伊布拉欣中学 Ahmad Ibrahim Secondary School

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Dear Parent,

End-of-Semester Letter to Parents

We now come to the end of the full Home-Based Learning (HBL) period that has been in place since 8 April as part of the circuit breaker measures implemented to combat COVID-19. The circuit breaker period has been extended to 1 June and the school holidays have been brought forward to 5 May till 1 June.

MOH Advisory and Circuit Breaker Measures

During this school holiday amidst Circuit Breaker Measures, the MOH advisory on travel is still in force, and all travel remains suspended to minimise the risk of being infected overseas and transmitting to others locally. The following implications apply should there be very exceptional circumstances that require you or your household members to travel:

- a. the requirement to apply for and obtain an entrance permit from MOE/ICA prior to return to Singapore for International Students and non-resident parents;
- b. 14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN) issued upon return to Singapore;
- t. 14-day LOA for students staying in the same household with someone on SHN;
 and
- d. unsubsidised healthcare if infected with COVID-19 upon your return.

We also seek your assistance to impress on your child to continue observing the Circuit Breaker Measures and remain at home as far as possible. Students should **not** meet up with their friends in person nor visit one another's homes. They should also continue to practise good personal hygiene.

Computing Devices and Cyber Wellness

For those who have loaned computing devices from the school, your child will be able to hold them during the school holidays to aid them with their revision and/or continue with their learning.

It continues to be important that your child practises safe and responsible use during the holidays. You may refer to the cyber wellness resources such as those on <u>managing screen</u> time from the <u>Media Literacy Council</u> or the <u>MOE cyber wellness resources for parents</u>.

Term 3 Timetable and Assessment Matters

Term 3 is scheduled to begin 2 Jun (Tue), with a 1 week mid-term break from 20 to 26 Jul. As school resumes, our focus will be on reintegrating students to the rhythm of school. The Semester 1 timetable will continue to run for the first 3 weeks, from 2 to 19 Jun for a more familiar resumption and to allow the subjects that run on a semestral basis to have a proper closure. A new timetable for Semester 2 will be released to take effect from 22 Jun (Mon).

For Sec 1 to Sec 3, there will not be any Weighted Assessment (WA) conducted in the first two weeks of Term 3, which will allow sufficient time for closing of learning gaps. To ease students back, WA that had been planned for Term 2 will be scaled back to class-based assessments and will be conducted between Weeks 3 and 6. For WA3, Common Test will take place after the mid-term break, and is scheduled from Weeks 9 to 11. The detailed schedule will be provided to students when they return to school.

For the graduating cohort, instead of the Mid-Year Examination, timed trials will be conducted during curriculum time to provide students with a simulated sitting that is more manageable while gathering feedback on students' learning progress. The Prelim Exam continues to serve as a major checkpoint in students' preparation for the national exam. With the GCE O Level Mother Tongue Exam rescheduled to 18 Jun (Thu)¹, the school has planned a Prelim Exam sitting for this subject on 5 Jun (Fri). The schedule for the other subjects remain as originally planned². We are also looking to step up provisions for students taking coursework subjects to meet the submission requirements. An update will be provided to parents of the Sec 4 and 5 students separately in mid-May.

Keeping up with Learning during the School Holidays

We are heartened that many of our students have kept up well with their learning during this time, and some have even flourished! Nonetheless, we understand that this mode of learning presents various challenges for others, and teachers have been closely engaging those who have required more support. Teachers have also exercised flexibility with submission deadlines to allow students more time to overcome some of these issues. The upcoming school holidays present an opportune time for all – teachers and students alike – to take a break and recharge, and at the same time, catch up and consolidate their learning in preparation for the resumption of school in June.

2020 has been an extraordinary year and each of us has a part to play in adjusting to the circumstances to make the best out of it. Staying home has also afforded many of us the opportunity to bond better with our family. We thank you for your partnership in your child's learning and look forward to an improved community situation that can allow us to resume normalcy as soon as possible. We wish one and all a safe and restful school holiday.

Ms Tan Ke-Xin Principal

¹ Please refer to the SEAB website for details on the other adjustments made to the national examinations.

² For N Level candidates, Prelim Exam is scheduled from 27 Jul to 6 Aug. For O Level candidates, Prelim Exam is scheduled from 24 Aug to 2 Sep.