



THE BEACON ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM OUR DEPUTY HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Beacon Academy Community,

While it is a bit belated, I would like to welcome all of you to the final quarter of the academic year!

This time of the year ushers in key challenges across the batches of students in the Academy. The Valesentians are nearing the completion of their first year. The Adastrians have finished the drafts of their Personal Project papers. The Infinitums are submitting their course selections for Grade 12. And, the Himayans are hurdling through mock and final exams. It is a time of “not quite” for all. It is wonderful that you all made it this far but it is not quite the end. The hands for the high fives are still in our pockets, the flowers for bouquets are yet to bloom, and the fattening pig has time to fatten up some more.

Allow me to share three stories, one real, two fictional. In 1952, Florence Chadwick attempted a 26 mile swim. After swimming for 15 hours, a thick fog blurred her vision of her destination and sank her confidence. She tried to swim for another hour until she finally gave up. When the fog cleared she realised that she was just a mile away from shore. She attempted the same swim two months later. Despite the fog, Florence swam on as she kept the mental image of the shore in her mind. She reached the shore in record time and swam for another round.

The morning after the death of Rachel Dawes in Batman: The Dark Knight, Bruce Wayne slumps in his chair and wallows in grief and regret. Alfred Pennyworth tells him that he has no other option but “to endure” and reminds Batman that night is darkest just before dawn. Perhaps Alfred read what John O’Donohue had written about the same thing, “When you attend to the way the dawn comes, you learn how light can coax the dark.” We all know that Batman stops wallowing, captures Joker and in the end, dawn was allowed to break the darkness in Gotham City.

Yes, the day will come when your hands will ache from all the high fives, when vases will be needed for all the flowers you will get, and the fattened pig will be served for your banquets. But you are all still a few miles from those points. However, I assure you these points are closer than you think. You will have to endure and keep the image of the destination clear in your head. As Dory tells Marlin, just keep swimming. (There you go, the third story.)

Yours sincerely,

Vic Villanueva
Deputy Head of School
The Beacon Academy

WHAT’S IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

General News:

[A Message from Our Deputy Head of School](#)

[Important Dates in March & April](#)

[You’re Invited: BA VA Exhibit | April 4](#)

[You’re Invited: Parent Coffee at TBS | April 4](#)

[Philips Exeter Alumni Visit BA](#)

[BA Athletics Updates](#)

[Grade 11 Batch Night | Recap](#)

[Career Fest 2024 | Recap](#)

[COSA Helping Hands | Recap](#)



