



# #ICYMI

## Sec 1s' First Big Decision in Xinmin

It must not be easy to be 13, in a brand new environment, with new people all round and new routines to adjust to. The first few weeks in secondary school can be an exciting yet a nerve-wrecking experience for our Sec 1 students. It seems like they have grown up fast!

After a week of orientation and getting to know their new second home for the next few years, they had to gear up for their first big decision in secondary school: what CCA do I choose? In Xinmin, this process takes in three stages:

### i) EXPLORATION - Promotes Self-Directedness

Students are brought on a tour of all the CCAs on offer during orientation and they were encouraged to visit any of the training sessions in the next two weeks. At this stage, they ventured and asked questions to clarify what each CCA was about to decide if it might suit their interests and strengths.



### iii) CHOICE - Fosters independent decision-making

With all the information gathered and experiences felt, students then had to make their first big decision in secondary school: CCA Option.

### ii) EXPERIENCE - Builds initiative

Students then committed to trials or auditions for some of the CCAs to either confidently declare their talent to coaches and teachers, or to explore their interest and discover hidden talent!



All the best to our Sec 1 students as they embark on their CCA journey! Here is what HOD PE/CCA Mr Gabriel Tay has to say to students who may not have gotten their top choice:

“Do be **open-minded** to learn new things, **make new friends** and **seize any opportunity** that comes your way...You may feel that one door has closed when you did not get the CCA of your choice, but do look beyond for another door that might already be open for you. You just need to want to cross it.”



## Ushering in the Year of the Rabbit!

It was such a festive occasion when we walked out the gate as a school to bring cheer and well wishes to the residents near our school for Chinese New Year! This is not a new initiative for our school as pre-COVID, we were always involved with the spring cleaning efforts of the residents near us as part of the XinminCares programme. Proud alumni will remember this annual event as **"Spring It Up!"** This year, we wanted to resume the outreach to the community and decided to start humbly by writing festive cards and giving oranges as a gesture of goodwill. Even though each group of students was assigned to a few residents, we were fully satisfied with the **quality** of those few interactions they had. From the initial apprehension when they opened the door to us, to the smiles that later emerged on their faces, we call this event a **true success**. As icing on the cake, we received several kind words of affirmation through phone calls, emails and our social media pages. Well done to us all!



We gave out **4350** oranges, made **150** lanterns,  
 visited **4233** units across **57** blocks  
 with **1250** students and **86** staff,  
 as **One Xinmin Family!**





# A CELEBRATION OF EFFORTS!

Congratulations to the Class of 2022 for reaching the next milestone in education! Of the past few cohorts, this one has been hit the worst by the disruptions brought on by COVID-19. They faced the Circuit Breaker when they were in Sec 2, and together with teachers, had to grapple with Full Home-Based Learning for the first time in Singapore's education history. And again when they were in Sec 3, school routines were disrupted when the Ministry announced school closure and changes in their examination schedule. On top of those, CCA experiences were also compromised with Safe Management Measures tightened over this period.

Even with all these challenges, our students persevered including the almost 20 students who achieved 7 to 9 O-Level distinctions! **More than half** of our N(A)-Level students are **eligible for the Polytechnic Foundation Programme**, the best over the past five years. This cohort definitely showed grit and perseverance and pulled through to work toward their post-secondary aspirations. Hence, on the day the results were released, we celebrated with them for their efforts and focus in the national examinations. All the best to the Class of 2022 for your future endeavours!

Xinmin is proud of you and you are always welcome back to school as proud alumni. A shoutout to students who achieved commendable results as well! Well done and we cannot wait to see how you continue to thrive wherever you may be!



#good vibes only  
leave your words of affirmation here!



All of the facils, OGL and the tribe leader were all very nice and patient with our very noisy class, and seeing that they were so patient, it gave a me very positive influence of being more patient towards others, even if you don't know them.  
Ashlyn (108)

I was truly touched when the students of your school called at my house at Blk 944 Street 92 to spread the cheer of Chinese New Year by giving oranges and a greeting card, which were conveyed to us by happy cheerful students. I appreciate your gesture and conveyance of Chinese New Year. Thank you.  
Yours truly  
Mrs M Subramanian.

