

# ZERA CAMBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

FB: ZERA International School



XHS: zera Education



IG: @zera.international.school

## PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

We are grateful for the vibrant growth happening at ZERA. From new facilities and student-centred improvements to outstanding achievements and meaningful community moments, each development reflects our commitment to holistic education. As we celebrate Chinese New Year, we wish you a blessed Chinese New Year and a wonderful time with your family. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.

## Note from Academic Coordinator

A heartfelt thank you to all of you for your unwavering support and partnership in your child's learning journey. As we approach the end of the term, our students will be undergoing their end-of-term assessments. These assessments take different forms depending on the year group. These assessments are an important part of the Cambridge curriculum, helping teachers understand each child's progress and guide them in their learning.

Ways to support your child's learning:

- Encourage a regular study routine to help them stay focused and organised.
- Offer reassurance and positive reinforcement, celebrating effort as well as results.
- Stay involved and communicate by discussing what they've learned and reaching out to teachers when needed.

Together, we can help our students feel confident, motivated, and ready to shine in their learning journey.

## Term 2 Assessment

Assessment plays a vital role in the Cambridge curriculum as it helps monitor students' academic progress, identify strengths and areas for improvement, and support effective teaching and learning. Through regular and structured assessments, teachers are able to provide meaningful feedback, guide students' development, and ensure learning objectives are met. Assessments are not only a measure of performance, but also an opportunity for students to reflect on their learning journey and build essential skills such as responsibility, resilience, and self-management.

As we approach the end of the term, we would like to share important information regarding student assessments and explain their role in supporting your child's learning journey within the Cambridge curriculum.

### Year 1 & Year 2

#### a. 100% Continuous Assessment

For Year 1 and Year 2, assessment is 100% continuous and carried out throughout the term. At this stage, we focus on building strong learning foundations rather than formal examinations.

Assessment is conducted through:

- Daily class activities and participation
- Classwork and simple tasks
- Projects, presentations, and hands-on activities
- Teacher observations and end-of-unit quizzes

This approach allows teachers to closely monitor each child's progress in a supportive environment. It also helps students develop confidence, curiosity, and a positive attitude towards learning.

There are no formal end-of-term examinations for Year 1 and Year 2. Instead, learning is assessed gradually to reflect each child's development accurately and holistically.

### Year 3 – Year 5

- 40% Continuous Assessment
- 60% End-of-Term Examination

For Year 3 to Year 5, assessment is a combination of continuous assessment and end-of-term examinations.

- 40% Continuous Assessment is carried out throughout the term through:
  - Classwork and homework
  - Quizzes and short tests
  - Projects, presentations, and group work
  - Classroom participation
- 60% End-of-Term Examination assesses students' understanding of key concepts taught during the term.

This structure helps students gradually adapt to formal assessments while still valuing daily learning and effort. It also prepares them for the increased academic demands in upper secondary years.

### 1. Types of Assessment by Year Group

To ensure age-appropriate learning and gradual examination exposure, assessments are structured as follows:

#### Year 7 – Year 9

- 20% Continuous Assessment
- 80% End-of-Term Examination

For Year 7 to Year 9, assessment places greater emphasis on examination readiness to prepare students for the IGCSE pathway.

20% Continuous Assessment, including:

- Classwork and assignments
- Quizzes, presentations, and projects
- Learning engagement and progress

80% End-of-Term Examination, conducted in an IGCSE-style format, to develop:

- Time management skills
- Exam techniques and subject mastery
- Familiarity with IGCSE assessment standards

#### Year 10

- 100% End-of-Term Examination

For Year 10, assessment is aligned closely with the Cambridge IGCSE framework.

- Students undertake IGCSE-style assessments that reflect the structure, standards, and expectations of the official Cambridge examinations.
- Assessment focuses on:
  - Subject knowledge and application
  - Analytical and critical thinking skills
  - Examination techniques and written communication

Examinations are used to track progress, identify areas for improvement, and ensure students are well-prepared for the Year 11 IGCSE examinations.

End-of-Term 2 Examination Dates:

 Week 9 & Week 10:

13 March & 16–19 March 2026

A detailed timetable will be shared soon.

## New Additions to ZERA

As part of our commitment to continuous growth and excellence, ZERA provides learning environment and services for our students. To support this mission, we are excited to share several new additions to enhance our students' daily school experience.

