

27 March 2020

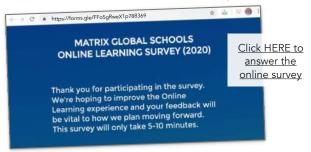




MESSAGE FROM THE CAMPUS PRINCIPAL

At MGS, we believe in the power of collaboration and working together as a whole school community to allow everyone the opportunity to overcome the challenges facing us in this stressful period, especially since the Movement Control Order (MCO) and subsequent school closure has been extended to Tuesday, 14 April. It is only through the sharing of opinions, ideas and suggestions that we can establish common ground and implement effective measures that will benefit all.

On this note, please be aware that we will be conducting an online survey today (Friday, 27 March) for parents to participate in and provide us with **feedback on current teaching and online learning strategies** in order to make home learning more effective for our students. Please feel free to share any positive feedback or concerns with us on behalf of your child/ward, so that we can continue moving forward and show progress as a school. Rest assured that we will also continue to keep you updated on any new developments regarding COVID-19, school closure, the IGCSE and Checkpoints examinations and/or our online learning.



ONLINE / HOME LEARNING

From the 1st - 14th of April, we will predominantly be using Google Classroom to provide lessons, resources, assignments and communication with students. We still need to adjust our learning strategies, however, to also include project-based learning (PBL), worksheets, ClassDojo and other means of learning to cater for younger students who might be more familiar with those specific platforms. The respective Heads of School will provide all parents and students with more detailed information as to the specific plans in place for each individual school.



COMMUNICATION

For further clarification on any issues encountered during this period of the school closure please feel free to contact us at the following addresses.



- IT issues relating to online learning it.support@matrixschools.edu.my
- Online learning or work set by individual schools Heads of Schools
 MPS: norlela.m@matrixschools.edu.my

MIS Primary: andrew.h@matrixschools.edu.my
MIS Secondary: dornehl.k@matrixschools.edu.my
Early Years: adrinna.a@matrixschools.edu.my

- CIE examination (IGCSE and Checkpoint)
 MIS Primary: andrew.h@matrixschools.edu.my
 MIS Secondary: dornehl.k@matrixschools.edu.my
- Boarding House issues

Head of Boarding House: <u>mm.tea@martixschools.edu.my</u>

 General issues pertaining to school closure / administration / operations

management@matrixschools.edu.my

Finally, we are grateful to all parents/guardians for the efforts you have already put into overseeing your child/ward's learning at home. We will ensure that students have all the necessary 'tools' to continue in their academic progress and that they have access to all the relevant content that they need to cover as we go along. We hope that they will practise the required discipline and utilise every opportunity for learning that is presented to them.

MGS Echo - Issue 53



In a time of crisis, we are grateful to have committed, selfless people as part of our team. Highest credit goes to our cleaners and security guards to ensure the campus is consistently cleaned and our property remains safe to receive the students back after the Movement Control Order (MCO) is lifted.







International boarders goofing around with their BH family during lunch.



Boarders and House Parents working together to keep their compound clean.









Healthy, nutritious food is still being prepared for the boarders by our dedicated Canteen team, with utmost care in its preparation and hygiene.





Boarders remain safe in the BH under the good care of House Parents

When the school was closed on 18 March, we were happy to be allowed to remain in the Boarding House, a safe and comfortable place for all of us. We appreciate the special meals prepared for us and the opportunity to be more independent in looking after ourselves. We are grateful for the care and company given by the Boarding House Parents and our friends. We will continue to study online through Google Classroom, clean up our rooms and the hall, eat well and exercise vigorously to remain strong and healthy through this challenging times - Life still goes on as usual in MGS Boarding House!

Zheng Xian Mei (China), Yan Run Yang (China),
 Ki Hiu Tung (Hong Kong), Ahn Yedam (South Korea)
 and Sophapanwarakul Pornpawee (Thailand)

在这段我们在宿舍里生活的日子里,我们都很感激校长以及老师给予我们的帮助,因为在这个特殊的时间里我们没有别的地方可以去,但是宿舍还是为我们提供良好的环境以及一日三餐,这让我们这些外国学生感到非常温馨。

- Xue Chen Dong (China)

在我们停学的这几天有很多空闲的时间可是还是要感谢老师们对我们我的照顾帮我们买食物帮我们打扫卫生老师们能是可以回家的但是他们还是留在了Boarding House 照顾我们。

我的反思:我们要在Boarding House里帮老师做更多的事,不给老师添乱,帮助老师打扫卫生。

- Zhang Haoran (China)

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Keeping up with MGS Students as they LEARN FROM HOME



The Movement Control Order (MCO) that the Malaysian government has imposed due to the outbreak of COVID-19 has made me terrified of what is going to happen to my studies in school. Being a Year 11 student, I am petrified and nervous as my IGCSE examinations are coming and I do not know what to do, how to study or how to act.

