



24 Sep 2019

Ref: BBSS19-453

Dear Parent/Guardian

Warmest greetings to you. Time flies and we are now in the fourth and last term for the year. This term, the N-Level Examinations having started on the 1st day of the term itself, will be followed by the O-Level Examinations in October. With the End-of-Year Examination (EYE)¹ commencing from 26 Sep, this would also be a period where our students would bring forth their self-directedness and exercise what they have learnt and cultivated through our school's Habits of Mind (HOM) programme, especially the dispositions of:

- Persisting – Remaining focused in the face of challenges in their revision;
- Managing Impulsivity – Reading instructions and understanding the questions carefully at the start of examinations; and
- Striving for Accuracy & Precision – To be exact and precise, checking their work, especially examination papers again before submission.

2. How can we support our children as the examinations draw near? I would like to bring your attention to Schoolbag.sg (<https://www.schoolbag.sg>), an online publication by the Ministry of Education which provide parents, educators and the general public with education news, school features and tips. Some useful articles include:

- Raising a teenager is like flying a kite: Learn when to pull in or let go - <https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/raising-a-teenager-is-like-flying-a-kite-learn-when-to-pull-in-or-let-go>
- Are you projecting your stress on your child? - <https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/are-you-projecting-your-stress-on-your-child>
- Four tips to help your child manage stress - <https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/four-tips-to-help-your-child-manage-stress>

3. In my previous letter, I shared that one of our English Language and Literature teachers, Mr Ow Yeong Wai Kit, received the Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA) 2019. On Wed, 4 Sep during the Teachers' Day Reception at the Istana, **Mr Syam Lal**, our HOD/NT, was one of the seven outstanding educators who received the **2019 President's Award for Teachers (PAT)** from President Halimah Yacob! This is the pinnacle national award for teachers given to caring and nurturing educators committed to developing their students to the fullest potential, and who constantly adopt innovative approaches in their lessons. These educators are lifelong learners, mentors to their peers, and they inspire students through their words and deeds. There were 9,354 nominations in total this year for 3,886 educators. Since its inception in 1998, Mr Syam Lal is the first BBSS teacher to receive this award. Thus, we have 2 first for BBSS teachers this year, one for PAT and one for OYEA. You can read about Mr Syam's purpose and conviction in Schoolbag.sg (<https://www.schoolbag.sg/story/walking-the-talk>).

4. Teachers' Day was celebrated in school on 5 Sep with the students putting up a concert for our teachers and staff in appreciation of their love, efforts, care and concern for them. Our teachers and staff deserve a big THANK YOU for living out the school's mission to nurture our students to be self-directed learners with abundance mentality and for bringing out the best in every child.

5. With this, I would like to share more accolades of our students as well as Ex-BBSSians for this term (*Annex A* provides additional details of these achievements, if any):

Domain	Achievement
Academic	Post-Sec Accolades: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ng Zi Xuan (4S1, 2013) – First university student to represent Singapore in the 45th edition of the biennial WorldSkills Competition (WSC) held in Kazan, Russia • Goh Xin Yan, Nicole (4N3, 2016) – Lee Kuan Yew Scholarship to Encourage Upgrading

¹ The End-of-Year Examination (EYE) Timetables for respective levels were posted via Parents Gateway (PG) on 21 Aug to all parents onboard PG. The timetables can be downloaded from the BBSS website announcement tab (<https://bukitbatoksec.moe.edu.sg>).

Domain	Achievement
	<p>Jurong Pioneer Junior College (JPJC) Math and Science Challenge: Team Awards – 2nd and 3rd Runners up</p> <p>Malay Language (ML) National Writing Competition: Individual Awards – 2 Silvers and 4 Bronzes</p> <p>Tamil Language (TL) National Competitions: Budding Writers – 2 Silver Awards Budding Artistes – 3 Silver Awards</p> <p>National Schools Literature Festival (NSLF) Choral Reading Competition – 2nd place (Team)</p> <p>Singapore History Day 2019 Team Award – Top 5 Individual Award – Top 5</p> <p>Media Computing (MEC) Competition 2019 (Game Category) Silver Award – Lim Ming Whie Andrew, 3T1</p>
CCA	<p>Pinnacle Awards Rugby – Schools National Rugby (Bowl) Championship ‘C’ Division – Boys (Champion)</p> <p>Outstanding Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media Club – Our Schools, Our Stories (OSOS) – Youth Category (Top 3) • Basketball – ActiveSG-BAS Basketball Development League ‘C’ Division – Boys (4th Overall) • NCC (Sea) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dragon Boat Regatta – 1st Runners up, Girls ○ Sea Challenge – 2nd Runners up, Girls ○ Kayaking Competition – 1 Silver, 3 Bronze medals
Others	<p>Post-Sec Accolades:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elvis Leong (4S3, 2013) – Citizen Engagement Award • NSF of the Year 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2SG Brendan Chang Jing Quan (4S1, 2015) – Commando Leader, 1st Commando Battalion ○ CFC Benny Wong Kok Ann (4N2, 2011) – Section 2IC, 42nd Battalion, Singapore Armoured Regiment <p>National Youth Leader Award 2019 – Farah Hidayah Bte Nor Anuar, 4S2 24-hr Startathon Junior - 5th Overall</p>

