



4 Jan 2021

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Dear Parent/Guardian

WELCOME TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR AT BBSS!

1. My warmest greetings to you. It has been a tough 2020 amidst the COVID-19 period. No doubt our lives have been profoundly changed as we continue to stay persistent in these unprecedented times and emerge as a stronger and more caring community. During the school holidays, there were occasions where I chance upon our students in the neighbourhood. When asked, they would share that they miss their friends and cannot wait for school to start.

2. It is great to see our students coming to school all energised and ready to start the new academic year. On behalf of the school, I would like to thank all parents/guardians for your continuous support towards your children/wards in their holistic journey and to thank all Sec 1 parents/guardians for entrusting your children/wards with us.

3. **Celebrating Achievements** – We have accolades to share from the last quarter in 2020 (*Annex A* provides additional details, if any, of these achievements).

Domain	Achievement
Academic	<p>Post-Sec Accolades:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vernice Tan Si Ying (4T1, 2018) – 3rd in the Beauty Therapy category, WorldSkills Singapore (WSS) 2020 and will be competing at the 13th WorldSkills Competition (WSC) ASEAN from 6 to 11 Apr 2021. <p>Young Engineer Award 2020 YEA (Achievement), Outstanding Project Bronze - Pham Huynh Khanh Nhi, Cheong Yu Yan and Katta Akshitha from 3A7</p> <p>Historical Scene Investigation (H.S.I.) Challenge 2020 Silver - Chong Yu Hui, Su Yan Xin, Aditi Jain and Tan Bo Ling Pauline from 2A6</p> <p>Fly Challenge 2020 Team Award – Best Presentation and 2nd Overall</p> <p>StriTwis® Final Challenge 2020 Team Award – Overall Tribe Winner for Games</p> <p>National Young Leader Award 2020 Top 50 - Nur Haziqah Binte Saleh, 4A8</p>
CCA (Clubs & Societies)	<p>Robotics Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Thinking with Robotics and Computational Thinking (DrCT) Competition 2020 Silver – Govindarajan Nithya Kiruthik, 2A5 Silver – Lee Shao Zhe Shamus, 2A5 Bronze – Warren Ng Xiang Yu, 1A4 RippleUX Competition 2020 Team Award – Senior category on Halocode, Bronze
Staff	Innergy Award (Commendation) 2020 - From Garden To Plate

4. **School Focus for 2021** – Since the onslaught of the COVID-19 situation, our school has remained focused on enriching the learning experiences of all BBSSians and enhanced their future readiness through our whole school approach towards **Effective Communication** delivered across various subject disciplines

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50 Bukit Batok West Ave 8, Singapore 658962 Tel: 65663121 Fax: 65607006 Email: bbss@moe.edu.sg
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and context, and through **Environmental Education** using our sustainable school initiative. This year, the learning is further enhanced as the school prepares to introduce **Blended Learning** in 2021 starting towards the end of term 1 where students would learn from home via Home-Based Learning (HBL) every alternate Friday, integrating level-based programmes and activities on the even week of the students' timetables. In BBSS, we have named this day **Seek, Discover and Learn** (SDL) day, a catchy moniker of Self-Directed Learning. Through the **Personalised Digital Learning Programme** (PDL) @ BBSS, every student from Sec 1 to 3 would be equipped with a personal learning device by Jun 2021 so that they can leverage on technology and grow their **self-directedness** in learning independently and collaboratively, both within and outside of their classrooms. Further details on the programmes/activities during SDL day and device acquisition for PDL will be shared later in the year.

5. Nurturing self-directed learners with abundance mentality has always been our school mission and we will continue to build this culture amongst our students and staff through multiple platforms to practise self-managing, self-monitoring and self-modifying – the 3 “selves”¹ of a self-directed learner. One example is our school's emphasis on students' reflections and building portfolios, something that you would savour when your children/wards share their learning experiences during the Parent-Teacher Meetings at the end of semester 1.

6. **Video Recording and Photography in School** – As an institution that continually seeks to improve the learning experience of students, ongoing research by our staff may entail filming and photography on the school premises. Such material may also be used for publicity and/or presentations. Please approach your child/ward's form teacher if you have any concerns.

7. We face 2021 with a New Normal. Together, we can brave this New Normal. Our best wishes to you and your family in the New Year. May the year ahead be an enriching one and may you all enjoy good health and happiness.

Yours faithfully

Mr Phua Huat Chuan
Principal

(This letter has been posted electronically on Parents Gateway. No signature is required.)

