



15 March 2024

## INFORMATION AND PROGRAMMES FOR TERM 2

Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we continue our partnership to nurture and bring out the best in your child, we would like to share with you on the key school programmes and activities for Term 2. For your convenient reference, a summary of the programmes is presented in table form on the last page of this letter.

### 1. School Upgrading Works

The school is embarking on the MOE Lift Installation Programme from Mar 2024 to July 2025 as part of MOE's efforts in making facilities in school inclusive and accessible to all students and staff. During this period of time, the school would work closely with the contractors to minimise noise and dust pollution, to take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of staff and students, and that lessons and school activities carry on with minimal disruption.

### 2. Home Based Learning (HBL) Days in Term 2

We will be having our HBL days on 12 April, 26 April, 10 May, and 24 May 2024. Navalites will not need to report to school on these days and will be expected to do their work independently at home. To prepare them for the day of learning ahead, we will also require them to meet their form teachers online via Zoom at the start of each HBL Day.

### 3. International Friendship Day Commemoration: 5 April 2024 (Friday)

NBSS commemorates International Friendship Day on 5 April 2024 (Friday). This is a day dedicated to enhancing Navalites' understanding of Singapore's relations with neighbouring countries and beyond. Navalites will be able to appreciate the importance of maintaining good international relations through assembly sharing, as well as game-based and discussion activities during CCE lessons.

### 4. Navalite Learning Explorations Week in Term 2: 14 – 20 May 2024

As part of our holistic whole-school experience, Sec 1 to 3 students will be participating in various out-of-classroom activities and learning journeys nearing the end of the term. More details will be provided later in the term. Please note that CCAs will be suspended during this week.

### 5. Student-Parent-Teacher Conference (SPTC): 23 May 2024 (Thursday), 8.00am to 4.30pm

As a closure to the end of Semester 1, parents will be invited to participate in a SPTC session with their child/ward.

This face-to-face session will be led by your child/ward who will share about his/her experiences in school and current progress in Semester 1. This format of Student-Led Conferences places students at the centre of the process, with the benefit of:

- encouraging students to accept personal responsibility for their own development,
- guiding students to reflect, self-evaluate and share on their personal growth,
- increased parental understanding of their child's holistic development, and
- creating an authentic opportunity to practice real-life skills of organisation, communication, and leadership.



As your child will be given time to present on his/her growth during SPTC, you may want to contact the Form Teachers separately if you have specific concerns. Form Teachers will send details of how to book appointment slots via Parents Gateway nearer the date. In view of SPTC, students need not report to school for normal timetabled lessons on 23 May 2024 (Thursday).

## 6. Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools in Teaching and Learning

Many generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools have recently emerged, which are able to generate new content such as images, 3D objects and music in response to text input from users. One prominent example of such tools is ChatGPT, a chatbot launched by OpenAI in November 2022. It is based on a large language model, which is built by ingesting huge quantities of training data. Technological advancements like these are not new, and bring about exciting enhancements to teaching and learning, as well as its accompanying challenges. With responsible use, we will be better able to harness its benefits.

However, in producing original work both for formative and summative assessment purposes, we value integrity. This applies to all work produced by Navalites. As a school, we take a strong stance towards plagiarism and the production of content that is not original. Navalites are to ensure that all of their work is done by them. Should there be a need to quote content from other people's work (e.g. interviews or research findings), proper citations are necessary.

As per our current practice, the school reserves the right to conduct investigations and adjust the grades of students who commit plagiarism or employ the assistance of AI chatbots to produce their work, which could have further implications on promotion and progression.

## 7. Schoolbag Article Spotlight: "She pushed me!" "I hate my class!" How I work through my kid's conflicts while keeping my cool"

Dealing with problems at school can be stressful for children and their parents. The writer checked in with a school counsellor on how she and her 10-year-old can better handle misunderstandings together. As NBSS works to address such issues, click [here](#) to read the full article on how you can also support your child/ward.

## 8. Departmental / Programme-Level Matters

The following school programmes will be organised for your children in Term 2. We seek your understanding that information for some of the programmes will be provided in due course via Parents Gateway.

### (a) Applied Learning Programme in Art

#### i. NBSS Art Exhibition 2024

Our annual NBSS Art Exhibition showcases artwork done by past and current Navalites. All Navalites will be rostered to visit the exhibition in Terms 2 to 4. Lower secondary students will visit the exhibition during their Art lessons while upper secondary students will visit the exhibition during CCE or other designated periods.