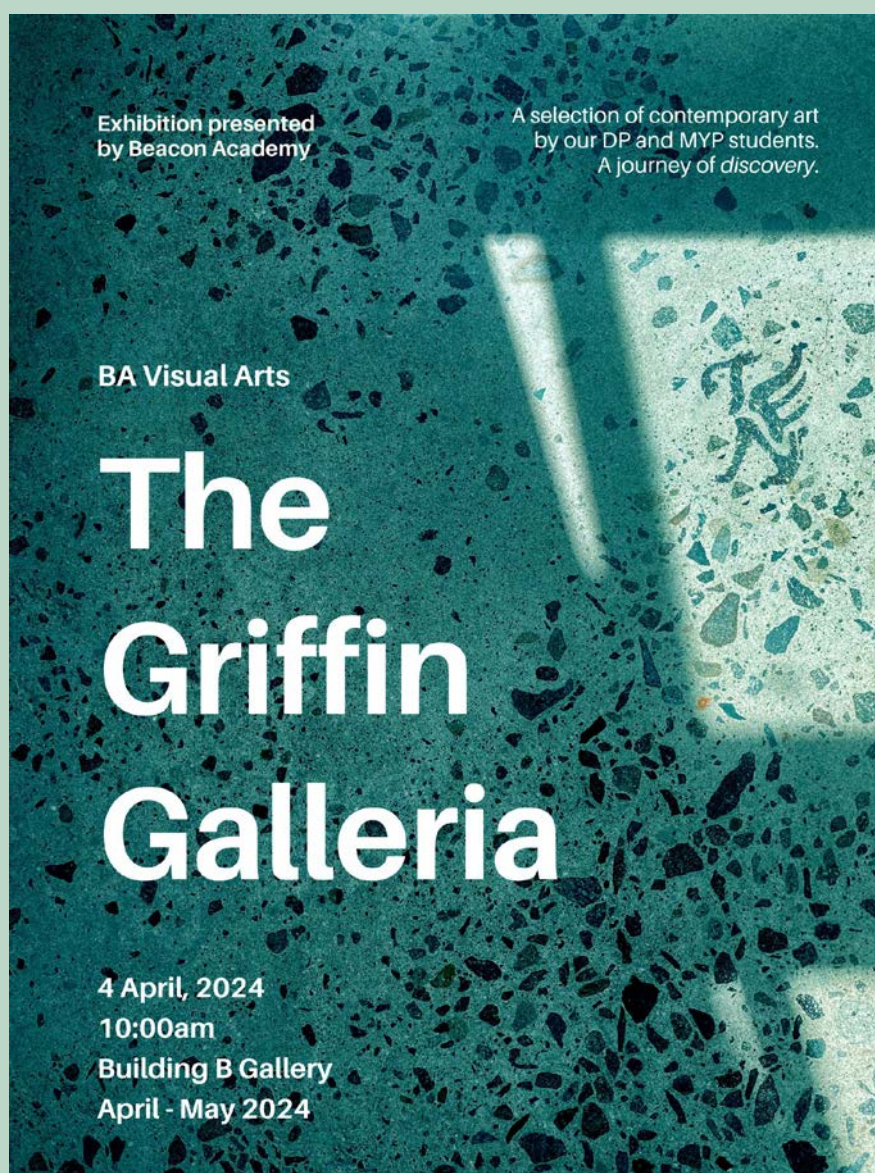
THE BEACON ACADEMY

IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH & APRIL

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| March 18-27 | Seniors Mock Exams |
| March 27, Wednesday | Holy Wednesday (Half Day) |
| March 28 & 29 | Holy Week Break (No Classes) |
| April 1, Monday | Faculty Professional Development Day (No Classes) |
| April 4, Thursday | Parent Coffee at The Beacon School Visual Arts Exhibit at The Beacon Academy |

Please note these important DP Dates:
 April 24 - May 17, 2024 - Grade 12 IB External Exams
 May 20-24, 2024 - Grade 11 Year End Exams

YOU'RE INVITED: BEACON ACADEMY VISUAL ARTS EXHIBIT



The Beacon Academy would like to invite all interested parents and friends of our Beacon community to the launch of our annual Visual Arts Exhibit happening on Thursday, April 4 at the Building B Visual Arts Gallery. This exhibit will feature the works of both MYP and DP Visual Arts students.

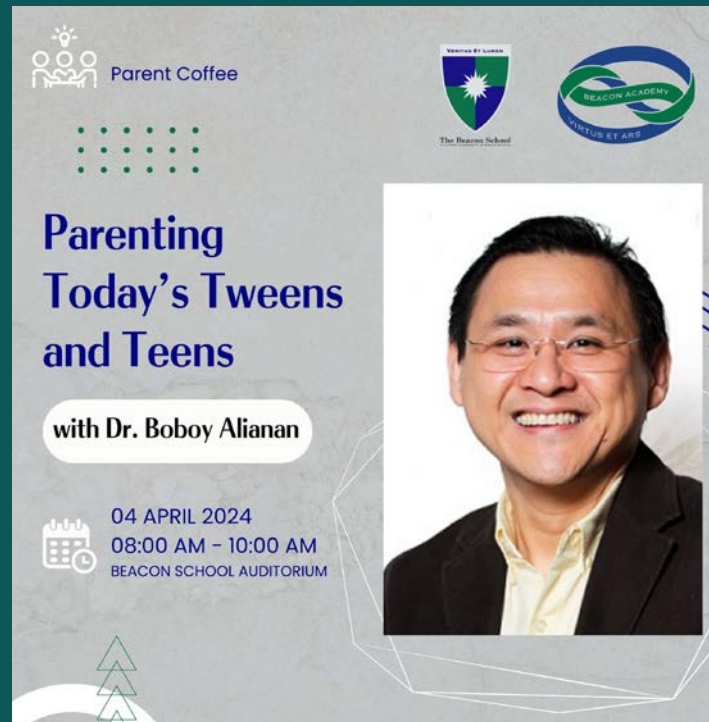


THE BEACON ACADEMY

YOU'RE INVITED: PARENT COFFEE AT BEACON SCHOOL ON APRIL 4

The Beacon School and Beacon Academy would like to invite our parent community to a Parent Coffee on **Thursday, April 4, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the Beacon School Auditorium (Makati).**