6. This term, as we prepare your child/ward for the upcoming school examinations, we would really appreciate it if you would partner us in closely monitoring your child's/ward's work and revision schedule so that he/she will be sufficiently prepared for the examinations. In doing so, we would like parents/guardians to remember to **encourage and affirm** your children/wards for their efforts so that they will live up to our motto of “Be Our Best”. In this trying term, be mindful that **encouragement and affirmation** that they are doing their best would help more than breathing down their necks. It may take a mindset change for some of us, but it would go a long way in building good parent-child relationship. With this, we wish your child/ward the very best.

Thank you very much.

Yours faithfully

Mr Phua Huat Chuan
Principal

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

List of Annexes

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ANNEX A

Details of Achievements

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Academic	<p>Post-Sec Accolades:</p> <p>WorldSkills Competition (WSC) 2019, 45th Edition Singapore fielded a team of 32 - its largest contingent yet - from the Institute of Technical Education (ITE), the five polytechnics and Nanyang Technological University (NTU), at the WSC held in Kazan, Russia from Aug 22 to 27. Qualifying locally by winning Gold at the WSC Singapore in 2018, Ng Zi Xuan (4S1, 2013) is the first university student to represent Singapore in this biennial competition. This competition is dubbed the "Olympics of Skills". It is the world's largest vocational and technical skills competition for young people, with more than 1,300 competitors from 63 countries competing in 56 skill areas this year. Singapore competed in 29 skill areas, including six new areas: cyber security, chemical laboratory technology, cloud computing, fashion technology, water technology and hotel reception of which Zi Xuan competed in the chemical laboratory technology area. She did not win any medals amongst stiff competition but nonetheless, it was an enriching experience.</p> <p>The Special Awards 2019 The Special Awards, are given out to recognise students' achievements in both academic and non-academic spheres, including their contributions to the community. For e.g., the Prime Minister's Book Prize, Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) Award for All Round Excellence, LKY Award for Mathematics and Science, LKY Award for Outstanding Normal Course Students and LKY Scholarship to Encourage Upgrading. In the term 3 letter dated 9 Jul, we shared that Lu Mingyuan (4S1, 2018) will be receiving the LKY Award for Mathematics and Science on 27 Aug and Goh Xin Yan, Nicole (4N3, 2016) will be receiving a Course Medal (Awarded to students who top their respective courses) and the LKY Gold Medal (One of 3 top awards presented to exceptional graduands from each ITE college for the academic year) for her outstanding performance in the Higher National ITE Certificate (NITEC) In Service Management course at ITE College West on 17 Jul. We are proud to announce that Nicole was presented the LKY Scholarship to Encourage Upgrading together with Mingyuan who was presented the LKY Award for Mathematics and Science by 2nd Minister for Education, Ms Indranee Rajah at the Special Awards Presentation Ceremony on 27 Aug.</p> <p>Jurong Pioneer Junior College (JPJC) Math and Science Challenge: Organised by JPJC, this competition held on 13 Jul aimed to provide an immersive learning experience for students as they deepen their learning in the areas of Mathematics and Sciences through gamification. Through the competition, participants are given the opportunity to develop their creative problem-solving skills, engage in productive teamwork and utilise effective communication. The school sent 2 teams to the competitions which emerged 2nd and 3rd Runners-up.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>2nd Runner-up</th> <th>3rd Runner-up</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Ng Yu Ze, 3A1</td> <td>1. Kristine Ding Keying, 3S1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Shaynia Kezia, 3A1</td> <td>2. Chia Zhe Kai, Alston, 3S1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Howard Kong Li Kai, 3S1</td> <td>3. Pedapudi Vishnu Raghavi, 3S1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Khoo Zhen Hua, 3S1</td> <td>4. Pedapudi Vishnuram, 3S1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Malay Language (ML) National Writing Competition:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Silver Award</th> <th>Bronze Award</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Rindiany Binte Zulkarnaen, 2N1</td> <td>1. Arin Natalya Binte Azmi, 1N1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Puteri Nur Arfizeanna Binte Zailan, 2N1</td> <td>2. Alya Nur Batrisyia Binti Abdullah, 3A2</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>3. Mohamad Azan Akasya Bin Mohamad Riduwan, 3N2</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>4. Muhammad Naufal Bin Sidek, 3S2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2 nd Runner-up	3 rd Runner-up	1. Ng Yu Ze, 3A1	1. Kristine Ding Keying, 3S1	2. Shaynia Kezia, 3A1	2. Chia Zhe Kai, Alston, 3S1	3. Howard Kong Li Kai, 3S1	3. Pedapudi Vishnu Raghavi, 3S1	4. Khoo Zhen Hua, 3S1	4. Pedapudi Vishnuram, 3S1	Silver Award	Bronze Award	1. Rindiany Binte Zulkarnaen, 2N1	1. Arin Natalya Binte Azmi, 1N1	2. Puteri Nur Arfizeanna Binte Zailan, 2N1	2. Alya Nur Batrisyia Binti Abdullah, 3A2		3. Mohamad Azan Akasya Bin Mohamad Riduwan, 3N2		4. Muhammad Naufal Bin Sidek, 3S2
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CCA (Sports)	<p>Rugby – Schools National Rugby Championship (Bowl) After the last 15-a-side 3rd place finish last year, the boys managed to emerge Champions by beating Admiralty Secondary 42-17 at the finals on 28 Aug in the Schools National C Division Rugby Championship (Bowl). This long-awaited achievement would not be possible without the persistence of the rugby teachers and coaches to work with the boys to make it happen since 2016. The team won all six of their preliminary matches with some matches having to end before the final whistle (Mercy End) as we proved to be too strong due to the score difference of 60 and above against our opponents. The enthusiasm and commitment of the senior boys in supporting their juniors through the vigorous training to prepare for the championship was also key to their achievement. The members of the C Division squad are:</p>																										

