



3rd April 2020

Extended Holiday and Home-Based Learning (HBL)

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Since the commencement of our two-week holiday, much has changed within Singapore and throughout the world with regards to COVID-19. The Singapore government has taken firmer measures to reduce the infection throughout the country, in the hopes that we may soon 'flatten the curve' here. With the recent return of so many Singaporeans and residents from overseas, we have seen substantial increases in the number of confirmed cases, as well as the number of Stay-Home Notices (SHN) and Quarantine Orders (QO). Of these cases, we have also seen new clusters develop in Singapore.

During the holiday we had prepared for different scenarios, depending on the situation in Singapore and the direction that the local authorities would take. You will find parts of this letter are similar to the one sent out previously about our return to school.

Our return to school on the 6th April has now been changed due to the announcement of further distancing measures and closures being taken by the local authorities, as announced this afternoon by Prime Minister Lee.

While Chatsworth has been fortunate, to date, with the health and safety of our students, staff and parents on campus, we have decided that it would not be in the best interest of our school community to return on the 6th April, only to follow the local schools and close for Home-Based Learning (HBL) on Wednesday. There would be little advantage to bringing students and staff together for a short week.

The school has decided that students and staff will remain at home from the **6th April**. Chatsworth will continue to evaluate the return date suggested by the local authorities, as it gets closer, and make any adjustments to extend the date if necessary. Please note that the **6th and 7th April** will be an **extension to our current holiday** and the **8th April (Wednesday)** will commence our HBL.

Information about HBL had been sent out previously and we have been prepared for this scenario since early February. Teachers will use the 6th and 7th April as planning days to ensure HBL is rolled out as smoothly as possible on the 8th. The primary and secondary offices will send home previous and additional HBL information on Monday/Tuesday next week.

Chatsworth International School Pte Ltd
UEN: 199405288W | GST Reg No.: M2-0126395-6

www.chatsworth.com.sg

Bukit Timah Campus (K1 - Y13)
72 Bukit Tinggi Road, Singapore 289760
Tel: (65) 6463 3201 | Fax: (65) 6463 3202 | Email: information.bt@chatsworth.com.sg

Orchard Campus (K1 - Y6)
37 Emerald Hill Road, Singapore 229313
Tel: (65) 6737 5955 | Fax: (65) 6737 5655 | Email: information.orchard@chatsworth.com.sg





Our hope is to return to campus as soon as we can but we will continue to monitor the situation in Singapore. As always, we will keep parents and students informed as we move forward. We appreciate your understanding that, with each new announcement from the local authorities, it takes time for school leadership to absorb that information and determine the best way to implement any new measures before being able to communicate to the wider community.

This is a challenging time for all of us. International schools around the world have been closed and delivering home-based learning, to varying degrees and lengths of time, since January. We have been fortunate to be able to continue to school our children on campus up to this time and we hope that we will return back to on-campus learning soon. The global international school teaching community is a strong one and schools have been sharing resources and experiences with HBL. We are in a good position to be able to deliver continuous HBL if necessary.

The best way to commence HBL is to 'ease into it' and so the teachers will be communicating with your child as to how we will do that during the first day of HBL on Wednesday next week. Please do not hesitate to connect with the school or your child's teachers should you have any questions or concerns, as your child(ren) will require varying levels of support with HBL depending on their age and learning style.

The school is reviewing our events for the rest of the academic year and a separate letter will be sent home with regards to end-of-year activities such as graduation (primary and secondary), PYP Exhibition and Student-Led Conferences, to name but a few.

We thank you for your continued patience and understanding during what continues to be new territory for all of us to navigate. We hope that all of our community and their extended families and friends are safe and healthy during this time.

Sincerely,

Tyler Sherwood
Head of Schools