



COMPASSVALE SECONDARY SCHOOL 康柏中学

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School Motto: *Realising the Star Within*

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Dear Parents/Guardians

SCHOOL MATTERS FOR TERM 4 AND YEAR END HOLIDAYS

MOE-declared Study Breaks for GCE 'N' and 'O' Level Examinations

MOE will be implementing a study break across all schools in the lead up to the year-end National Examinations. This is to minimise the risk of school-based transmissions and reduce QO/LOA numbers in the event of a confirmed case. Our existing study breaks for 4N students (30/9-3/10) and 4E5N students (4/10-17/10) already cover the entire periods of the MOE-declared study breaks for 4N students (1/10-3/10) and 4E5N students (13/10-17/10). **During the MOE-declared study break, students are strongly encouraged to remain at home to reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19 from the community.** Consultations with teachers could be done remotely. The school will make special arrangements for identified students who require face-to-face supervision and more targeted academic, emotional support, and a place for self-study to return to school under strict measures.

Highlights of School Programmes/Events in Term 3

National Day celebrations (6 Aug) – Our school celebrated national day with the theme of “Together A Stronger Singapore”. In the lead up to the celebration, students discussed their roles in the SGSecure national movement based on a video on national security from the Sengkang NPC. The celebration itself was held online and a video of our flag raising ceremony was shown on Sengkang CC’s facebook In support of Sengkang Central National Day Celebration 2021. Students pondered on what the Singapore Spirit meant to them and the future Singapore that they would like to build. Students also showed their appreciation to Covid frontline healthcare team through the National Day Gratitude Card Project organised by Big At Heart. More than 500 cards were submitted and distributed to the front-liners by MOM (<https://www.bigatheart.org/national-day-gratitude-card-project>). The card written by Choo Li Rui (2E3) was featured in Zbcomma: <https://www.zbschools.sg/news/school/stories-19588>. In support of the annual “Keep Your Red Alive!” event organised by Sengkang Central Youth Network, 22 entries were submitted for the National Day Tote Bag Design Contest (one entry achieved a 7th placing) while 22 entries were submitted for the National Day Video Performance Contest (our choir entry attained a 4th position). Both winning entries were featured in the National Day livestream show.

Teachers Day celebrations (2 Sep) - MOE is spearheading a national Teachers’ Day celebration from end of August to November to recognise the continued contribution of the entire teaching fraternity in supporting students’ growth, development and well-being. The key messages are as follows:

1. Despite the complexities of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, our teachers have upheld our ethos and professionalism and have continued to deliver quality teaching and learning, as well as taking good care of student socio-emotional developments and well-being.
2. Our teachers have shown that when they remain resilient and resourceful in the face of challenges, they innovate to create new and meaningful experiences for our students. They have ensured that the opportunities for our students to experience quality learning would not be compromised by barriers.
3. Our teachers have always made a difference to the lives of their students in both academic and affective domains. A teacher who is a lifelong learner and looks after his or her well-being not only helps our students succeed but is also a source of inspiration to the fraternity and their students.

Our school celebrated Teachers Day with the theme “Guardians of the Galaxy – at the frontlines and behind the scene”. Our Student Council organised the event online and the class leaders facilitated the class activities. Students and parents are encouraged to pay tribute to our teachers at the national Gratitude Portal set up by MOE at ThankYouCher.edu.sg which will run from End August to End November.

Staff Achievements

MOE’s President Award for Teachers (PAT) – Mdm Edwina Cheng, Year Head 2, was conferred this year’s President’s Award for Teachers by President Halimah Yacob. This is the top award for educators given by MOE to recognise outstanding educators for their dedication and innovation in nurturing our students, as well as their role in mentoring their peers for professional excellence. Mdm Cheng is one of 7 recipients this year – 2 from primary schools, 3 from secondary schools, 1 from ITE and 1 from the polytechnics. The recipients were selected from 17 finalists out of 5062 nominees from 335 schools and institutions by a panel chaired by Mr Patrick Tay, Chairperson of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Education, with representatives from MOE, COMPASS (COMMunity and PARENTS in Support of Schools) and post-secondary education institutions. Mdm Cheng is the second recipient of PAT in our school history.

The LEAP Award 2021 – Ms Koh Bee Choo, LH/CL, was conferred the LEAP (Listening Educator for Advancement and Progress) award given by Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan. The award seeks to recognise exceptional teachers who have made a positive impact in nurturing their students from the heart. The naming of the award signifies a leap of faith for a teacher to believe that his/her students have the potential to excel beyond their capabilities. Over the past 10 years, 106 teachers have been conferred the award. Ms Koh is one of 13 outstanding recipients selected out of more than 1100 nominations received nationwide this year. Ms Koh is the first among our teachers to receive this award. She was also a finalist for the MOE's Outstanding Youth in Education Awards last year.