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13	Zikry Ilham	1N2	28	Kyian Lau Hong Sheng	2N2																																																																																																																																
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1	Jeremiah Daileg Maulit	1E1	7	Ramesh Babu Sudhan Vignesh	2E1																																																																																																																																
2	Ng Yuan Jie, Aidan John	1E1	8	Tay Zhi Long	2E1																																																																																																																																
3	Daryl Lum Jun Weng	1N1	9	Tee Kai Jie	2E4																																																																																																																																
4	Fun Xiang Zhi, Jeff	1N1	10	Lim Yi Da	2N1																																																																																																																																
5	Lim Jia Sheng	1N1	11	Mohamed Gani Mohamed Shafeeq	2N1																																																																																																																																
6	Carrick Koh	2E1	12	Nop Thanasitsomboon	2N1																																																																																																																																
CCA (UGs)	<p>NCC (Sea): BBSS NCC (Sea) has completed their month-long Annual Sea Competition from 6 to 25 Jul which comprises of the Dragon Boat Regatta, the Bends and Hitches Amazing Race Challenge and the Kayaking Competition. Our Cadets gave their best, pitting their skills against fellow cadets from other schools and most importantly themselves.</p> <p>Dragon Boat Competition While the Boy’s team were unable to get into the finals by a mere 0.2 seconds despite doing well in the initial stages, the Girls’ team managed to clinch the 1st runner-up position behind the leading school who was just too well prepared. The team members are Phang Shi Lin (1E2), Nur Hakimah (1N2), Phoebe Natalie Fong Jing En (2E1), S. Dhasna Presyl (2E2), Vionn Ng Qiao En (2E3), Cheong Yu Yan (2E4), Tan Swee En (2E4), Inez Wong Yuan Ting (3N1), Tanisha Natarajan (3S1), Rainn Lim (3S2), Wong Si Kei Kelly (3A1) and Tng Jie Qi (3A2)</p> <p>Sea Challenge (Bends & Hitches) Competition Our Girls’ team are the defending champions for 2016 and 2017. Unfortunately, the girls were unable to stave off the challenges and managed to stay on the podium as 1st runners-up instead in 2018. For 2019, the team was 2nd runners-up. The team members are Nur Diyanah Alisyah (1E4), Nurul Ashshekeen (1N1), Nur Hakimah (1N2), Ananda Kumar Deepika (2E2), Phoebe Natalie Fong Jing En (2E1), Vionn Ng Qiao En (2E3), Borkar Aditi Rakesh (3S1), Inez Wong Yuan Ting (3N1) and Tng Jie Qi (3A1).</p> <p>Kayaking Competition From the finals, our cadets managed to clinch 1 Silver and 3 Bronze medals. The results are as shown in the table below:</p>																																																																																																																																				

