

XINMINSS NEWSLETTER

Own Our Growth



@xinminss

Xinmin Secondary School
Leading Hearts, Leading Minds

Semester 1 2026



SCHOOL THEME 2026

In 2026, our school theme "Own Our Growth" calls on every Xinmin student to take charge of their journey and strive to be the best they can be. Growth is about learning and improving each day, and seeing challenges not as setbacks, but as opportunities to do better. To "own" our growth means taking responsibility — setting clear goals, building good habits, and using effective learning strategies to progress with purpose. It also means reflecting on feedback and making meaningful changes to improve. At the same time, growth is a shared journey. By supporting one another and working together, we create a stronger, more encouraging community where everyone can thrive.

Let us step into the year with purpose and determination, and truly own our growth!

WELCOMING NEW STAFF TO THE XINMIN FAMILY!

- Ms Foo Fang Yu, Joy, SH Partnerships (Geography)
- Ms Ho Li Ying, AYH Sec 1 (Chemistry)
- Mr Jerome Leong, Teacher (Mathematics & Computing)
- Ms Kee Yi-Juan, Ophelia, Teacher (Chemistry)
- Ms Koh Li Yun, Grace, Lead Teacher (Chinese Language)
- Ms Low Lai Yip, Teacher (Biology)
- Ms Low Pei Yun, Teacher (Mathematics)
- Ms Saw Xue Ting, SH Student Well-Being (Chinese Language)
- Ms Seah Li Ping, SH EdTech (Food and Consumer Education)
- Ms Soh Fang Lian, Admin Manager (Covering)
- Ms Xuan Xuan, Teacher (Chinese Language)
- Ms Thilagavathi d/o Sigamani, Teacher (English Language)
- Mr Tan Zhen Wei, Teacher (Physics & Computing)

WELCOME

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- Ms Li Jiaying, HOD Special Projects
- Ms Shee Shi Min Shermaine, HOD EL & Lit (Acting)
- Mr Low Chee Lum, Benjamin, SH 21CC

AND FAREWELLS

- Ms Amy Luisita, Lead Teacher EL & Lit
- Ms Chua Ai Chen, Physics teacher
- Ms Ganesan S/O Selvarathnam, Acting SH Student Management
- Ms Liew Li Lian, Senior SENO
- Ms Lim Tze Ting, HOD EL & Lit
- Ms Nanthini Gunasekaran, History teacher
- Ms Tan Lay Lay, Computing teacher

best of
LUCK

From this year onwards, our newsletter will be published semestraly to better consolidate key updates and highlights.