We have invited Dr. Boboy Alianan, a renowned Clinical Psychologist, to talk about "Parenting Today's Tweens and Teens".



About the session

Parenting today's tweens and teens entails both familiar and novel challenges. There are the usual challenges of helping youngsters navigate school and extra-curricular demands, manage strong feelings, and develop positive and mutually supportive relationships. The youth's more novel challenges further complicate parenting roles. The pandemic's impact on the youth's social development and mental health continues to be felt. There is a need to balance between gadget and technology utilization and building hands-on practical skills. The youth is likewise pressured to learn about and accept their identity amidst changing cultural norms. They are also challenged to foster hope in their future within a tense and conflicted global environment and impending catastrophic climate change. As our children enter a critical phase of their development within this complex personal and global context, parents need to adapt their parenting styles to foster healthy communication, build strong connections, and enable responsible decision-making. This Parent Coffee aims to focus on effective communication techniques, setting realistic boundaries, and nurturing life skills for resilience.

About the speaker

Boboy Alianan completed his doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Ateneo de Manila University. He is a certified clinical and assessment psychology specialist of the Psychological Association of the Philippines (PAP), and a registered psychologist. He is an Associate Professor of the Department of Psychology at the Ateneo de Manila and the Executive Director of the Ateneo Bulatao Center. He is also a founding member of PsychConsult, Inc., a private mental health service provider in Quezon City, and currently does private practice there. He enjoys his work tremendously as it allows him to know people better.

Please let us know if you are available on April 4 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. through this form on or before April 2.

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe2bxxpQ5tnBQY_H6KIZO9YrJZ72TGQ6hK5d6CjMHDSRtbIg/viewform)



THE BEACON ACADEMY

PHILIPS EXETER ALUMNI VISIT THE BEACON ACADEMY

On Thursday, March 14, alumni from Philips Exeter Academy together with Mr. Andy Locsin, the Academy's very own Chairman of the Board, stopped by the Academy to observe Harkness discussion classes, tour our campus, and meet our community.

Since its founding, the Beacon Academy has had a strong relationship with Phillips Exeter Academy, a co-educational, independent boarding school founded in 1781 and located in Exeter, New Hampshire, United States. Phillips Exeter is widely known for the Harkness Method, a teaching style founded in Exeter and used in almost all the Beacon Academy's classes. The Harkness Method involves small group discussions around a large oval table. This method encourages collaboration, critical thinking, and active participation among students. The oval table that sits proudly in our Building B Gallery was a gift from Exeter during the Academy's early years.



BA ATHLETICS UPDATES: BASKETBALL & VOLLEYBALL



The Manila International Schools Athletics Association (MISAA) has started its various tournaments. For this season, the Beacon Academy will be competing in the following sports: Basketball, Volleyball and Futsal.

Congratulations to the following teams for winning their games held on March 2 at Everest Academy.

Girls Volleyball (BA vs. CISM)
Boys Volleyball (BA vs. CISM)
Mixed Volleyball (BA vs. CISM)
Basketball Team (BA vs. Reedley)

We look forward to supporting our Griffins during their next games!



THE BEACON ACADEMY

GRADE 11 BATCH NIGHT | RECAP

On Friday, March 15, it was the Grade 11 batch's turn to follow in the tradition of spending a night on our campus to bond over games, sports, singing, and a bonfire. Here are some photos from this fun event.