Domain	Achievement																			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="379 190 523 219">Category</th> <th data-bbox="531 190 778 219">Single</th> <th data-bbox="786 190 906 219">Award</th> <th data-bbox="914 190 1310 219">Doubles</th> <th data-bbox="1318 190 1422 219">Award</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="379 219 531 277">Junior</td> <td data-bbox="531 219 778 277">Grace Loh Yun Tong (1E3)</td> <td data-bbox="786 219 906 277">Bronze</td> <td data-bbox="914 219 1310 277">Nur Diyanah Alisyah (1E4) Swee Yu Xin Felicia (1E4)</td> <td data-bbox="1318 219 1422 277">Silver</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="379 277 531 336">Senior</td> <td data-bbox="531 277 778 336">Teo Ru Qi (2N1)</td> <td data-bbox="786 277 906 336">Bronze</td> <td data-bbox="914 277 1310 336">Vionn Ng Qiao En (2E3) Cheong Yu Yan (2E4)</td> <td data-bbox="1318 277 1422 336">Bronze</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Single	Award	Doubles	Award	Junior	Grace Loh Yun Tong (1E3)	Bronze	Nur Diyanah Alisyah (1E4) Swee Yu Xin Felicia (1E4)	Silver	Senior	Teo Ru Qi (2N1)	Bronze	Vionn Ng Qiao En (2E3) Cheong Yu Yan (2E4)	Bronze				
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CCA (Clubs)	<p>Media Club – Our Schools, Our Stories (OSOS) Photo Contest Chia Jia Xi (3A2), Nur Haziqah (3S2), Tanya Mary Koshy (3S1) took part in “Our Schools, Our Stories” (OSOS) photo contest to showcase their talents as well as share BBSS’ stories with the public, thus reinforcing one of MOE’s key messages – to encourage students to enjoy exploring their talents and celebrate the Joy of Learning (JoL) through teamwork and creativity. BBSS came in top 3 in the Youth Category out of nearly 1000 photo entries! Their photo story titled, “Together, We Can Do So Much” based on the theme, “Priceless Moments” was selected by MOE to be exhibited in the heartlands, Yishun Blk 841 (1-25 Oct) and Tampines Blk 151 (1-30 Nov), for the first time ever.</p>																			
Others	<p>Post-Sec Accolades: Citizen Engagement Award On 19 Jul, Elvis Leong (4S3, 2013) received the Citizen Engagement Award. The award is in recognition for the Smart Nation Co-creating with Our People Everywhere (SCOPE) project through his internship company, Smart Nation and Digital Government Office (SNDGO). He was involved in amassing Smart Nation Ambassadors through various Electronic Direct Mails (EDMs) created to encourage public to sign up for the Ambassadors Programme. Elvis managed to reach out to different categories of individuals and special interest groups. Thus, through the SCOPE Sessions, more than 3500 people were engaged in less than 4!</p> <p>National Youth Leader Award 2019 From Apr to Jun 2019, Farah Hidayah Bte Nor Anuar (4S2) was engaged in the National Young Leader Award run by Halogen Foundation (HF) and went through various assessment stages, including a Panel Interview with senior management. For her outstanding performance, she received a Certificate of Merit and would be invited to join the HF internship programme and/or facilitator training. The award was launched to recognise young leaders who are involved, engaged, and show conviction in the things they do, regardless of their academic achievements.</p> <p>24-hr Startathon Junior On 17 Aug, 5 boys from 3N1, Dexter Lee Kai Hung, Isaac Oh Jun Ming, Lin Ziyang, Nagarajan Lourd Anthuvan and Foo Ji Jun participated in the non-stop 24-hr Startathon Junior organised by RVHS and emerged 5th Overall against perceived stronger competition. They applied their entrepreneurial skills and pit their wits against other peers in this intense and exciting innovation nation-wide event organised for young coders, dealers, makers, designers and empathisers to rapidly ideate, prototype and validate their business ideas. True to the school motto and giving of their level best, they showed others that innovation and creativity is not bounded by academic excellence.</p>																			

Major School Events/Activities (16 Sep, Term 4)

DATE	EVENT
Mon, 16 Sep to Wed, 25 Sep	N-Level Examinations
Mon, 23 Sep to Thu, 3 Oct	Night Study Programme (Graduating students taking N and O-Level Examinations)
Thu, 26 Sep to Fri, 27 Sep Wed, 2 Oct to Wed, 9 Oct	End-of-Year Examinations (EYE)
Mon, 7 Oct to Fri, 18 Oct	N-Level Examinations (Cont'd)
Thu, 3 Oct to Fri, 18 Oct	O-Level Examinations
Fri, 25 Oct	The last day of the final school term
SCHOOL HOLIDAY (SAT, 26 OCT TO WED, 1 JAN 2020)	
Mon, 21 Oct to Fri, 15 Nov	O-Level Examinations
PUBLIC HOLIDAY (MON, 28 OCT) – DEEPAVALI	
Wed, 20 Nov	Personal Etiquette & Dining Experience @ Holiday Inn Singapore Atrium (Graduating students taking N and O-Level Examinations)
Sat, 23 Nov	BBSS Open House