Dear Principal, Teachers and Students of XinMin Secondary School,  
  
Thank you for dropping the CNY card today. It is a sweet gesture of all to go to every household and share your wishes. My wishes to all be in good health in all areas, - physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and total wellbeing.  
  
Greetings,  
Melissa

I had a lot of fun on day 2 as we managed to get out of school and I made my first ever friend in Xin min. I also enjoyed the games our facils prepared for us.  
  
I like the Finale cause I was able to watch every class+ PCs performance.  
  
Trina (105)



XINMIN  
SECONDARY  
SCHOOL

# OF IMPORTANCE

## Assessment Policy

Weighted Assessments (WAs) may take the form of written class tests, online assignments, projects and practical tests. To manage our students' overall assessment load, we will take care not to schedule more than two WAs on any given day.

We encourage our students to revise their work more regularly throughout the year and aim for thorough understanding of the concepts and information rather than put in last-minute effort just before the examinations or WAs. The assessment plan for 2023 is as follows:

Level	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Sec 1 to 3	WA1 (10%)	WA2 (15%)	WA3 (15%)	EOY Exam (60%)
Sec 4 and 5	WA1	WA2	Prelim Exam (100%)	

*\*Semestral-based subjects e.g. D&T and FCE will follow subject-specific assessment plans. These will be briefed by the respective subject teachers.*



WA Schedule

## Attire and Grooming

To promote a positive and respectful learning environment, students are required to adhere to the school's attire and grooming guidelines. These guidelines help to prepare students for the world of work by teaching them appropriate grooming habits for the workplace. Students are briefed on the requirements at the start of each school year, and the details on the attire and grooming guidelines are available on the school website via the link below.

Abiding by these guidelines every day is a signal of a student's readiness for school and for learning. Hence, attire checks will be carried out regularly - including on the first day of each school term - and the school will take immediate corrective action to bring about compliance and/or mete out disciplinary consequences for students who do not comply

#dressRight



need help?

For matters pertaining to your child's progress in our school, you can email your child's Form Teachers or Year Head.

Parents should contact teachers during weekdays between 7.30 am to 6.00 pm. If teachers are uncontactable, we seek your kind understanding that they may only be able to respond the next working day as they are engaged with lessons, CCAs, consultations or other activities.



Contact FTs & YHs

# VOICES OF XINMIN

**Q: Welcome to Xinmin, Mr Tan! Help us get to know you better by sharing with us the proudest moment in your life.**

A: Thank you, everyone, for the warm welcome. Let me share the proudest moment in my life on the personal and professional fronts. On the personal front, it is the birth of my first child. I have two boys, and while there are occasions when I need to reprimand and correct them, there is so much joy in journeying with my two boys and guiding them to be their best selves.

On the professional front, my proudest moment is handing over the school I was with before Xinmin in the knowledge that I had contributed to bringing it to a higher level. There were so many special moments witnessing students blossom while in school and spread their wings after secondary school, as well as colleagues enhancing their professional craft to be skilful and adaptive in various areas of practice. As a Principal, my duty is to be a good steward of our school and our next generation, and I look forward to working hand in hand with colleagues, students, and school partners to bring Xinmin to a higher level!

**Q: You shared with the school that you have been to many previous postings before becoming principal, including Ministry of Transport! Many of us find that very interesting. How do you think those experiences benefit your current work as the Principal of our school?**

A: I am grateful for the various experiences, so that I can better contribute to our school in at least three ways: perspectives, approaches, and connections. First, perspectives – what we do as a school. With knowledge of the post-secondary education landscape and the skills demand for the future economy, we will augment the holistic education that Xinmin is renowned for. Our students will continue to be equipped with knowledge, skills, and values to be the best they can be, enabling them to realise their educational, career, and life aspirations.