### New Water Dispensers

- We have installed two new large water dispensers on campus to ensure that all students can stay well-hydrated throughout the day. This supports healthy habits and encourages regular water intake during school hours.

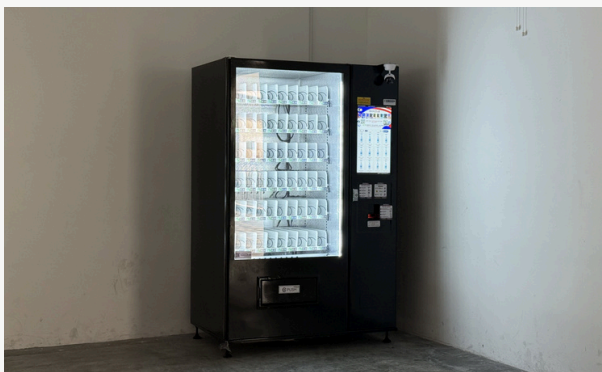


### Personal Storage for Students

- To promote organisation and convenience:
- Primary students now have personal shelves in their classrooms.
- Secondary students have been provided with personal lockers for secure storage of their belongings.

### New Playing Square (Coming Soon)

- We will be opening a dedicated playing square for our primary students, giving them a safe and enjoyable space for play, movement, and social time during breaks.



### Healthy Vending Machine (Upcoming)

- A new vending machine offering healthy snacks and drinks will soon be available on campus. This aims to give students access to nourishing options that support their energy and focus throughout the day.

At ZERA, we remain committed to ensuring the best learning experience for every student. These enhancements reflect our dedication to a vibrant, safe, and student-centred school environment.

## New Security Guard

We are pleased to introduce our new security guard, who will help strengthen the safety and wellbeing of everyone on campus. Having a security guard ensures that our school entrances are properly monitored, visitors are screened, and students are protected during arrival, dismissal, and busy transition times. This addition will also improve traffic flow, reduce safety risks, and provide quicker response in emergencies. With this support, the school environment becomes more secure, organised, and reassuring for students, staff, and parents.



## ZERA'S GOT TALENT 2026

A huge thank you to all participants of ZERA's Got Talent! Your enthusiasm, courage, and creativity have made this event truly special. And of course, congratulations to all our finalists — you've earned your spot, and we couldn't be prouder of your hard work and passion.

See the poster for more details.

We absolutely can't wait to witness these amazing talents live on 27 March 2026. It's going to be unforgettable!

## Outstanding International Accomplishments by Sin Yuan Loong

Sin Yuan Loong from Year 9 has achieved exceptional results in a highly competitive international music competition, where each category recognizes only one Champion, 1st Runner-Up, and 2nd Runner-Up. He earned 1st Runner-Up in the Ensemble Group, 2nd Runner-Up in the Cello Group, and an Honourable Mention in the Grade 6 Cello Solo.

These accomplishments reflect his strong musical talent, versatility in both ensemble and solo performances, and his impressive ability to shine on an international platform. We are extremely proud of Yuan Loong and celebrate his dedication and musical excellence. 🎻🌟



# STUDENTS PLAYING BOARD GAMES IN THE LIBRARY



As part of our continuously growing school community, we are excited to share that we have added a few more engaging activities around the school. Our students can now enjoy a selection of board games in the library during break and lunchtime. This wonderful initiative encourages social interaction, strategic thinking, and a fun, relaxing environment for students throughout the day. A big thank-you to everyone involved for making this effort possible!

## PARENTS COFFEE MORNING

We are delighted to introduce Parents Coffee Morning, a new initiative designed to strengthen the connection between parents and the school community. We are hoping that the gathering can

- Encourage open communication between parents and the school
- Provide updates on school programmes, events, and student learning
- Offer a platform for parents to voice suggestions and ask questions
- Build a supportive parent community through conversations and shared experiences
- Create opportunities for collaboration, ensuring our students receive the best possible support

We are excited to launch this initiative in April, stay tuned for more details. We look forward to connecting with you over a warm cup of coffee.

## OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT



If your child possesses any talent or achievement outside of Zera that has not yet been shared with us, kindly inform us by completing the Google Form provided.

For urgent matters, you may contact the school directly at (+60) 16-298 8869

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