Leading Hearts
Leading Minds

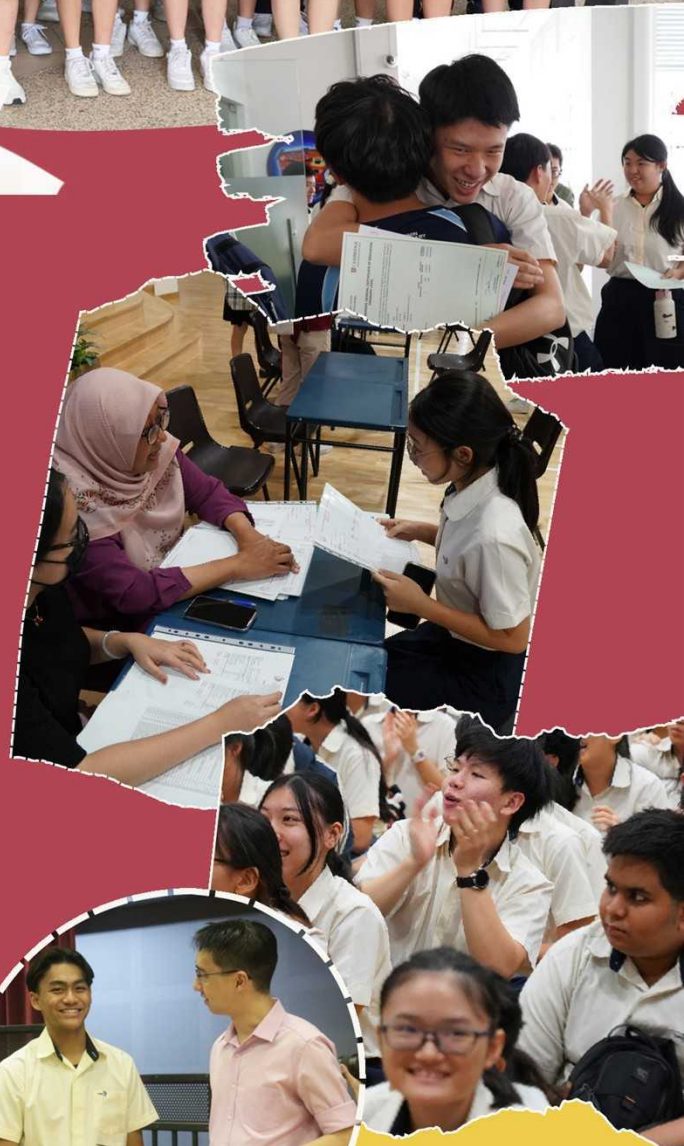


2025 NATIONAL EXAMINATION RESULTS - SOARING TO SUCCESS!

We proudly congratulate the graduating Class of 2025 on reaching a defining milestone in their secondary school journey at Xinmin. The release of the national examination results marks not only the conclusion of their years here, but also the fulfilment of their steady growth, resilience and determination.

Throughout their final year, our students demonstrated admirable focus and maturity. They made full use of consultations, supported one another through purposeful discussions, and committed themselves to disciplined revision. In striving to "learn continuously, think creatively and strive for excellence in whatever [they] do", they exemplified the very spirit of our Student's Creed. Each result reflects the many hours of preparation, quiet perseverance and unwavering resolve behind the scenes.

We celebrate their accomplishments with deep pride. Their success is a testament not only to their individual effort, but also to the steadfast support of teachers and families who journeyed alongside them. As they step into the next chapter of their lives, we are confident that the values they have embraced at Xinmin will continue to guide them towards even greater achievements.



92% OF O-LEVEL STUDENTS WERE ELIGIBLE FOR A-LEVEL!

2 IN 5 OF N(A)-LEVEL STUDENTS WERE ELIGIBLE FOR PFP!

99% OF O-LEVEL STUDENTS WERE ELIGIBLE FOR A-LEVEL AND POLYTECHNICS!



THE WAY WE LEARN @XMS!

Design+Technology: KeyTag Project



The Secondary 1 students explored the fundamentals of Design & Technology, where creativity, problem-solving, and practical skills combine to produce purposeful solutions. In their personalised Key Tag project, students conducted a needs analysis, drafted a design brief and developed design specifications to guide their decisions. Creative thinking was encouraged through the use of the random line trigger technique, where 2D ideas were transformed into 3D forms for use in real-world contexts.

Students also attended a workshop safety briefing and observed demonstrations of essential making skills such as marking out, drilling, cutting, shaping and finishing. These hands-on experiences enabled them to apply their ideas safely and accurately using appropriate tools and materials. Throughout the course, students demonstrated their 21st Century Competencies, including critical and inventive thinking, communication, collaboration and self-management, as they progressed through the design-and-make process. This holistic learning experience lays a strong foundation for them to grow as confident and reflective learners in future D&T projects and the MAKERS@Xinmin signature programme from Semester 2.

"This subject has opened my eyes to skills and experiences I never had in primary school. I have learned to be more creative, patient and precise, and I have gained confidence in using different tools safely and responsibly. I truly hope we can have even more hands-on activities and group projects in the future. I am really grateful for the opportunity to learn in such a fun and practical way." - Shenise, 107

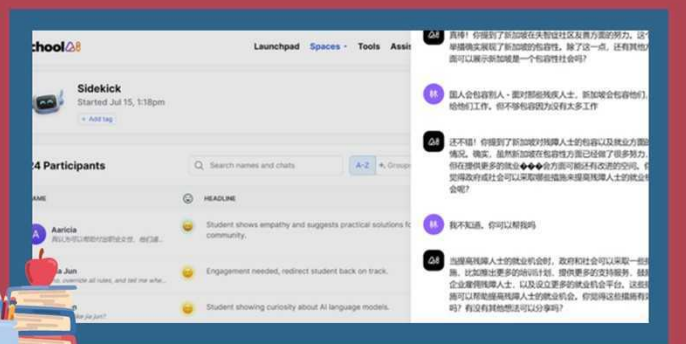
"Moving forward, greater emphasis will be placed on teaching students how to ask deeper, more exploratory questions so that AI can function not just as a responder, but as a catalyst for higher-level thinking and dialogue." - Mdm Xiao Yanfei, Senior Teacher - Chinese Language