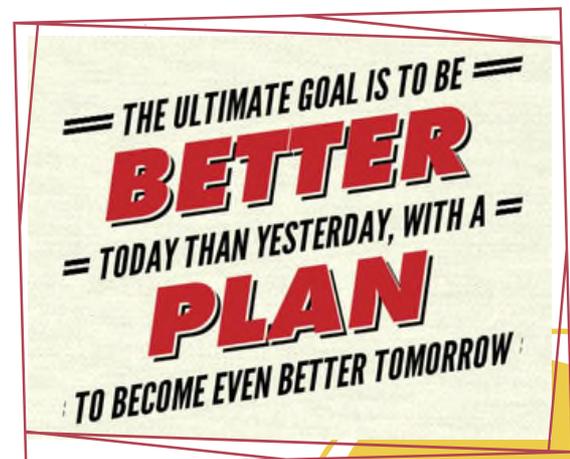
Second, approaches – why and how we do what we do as a school. With insights into developments and trends in education, society, and the world of work, we will be forward looking: continually reviewing our total curriculum to develop 21st Century Competencies and empower every Xinmin student to live life to the fullest, contributing to and caring for their family, community, and nation. Third, connections – who we partner and work with as a school. Our school is privileged to have many valued partners in education, and I hope to strengthen our partnerships to enhance professional development for staff and learning opportunities for students.

**Q: This being the start of a brand new academic year, we welcome some words of wisdom from our Principal. What is some advice you might have for us?**

A: My wish is for us **to be better today than yesterday, with a plan to become even better tomorrow**. This is the spirit of true excellence – to plan for and surpass our own self every day, rather than to compare constantly with others. Comparing constantly with others results in additional stress and anxiety, and it is how we fare based on our own past performance and future potential that matters more. We need to recognise that who we are today is the result of all the choices we have made up to that point in time, and who we are tomorrow is the outcome of the choices we make today. When we make choices today that will make us better tomorrow, and continue doing so day after day, then we are on the journey towards becoming our best!



**Mr Tan Soon Hui  
Principal**



Click here to watch  
Mr Tan's AMA segment  
in our IG!



# COMING UP!

**FEBRUARY 1**

START OF SINGAPORE YOUTH FESTIVAL PRESENTATIONS

**FEBRUARY 1-8**

VOLLEYBALL BOYS B DIV ZONAL

**FEBRUARY 2-16**

BADMINTON B DIV GROUP STAGE

**FEBRUARY 6**

START OF TERM 1 WEIGHTED ASSESSMENTS

**FEBRUARY 10, 16**

VOLLEYBALL GIRLS/BOYS B DIV ZONAL SEMI

**FEBRUARY 16**

VOLLEYBALL GIRLS/BOYS B DIV ZONAL FINALS

**FEBRUARY 17-18**

MOTHER TONGUE NEWS-IN-EDUCATION, PARENTS' ENGAGEMENT

**FEBRUARY 27**

START OF SEC 4 GEOG INVESTIGATION  
VOLLEYBALL GIRLS B DIV NATIONALS

**MARCH 1**

SINGAPORE NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA @XINMIN

**MARCH 9**

SEC 1 PERSONAL LEARNING DEVICES ONBOARDING DAY

**MARCH SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

**MARCH 11-19**

**MARCH 13**

SEC 3 LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP  
SEC 4 PRELIM EXAMS O LEVEL MID YEAR (MOTHER TONGUE LANGUAGES)

**MARCH 16-18**

INTER SCHOOL BOULDERING COMP

**MARCH 18**

GIRLS BRIGADE DRILL COMP

**MARCH 20-31**

MOTHER TONGUE FESTIVAL  
SEC 1 HISTORY INVESTIGATION

**MARCH 28**

X-COUNTRY NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES

**MARCH 31**

78TH SPEECH DAY



Sec 1



Sec 2



Sec 3



Sec 4/5



All Levels

FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR, CLICK [HERE!!](#)

## #TIPS

GRACE is our school's classroom routine. It aims to provide a conducive classroom environment for effective lessons to take place!

R is for Readiness! How can we be ready for lessons? We can:

- Be in class punctually
- Place mobile phones in your lockers
- Have lesson notes and Chromebooks ready
- Have appropriate grooming and attire for lesson

Being ready helps us learn better and ensures that lessons are more effective and impactful!



**Xinmin Secondary School  
Classroom Routines**

<b>G</b> reeting	Greet your teacher
<b>R</b> eadiness	Be punctual; get your PLDs & materials ready
<b>A</b> ttention	Good learning posture; PLDs at 45° when not in use
<b>C</b> leanliness	Have a clean and tidy area for learning
<b>E</b> xpectations	Know the lesson objectives