



31 Dec 2024

INFORMATION AND PROGRAMMES FOR TERM 1 - SECONDARY 3

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Happy New Year!

We look forward to welcoming our Navalites back to school and would like to share some information with you for Term 1 of 2025.

1. Secondary 3 Level Camp 2024 - Camp Valour - Building Resilience and Endurance

As a start of the new academic year, our Sec 3 Navalites will be participating in a 3D2N residential camp at Sentosa from Wednesday 8 Jan to Friday 10 Jan.

Besides bonding the students and form teachers in their new Sec 3 classes, the camp aims to strengthen students' resilience to face present and future challenges through outdoor education. Students will be taking part in activities such as kayaking, cycling, orienteering and team bonding.

Please refer to Annex A for the camp programme and the packing list for your reference.

For any queries, please contact your child's/ward's form teachers. Alternatively you can email Mr Tharmen at tharmendra_jearaman@schools.gov.sg or Mr Alvin Tay at tay_shun_long_alvin@schools.gov.sg

2. Fortnightly Home-Based Learning (HBL) Days

In secondary schools, fortnightly HBL days are part of MOE's efforts to develop students as self-directed and independent learners, and HBL lessons are considered as part of the school curriculum.

In NBSS, HBL days generally take place on Even Fridays. Navalites are expected to learn from home under minimal supervision and to complete any assigned work at their own time. Form teachers will check in with the class online.

The dates for HBL days for Term 1 are: 7 Jan, 17 Jan, 31 Jan, 14 Feb, 28 Feb, and 14 Mar.





3. Department Programmes

a) English Language and Literature Department - Reading Programme

The school aims to develop good reading habits and a love for reading in Navalites through its reading programme. When Navalites read widely, they develop competency and confidence in using the English language, as well as widen their general knowledge.

All Navalites will be scheduled for school library visits and participate in related reading activities throughout the year, as part of the reading programme. With their Personal Learning Devices (PLD), Navalites are also encouraged to access free e-books via the National Library e-book application - Libby. Hence, all Navalites should have a book with them every day, as time will be set aside for reading in the morning.

Beyond curriculum hours, Navalites are strongly encouraged to read the books / articles recommended in their English Language Resource Packages.

b) Mother Tongue Languages Department - Chinese New Year Celebrations

The school will celebrate Lunar New Year on 28 January Tuesday. More details on the celebrations will be provided nearer to the day.

c) Character and Citizenship Education

Total Defence Day (18 Feb, Tuesday)

Total Defence Day will be commemorated on 18 February to mark Singapore's fall to the Japanese on 15 February 1942, to remind us about the importance of Total Defence in protecting our sovereignty as a nation through the six pillars of Total Defence. This meaningful occasion will be marked during CCE periods through an engaging assembly programme, thoughtful discussions on contemporary issues facing Singapore today as well as various lead-up activities.

4. Table of Events for Term 1

Date	Programme / Activity
7 Jan	HBL Day
8 Jan - 10 Jan	Sec 3 Level Camp - Camp Valour
17 Jan	HBL Day
28 Jan	Chinese New Year Celebrations
31 Jan	HBL Day
14 Feb	HBL Day
18 Feb	Total Defence Day Commemoration
28 Feb	HBL Day
14 Mar	HBL Day



5. Excessive screen time and use of mobile phones in school

a) School Policy on the use of mobile phone

A large body of research has shown the relationship between smartphones screen time and mental health issues in youth. NBSS works closely with MOE and has put in place stringent policies to guide the use of mobile phones in school to maintain a conducive teaching and learning environment.

Navalites will be allowed to bring their mobile phones to school. A Navalite always switches off and keeps out of sight his/her mobile phones during curriculum hours (7:20 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.) on all days (except Friday, 12:30 p.m.) so as to create enabling spaces that nurtures meaningful interactions and social skill-building. The use or display of mobile phones is strictly prohibited during these hours including recess, lunch breaks and self-study periods.

If you need to contact your child during school hours, you could call the General Office at Tel: 62571996. For any situations, Navalites will be allowed to make telephone calls from the General Office to their parents or legal guardian.