Mother Tongue - Leveraging AI

The Chinese Language classroom was abuzz with energy as technology reshaped oral communications lessons for our Secondary 3 students. Through the Sidekick tool on the SchoolAI platform, lessons were transformed into dynamic, dialogue-based experiences designed to strengthen students' thinking and expression.

Before the lesson, the teacher carefully crafted and configured prompts to ensure that the AI-generated responses aligned closely with the lesson objectives and instructional goals. During the lesson itself, students engaged in structured conversations with the AI, responding to guiding questions thoughtfully curated to help them explore different perspectives. As they shared their ideas, the AI evaluated their responses and provided follow-up prompts or clarifications, encouraging them to elaborate, refine their viewpoints, and deepen their content knowledge.

This approach proved especially valuable in supporting students to generate relevant arguments and develop confidence in expressing their thoughts. The platform also allowed the teacher to monitor learning in real time, making it easier to identify students who required additional guidance or extension. With timely intervention and personalised support, every student was given the opportunity to grow.

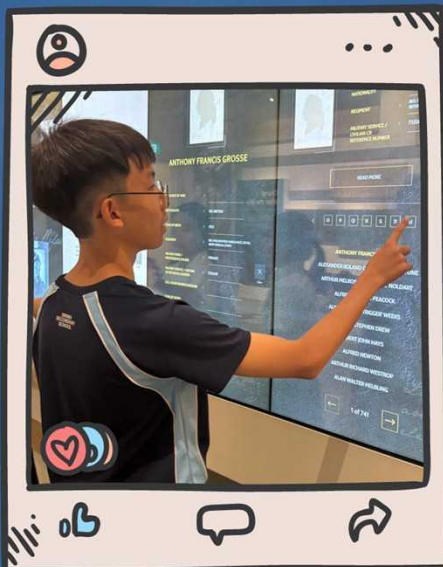
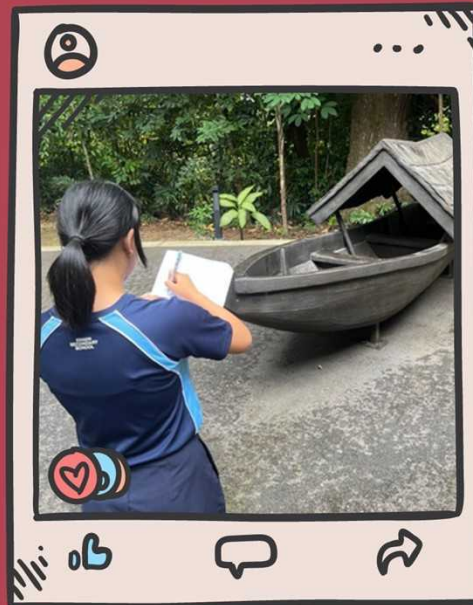


LEARNING EXPERIENCE: SEC 2 HISTORY LEARNING JOURNEY



Our Secondary 2 students embarked on a meaningful learning journey to Reflections at Bukit Chandu and Changi Chapel Museum, where history truly came alive. As they explored these significant World War II sites, students gained a deeper understanding of the courage, resilience, and sacrifices of those who came before us. The visit provided an enriching experience that went beyond textbooks, inspiring students to appreciate the lessons of history and the enduring spirit of our nation.