MYP PERSONAL PROJECT HIGHLIGHT



JENNA

USING ISLAMIC POTTERY FOR AWARENESS

GRADE 10 PERSONAL PROJECT HIGHLIGHT
To develop new skills and explore an unfamiliar medium, I created pottery inspired by Islamic art. I chose pottery because it is a significant art form common to cultures and civilizations across the centuries. My intentions were to challenge stereotypes and promote a deeper appreciation for Islamic culture, as well as share the beauty of diverse art forms.



Learn more about Jenna's Personal Project here:

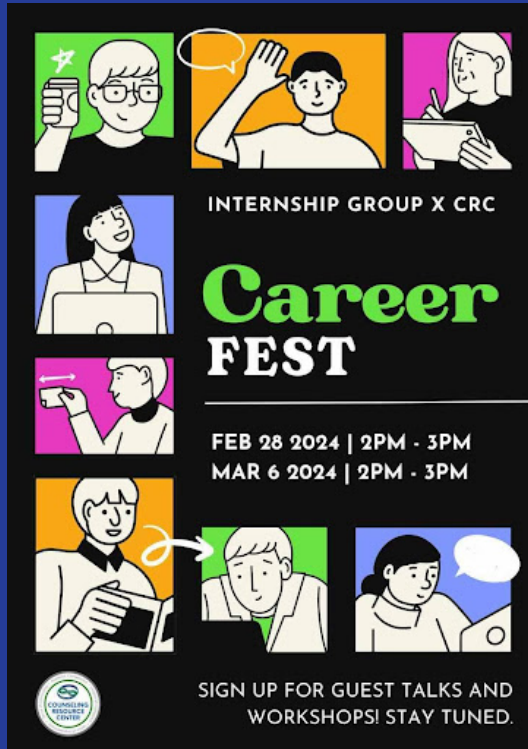
<https://www.beaconacademy.ph/news/personal-project-highlight-jenna-using-islamic-pottery-for-awareness/>



THE BEACON ACADEMY

CAREER FEST 2024 | RECAP

Career Fest is a two-day event hosted by the Academy's College Counselors and Internship Group that aims to give students a better understanding of different career paths through interactions with professionals. During this event, speakers shared their experiences in their respective industries, as well as provided insight and advice that may be useful for those looking to enter these fields of work in the future. Workshops based on the speakers' careers were also provided for certain courses so that students had an opportunity to experience a glimpse of their day-to-day work.



List of Speakers:

Day 1 (February 28):

Maan Sicam - Business
Sheila Ledesma - Art
Benjie & Aileen Lerma - Law
Bing Banaynal - Medicine
James Pascua - Sports Science

Day 2 (March 6):

Bienvenido Marquez - Corporate Law
Avenilo Aventura - Medicine
Anna Bautista - Interior Design
Trixie Arriola - Business
Dianne San Pedro - Social Media Influencer
Adrien Valdes - Artist





THE BEACON ACADEMY

COSA HELPING HANDS | RECAP



On Wednesday, March 20, the Academy's Community Outreach Student Association (COSA) held their second Helping Hands Birthday Celebration for this semester. This is our way to show gratitude and share with the Academy's auxiliary teams who do so much for our community.





THE BEACON ACADEMY

Beacon Academy Communications Protocols AY 2023-2024

| Matters relating to.... | Department / Email |
|---|---|
| Students Academic, School Life, Learning Support | Faculty Advisers |
| IB Diploma Programme Senior High School | Iris Morga / DP Coordinator dpcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph |
| IB Middle Years Programme Junior High School | Roy Villegas / MYP Coordinator mypcoordinator@beaconacademy.ph |
| College & Career Counseling | Maricar Pascual / JHS Counselor maricar.pascual@beaconacademy.ph Jesu Salvador / SHS Counselor jesu.salvador@beaconacademy.ph |
| Mental Health & Well-Being | Din Mendoza / JHS Counselor din.mendoza@beaconacademy.ph Vian Erasmo / SHS Counselor vian.erasmo@beaconacademy.ph |
| Curriculum, Exams, & Faculty | Ceci Francisco / Dean of Faculty dof@beaconacademy.ph |
| Student Conduct, Support, & Activities | Lui Morano / Dean of Students dos@beaconacademy.ph |
| Health, Safety, & Bus Services | Luvim Encinares / Student Services Asst. studentservices@beaconacademy.ph |
| School Records | Marnell Lagan / School Registrar registrar@beaconacademy.ph |
| Finance | Lorna Sabino / Finance Manager finance@beaconacademy.ph |
| School Leadership & Policy Child Protection Committee Committee on Decorum and Investigation | Mark Escaler / Head of School mark.escaler@beaconacademy.ph Victor Villanueva / Deputy Head of School victor.villanueva@beaconacademy.ph |