More information will be provided in due course via Parents Gateway.



ii. **Arts Enrichment 2024**

From Term 2 onward, Secondary 1 to 3 students will engage in a structured art enrichment programme, comprising art workshops and art learning journeys. The programmes the students will be participating in are given below:

Level	Programme
Secondary 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art Learning Journey to Art Science Museum</li><li>• Arts Enrichment Workshops</li></ul>
Secondary 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arts Enrichment Workshops</li></ul>
Secondary 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art Learning Journey to LASALLE College of the Arts Graduation Showcase</li></ul>

We are still in the midst of finalising the details of the programmes with the respective venues and service providers. More information will be provided in due course via Parents Gateway.

(b) **English and Literature**

i. **Secondary 1 Learning Journey (LJ) to the Zoo – 27 and 28 May**

In preparation for Unit 3's theme on animals and the natural environment, the school has organised a learning journey to the Zoo for our Sec 1 students during the first week of the mid-year school holidays. The students would be exploring issues on animal welfare and conservation. More details of the LJ would be made known to your child/ward closer to the date. As the cost of the programme would be fully borne by the school, we seek your assistance in ensuring that your child/ward updates us on his/her availability accurately.

ii. **National Library Board (NLB) Electronic-book Borrowing Application – Libby**

All Sec 1 Navalites as well as new students to NBSS are encouraged to set up their NLB Libby accounts, which would require parental login and consent. Your child/ward's English teacher would be conducting a briefing in class at the start of Term 2. Thereafter, we seek your assistance in ensuring your child has his/her Libby account set up so that he/she is able to borrow e-books from the National Library using their iPads.

(c) **Humanities Department – Learning Journeys and Enrichment Programmes**

i. **Sec 1 History Learning Journey and Historical Investigation**

To provide an authentic experience in the learning of Singapore's rich history from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s, the school will be bringing students on a learning journey to heritage sites for an on-site learning opportunity. This will be conducted by an external vendor together with the History Department during the Navalites Learning Exploration Week. More information will be provided in due course via Parents Gateway.



ii. **Biodiversity Week – BioBlitz and GreenWave 2024**

As part of environment education for students to gain increased awareness of the greenery surrounding us, students will be guided in exploring and identifying the greenery within the school and the parks around the school. The aim is to help our Navalites recognise the greenery around us and promote students' awareness of the biodiversity in our living environment. Selected students will also have the opportunity to be involved in tree planting as part of the annual GreenWave project in collaboration with NParks. This effort to plant 1 million trees is a nationwide effort to boost the greenery in the country and the school continues to support such efforts this year. These events will take place in May as part of students' learning experiences beyond the classroom.

iii. **Earth Day 2024 – “Planet vs Plastics”**

This year's Earth Day theme – Planet vs Plastics – continues the theme in raising awareness for humans to do more to protect our precious Earth. Our Eco-Councilors will take on the task of rallying Navalites to raise awareness and change their lifestyle revolving around the following themes: Deepen Climate Literacy, Tackle Single-use Plastic and Encourage Sustainable Fashion. The Secondary 3 Eco-Councilors, who also underwent training with NEA recently, will take the lead in working with the Eco-Ambassadors from all classes to work on these initiatives. More details will be shared nearer the events.

(d) **Mother Tongue Languages (MTL)**

i. **Hari Raya Celebration: 16 April 2024**

To celebrate the cultural diversity within the school community and promote inclusivity and appreciations of different culture, NBSS will celebrate Hari Raya during school morning assembly followed by class bonding activities in class. The students will learn about the significance, traditions, and customs associated with Hari Raya, promoting respect and empathy for diverse cultures.

ii. **MT Fortnight Part 2: 29 April to 8 May 2024**

The Mother Tongue Fortnight part 2 will continue to, to create an immersive environment for our students to learn and appreciate their respective Mother Tongue Languages and Cultures. Students will be engaged in fun-filled activities ranging from traditional ethnic games, competitions to food tasting. Please take note that some of the activities will be conducted after curriculum time in the afternoon. More details of the programme will be provided nearing the dates.

