary 3 students attended the Singapore Science and Engineering Fair (SSEF) Public Day, diving into the world of STEM professions and potential careers. The School of Engineering from Temasek Polytechnic (TP) specially brought the enchantment of STEM to life with captivating discovery lessons in our school campus, featuring everything from creating Geogebra applets to exploring the wonders of augmented reality for 3D human body dissection. The TP booth display also excited students with line tracking robots and LED light cubes, just to name a few. The Secondary 2 students also collaborated to crack a STEM challenge, flexing their mathematical muscles to determine the height of the school's flagpole.

The STEM week was a whirlwind of excitement, learning, and inspiration, showcasing the limitless possibilities of STEM in a way that was both fun and professional.

NOTICES FOR TERM 2

4. COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE – SELF-DISCIPLINE

4.1 At Bartley, we would like to nurture our children to be self-disciplined individuals who are able to monitor and control their own behaviour. Studies have shown that students who possess a strong sense of self-discipline not only perform better academically, but also behave better, have fewer absences, and do homework more regularly than that of their less-disciplined peers.

4.2 The school rules, which can be found on the school website (<https://www.bartleysec.moe.edu.sg/information/students/school-rules-n-regulations/>), are meant to help our students to develop self-discipline, as well as create a conducive, safe and orderly environment in school where learning can take place effectively. Please take some time to go through the school rules with your child/ward, so that he/she can work on his/her Commitment to Excellence accordingly.

5. ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

5.1 For students to do well in school, it is important that they attend school regularly and punctually so that they do not miss out on the lessons and teachers' instructions. Students who are absent from school are to submit the relevant document(s) (e.g. medical certificate) excusing their absence on the day they return to school. Students who fail to submit the document(s) supporting their absence within 5 working days of their return to school may face disciplinary action. **Per semester**, the school will accept up to a **maximum of 4 days of absence** covered by parents'/guardians' letter(s).

5.2 We also seek parents'/guardian's understanding that the school strongly discourages students to travel overseas during school term time except for compassionate reasons or for national representation at endorsed international competitions. If there is a critical need to travel overseas, we seek parent's/guardian's assistance to contact the school as early as possible to apply for approved absence for your child/ward.

5.3 It is also important for students to participate actively in CCA so that they have a full learning experience. We seek continued support from parents to ensure that your child comes for school and CCA regularly and punctually.

5.4 Please note that your child/ward will be considered late for school should he/she arrive at the class or assembly area after 7.45 am. He/She will be directed to report his/her attendance at the General Office. An SMS will be sent to the registered official guardian by 9.30 am on days that your child/ward is absent from school.

6. STUDENT WELL-BEING AND DEVELOPING GOOD HABITS

- 6.1 We will continue to promote the well-being of our students through guiding them to build a sense of positivity and resilience. We also highlighted that the students should interact respectfully and graciously with one another as members of the Bartley family. We encourage parents to work with us, reiterating to our children the importance of healthy habits, respectful interactions and a growth mindset.
- 6.2 It is also important that our students practise responsible use of their mobile devices and Personal Learning Devices (PLDs). We would like to highlight that teachers expect mobile phones to be kept away during curriculum time and other school programmes, including CCA. Any use during these times must be with explicit permission from the teacher-in-charge. The PLDs are also to be used only for learning purposes. We emphasised to our students that mobile devices and PLDs should not be used for undesirable activities. We will continue to educate our students to be safe and responsible users of technology and would like to work closely with parents/guardians to manage device usage. Parents/Guardians could refer to the school webpage (<https://www.bartleysec.moe.edu.sg/information/students/acceptable-use-policy/>) for our Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) Agreement.
- 6.3 The digital environment is very much a part of our students' lives. As a school, we endeavour to provide a positive learning environment and encourage all our students to be positive peer influences. We seek support and assistance from parents/guardians to actively supervise and monitor your child's/ward's use of mobile devices and online platforms to ensure these are used meaningfully and healthily.

7. KEY ACTIVITIES IN TERM 2

The key school activities scheduled for Term 2 can be found in **Annex A**. We seek your cooperation in ensuring your child/ward's participation in and/or preparation for the various activities the school has planned for them.

8. 'LEARNERS FOR LIFE' DAY FOR SEC 4 & 5

The 'Learners For Life' Day initiative for Sec 4 & 5 has concluded in Term 1. All Sec 4 & 5 students will continue to attend lessons face-to-face in school from Term 2 onwards.

9. TERM 1 PROGRESS REPORT

- 9.1 Students will receive their Term 1 Progress Report by Term 2 Week 2. Some of your child/ward's teachers may want to meet up with you to discuss your child/ward's progress. They will contact you to make the necessary arrangements.
- 9.2 When your child/ward gives you the Progress Report, we would deeply appreciate if you could use the opportunity to discuss his/her progress, and to plan how he/she could do better for the upcoming assessments together.

10. ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

- 10.1 The Term 2 Assessment Schedule for Sec 4 & 5 students can be found on the school website under Latest Announcements. You would also have received the information via PG.
- 10.2 In preparation for the 'O' Level Mid-Year Mother Tongue Language Examinations, Sec 4 & 5 students offering 'O' Level Chinese Language (CL) / Malay Language (ML) / Tamil Language (TL) will be sitting for their CL/ML/TL Preliminary Examinations on 07 May 2024. Sec 4/5 students who do not offer this subject will continue to follow the lesson timetable and attend school that day.

10.3 If a student is unwell on the day of an assessment, he/she has to consult a doctor and get a medical certificate for the day of absence. The medical certificate must be submitted to the Form Teacher immediately when the student returns to school. Upon receipt of the medical certificate, the status of the assessment grade will be reflected as "MC". Proration of marks, based on the other weighted assessments for the year, will be computed and reflected in the progress report accordingly. Only medical certificates issued by doctors registered with the Singapore Medical Council are accepted.

10.4 A student without a medical certificate or a valid reason will be given zero mark for the paper that he/she has missed. Letters from parents will not be accepted. This is to maintain the authenticity of the test/examination papers and to ensure fairness for all students who have prepared and sat for the papers. While there is no retest or make-up test, students who are absent from the WAs/ examination will be given the paper for practice when he/she returns to school.

10.5 Please visit the school website for more details regarding the school's assessment policy.

11. 73TH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY & COMMENDATION DAY 2024

The school will be organising Commendation Day on Fri 10 May 2024, 3.30pm to 7.30pm to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students who have excelled in their academic and co-curriculum pursuits in 2023. Throughout the week (06 – 09 May 2024), the outstanding students for each level will receive their awards during the morning assembly. This will culminate in the final award ceremony on 10 May 2024 afternoon. All Sec 1 and 3 Chairpersons and all Sec 2 and 4 students are expected to attend the ceremony. Students in the Uniformed Groups, Performing Arts Group and Be Brave Programme will also be showcasing their skills and talents at the event. Parents/Guardians will receive a notification through a letter or Parents Gateway to keep you informed of your child's/ward's participation in the event.

12. BSS COMMUNITY DAY

The BSS Community Day would take place on Thu 23 May 2024. On that day, you will get the opportunity to meet with your child/ward's teachers to find out more about your child/ward's progress and discuss the steps forward. We strongly encourage you to set aside time to attend this meeting. More details of the event will be given to you nearer to the date to book the timeslot to meet your child's/ward's teachers.

13. FIRST WEEK OF JUNE TERM BREAK

There will be supplementary lessons for Sec 1 students offered to take subject(s) at More Demanding Level at the mid-year juncture, and Sec 4 & 5 students between 28 May and 31 May 2024. If your child/ward is scheduled to return for academic lessons and/or CCA training, a notification letter will be provided to you prior to the start of the activity.

14. LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (LMS)

Your child/ward will access two online portals for the purpose of teaching and learning. It would be ideal for parents/guardians to monitor and engage your child/ward in learning independently from home while maximising the usage of these portals. Here are the main LMS used in the school:

- ✓ Student Learning Space (for all subjects)
 - <https://vle.learning.moe.edu.sg/login>
- ✓ My Skills Future (for Education & Career Guidance)
 - <https://www.myskillsfuture.sg/content/student/en/secondary.html>

15. REMINDER TO PARENTS

15.1 E-vaporisers are illegal in Singapore. Under the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act, the possession, use or purchase of e-vaporisers carries a maximum fine of \$2,000. It is also an offence to import, distribute, sell or offer for sale e-vaporisers and their components. Any person convicted of such offences is liable to a fine of up to \$10,000, or imprisonment of up to six months or both for the first offence, and a fine of up to \$20,000, or imprisonment of up to 12 months or both for the second or subsequent offence. All prohibited tobacco items will be seized and confiscated.

15.2 MOE takes a firm stand against vaping. Vaping is categorised as a serious offence. When students are caught using or in possession of e-vaporisers, the prohibited product will be confiscated and their parents will be informed. The schools will report the offender to HSA and also manage vaping-related offences through existing disciplinary frameworks. These include taking school-based disciplinary actions, such as suspension or caning (for boys). Students caught vaping will also be placed on cessation support programmes where counsellors will guide them through their cessation journey to effect long-term behavioural change.

15.3 Parents have an important part to play in their children's education. There are resources and relevant information that parents can access on Parent Hub. Parents are encouraged to have a serious conversation with their children about vaping to prevent it from becoming a life-long habit. More information about the harms of vaping is available on Parent Hub at <https://go.gov.sg/parent-hub-vaping>.

Source: *MOH-HSA press release on 'Multi-Agency Effort to Step up Vaping Enforcement and Education', dated 19 Dec 2023*

16. PARENTING RESOURCES

We appreciate the challenges of parenting and would like to introduce parenting resources to you. MOE has launched a parenting-focused Instagram account, @parentingwith.moesg, as part of MOE's efforts to engage and partner parents. MOE hopes to connect with parents better via the account by sharing tips and MOE resources, celebrating the ups and downs of your parenting journey, and growing with you as a community by inspiring and supporting each other through shared experiences. Do follow the account, share your experiences and invite your parent friends into this community. You may also find more useful parenting resources through MOE Parent Kit available at <https://www.moe.gov.sg/parentkit>.

