



## *MONTFORT JUNIOR SCHOOL*

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Ref No : MJS/GO/2019-1

3 January 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians

### **NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS (TERM 1/ 2019)**

1. A Happy New Year and a very warm welcome to all who are returning to Montfort Junior after the holidays. We especially welcome our new students and our Primary 1 students. Welcome to the Montfort family!
2. As we begin the year, we like to remind you of our school's Mission, Vision and Values (MVV):
  - Mission: *Montfort is a Catholic School. Guided by our Montfortian values, and spirituality, we nurture each individual to realise his potential and inspire him to be a Man for Others.*
  - Vision: *A Montfortian, A Man for Others - Scholar, Sportsman, Gentleman, Leader*
  - Values: *Compassion, Humility, Respect, Integrity, Service, Team spirit, Excellence (CHRISTE)*

The MVV guide us in the work that we do and with your partnership, we have confidence in being able to provide an educational experience that will enable us to fulfill them.

### **Communicating with Parents**

3. The annual Parents' Engagement session for the different levels to better understand how we can support one another to help your child/ward achieve his fullest potential is scheduled on 18 Jan 2019 (Fri) from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm. All P2 to P6 parents/guardians are invited to the session. The details are in the attached letter. Please RSVP by completing the Reply Slip and return it to your child/ward's Form Teacher.
4. To maintain close communication with parents, the school will be using the Pupil's Handbook & Diary and the Communication File. The Handbook is used for parents to note the homework assigned for the day and any other messages between the teacher and the home. The Communication File is used to help pupils store any circulars and notices. We seek your cooperation in checking the Handbook and Communication File daily, and ensuring that all homework assigned is completed and all reply slips are returned by the deadlines given.
5. You may also communicate with our teachers via their official phone numbers and emails. Our teachers are unable to take any phone calls while they are in class. They will respond to emails/calls after lessons, during school hours. Should you wish to meet the teachers, please do make an appointment with them to ensure that they are available at the time of the meeting.

### **Academic Matters/School Programmes**

6. **Holistic Assessment.** For P1-P5 pupils, there will be bite-sized assessments for each subject area throughout the term. This will enable teachers to better assess pupils' levels of attainment in specific topics and areas of concern, and provide timely remediation. It will also prevent over-

testing and allow for more curriculum time to be utilized for teaching and learning. CAs will, however, be carried out for P6 pupils to give them greater practice in examination skills.

7. **CCA Day** will be held on 9 Jan 2019 (8.00am-9.00am). Parents are invited to attend the CCA Day and pupils can choose to sign up for one CCA.
8. **CCA and Modular CCA (MCCA).** CCA/MCCA will begin on 23 January 2019. CCA is compulsory for all P3 to P6 pupils. MCCA will be conducted during curriculum hours on Wednesdays. P3 & P4 pupils will be exposed to different MCCAs which aim to expose the boys to sports, appreciation of visual/performance arts and computational thinking
9. **Chinese New Year.** Chinese New Year will be celebrated on 4 Feb 2019 (Mon). Pupils are encouraged to wear Chinese traditional costumes and bring two oranges to exchange with their teachers and classmates. The pupils will be dismissed at 10.00am.
10. **P3 Gifted Education Programme.** The tentative schedule for the two stages of the GEP Identification Exercise 2019 is as follows :
  - a) GEP Screening Exercise - 23 Aug 2019 (Fri)
  - b) GEP Selection Exercise – 15 and 16 Oct 2019 (Tue/Wed)
11. The calendar for Term 1 is attached at Annex A.

#### **Spiritual Programme**

12. We will be having Masses on the first Friday of every month for all Catholic boys at 7.40am, immediately after flag raising. You are welcome to join us for Mass.

