



16 April 2008

Dear Parents of _____

'O' LEVEL COMPUTER STUDIES PROGRAMME FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

To increase the opportunities and choices for our pupils in Post Secondary Institutions, Pathlight School has proactively worked with the Ministry of Education (MOE) to offer our students the **'O' Level Computer Studies Programme**.

The programme will be conducted over 2 years with coursework (practical component) commencing in January 2009. The course will kick start in Term 2 (Week 8) on 5 May 2008, Monday. This course will build on what has been learnt in CPA at 'N' Level, for those who are taking the subject. It is also an area of keen interest amongst many of our pupils and we believe it will help to develop some of their best strengths.

The aim of this course is as follows:

- Develop in students an appreciation of the range and power of computer applications
- Foster an interest in, enjoyment of, and confidence about computing
- Develop students' ability to solve problems using computing techniques
- Develop an awareness in students of the place of computing in society and the issues computing raises in society
- Provide students with a firm understanding of the basic techniques and knowledge required for computing applications
- Foster a desire to use computers within other interests.

Our teachers have undergone special training by MOE to offer this 'O' level subject. To prepare our students and ensure that we set them up for success, a *compulsory* and intensive computer studies foundation programme will be conducted during this May/June holidays (Please refer to Annex A attached for the programme schedule).

Your co-operation and support is needed to help your child in his/her learning journey. We need your commitment in ensuring that your child attends the foundation programme during the holidays to ensure the building blocks are covered for the syllabus.

Please complete the attached Reply Slip and return it to the class teacher by **23 April 2008, Wednesday**.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Linda Kho
Principal

Cc Ms Denise Phua, School Supervisor
Ms Loy Sheau Mei, Vice Principal – Academics
Mrs Mary Gilbert, Track Head
Alina Chua, Head, Outreach Therapy Services
Ms Teh Tsui Tsui, Student Affairs
Mr Jason Kiok, Operations
All Secondary School Teachers

Annex A

'O' LEVEL COMPUTER STUDIES PROGRAMME FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Schedule for the Intensive Foundation Computer Studies Programme

Date	Venue	Time
26/5/08, Monday	Computer Lab, Pathlight School	9am – 12pm
27/5/08, Tuesday		
28/5/08, Wednesday		
19/6/08, Thursday		
20/6/08, Friday		

List of Approved Textbooks

Please note that the following textbook that is **compulsory**.

Title	Authour	Publisher	Cost
Computer Studies & Information Technology	Chris Leadbetter & Steward Wainwright	Cambridge University Press	US\$19 (excluding shipping)
Note: This book can be ordered on-line on amazon.com			

Please note that the following textbooks are **optional**.

Title	Authour	Publisher	Cost
*Computing Essentials 2008, Complete Edition	Timothy J. O'Leary & Linda I. O' Leary	McGrawHill	US\$74.06
**Computers and Technology in a Changing Society (2 nd Ed.)	Deborah Morley	Thomson Course Technology	S\$33.00
Note: 1. *Available online at http://www.mcgraw-hill.com.sg 2. **Available at the Computer Book Centre, #03-21/22, Funan Digitalife Mall			

REPLY SLIP

Dear Principal,

I have read and understood the school's letter dated 16 April 2008 on: 'O' LEVEL COMPUTER STUDIES PROGRAMME FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

I consent to my child taking the O Level Computer Studies Programme, and will commit to ensure his/her participation in the compulsory and intensive Computer Studies foundation programme during this May/June holidays.

I allow my child to participate in the above activity. I know that Pathlight School will do its best to ensure the safety and well-being of the children. However, in the event of any accident occurring, I shall not hold Pathlight School responsible and neither will I allow or take any legal action and / or make any claims against the school, its teachers or the organizers of the activity.

Name of parent/guardian _____

Signature of parent/guardian: _____

Date: _____

Telephone no. in case of emergencies: _____

Please complete the attached Reply Slip and return it to the class teacher by
23 April 2008, Wednesday.