However, despite these odds and amidst these difficulties, Matrix Global Schools is offering e-learning through the Google Classroom platform. All teachers are expected to have a Google Classroom page for their students to learn during this difficult period. This has helped me to carve my way back into school but the difference is just that I'm not physically there. Teachers are constantly posting assignments and work through Google Classroom each day just to make the learning momentum continue and most importantly to make sure their students do not fall behind in a crisis like this. In MGS, nothing stops us from studying and doing our level best.

Being at home is just boring! It's like you're in a prison cell unable to move anywhere! However, thanks to the technology advancements in today's world, I'm able to video-call or FaceTime my friends from their homes. When we are together, we tend to study more effectively and diligently. Our teachers are also very accommodating as they welcome students to email them in case of any doubts or questions from the work given. As mentioned, with Google Classroom, brilliant and hardworking teachers and amazing peers, I'm able to study wisely and able to study just as how I would in school. To conclude, MGS has been very concerned about the well-being of its students and they are doing their level best to put things back in its place once again. I commend the management, staff and teachers of the school!

- Saieesivasoriaa, Year 11

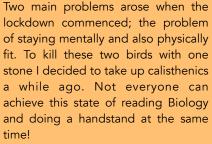






I worked on my Mathematics task about multiplication using array and repeated addition. My mum helped me to revise the concepts before I practised multiplication facts through online games on Abacus active learning website assigned by my teacher.

- Althea Guno, Year 2



- Vireen Harjai, Form 5





During this MCO, my teachers gave me revision tasks to do at home so I won't forget what I have learned so far in school. I keep myself active by riding my bicycle at home. When I grow up, I want to be a pilot so I can help people around the world.

- Aiman Haikal, Standard 1











Not forgetting our youngest students in Matrix International Early Years, who continue to work diligently on their literacy and numeracy skills with guidance from their loving parents!

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MGS Teacher Insight: Mr John O'Connor

As most of us transition to a more sedentary lifestyle that is robbing us of our usual daily routines, it is essential that we hold fast to the cycle of education. Social media has been ablaze over the last few days with parents struggling with the reality of keeping their children entertained within the walls of their homes for days on end. This should hopefully not have been the experience of our MGS parents, as our teachers have been working from home to continue teaching their subjects as thoroughly as possible.

The education medium of Google Classroom has served us exceptionally well over the last few years and it has become an essential tool for us in these trying times. Through it, our teachers have been explaining topics, setting work, correcting essays, offering advice and conducting most of the normal day to day interactions that usually take place at school.

As a teacher, it has been eye opening to see just how driven our students are. The amount of notifications coming through from Google Classroom from all hours of the day and night is enough to make your head spin!

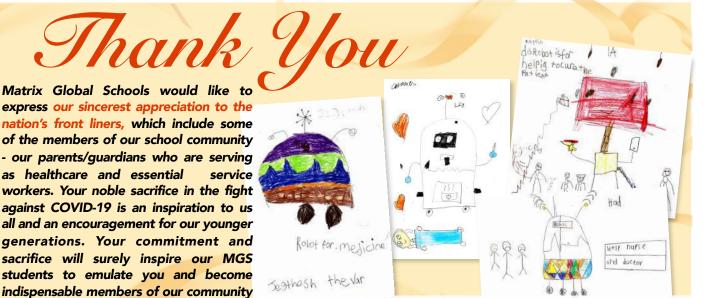
As we move forward into uncertainty, we the teachers have one request to aid us in our duty to your children: Google Classroom allows us to continue

Head of Academics for MIS Secondary

Mr John O'Connor is our

to educate but there is one area of teaching that we cannot perform digitally, and that is **discipline**. Please help us by ensuring that your son or daughter is constantly checking in on Google Classroom and, if you have time, keep an eye on any deadlines that they have coming up.

Students, please remember that this will end. School will eventually reopen and you will be expected to be at a more advanced stage of your respective courses than on the day that the school had to close. Don't get left behind. As the great man, Benjamin Franklin once said: 'Fail to prepare, prepare to fail!'.



Sharing the ideas from our Standard 1 students on how they will reduce the burden of future front liners.

Seeking Knowledge; Opening Minds



in future.



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