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A Self-Managing Person	A Self-Monitoring Person	A Self-Modifying Person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a sense of clarity about the outcomes • Has a plan of action • Draws from past experiences • Anticipates success indicators • Creates alternatives for accomplishment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has sufficient self-knowledge about what works • Has good reflective (metacognitive) strategies • Makes good decisions about the need to alter plans where necessary • Chooses the right actions and strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflects, evaluates, analyses • Constructs meaning from experiences • Modifies his thinking, attitude and behaviour after reflection • Applies the learning to future activities, tasks and challenges

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Details of Achievements

Domain	Achievement
Academic	<p>Post-Sec Accolades:</p> <p>WorldSkills Singapore 2020 WorldSkills Singapore (WSS) is a national skills competition held biennially to discover the best talents among the youth in Singapore. Outstanding performers of WSS will represent Singapore to compete in the prestigious international-level WorldSkills Competition (WSC). In 2019, Ng Zi Xuan (4S1, 2013) was the 1st university student to represent Singapore at the WSC held in Kazan, Russia after qualifying locally by winning Gold in WSC Singapore 2018. She was competing in the chemical laboratory technology category. For 2020, we have another alumni who has done us proud at the WSC Singapore! Vernice Tan Si Ying (4T1, 2018) received a Bronze (3rd) in the Beauty Therapy category and will be competing at the 13th WSC ASEAN from 6 to 11 Apr 2021 hosted by Singapore at the Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre.</p> <p>Young Engineer Award 2020 Following their 1st award in the project submission in the Unity Scientific Innovation Challenge with SP & ERI@N (USPE) competition 2020, the following students from 3A7 are awarded the YEA (Achievement), Outstanding Project Bronze, in recognition of their excellent achievements: Pham Huynh Khanh Nhi, Cheong Yu Yan and Katta Akshitha As YEA (Achievement) recipients, they will be given advanced standing if they apply for EEE courses at Singapore Polytechnic (SP) for the 2021 EAE.</p> <p>Historical Scene Investigation (H.S.I.) Challenge 2020 The H.S.I. Challenge 2020 is an annual contest organised by the National Library, Singapore which promises an exciting experience for students to put their historical inquiry and information literacy skills to the test. This year's fully digital contest enabled students to investigate a relevant historical topic whilst exploring the range of online resources at the National Library, Singapore and National Archives of Singapore. Open to all lower secondary students, a team of 4 students from 2A6 were sent for the competition and received the Silver Award for their efforts! They are Chong Yu Hui, Su Yan Xin, Aditi Jain and Tan Bo Ling Pauline.</p> <p>Fly Challenge 2020 POA unit sent 5 teams of students to participate in a business challenge organised by Republic Polytechnic. The challenge was held online via Zoom. 1 team made it to the top 8 finals and emerged overall 2nd out of the 61 participating schools. That team was also awarded the Best Presentation Award. The students were Jaiganesh Subiksha (3A3), Nurul Asyiqin Mustaffa (3A2) and Jonathan Galileo Lefort (3A3). BBSS was the only school to receive 2 awards!</p> <p>StrITwise® Final Challenge 2020 2 teams of 8 students participated in the StrITwise® Final Challenge Competition, an overnight challenge organised by Ngee Ann Polytechnic's School of InfoComm Technology where students were trained and prepared to use industry leading AR software, Spark AR Studio to create their own AR filter to win the top prize. The team comprising of Audrey Low Yu Fang (1A1), Nainapillai Sickendersha Farhan, Fu Zhicheng and Kannan Muguntha from 1A4 was declared the Overall Tribe Winner for Games.</p> <p>National Young Leader Award 2020 Congratulations to Nur Haziqah Binte Saleh (4A8) for making it to the Top 50 in the National Young Leader Award 2020 (NYLA)! The NYLA aims to recognise young leaders who are involved, engaged and show conviction in the things they do, regardless of their academic achievements. From Feb to Jul, Haziqah (nominated through her work as OIC for Project Mi, volunteer management) went through various assessment stages, including a Panel Interview with Halogen Foundation's senior management. The panelists were impressed with Haziqah's mentality as a young leader and the willingness to do more for the community.</p>

CCA (Clubs & Societies)	<p>Robotics Club Design Thinking with Robotics and Computational Thinking (DrCT) Competition 2020 The DrCT Competition aims to cultivate students' creativity, logical reasoning ability and algorithmic and computational thinking skills through the solving of contest tasks and problem statements. For this year's online DrCT Competition, we are proud to announce that 1 of our Robotics Club members and 2 Robotics enthusiasts achieved the following: Silver – Govindarajan Nithya Kiruthik, 2A5 Silver – Lee Shao Zhe Shamus, 2A5 Bronze – Warren Ng Xiang Yu, 1A4</p> <p>RippleUX Competition 2020 The RippleUX competition is jointly organised by Ripplecreate together with Nanyang Polytechnic & the NTU UAVionics Society of Singapore. The competition welcomes students to compete in innovative (coding and prototype design) challenges. For this year's competition based on the Theme, "Enhancing Hygiene Habits through technology", our team of Robotics enthusiasts as done us proud by achieving 3rd position in the Senior Category on Halocode! The members are Govindarajan Nithya Kiruthik (2A5), Sivakumar Hanish (2A4) and Packiaraj Petrick Saron (2A4)</p>
Staff	<p>Innergy Award 2020 Each year, there will be a call to schools to submit their successfully implemented ground-up innovative projects that have added significant value to the work of the school. Mdm Sri Haryati and Miss Yap Xiu Feng from the Applied Subjects Department had submitted their From Garden to Plate idea and was awarded the Innergy Award (Commendation) 2020 for the great work applied into Teaching and Learning.</p>

ANNEX B

Schedule for Principal's Talk and Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs)

During the PTMs, the school aim to communicate planned programmes and share on the progression of students to parents/guardians, and harness the support to work hand-in-hand with the teachers in developing them. At the Principal's Talk, perspectives will be shared on how parents/guardians can provide home support throughout the students' secondary school life in strong partnership with the school.

