



31 Dec 2024

INFORMATION AND PROGRAMMES FOR TERM 1 - SECONDARY 4 and 5

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 4 Level Camp 2025 - Camp Valiant - Looking Forward, Staying Connected (7 January to 9 January)

As a start to the new academic year, our Sec 4 Navalites will be participating in a 3 day camp from Tuesday 7 Jan to Thursday 9 Jan. On the second day 8 Jan, your child/ward will be staying overnight in school.

Besides building on the camaraderie and friendships forged from Sec 3 within the class, the camp aims to strengthen students' growth mindset and equip them with the skills to excel. Students will also be equipped with etiquette skills to be able to present themselves confidently in social settings such as dining. The camp programme and packing list is provided as Annex A for your reference.

As the Sec 5 Navalites have attended a similar camp in 2024, they would be supporting the Sec 2 Level Camp (non-residential) as facilitators to hone their leadership skills. They will thus be required to be in school from 7.20am - 5.30pm on 7 and 8 Jan, and from 7.20am to 3.00pm on 9 Jan.

For any queries, please contact your child's/ward's form teachers or email Mdm Faridah at faridah_abdul_hamid@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 via MS Teams.

The dates for HBL days for Term 1 are:

Term 1	Date (Fridays)
Week 1	10 Jan
Week 2	17 Jan
Week 4	31 Jan
Week 6	14 Feb
Week 8	28 Feb
Week 10	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) Humanities Department - Geographical Investigation

An integral part of the Geography curriculum, Geographical Investigation (GI) offers Navalites the opportunity to carry out geographical inquiry and participate in fieldwork. In doing so, Navalites learn to transfer what they have learnt from their geography lessons to real world issues. These activities will be conducted towards the end of Term 1 and more details will be shared closer to the date of the activities.

d) 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 - 9 Jan	Sec 4 Level Camp - Camp Valiant
10 Jan	HBL Day
17 January	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 Tuesday 2 January at 7.20am at the multi-purpose hall in their PE t-shirt and school pants/skirts.

b) 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.



c) 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.

d) 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 - Camp Valiant Programme](#)

Naval Base Secondary - Secondary 4 Camp Programme 2025

Reporting Time : 7.20am (7 Jan) 7.20am (8 Jan) Dismissal Time: 4.00pm (7 Jan); 12.30pm (9 Jan)
Attire : Naval Base Secondary School PE T-shirt and shorts/skirts

Day/ Time	7 Jan (Tue) <i>Lunch</i>		8 Jan (Wed) <i>Lunch, Dinner, Supper</i>		9 Jan (Thu) <i>Breakfast provided</i>
Class	4-1,4-2	4-3, 4-4 (NA) 4-5,4-6, 4-7, 4-8 (EX)	4-1,4-2	4-3, 4-4 4-5,4-6, 4-7, 4-8	All Classes
0500					Rise and Shine Wash up/ Pack up
0600					Morning Assembly & warm-up
0615					Walk to Lower Seletar Reservoir Watching Sunrise Breakfast Circle Time
0720	Morning assembly @ Hall		Report to Class to deposit bags		
0740	P Address & YH Admin Briefing		Assembly & YH Briefing in Hall		
0800	Business Etiquette		Career Guidance programme	Personal Mastery	Walk to NBSS Consolidation of learning
0900	Business Etiquette				
1000	Recess		Recess		Inter-class games competition
1030	Mock Results	Personal Mastery	Business Etiquette		Recess
1130	Career Guidance				Area Cleaning & Pack up
1230	Lunch		Lunch		Dismissal
1330	Bus to SSC	Lunch	Business Etiquette (Hall)		
1430	Bouldering	Team Bonding	Movement to Hall/ISH to deposit bags		
1530	Bus to NBSS	Reflection	Getting dressed for dinner		
1600	Dismissal		Departure to Temasek Club		
1700			Arrival / Photo/ Getting Seated		
1730			Dinner		
2015			Departure to NBSS		
2115			Shower/Supper/Reflection		
2245			Lights out		



Packing List

Day Pack	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water bottle• Writing materials• iPad• Personal medications (if necessary).	
For Overnight stay on Wednesday 8 January 2025	
CLOTHING:	School T-Shirt and PE shorts for 8 Jan Formal clothes for Fine Dinning Undergarments Socks Formal shoes
TOILETRIES:	Towel Shampoo Soap Conditioner Facial Wash Sandals/Slippers Plastic bag for wet/soiled clothes Comb Toothpaste Toothbrush
SLEEPING GEAR:	Comfortable T-shirts Shorts/Sweatpants Sleeping Bag
OTHERS:	Personal Medication (if required) Thermometer (working) Insect repellent Dinner wear for Etiquette Dinner at Temasek Country Club