THE BEACON ACADEMY

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AY 2023-2024



THE BEACON ACADEMY ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2023-2024

| Semester 1 JULY 2023 | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | 30 | 31 | | | | | |
| Total No. of Days: | | | | | | | |

| Semester 2 JANUARY 2024 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 1 | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 2 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 3 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 4 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 5 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |
| Total No. of Days: 20 | | | | | | | |

| AUGUST 2023 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 2 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 3 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 4 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |
| Total No. of Days: 19 | | | | | | | |

| FEBRUARY 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 7 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 8 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 9 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | |
| Total No. of days: 21 | | | | | | | |

| SEPTEMBER 2023 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 6 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 7 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 8 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Total No. of days: 20 | | | | | | | |

| MARCH 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| 10 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 11 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 12 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 13 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 14 | 31 | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 17 | | | | | | | |

| OCTOBER 2023 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 11 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 12 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 13 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| Total No. of Days: 16 | | | | | | | |

| APRIL 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 15 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 17 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 18 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 20 | | | | | | | |

| NOVEMBER 2023 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 14 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 15 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 16 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 17 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |
| Total No. of days: 19 | | | | | | | |

| MAY 2024 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 19 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 20 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 22 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| Total No. of days: 22 | | | | | | | |

| DECEMBER 2023 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| 18 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 19 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | 31 | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 10 | | | | | | | |

| JUNE 24 | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Week | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | | | 1 |
| 23 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | 30 | | | | | | |
| Total No. of days: 4 | | | | | | | |

IMPORTANT DATES

Jun 9 - Jul 4

Jul 5 - Jul 14

Jul 17

Jul 18

Jul 19- Aug 2

Aug 2

Aug 3

Aug 3-4

Aug 21

Aug 28

Sep 25

Oct 9-14

Oct 16

Oct 21 - 27

Oct 30

Nov 1

Nov 2

Nov 8

Nov 27

Dec 8

Dec 16 - Jan 3

Jan 4

Jan 20-26

Jan 29

Feb 3

Feb 10

Feb 25

Feb TBA

Mar 11-12

Mar 13

Mar 28 -31

Apr 1

Apr 9

Apr 10

Apr 24-May 17

Apr TBA

May 1

May TBA

Jun 7

Campus Break

BA Summer Program

BA Leadership & Management Returns

BA New Faculty Orientation

All Faculty In-Service

Parent and New Student Orientation

Start of Quarter 1

Foundation Days

Special Non-Working Day: Ninoy Aquino Day

Regular Holiday: National Heroes Day

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Barangay & SK Elections

Special Non-Working Day: All Saints' Day

Special Non-Working Day: All Souls' Day

Early Release: Faculty Professional Development

No Classes: Bonifacio Day

Special Non-Working Day: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

No Classes: Christmas/New Year Break

Start of Quarter 3

Parent-Teacher Conferences (Online)

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

No Classes: Binan Day

Chinese New Year

People Power Anniversary

National Achievement Test (Grade 12)

Quarter Recess

Start of Quarter 4

No Classes: Holy Week

No Classes: Faculty Professional Development

Regular Holiday: Araw ng Kagitingan

Eid al-Fitr (TBC)

IB Diploma Examinations 2024

National Achievement Test (Grade 10)

Regular Holiday: Labor Day

National Career Assessment Evaluation (Grade 9 & 10)

Graduation Day; Last Day of School

Number of Class Days in the 1st Quarter: 44 9 Weeks
 Number of Class Days in the 2nd Quarter: 40 9 Weeks
 Number of Class Days in the 3rd Quarter: 47 10 Weeks
 Number of Class Days in the 4th Quarter: 57 13 Weeks
 Total Number of Class Days: **188**