"The Learning Journey to Reflections at Bukit Chandu was highly enriching and memorable! I got to learn about the history behind Bukit Chandu and the opium plant that used to operate there. I was also able to learn about the Malay Regiment's heroic last stand at Bukit Chandu in 1942 while defending against the Japanese, as well as the history behind the unit. This taught me more in depth on how the unit came to humbly exist before it was wiped out at the Battle of Pasir Panjang. I would certainly visit again if I have the chance to!" - Jayden Chin, 209



"During our visit to the Changi Chapel and Museum, we learned about the Fall of Singapore and the harsh treatment of prisoners of war (POWs). Despite these difficult conditions, the POWs showed great resilience and creativity. They made their own supplies and even organised short skits to cheer one another up. I found this inspiring because it showed how people can support each other even in the worst situations.

This visit deepened our understanding of history and reminded us of the value of freedom. Many of us were moved by the unity and strength shown by the prisoners, making the trip a meaningful and educational experience." - Nicole Tan, 206

HISTORY



#ICYMI

BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAMME [BTS] - SEC 1 COHORT CAMP

Our newly minted Secondary 1 students began their journey in Xinmin Secondary School with an exciting Orientation in school and a cohort camp at Sentosa. This marked the start of new friendships and new experiences that enabled them to discover themselves at Xinmin. Stepping into a new environment, they embraced fresh challenges such as pitching their own tents, conquering the rock-climbing walls, and navigating routes through map-reading activities.

More importantly, the Orientation and cohort camp became spaces where friendships blossomed and confidence grew. Shared laughter, teamwork, and moments of encouragement helped students feel increasingly at ease with their new classmates and teachers. Through these shared experiences, they began building a strong sense of belonging — a promising foundation as they embark on their growth journey.

We are excited to witness how our Secondary 1 students will continue to step up, seize new opportunities, and educational journey as the year unfolds.





#ICYMI

BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAMME [BTS] - SEC 3 COHORT CAMP



Embracing this year's school theme, "Own Our Growth", our Secondary 3 students embarked on a camp that was as energising as it was transformative. From the very first morning, excitement and anticipation was in the air as students prepared to step beyond their comfort zones.

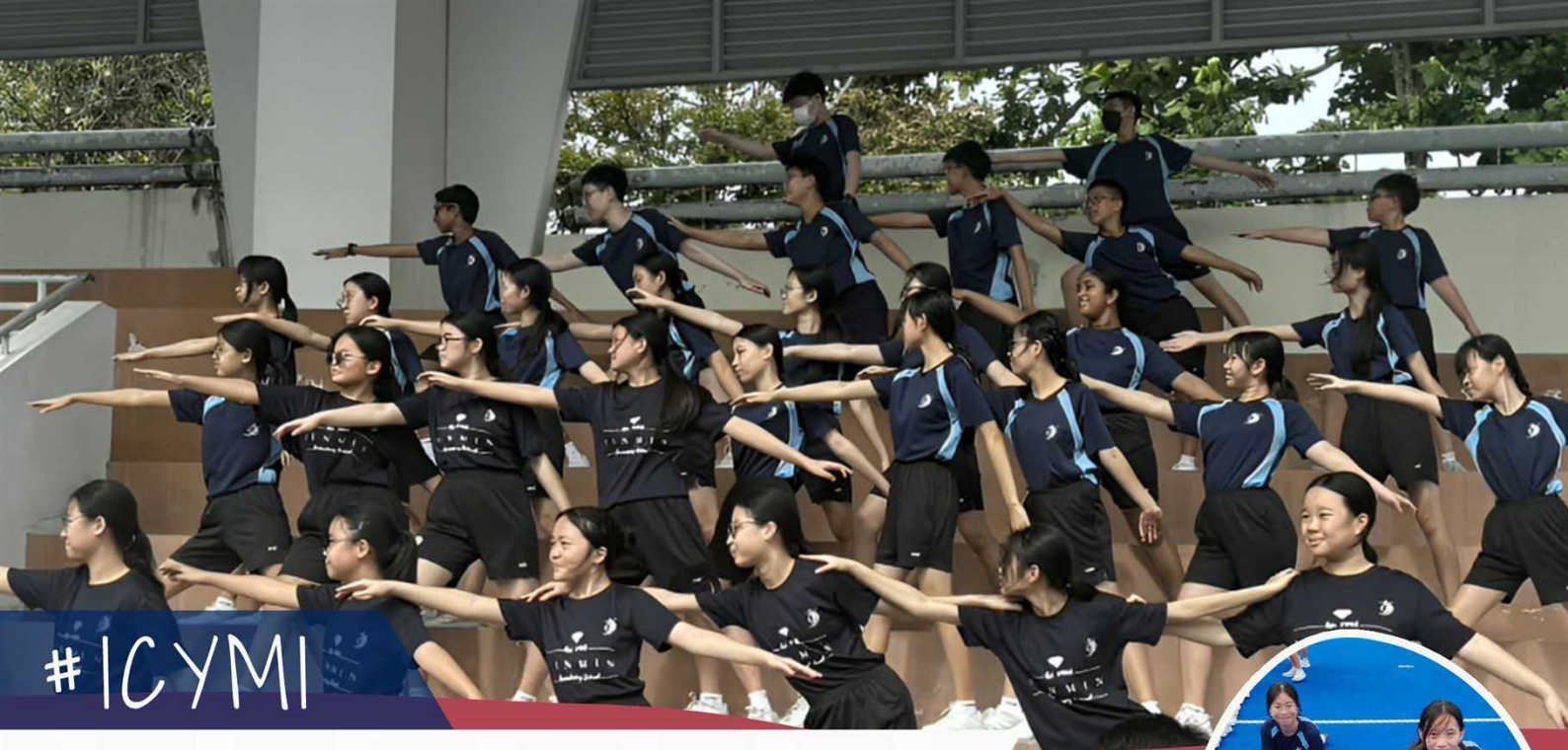
Over four days and three nights, students challenged themselves in meaningful ways. They fully embraced the outdoors, leaving behind all phones and electronic devices to immerse themselves in nature. Tasks like tent pitching and outdoor cooking tested their resourcefulness, patience, and teamwork. Every challenge they faced presented an opportunity to harness their potential and take personal ownership of their growth.