In the event that your child/ward is found using or displaying his/her mobile phones during the restricted hours, the Form/ Guidance teacher would notify you and make the necessary arrangements for you to collect the mobile phone personally from school.

As the digital landscape continues to evolve, the focus remains on helping our youth foster a healthy balance between technology and real-life interactions, ensuring that they are both academically prepared, and socially and emotionally equipped for the future. Together with the school, parents as partners-in-education play a vital role in guiding your child in the use of mobile devices and online interactions.

b) 'My secret to curbing my kids' screen time: Go low'

Low-tech, that is. No smart phones for tech-savvy dad Ian Tan, who gave his kids basic phones which could only make calls. It was part of his plan to limit their exposure to the Internet and social media. Read on to find out some pointers to prevent your child from being addicted. <https://www.schoolbag.edu.sg/story/my-secret-to-curbing-my-kids-screen-time-go-low/>

6. Administrative Matters

a) First Day of School Attire

Navalites are to report to school, properly groomed according to school guidelines, on Thursday 2 Jan at 7.20am at the multi-purpose hall in their PE t-shirt and school pants / skirts.



b) **NRIC Registration Exercise (Monday 8 Jan)**

Under the National Registration Regulations, all Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents are required to register for their NRIC in the year they attain the age of 15. ICA will conduct a biometrics enrolment in Naval Base Secondary School in the morning of 4 February 2025. To ensure that your child's biometrics are enrolled smoothly, **please complete the registration online by 28 January 2025**. Details for the online registration will be provided through Parents Gateway at least two weeks before the enrolment exercise.

c) **Absences from School**

Students should submit a Medical Certificate (MC) to the form teacher on the immediate school day after the day of absence. If no MC is available, an official letter of excuse should be given restricted to ten per academic year, subjected to school leaders' approval. Failure to submit an MC or letter of excuse will deem the child to have played truant and subjected to disciplinary actions.

d) **SMS Notifications of Student Absence from School**

When students are absent, an automated SMS will be sent in the morning to the primary caregiver as reflected in School Cockpit. This is to ensure that parents/guardians are promptly updated about your child/ward's absence. Please make sure that your child/ward returns to school with the relevant documents explaining their absence. If you do not wish to receive SMS alerts or if there are changes to your contact number, please inform the school at nbss@moe.edu.sg.

e) **Photographs / Images Taken During School Events**

Please note that photograph(s) and video image(s) of your child/ward may be captured during school events. These images may be published in school publications, websites, social media and other school communication channels. If you do not wish to have these photographs and images published, you may write to the school at nbss@moe.edu.sg.

We look forward to a positive and collaborative school-parents partnership as your child/ward continues with their educational journey with NBSS in 2025. Thank you!

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

[Annex A - Sec 3 Camp Programme and Packing List](#)

PROPOSED PROGRAMME

DAY 1	WEDNESDAY 8 JANUARY 2025			
0730 – 0800	PARTICIPANTS TO ASSEMBLE FOR FLAG RAISING CEREMONY			
0800 – 0830	ATTENDANCE TAKING & PROGRAMME OPENING BY SCHOOL LEADER / YEAR HEAD			
	2 CLASSES	2 CLASSES	2 CLASSES	2 CLASSES
0830 – 0930	DEPART FOR PANDAN	DEPART FOR WEST COAST PARK	DEPART FOR SENTOSA	
0930 – 1230	KAYAKING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (Pandan Reservoir)	CYCLING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME	SENTOSA NAVIGATION CHALLENGE	SENTOSA IMPROVED RAFTING CHALLENGE (Sapphire Beachfront)
1230 – 1330	PACKED LUNCH IN PANDAN	DEPART FOR PANDAN	OUTDOOR COOKING CHALLENGE (Sapphire Pavilion)	
1330 – 1430	DEPART FOR WEST COAST PARK	PACKED LUNCH IN PANDAN		
1430 – 1730	CYCLING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME	KAYAKING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (Pandan Reservoir)	SENTOSA IMPROVED RAFTING CHALLENGE (Sapphire Beachfront)	SENTOSA NAVIGATION CHALLENGE
1730 – 1830	DEPART FOR SENTOSA		TENT PITCHING FOR ALL CLASSES	
1830 – 1900	DAY 1 REFLECTIONS			
1900 – 2100	PACKED DINNER & WASH UP			
2100 – 2200	CAMPFIRE PREPARATION			
2200 – 2230	NIGHT SNACK			
2230	LIGHTS OUT IN TENTS			

