



ST. FRANCIS
METHODIST SCHOOL
Possibilities to Realities

21 January 2008

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome back to school all our existing students. For the new students, we would like to extend a very warm welcome to join this great family of St Francis Methodist School.

Term 1 & 2

Kindly note that the last day of the two terms and a **shorter break from school for Term 2.**

Term 1 - 2 January to 7 March 2008 (School Holidays 8 March to 16 March)

Term 2 - **17 March to 30 May 2008** (School Holidays 31 May to 22 June)

Lunar New Year Holidays

The eve of Lunar New Year, Wednesday, 6 February 2008 is a school day. Lessons will be carried out and students will be dismissed at 12.30 pm. Permission **will not** be granted for an extended holiday. We hope that you will give us your support to ensure that your child/ward does not forget their educational attainment on the basis of wanting a longer festive holiday extension.

Smoke-free Environment

The school is a smoke-free place and therefore smoking or possession of tobacco is a serious offence. In addition, it is an offence to smoke in school uniforms even outside the school premises. To ensure compliance and to uphold a smoke-free environment at St Francis, it has been decided stricter rules would be applied from 14 January 2008 as follows:

First Offence - Warning/Counselling/Report to Health Science Authority (HAS)

Second Offence - Fine of S\$300/Report to Health Science Authority

Third Offence - Termination

(Note: All fines collected will be donated to charitable organizations)

Lift, Punctuality and Attendance

Last year, the school introduced the “fine” system for students caught taking the lift between 8 am to 2.15 pm. It was very successful as most students co-operated with the school. However, those who flouted the rule, made a contribution to the President Challenge to help the needy students.

Drawing from our experience with the lift issue, to encourage and cultivate a good habit of punctuality for school and lessons, (besides the usual counselling, parent/guardian meeting, and detention), the school decided to extend the “fine” system covering punctuality and absenteeism from classes from 14 January 2008. All fines collected are donated to charity.

First Offence - Warning/Counselling

Second Offence – Warning/Counselling

Third Offence – Warning/Informing parents

Four offence and above – S\$2 for late for assembly (before 8.15 am)

Four offence and above – S\$5 for skipping assembly/classes.

We hope that these measures would not be meted out with the co-operation of the students, to come to school on time and attend all their lessons. We seek the help of all parents/guardians concerned to inculcate a sense of responsibility from our students.

Term 1 – Progress Report and Parent-Teachers’ Day

The academic progress of Term 1 will be based on class tests, assignments and class-room participation. Parents and guardians are invited to attend a parent-teachers day on **Friday 6.00 pm, 7 March 2007** to discuss the progress of your child/ward.

AUSMAT Year 7, Top Results for our Year 12 and IGCSE London “O” level

We are very pleased to inform that the school has commenced enrolling students for the Western Australian Programme for Year 7 (equivalent to Secondary 1).

We take this opportunity to congratulate our two top students for the AUSMAT Grade 12 who scored a Tertiary Entrance Ranking of 99.90 in the 2007 examinations making them among the top 40 students in the whole of Western Australia and all colleges outside Australia. Between the 2 of them, they bagged for 4 prizes including the top student for Applicable Mathematics.

Our top student for 2007 IGCSE London “O” level scored a total of 3 As and 2Bs.

Appreciations go to the teachers who contributed to their success.

Change of Subjects

Please be advised that students **will not** be allowed to change subjects 4 weeks into the Programme.

IELTS, Business English and Mathematics

To provide additional accreditation and assistance for our students, the School has launched the following programmes:

- (a) IELTS - from 18 January 2008 (every Friday at 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm except School Holidays and Public Holidays)
- (b) Business English – from 19 January 2008 (every Saturday from 9.30 am to 12.30pm except Public Holidays)
- (c) Mathematics Tuition Class for Sec 4 students – from 19 January (every Saturday from 9.30 am to 11.30 am except School Holidays and Public Holidays)

If you require more information, please contact Ms Veronica Kueh for IELTS, Ms Dini for the Business English and Mr Stephen Su for Mathematics or General Office on 67600889.

Student Overseas Exchange Programmes

In 2007, the school organised two teams on an educational exchange programme to Central High School in Kanoya, Japan and Southwestern College, Kansas, USA. In addition, 3 staff and 6 students embarked on a truly inspirational tracking experience to Nepal.

Given the enormous benefits of these trips, the school is planning two **new** exchange programmes to Thailand and China in 2008. We encourage your child/ward to participate in the coming programmes during school holidays. Do look out for the details which will be released in due course.

We seek to work with you and our teachers in nurturing our students to be good adults and strive for academic excellence. We also want to take this opportunity to wish you a happy and blessed Lunar New Year!

Thank you.

James Teo
Acting Principal

Meet the Parents/Guardians Session on 7 March 2008

Reply Form

[6.00 pm – 9.00 pm]

Attention: Division Heads

I _____ parent/guardian of

Student (1) _____ of class _____

Student (2) _____ of class _____

Student (3) _____ of class _____

Student (4) _____ of class _____

Student (5) _____ of class _____

Student (6) _____ of class _____

Is/are* able/unable* to attend the meet the Parent/guardian meeting on 7 March 2008.

P.S You may wish to fax your return to the School Office at 67608032 by Wed 5 March 2008.

***Delete where applicable**