#### **Values Education**

13. **Respect & Responsibility.** To instill a sense of responsibility in our pupils, kindly ensure that your child/ward packs his bag daily according to the timetable given. This will enable him to have all that he needs for learning while preventing an excessively heavy bag. In the event that he has forgotten something, we strongly discourage parents from bringing these items to school. The General Office will not send up any items that he has forgotten to bring to school. Your child will also not be asked to come down to the office to collect the items unless it is an emergency or a medical requirement. This is to prevent disruptions in classroom teaching for your child and the rest of the class.
14. **Attendance in School.** Please note that regular attendance in school is very important for pupils' learning and socialization. Please refrain from taking your children out of school during curriculum time for holidays or other events, including overseas travel. This is disruptive to their learning and teaches children that school is not important. Should you still proceed to take your child out of school during curriculum time for no valid medical reasons, please note that you will need to take responsibility for ensuring that your child catches up with the learning he has missed. We seek your cooperation and understanding in this matter.
15. **Punctuality.** It is important that parents work with the school to reinforce the value of punctuality. This teaches the boys to be responsible and to show respect for the flag raising ceremony which is intended to instill in them a sense of pride and affiliation to the nation. School begins punctually at 7.30am. Please ensure that your son is in school and seated in the assembly area by 7.15am for silent reading. He will also need to have a story book with him at all times.

#### **Health and Safety Matters**

16. During the holidays, you may have brought your children for a vacation overseas. If you have not made the travel declaration to us, kindly do so at our school's website **by 4 Jan 2019**, Friday. This is to facilitate contact tracing in the event of an outbreak of any transmittable illnesses.

17. The temperature-taking exercise will be held **on 7 Jan 2019, Monday**. This is to ensure that we are prepared for any health emergencies that occur. For hygiene purposes, all pupils are to bring their own thermometers to school. Please ensure that the thermometers are in working condition.
18. We need your cooperation to prevent an accident from happening at the front gate. As cars are turning in from the opposite side of the road, and there is traffic moving along Hougang Ave 8, dropping your son off at the front gate is a major safety concern. On some occasions, the cars are blocking the entrance and cause congestion on the road. Please note that there is **no U-turn** in front of the school gate from 6.30 – 7.45am from Mondays to Fridays. This is sanctioned by the traffic police and violation of this may result in a fine and demerit points imposed by the traffic police. We strongly urge you to drop your sons/wards off at the HDB car park next to the side gate. There is a grace period of 10 minutes at the HDB car park where no parking fees will be charged.
19. For pupils and parents who cycle to school, please note that cycling should not take place along the pedestrian pavements just outside the school. The pavements are rather narrow and cycling on them is dangerous and can cause harm to others.
20. For parents whose children are taking the school bus, please be informed that it is a requirement that all children wear seat belts when in the school bus. All the buses have seat belts fitted in them. We seek your help in reminding your children the importance of wearing their seat belts and remaining seated at all times while in the school bus. This is to ensure their safety at all times. Repeated failure to wear the seat belts may result in the bus company taking action against your child and preventing him from using the school bus services. The contact person of the school bus operator is Mr Yap Poh Chuan (Contact No : 92370292).

#### **Parents Support Group**

21. We encourage you to join the school's Montfort Junior Parents Connection (MJPC) so that you can get involved in the school's activities and get to know other parents and your son's friends in school. You can sign up for activities that suit your schedule. More information are available at MJPC Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MJPCConnection>) page.
22. We look forward to working with you in 2019 to provide the best learning environment and experiences for our pupils. May God bless you and your family abundantly.

Age Quod Agis!

Yours sincerely

  
**Wilbur Wong**  
Principal

## Term 1 Calendar 2019

DAY / DATE	EVENT
2-4 Jan (Wed-Fri)	Orientation Week
3-4 Jan (Thu/Fri)	P4 Camp
3-5 Jan (Thu-Sat)	P5 Camp
4 Jan (Fri)	P6 'Odyssey' to Bukit Timah Nature Reserve
7 Jan (Mon)	Temperature Taking Exercise
9 Jan (Wed)	CCA Day (8.00am to 9.00am)
11 Jan (Fri)	Start of the Year Mass
15 Jan (Tue)	Photo-taking for School Smart Card for P1 & P6
18 Jan (Fri)	Parent Engagement Session (P2-P6) (4.00pm to 6.00pm)
4 Feb (Mon)	Chinese New Year celebrations (Dismissal at 10.00am)
<b>5 - 6 Feb (Tue-Wed)</b>	<b>Chinese New Year - Public Holiday</b>
15 Feb (Fri)	Total Defence Day
5 Mar (Tue)	P6 CA 1 – EL
6 Mar (Wed)	P6 CA1 – Math
7 Mar (Thu)	P6 CA1 – MT
8 Mar (Fri)	P6 CA1 – Science
11 Mar (Mon)	P6 CA1 HMT
<b>16-24 Mar</b>	<b>School Holidays</b>
25 Mar (Mon)	First Day of Term 2