(e) **Physical Education**

i. **National Physical Fitness Assessment (NAPFA) for Sec 2: 2 May (Thursday), 2.30pm to 5.45pm**

The NAPFA involves a series of series of five stations and a 2.4-km Walk-Run for secondary school students. It is a measure of both health and performance-related fitness. NAPFA has been identified by the Singapore Sports Council to be safe, reliable, and representative measures of the different important components of overall fitness.



All Secondary 2, 4 and 5 students have to take NAPFA, and their results will be recorded in their Report Books and School Graduation Certificates.

The 2.4km Walk-run assessment will be conducted during the students' PE lessons while the 5 Items assessment will be on 2 May. Exemption from NAPFA needs to be supported by medical practitioners.

ii. **2024 Road Run: 30 April (Tuesday)**

Our annual Road Run will take place on 30 April at Marina Barrage & Gardens by the Bay (East Gardens). This is a school event highly anticipated by Navalites, and attendance is compulsory for all students. More information will be provided in due course via Parents Gateway.

(f) **Science – Enrichment Programmes**

i. **STEM ExCEL Programme**

Our STEM ExCEL Programme is an enrichment programme that aims to strengthen the interest and capabilities of our students in STEM. We want our students to be curious about the world around them, to think creatively and critically in solving problems and to be concerned citizens who make positive difference to the life of others.

Some of the activities have kickstarted in Term 1 and we are continuing with more exciting activities in Term 2. Students involved will be informed nearer the dates and more information will be provided in due course via Parents Gateway.

(g) **ICT Enrichment Programmes**

i. **Secondary 1 Code for Fun (CFF) Programme**

The Code for Fun Enrichment Programme for Secondary Schools is a collaboration between the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) and the Ministry of Education (MOE) to reinforce students' appreciation of core computational thinking concepts, delve further into coding, and exercise their creativity through digital making. Students will also further their learning on emerging technologies through resources provided by IMDA and MOE.

Our Sec 1 students will be going through a 10 hour programme on the theme of "Future of transportation" where they will be guided to tackle the problem of designing a self-driving automated smart vehicle and system with the use of Smart Car Chassis, line following sensors, ultrasonic sensors, DC motors as well as the Micro:bit to try and cater to the growing needs of modern consumers who are looking for speed, convenience, and diversity.

Please refer to the schedule below:

Dates (Wednesdays)	Time
20 March	2.00pm to 4.00pm
27 March	3.15pm to 5.15pm
3 April	2.00pm to 4.00pm
24 April	3.15pm to 5.15pm
8 May	3.15pm to 5.15pm



**(h) Student Leadership**

The Student Leaders' Investiture is an important school event where we recognise the hard work and dedication of our outgoing Sec 4 student leaders (including CCA leaders and student councillors), as they step down from their leadership positions this term. During this event, Sec 3 students who have been selected as incoming CCA leaders and student councillors, as well as Sec 1 – 5 class leaders will also be officially invested with their respective leadership positions.

Date	Programme
26 March 2024 (Tuesday)	Student Leaders' Investiture: Student Council
28 March 2024 (Thursday)	Student Leaders' Investiture: Class Leaders and CCA leaders

With our longstanding partnership with the Navy, officers from the Navy will be invited to attend the ceremony and engage in conversations with some of our student leaders.

## 9. OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMMES AND DATES

Programme	Date/Period/Time
Student Leaders' Investiture: Student Council	26 March
Student Leaders' Investiture: Class Leaders and CCA leaders	28 March
Home Based Learning (HBL) Days	12 April, 26 April, 10 May, and 24 May 2024
Hari Raya Celebration	16 April
International Friendship Day Commemoration 2024	5 April
Secondary 1 Code for Fun (CFF) Programme	20 March, 27 March, 3 April, 24 April and 8 May
Mother Tongue Fortnight (MTF) Programme	29 April to 8 May
2024 Road Run	30 April
National Physical Fitness Assessment (NAPFA) for Sec 2	2 May (2.30pm to 5.45pm)
Biodiversity Week – BioBlitz and Greenwave 2024	13 – 17 May
Navalite Learning Explorations Week	14 to 20 May
Sec 1 Learning Journey (LJ) to the Zoo	27 and 28 May
Student-Parent-Teacher Conference (SPTC)	23 May

This termly letter can be downloaded from the Parents Gateway (PG) and the school's website: <https://navalbasesec.moe.edu.sg/parents-at-nbss/termly-letters>

If you need further clarifications, please send an email to: [nbss@moe.edu.sg](mailto:nbss@moe.edu.sg)