17. STAYING CONNECTED WITH SCHOOL

We invite you to stay connected with us by visiting our school website and social media sites at Facebook (www.facebook.com/OfficialBartleySecondarySchool), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/bartleysecsg>) and Instagram (@bartleysecondarieschool) to see updates about the school. We would like to inform parents/guardians that photographs or video images of students or their parents/legal guardians may be taken during school activities and events such as classroom lessons, CCA, school camps or school concerts. The school may use and publish such photographs or video recordings in school publications, the school's website, social media channels or other communication channels. If you have any concerns, please approach the school through your child's/ward's Form Teacher or Year Head.

18. CONCLUSION

18.1 We believe that it takes a community to nurture our young minds. A strong home-school partnership will contribute greatly to the child's success in school. Therefore, we hope to work closely together with parents to provide our children the best opportunities to learn and grow. I welcome parents to contact the school to discuss your concerns or provide your feedback. Together, we can nurture every Bartleyan as **Leaders for Others** and **Learners for Life**, grounded in our **C.O.R.E. values**.

18.2 We request for you to complete and return the acknowledgement form (**Annex B**) via your child/ward's Form Teacher by Friday, 29 Mar 2024. You may also submit your acknowledgement via Parent Gateway (PG) for parents who have a PG account. Should you have any questions or need any clarifications, please contact us at 62889013 or email: bartley_ss@moe.edu.sg. We also invite you to visit our school website and social media sites at Facebook (www.facebook.com/OfficialBartleySecondarySchool), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/bartleysecsg>) and Instagram ([@bartleysecondaryschool](https://www.instagram.com/bartleysecondaryschool)) to see updates about the school.

18.3 We look forward to a fruitful and meaningful Term 2 with our students. Thank you for your continued support as we work towards empowering every Bartleyan to be Leaders for Others and Learners for Life.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Britta Seet', written in a cursive style.

Ms Britta Seet
Principal

**Secondary 4 & 5
Key Activities for Term 2, 2024**

S/No.	Date	Activity	Remarks
1.	To be confirmed	Issuance of Term 1 Result Slip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be issued by Term 2 Week 2 For parent/guardian's signature and conversations with child/ward
2.	29 Mar	Good Friday	Public Holiday
3.	08 Apr	Course Advising at NYP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4E1 – 4E7 Details will be sent over PG at a later date
4.	08 Apr	Learning Journey to Learning for Life Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4E8 & 4E9 Details will be sent over PG at a later date
5.	10 Apr	Hari Raya Puasa	Public Holiday
6.	11 Apr	S4/5 CCA Passing Out	
7.	19 Apr	TEAM Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity will be held during curriculum time Details will be sent over PG at a later date
8.	29 Apr	Poly Early Admissions Exercise and Interview Skills workshop	For 4E1, 4E2, 4E3, 4E4, 5E1 only. Details will be sent over PG at a later date
9.	01 May	Labour Day	Public Holiday
10.	03 May	Inter-Class Games	For participating Sec 4 & 5 students
11.	07 May	'O' Level MTL Preliminary Exam	Sec 4 & 5 students taking O-level MTL [including 4N(A) OOS & 4E4N(A) Syllabus B]
12.	07 May	English Language Oral Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec 4 students taking NT Level EL Reporting time: 3.15pm Each student will be dismissed after their oral assessment
13.	08 May	Full Dress rehearsal for Commendation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student performers and helpers, award winners, Class Chairpersons 3pm to 6.30pm (estimated)
14.	10 May	Commendation Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student performers and helpers, award winners, Class Chairpersons 3pm to 6.30pm (estimated)
15.	13-15 May	Class Photo-taking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec 2, 4 and 5 students
16.	13 May	English Language Oral Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sec 4 students taking NA Level EL Reporting time: 3.15pm Each student will be dismissed after their oral assessment
17.	13 May	Geographical Investigation	Sec 3 Pure Geography and Sec 5 Geography students
18.	14 May	English Language Oral Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4E2, 4E3 and 4E4 students Reporting time: 3.15pm Each student will be dismissed after their oral assessment
19.	16 May	CCA Photo-taking	
20.	20 May	English Language Oral Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4E1 and 5E1 students Reporting time: 3.15pm Each student will be dismissed after their oral assessment
21.	22 May	Vesak Day	Public Holiday

S/No.	Date	Activity	Remarks
22.	23 May	Community Day	More details will be released through your child/ward & PG at a later date.
23.	25 May – 23 Jun	School Holidays	School Holidays (please note that some students may be selected to return for additional support)
24.	28 – 31 May	Academic Foundation Programme	Selected students

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & CONSENT FORM

From:

The Parent/Guardian* of _____ (Sec _____)

2024 Secondary 4 and 5 Principal's Letter (Term 2)

Thank you for keeping me informed regarding the above-mentioned.

We can be reached at the following contact numbers:

Name of Parent /Guardian*		
Relationship to Pupil	Father / Guardian *	Mother / Guardian *
Home Telephone No.		
Handphone No.		
Office No.		

**delete where appropriate*

Remarks (if any)

Signature of Parent / Guardian

Date