

24 March 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians of Secondary 1 Students,

UPDATES ON EVENTS IN TERM 2 2025

1. We hope that your teen had meaningful and restful March holidays, and you were able to spend quality time with him/her. We are also heartened to note that our Sec 1 students have settled into the school well in Term 1.

At this year's Committee of Supply Debate, MOE announced initiatives to strengthen students' holistic development and maximise their potential. In recent years, MOE has made significant moves to broaden the definitions of merit and encourage holistic development in our students, such as through the PSLE Achievement Level Scoring System, and the introduction of Full Subject-Based Banding to remove streaming in secondary schools. Building on these, MOE will revise the Junior College admission criteria from 2028 (changes to the Polytechnic admission criteria from 2028 had been announced last year). By 2026, ITE will also transit its courses to a three-year curricular structure leading directly to a Higher Nitec certification. For more details, please refer to <https://www.moe.gov.sg/microsites/cos2025/>. Through the Bowen Experience, Bowenians are well-positioned to benefit from these initiatives to learn and thrive for life.

As we enter Term 2 of the school year, we trust that it will be as enriching and fulfilling for your teen as Term 1. We would like to provide you with key updates for Term 2 for our Sec 1 students.

A. Key Programmes, Events and Holidays in Term 2

2. The following are highlights of our school's programmes, events and holidays in Term 2.

Date	Programmes/ Events	Remarks
Mon 31 Mar	Hari Raya Puasa Public Holiday	-
Tue 1 Apr to Fri 11 Apr	Mother Tongue Language Fortnight	Activities will be conducted during curriculum hours.
Wed 2 Apr, Wed 16 Apr, Wed 30 Apr, Wed 14 May	Home Based Learning (HBL)	Students are to check in via Student Learning Space (SLS) by 8.00am during HBL days and complete their assigned learning at home.
Mon 14 Apr to Thu 17 Apr	Bowen Safer Internet Week	Activities will be conducted during curriculum hours.
Fri 18 Apr	Good Friday Public Holiday	-
Mon 14 Apr to Fri 9 May	Sec 1 Term Assessment 2	A separate letter with the schedule will be issued at a later date.
Mon 21 Apr	International Friendship Day Commemoration	Conducted during CCE lesson.
Mon 21 Apr to Fri 25 Apr	English Language Week	Activities will be conducted during curriculum hours.
Mon 28 Apr	Student Leaders' Investiture	Conducted during curriculum hours. See <u>Section C</u> below for details.

Date	Programmes/ Events	Remarks
Thu 1 May	Labour Day Public Holiday	-
Fri 2 May	43 rd Speech Day and Prize Presentation	See <u>Section D</u> below for details. There will be no CCAs conducted on this day.
Mon 12 May	Vesak Day Public Holiday	-
Thu 15 May	S1 Performing Arts-based Learning - Metropolitan Festival Orchestra @ Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music	Timing: 2.30pm to 6.00pm. Two-way transport will be provided. More details will be shared at a later date.
Fri 16 May	Sports Day	Will be conducted from 7.30am to 12.00pm at Anderson-Serangoon Junior College. There will be no CCAs conducted on this day.
Wed 21 May	Class Photo-taking	Conducted during curriculum hours.
Wed 28 May and Thu 29 May	Mid-Year FIESTA	For all levels (Sec 1-5). More details will be shared closer to the date.
Thu 29 May	Issuance of Report Books and Result Slips	Conducted during curriculum hours.
Fri 30 May	Sec 1 to 5 Meet-the-Parents Session (Face-to-face)	Last day of school for Term 2 before the June School Holidays. There will be no CCAs conducted on this day. A separate letter will be issued at a later date to guide parents on signing up for the MPS.
Sat 31 May to Sun 29 Jun	June School Holidays	Student protected time will be from Tue 10 Jun to Tue 23 Jun (both dates inclusive). No school activities will be held during this period. Pls also note that Mon 9 Jun is a designated day-off-in-lieu for Hari Raya Haji. All schools will be closed. Term 3 begins on Mon 30 Jun. The school recommends for travel to take place during student protected time, so that your teen can continue to participate in scheduled school activities (e.g. CCA).

3. The list of Term 2 after-school activities for Sec 1 is provided below. All Applied Learning Programme (ALP) sessions will end by 3.00pm, while Geographical Investigation (GI) will end around 6.00pm. ALP will be held in school while GI will be held out of school (more information will be shared with your teen by their Geography teacher and details will also be provided via PG nearer to the date).