MOE Innergy Awards 2021 – This biennial award recognises innovative and best practices in teaching & learning as well as work processes among schools. Out of 561 applications for the awards nationwide this year, our school has won two commendation awards – “Using Analogue Card Games in CL lessons” from Ms Koh Bee Choo, Mdm Liew Feng Lin, Mdm Low E Soon and Mr Chan Jee Keong, and “Developing Vocabulary through Folklore and Critical Thinking” from Mdm Noranika Murni and Dr Fawziyah.

Student Achievements

East Zone A*Star Science Fair organised by Victoria Junior College – The fair provides a platform for students to share their investigative science projects and learn from others. A total of 35 projects were submitted from secondary schools and our team won a **Merit Award**. The team comprised Elizabeth Ang, Sania Chaurasia, Tan Qi Xuan, Eleanor Tan and Varsha Subin, all from 3E5.

National Schools Literature Festival (10 Jul) collaboratively organised by teachers from various schools with support from MOE, NIE, NAC and Singapore Book Council - A team of our Sec 1 students participated in the online Choral Speaking competition at this festival and clinched one of only two **Gold Awards** out of about 64 entries. Team members were Audrey Teng (1E1), Syed Adil Bukhari (1E1), Deenise Tan (1E4), Rachmadi Cheryl Fernandez (1E1) and Erika Sarah Netto (1N3). We also took part in the Upper Sec Debate (first time) and Flash Fiction competitions.

Chinese Creative Writing with Photography 2021 organised by Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan – Wee Cadence (1E4) won **second prize** in the Lower Sec category. Participants were required to write about intangible cultural heritage accompanied by a photo. Cadence wrote about how her famous family business, Lau Hock Guan Kee Bak Kut Teh, Fish Head Curry & Steam Fish in Joo Chiat, had to close down in 2017 due to labour shortage after 44 years in the business. She urged Singaporeans to treasure the food and memory of our heritage food stalls so that we can continue to enjoy our local delicacies generation after generation.

SYFgoesOnline! – The Young Playwright Presents 2021 organised by MOE Arts Education Branch – The SYFgoesOnline! is a virtual arts festival that showcases the creativity, vibrancy and resilience of our youths in the face of current challenges. A group of students from our Drama CCA participated in this event and their entry of a monologue based on the theme “Finding the Light” was **shortlisted for showcase**. The students are Shen Xinyi (3E1), Chezanne Pham (3E3), Gavin Fei (3E5) and Javier Sng (3E5). Their video has been uploaded on YouTube.

Crea8 Sustainability Re-Crea8 Competition organised by PacificLight - Our Environment Club took part in this competition which encourages students to reuse, repurpose and recycle used material to give it a new lease of life in the form of an artwork, models or functional objects. Two of our entries were the **winner and 2nd Runner-up** in the lower secondary category. Shawn Lim (2E1) and Muhd Hifni (2N1) created an artwork of Raffles Marina Lighthouse (Winner) while Masayu Syarah Zakirah (1T1) and Nurqistina (1T1) created an artwork of a zoo (2nd Runner-up). Their artwork were showcased at a month-long exhibition at the Singapore Sustainable Gallery@Marina Barrage in Jul/Aug.

MOH Healthcare Scholarships Award 2021 – Maryam Bte Mohd Mahathir (2020 4E4) was awarded the scholarship to study nursing over 3+2 years. This is part of MOH's efforts to attract and grow young talents for Singapore's public healthcare. We are happy that Maryam has chosen to pursue this noble and meaningful career.

2021 Nanyang Polytechnic Graduation Distinguished Awards – Yeo Zhi Hui (2017 4E5) was one out of only 9 awardees who have displayed exceptional achievements among more than 5000 graduands this year.

Seng Kang Primary School Super Senior 2021 – Clara Yeo (1T1) received a note of appreciation from SKPS for her contribution to their ECG Programme, Super Senior 2021 as part of their Secondary School Preparatory Programme. Clara spoke to the P6 pupils via video conferencing.

Youth Build Bridges Across Faith - Alex Low (2018 4E5) was featured in this Straits Times' article about how a group of tech-savvy Muslim and Christian youths in Geylang Serai endeavours to build interfaith trust and harmony through the activities organised by their mosques and churches (<https://www.straitstimes.com/life/youth-build-bridges-across-faith>). We are pleased that our students continue to be involved in social causes and make a difference to our community after graduating from CVSS. Alex is a second-year Temasek Polytechnic student in law and management.

More details of some of the above programmes/achievements may be found on our school website under “highlights”.



Chia Chor Yann
Principal