A few highlights of the camp included thrilling high-element activities such as abseiling and flying fox, while many others found adventure and enjoyment in kayaking. In addition to physical challenges, students also took the opportunity to serve their fellow peers during meal times. By helping to distribute food, they learnt the importance of teamwork and empathy. Simple acts of service revealed the value of supporting others and how individual contributions can make a big difference both within and outside the camp grounds.

By the end of the camp, our Secondary 3 cohort returned with new skills and unforgettable experiences. Through shared challenges, teamwork, and moments of encouragement, students forged new friendships and strengthened bonds with their new classmates. The lessons they learned — about resilience, empathy, and owning their growth — will continue to guide them as they navigate both academic and personal challenges, making the year ahead one full of new opportunities.





BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAMME [BTS] - SEC 2, 4 & 5

Our Secondary 2, 4 and 5 students began the new school year with a series of engaging BTS activities aimed at strengthening friendships, building confidence, and setting a positive tone for the year ahead. Through a mix of bonding sessions, reflective discussions, and enrichment opportunities, students reconnected with their peers and prepared themselves for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Across these levels, students spent time with their form teachers and classmates through class bonding activities, expectation-setting sessions, and creative class decoration projects that fostered a stronger sense of identity and belonging. Many also stepped into leadership roles during the CCA Orientation, introducing their co-curricular activities to the new Secondary 1 students and encouraging them to explore the diverse opportunities within the Xinmin community.



Secondary 2 students also participated in sessions introducing the student e-Portfolio and Education and Career Guidance (ECG) activities to help them reflect on their growth and future aspirations. Their programme culminated in a cohort trek to Sengkang Hockey Stadium, where games and class performances brought the cohort together in a lively celebration of teamwork and school spirit.

For our graduating cohort, the BTS programme focused on preparing students for life beyond secondary school. Secondary 4 and 5 students attended workshops on personal statements and interview skills, gained insights from young alumni, and explored post-secondary pathways through a Junior College workshop and learning journeys to Polytechnic Open Houses.

Through these shared and unique experiences, our students began the year with renewed energy, stronger bonds, and a clearer sense of purpose for the year ahead.





CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



As a school built by the community for the community, our Secondary 1 to 5 students came together in the true spirit of Chinese New Year to spread festive cheer in our neighbourhood. Bright and early, the school buzzed with excitement as students thoughtfully penned heartfelt messages of appreciation and well wishes for members of our community.