	Sec 1	Sec 2	Sec 3	Sec 4/5
Principal's Talk	Fri, 22 Jan 6.15 pm – 8.00 pm	Thu, 1 Apr 7.15 pm – 8.45 pm	Fri, 19 Feb 7.15 pm – 8.45 pm	Fri, 26 Mar 7.15 pm – 8.45 pm
PTM	Thu, 11 Mar (selected students), 3.00 pm – 5.00 pm			
	Fri, 12 Mar (selected students), 2.30 pm – 5.00 pm			
	Thu, 27 May (ALL), 3.00 pm – 5.00 pm			
	Fri, 28 May (ALL), 8 am – 4.30 pm			

Calendar of Events

Do refer to the BBSS school calendar in the student handbook for schedules of school programmes and activities for the various levels. The table below highlights the major events in the first term.

DATE	EVENT
Fri, 15 Jan	Multi-Level Activities (MLA) for Sec 1 to 5
Fri, 22 Jan	Principal's Talk for Sec 1 Parents & e-CCA Showcase [4.00 pm – 8.00 pm]
Mon, 25 Jan to Fri, 29 Jan	Project Mi (Internal Donation Drive)
Fri, 29 Jan	Multi-Level Activities (MLA) for Sec 1 to 5 No Shoe Day [7.30 am – 9.00 am]
Thu, 11 Feb	Chinese New Year Celebrations [7.30 am – 10.30 am]
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (FRI, 12 FEB TO SAT, 13 FEB) – CHINESE NEW YEAR	
SCHOOL HOLIDAY (MON, 15 FEB) – CHINESE NEW YEAR	
Tue, 16 Feb	Total Defence Day
Fri, 19 Feb	Principal's Talk for Sec 3 Parents [7.15 pm – 8.45 pm]
Fri, 26 Feb	Seek, Discover and Learn (SDL) Day
Thu, 11 Mar	Parent-Teacher Meeting (selected students) [3.00 pm – 5.00 pm]
Fri, 12 Mar	Parent-Teacher Meeting (selected students) [2.30 pm – 5.00 pm]
Fri, 12 Mar	Seek, Discover and Learn (SDL) Day
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS (SAT, 13 MAR TO SUN, 21 MAR)	

Opening Hours for School Gates

Do note the following regarding the opening hours of the school gates and latecomers.

Morning Assembly (7.30 am)	Before the chime for morning assembly	The front and back gates will be open from 6.30 to 7.30 am .
	After the chime for morning assembly	For safety and security reasons, only the front gate will be open. Latecomers can only enter from the front gate after 7.30 am.
After 8.00 am	Latecomers without valid reasons will need to report to the Principal or Vice-Principals.	

In the afternoon during curriculum time, the rear gate turnstile will be open at the following scheduled timings for **EXIT** only with exceptions that may be made during rainy weather and during the examination period.

Day	Time
Mon - Thu	1.25 – 6.30 pm
Fri	12.25 – 6.30 pm

Traffic Management & Road Safety

To ensure the safety of our students, the school **does not allow** vehicles to be driven into the school compound before morning assembly (7.30 am). The restricted space leading to the foyer and the heavy traffic volume in the morning makes it unsafe for the students. The following serves in advising parents/guardians who drive to make our school zone safe for all:

- Do drive carefully at all times at a much reduced speed within the school zone.
- Children/Wards should be dropped-off outside the school **AFTER THE MAIN GATE** before morning assembly. This is to prevent potential accidents involving staff driving into the school premises via the main gate.
- Alternatively, the HDB car parks serving Block 160 to 164 may be used to drop off the students while the rear gates are open till 7.30 am. There is no parking charge for vehicles exiting within 10 minutes.
- For children/wards alighting on the opposite side of the road, do drop them off nearer to the pedestrian crossing located a short distance from the main entrance. It is **dangerous and not advisable** for the children/wards to cross the roads without the assistance of the pedestrian crossing. There are no plans by LTA to build a pedestrian crossing immediately outside the school gates.
- In the event of rain, cars are allowed to be driven into the school compound to drop off/pick up children/wards at the foyer.
- To ensure a smooth flow of traffic, all parents/guardians are to follow the instructions given by the security guards and volunteers on duty.
- Parents/Guardians may drive their vehicles into the school and park at designated visitor lots after school hours to pick up their children/wards because of the much reduced traffic volume. Do continue to exercise care at all times and look out for students while driving within the school zone and in the school compound.