DAY 2	THURSDAY 9 JANUARY 2025			
0700 – 0730	PARTICIPANTS TO ASSEMBLE FOR ATTENDANCE TAKING			
0730 – 0830	PACKED BREAKFAST			
	2 CLASSES	2 CLASSES	2 CLASSES	2 CLASSES
0830 – 0930	ACTIVITY BRIEFING		DEPART FOR PANDAN	DEPART FOR WEST COAST PARK
0930 – 1230	SENTOSA NAVIGATION CHALLENGE	SENTOSA IMPROVISED RAFTING CHALLENGE (Sapphire Beachfront)	KAYAKING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (Pandan Reservoir)	CYCLING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME
1230 – 1330	OUTDOOR COOKING CHALLENGE (Sapphire Pavilion)		PACKED LUNCH IN PANDAN	DEPART FOR PANDAN
1330 – 1430			DEPART FOR WEST COAST PARK	PACKED LUNCH IN PANDAN
1430 – 1730	SENTOSA IMPROVISED RAFTING CHALLENGE (Sapphire Beachfront)	SENTOSA NAVIGATION CHALLENGE	CYCLING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME	KAYAKING ORIENTATION PROGRAMME (Pandan Reservoir)
1730 – 1830	TENT PITCHING FOR ALL CLASSESSES		DEPART FOR SENTOSA	
1830 – 1930	WASH UP		PACKED DINNER	
1930 – 2030	PACKED DINNER		WASH UP	
2030 – 2200	GRAND CAMPFIRE (with Photo Montage)			
2200 – 2230	DAY 2 REFLECTIONS (with Night Snack)			
2230	LIGHTS OUT IN TENTS			

DAY 3	FRIDAY 10 JANUARY 2025
0730 – 0800	PARTICIPANTS TO ASSEMBLE FOR ATTENDANCE TAKING
0800 – 0900	PACKED BREAKFAST
0900 – 1000	AREA CLEANING
1000 – 1030	COHORT PHOTO TAKING
1030 – 1100	FINAL SHARING & CLOSING CEREMONY
1100 – 1200	DEPART FOR NAVAL BASE SECONDARY SCHOOL
1200	END OF PROGRAMME



Packing List

Hygiene

Packet 1	Toiletries: Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Soap etc. Note: Shaver (optional)	1 set
Packet 2	Towel	1

Clothing

Packet 3* (4 sets)	1 x School based T-shirt 1 x School based Short 1 x Undergarment 1 x pair of Socks	1 Each
Packet 3.5 (1-2 sets)	1x Pajamas set 1x Undergarment	1 Each

Footwear

Packet 4	Wet Activity Shoes (covered shoes) *Strictly required for water activities	1 Pair
Packet 5	Sandals / Slippers *For use after activity hours	1 Pair

Protection

Packet 6	Sleeping Bag	1
	Waterproof Jacket / Raincoat / Poncho	1
	Foldable Umbrella	1
	Spectacle Band / Strap	1
	Long Track Pants (Black or Navy Blue)	1
	Sunblock	1
	Sunglasses (For water activity only)	1
	Cap / Hat	1
	Insect Repellant	1

Equipment

Day Pack (Haversack preferred) *To keep hands free when on the move	1
Water Bottle (1L)	1
Torchlight	1
Sleeping Bag	1
Extra Mask	Sufficient



- The above-mentioned serves as a guide only.
- Students are to label all their personal items where possible.
- Students are to take responsibility for their belongings.

Miscellaneous

Writing Materials for notes and reflections	1 Set
Plastic Bags / Ziplock Bags *For wet / dirty clothes	Sufficient
Personal Medication if any (Must be labelled clearly & kept in ziplock bag)	Sufficient
Writing Materials for notes and reflections	1 Set