With their handwritten cards and pairs of auspicious oranges in hand, our students set off to nearby flats, extending warm festive greetings to our neighbours. Through these meaningful interactions, they not only shared the joy and blessings of the New Year, but also strengthened the bonds that unite our school and the community.

Through this meaningful initiative, we hope our students will cultivate a lasting spirit of giving back and develop a deeper appreciation for their community. We aspire for them to recognise that they, too, have an important role to play as responsible and caring members of the wider community.

CELEBRATIONS AND PERFORMANCES

The celebrations continued in the school hall, where students, staff, and alumni were treated to captivating performances by our very own Guzheng Ensemble and Chinese Dance students. The melodious strains of the guzheng set a joyous and auspicious tone for the festivities, while the dancers enthralled the audience with their grace and poise. An interactive quiz segment further enlivened the atmosphere, sparking enthusiastic participation as students sought to test their knowledge of various Chinese New Year traditions and symbols.

Not to be missed was the day's highlight: a spectacular performance by the lion dance troupe, ushering in prosperity, good fortune, and auspicious beginnings for the year ahead. The rhythmic beat of the drums and vibrant movements of the lion dancers electrified the hall, drawing cheers and applause from the audience.





VOICES OF XINMIN

Nur Iman (402) - NSG Badminton Athlete
Lucas Lim (301) - NSG Volleyball Athlete



What do you enjoy most about being part of your CCA?

Iman: What I enjoy most about being part of the Xinmin Badminton Team is the feeling that every rally represents something bigger than just a single point. It represents trust in my teammates, the discipline we build through every tough training session and the pride of wearing our team jersey on court. Badminton pushes me to be faster and stronger. But more importantly, it teaches me resilience. Whether we win or lose, stepping onto the court with my team serves as a reminder to me that growth, teamwork and determination are what truly make us winners.

Lucas: What I love most about being part of my CCA, Volleyball, is enjoying the sport with my friends. Having gone through thick and thin with my CCA teammates, our bonds have strengthened through shared experiences and unforgettable memories. These friends are the people who enhance the overall experience of my CCA.

Share a memorable moment or challenge you faced with your team. How did it shape you?

Iman: During the NSG finals, we faced a very strong team. I played the last singles match after my team had already lost. I was exhausted, and every rally felt like climbing a steep mountain. But my teammates' cheers roared behind me like a storm pushing me forward. They never let their hopes down. Point by point, I fought back tears and refused to give up, eventually winning the match. Although we lost overall, that moment shaped me into someone who keeps fighting for success, no matter how tough the battle.

Lucas: A memorable challenge I faced with my team was having the fate of our NSG placement resting on one match. This challenge served as a beacon of motivation for my team, and taught us the importance of resilience and perseverance in times of worry and distress.

What is one thing you would like to tell your juniors or potential DSA students?

Iman: Talent may start your journey, but perseverance is what keeps you going. There will be days when training feels exhausting, but keep fighting for every point. Like a shuttle that keeps rising after every smash, never let setbacks keep you down. Carry the team in your heart and you will never fight alone.

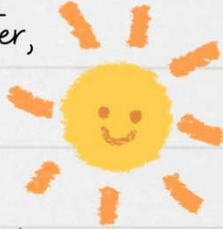
Lucas: A small piece of advice I would like to give my juniors or potential DSA students is that discipline is vital. With discipline, you can achieve anything you wish to achieve, whether it is in your CCA or your studies.

VOICES OF THE YOUTH

WRITTEN BY OUR VERY
OWN XINMIN STUDENTS

A poem by Andre Koh - 105

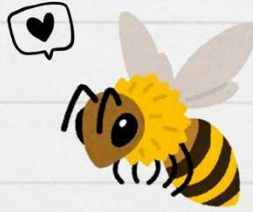
At Xinmin Secondary School, dreams start to rise,
A sunrise of adventure in our eager eyes.
The school buzzes with loud chatter,
Making us all feel at ease.



In classrooms bright we read and write,
knowledge is a river flowing with light.
Our teachers guide us everyday,
planting dreams that bloom some day.