Week	Monday	Programme	Class	Thursday	Programme	Class
2	31 Mar	Hari Raya Puasa	N.A.	3 Apr	S1 ALP #3	All S1 classes
3	7 Apr	No enrichment	N.A.	10 Apr	S1 ALP #4	All S1 classes
4	14 Apr	Geographical Investigation	S1 TG2/3/4 (3.30 - 6.00pm)	17 Apr	S1 ALP #5	All S1 classes
					Geographical Investigation	S1 TG 6/7/8 (3.30 - 6.00pm)
5	21 Apr	No enrichment	N.A.	24 Apr	S1 ALP #6	All S1 classes
6	28 Apr	No enrichment	N.A.	1 May	Labour Day	N.A.
7	5 May	No enrichment	N.A.	8 May	S1 ALP #7	All S1 classes
8	12 May	Vesak Day	N.A.	15 May	S1 ALP #8 (Finale to end by 2.30pm)	All S1 classes
					S1 Performing Arts-based Learning (2.30-6.00pm)	All S1 Classes

B. POSB Smart Buddy Programme

4. We are pleased to share that Bowen will be onboarding the POSB Smart Buddy programme for our canteen stalls in Term 2 2025. This digital payment ecosystem is being extended to all schools and once implemented, will enable cashless payments at all our canteen stalls. This will increase the efficiency of our canteen operations and provide greater convenience to all staff and students through additional payment modes (e.g. school smart card, Ezlink card, POSB/DBS ATM cards with NETS contactless logo). The school will be piloting this system in early Term 2, with plans for full implementation by the end of Term 2. More details will be shared via PG in due course.

C. Student Leaders Investiture

5. Our Student Leaders Appointment Ceremony will take place on **Mon 28 Apr** during school hours. This is an important annual event where the school witnesses the handover between the current and the next Student Leaders Executive Committee. The event will also celebrate the investiture of new Student Councillors, Class Leaders, CCA Leaders, Tech Champions and Peer Support Leaders, who as role models, will lead and serve the school and their fellow Bowenians to the best of their abilities. Parents/guardians of incoming Student Leaders Executive Committee members will receive an invitation to join us for the ceremony via Parents Gateway.

D. Celebrating Students' Achievements: 43rd Speech and Prize Presentation Day

6. Our 43rd Speech and Prize Presentation Day will be held on **Fri 2 May** from **4.00pm to 6.30pm** in the school hall. It is a key school event where we celebrate our students' academic and co-curricular successes. Prize recipients will need to report to the respective school venues by **3.00pm** (More details will be given nearer to the date). Parents/guardians of all 2024 Sec 1 to 3 Prize Recipients will be notified via Parents Gateway.
7. Please note that lessons will carry on as usual from 7.30am to 12.30pm. However, there will be no CCA that afternoon. If your teen is involved in the Speech and Prize Presentation Day (e.g. emcees, marching contingent, CCA performers etc.), you will be informed via Parents Gateway.

E. Health and Road Safety Matters

8. The school continues to prioritise student health and remains vigilant in checking in on student well-being. Your support is also crucial towards keeping Bowen a safe environment for students. Please remind your teen to practice good personal hygiene (e.g. washing/sanitising hands) and exercise personal and social responsibility. While mask-wearing is no longer required in a school setting, it remains an effective way to minimise the risk of infectious disease transmission. Students who prefer wearing masks are welcome to continue doing so.
9. If your teen is unwell, please ensure he/she stays at home and seeks medical attention if necessary. Do also inform his/her Form Teachers (FTs). If your teen is recovering from respiratory-related illness, please encourage him/her to exercise social responsibility (e.g. by wearing a mask, minimising social interactions). Social responsibility will be crucial in preventing any infectious disease outbreak in schools. In the event your teen has to miss school, his/her learning will be supported. FTs will assign a buddy to update your teen on lessons and collect his/her learning materials. Please encourage your teen to be proactive in finding out on what he/she has missed from his/her buddy.
10. At the same time, we would like to reinforce the need for all students to adhere to traffic regulations when travelling to and from school. We seek parents/guardians' support to remind our students to be aware of their surroundings and follow safe practices such as crossing public roads at correct designated areas. We would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely appeal to all parents/guardians who drive to observe the speed limit, practice safe driving and show graciousness to our staff on duty when in a school zone, for the safety and well-being of our students, staff and other stakeholders.

Thank you for your continued support and for partnering us closely as we nurture our students to be Passionate Learners, Servant Leaders and Champions of Good.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Loh Chih Hui
Principal

Use of photographs and video images

Photographs or video images of students, parents and visitors may be taken during school activities and events such as classroom lessons, enrichment activities, CCA activities, camps, etc. The school may use and publish such photographs or video images in school publications, the school's website, social media channels, or other communication channels.