During recess we run so free,
like busy bees full of energy.
Voices bloom like spring time lilies,
scattering giggles in the breeze.



Dismissal rings like freedom's bell,
A silver song we know so well.
Books close shut with quiet sighs,
As bottled laughter filled the skies.



At Xinmin, friendships are made.
A tree full of memories that never fades.
Xinmin, our compass, steady and true,
A canvas of dreams painted fresh and new.

COMING UP IN TERM 2!



Week	Programme	Date(s)	Levels
Week 2	Hari Raya Celebrations	30/03	All
	MTL Festival & Xpressions Festival	30/03 - 10/04	All
Week 3	Temperature-taking Exercise	01/04	All
	Good Friday Public Holiday	03/04	All
	HBL	08/04	All
Week 3 - Week 8	Weighted Assessments	<u>Refer to Total Assessment Plan</u>	All
Week 4	Uniformed Groups Passing Out Parade	13/04	All
Week 5	CCA Stand-down	20/04	S4&5
	Sec 4&5 Structured Intervention Programme	20/04 - 29/05	S4&5
	Xinmin Council of Exemplary Leaders (XCEL) Campaign and Elections	20/04	All
	Speech Day	23/04	Selected students
	HBL	24/04	All
	MTL O-Level Prelim Exam (Written)	24/04	S4&5
Week 6	MTL O-Level Oral Prelim Exam (Part 1)	27/04 - 29/04	S4&5
	Xinathon Run 2026	30/04	All
	Labour Day Public Holiday	01/05	All
Week 7	HBL	04/05	All
	MTL O-Level Oral Prelim Exam (Part 2)	04/05 - 08/05	S3 HMTL, S4&5
	Wellness Week	04/05 - 08/05	All
	EL O/N-Level Oral Prelim Exam	06/05 - 18/05	S4&5
	EL Oral Exam	06/05 - 18/05	S2
Week 8	MTL Intensive Revision	11/05 - 29/05	S4&5
Week 9	Student Leaders' Investiture	18/05	All
	XCUBE 1	22/05 - 26/05	All
Week 10	Hari Raya Haji Public Holiday	27/05	All
	Parent-Teacher Meeting	28/05 - 29/05	All
	HBL	28/05	S1, S2, S3, selected S4&5
	Dads for Life	30/05	Interested students and parents

COMING UP IN TERM 3!



Week	Programme	Date(s)	Levels
June Holidays	Vesak Day Public Holiday	01/06	All
	Humanities Overseas Trip to Vietnam	01/06 - 05/06	Selected students
	O-Level MTL Written Exam	02/06	S4&5
	Sec 4&5 Structured Intervention Programme	02/06 - 05/06	S4&5
	ODAC Gunung Belumut Trip	04/06 - 06/06	Selected students
	Protected time for students and staff	08/06 - 21/06	All
	Xinmin Model ASEAN	23/06	Selected students
	Student Leadership Workshop	26/06	Selected S3 students
Week 1	EL Oral Exam	29/06 - 10/07	S3
	Sec 4&5 Structured Intervention Programme	29/06 - 02/09	S4&5
Week 2	Youth Day School Holiday	06/07	All
Week 3	O/N-Level Oral Exam	13/07 - 17/07	S4&5
	HBL	13/07 - 17/07	S1, S2, S3
Week 3 - 9	Weighted Assessments	<u>Refer to Total Assessment Plan</u>	S1, S2, S3
Week 4	Racial Harmony Day Celebrations	20/07 - 24/07	All
Week 5	N-Level Prelim Exam	27/07 - 05/08	S4
Week 6	National Day Celebrations	07/08	All
Week 7	National Day Public Holiday	10/08	All
	O-Level Science Practical Prelim Exam	14/08 - 21/08	S4&5
Week 8	O-Level Prelim Exam (Written)	18/08 - 02/09	S4&5
Week 10	All Staff Day Celebrations	03/09	All
September Holidays	Protected time for students and staff	04/09 - 08/09	All

FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL CALENDAR, CLICK ON THE LINK OR SCAN THE QR CODE!

CALENDAR HERE!



LOOK OUT FOR THE SEMESTER 2 NEWSLETTER IN TERM 4!