

ORTHODOX SYRIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF THE EAST



OUTSIDE KERALA REGION

ANNUAL CIRCULAR 2023

No: OKR/01/2023

JANUARY 1, 2023

**To the Presidents, Vice Presidents, Directors, Vicars, Headmasters/Headmistresses and Teachers
Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord!**

Wish you all a blessed New Year!

May this new year bring rays of new hope in all our lives. We thank Almighty for all the grace showered over the activities of our Sunday school. We highlight the following things for the smooth planning and the functioning of the Sunday school activities during this academic year.

A. Textbooks

We follow the textbooks prepared by OSSAE since 2015. The text books are available at OKR Office, Nagpur and OSSAE Central Office Devalokam, Kottayam.

The changes in class 11 and class 12 textbooks may be noted by the respective teachers.

B. III Maccabees included in the list of Old Testament Books

As per the decision taken by the Holy Episcopal Synod, the III Maccabees shall also be used along with the other books of the Old Testament.

C. Inter Diocesan Competition 2022

Inter Diocesan Competition 2022 for the Senior and the Secondary Grade Students will be held in the month of July 2023. The date for the same will be intimated later.

D. Sunday School Day and Charity Day 2023

Sunday after the festival of Mayaltho, February 5 will be celebrated as the Sunday School day and Sunday November 26, 2023 will be celebrated as the Charity day this year. GCC country (Except UAE) Sunday schools will celebrate these days on February 3 and November 24 2023 respectively.

E. Annual Examination 2023

As per the decision of the Annual General Body of OSSAE-OKR the Annual Examination 2023 for Class X, XII and XI/XII will be in written format as before the Covid period. Annual Examination for students in Kuwait/Saudi/Oman/Bahrain and Doha will be conducted on Friday, December 1 2023 and Annual Examination for students in UAE and India will be conducted on Sunday, December 3, 2023. Any change in the dates will be informed.

F. Teachers Special Examination 2023

As per the decision of the Annual General Body Teachers willing to appear for the Teachers Special Examination have the last chance to register during this academic year 2023. Online Examination for Teachers Special Examination 2023 will be conducted on Friday November 17, 2023 for teachers in Kuwait/Saudi/Oman/Bahrain and Doha and Sunday November 19, 2023 for teachers in UAE and India. Any change in dates will be informed.

G. Talent Evaluation 2023

As in the previous year's talent evaluation may be conducted for the Sunday school students at various levels as per the decision of the respective dioceses. The portions for the same is attached along with.

AGE CALCULATION

Sub Junior	1 st January 2016 Onwards
Junior	1 st January 2013 To 31 st December 2015
Intermediate	1 st January 2010 To 31 st December 2012
Seniors	1 st January 2007 To 31 st December 2009
Secondary	1 st January 2004 To 31 st December 2006
AGE WISE GROUPING FOR GROUP SONG 2023	
Buds	Born On 1 st January 2016 Onwards- Age up to 7 Years
Premiers	Born in 2010/2011/2012/2013/2014 or 2015 - Age 8 to 13 Years
Teens	Born in 2004/2005/2006/2007/2008 or 2009 - Age 14 to 19 Years

H. OVBS 2023

OVBS may be conducted at unit/diocesan levels. As per the decision of the Annual General Body Meeting the winners of solo song competition at Diocesan level may also participate for OVBS song recording. For further details, please contact the OVBS Director/Asst. Director.

CONCLUSION

We would like to express our profound gratitude to the Metropolitans, Vice Presidents, Directors, Diocesan Secretaries, District Presidents, District Inspectors, District Secretaries. Vicars, Headmasters, Teachers and Parents for all your support and cooperation for the smooth functioning of Sunday school activities.

All the payments to OKR should be made to **Federal Bank A/c No. 13390100053545, Nagpur, IFS code FDRL0001339**. Those who avail the NEFT facility should intimate the office about the payment for proper accounting.

We earnestly solicit your prayers and cooperation for the success of our ministry to lead our children in the right path, as we were led by our parents and teachers. Joining Rev. Fr. B M Thomas, Treasurer of OSSAE OKR, Rev. Fr. Anish Issac Mathew, Executive Officer OSSAE-OKR, Mr. Shibu Varghese, Office Assistant and the Sunday School team wishing you all a Blessed new Sunday School Year. May the light and life of our Lord Jesus Christ guide us and strengthen us in this glorious ministry.

With warm regards,
In His Mission,



Fr. Dr. Jossi Jacob Director,
OSSAE-OKR

APPENDIX 1

SYLLABUS-2023 (Chapters)

SYLLABUS-2023 (Chapters)		
Jesus Kids	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13
Class-1	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 21
Class-2	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 21
Class-3	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 21
Class-4	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25
Class-5	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 18,19, 20, 22, 24
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 21, 23, 25
Class-6	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25
Class-7	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 21, 24, 25
Class-8	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 5,16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 24, 27,28
Class-9	Mid Term Exam	1, 2, 3, 4, 16, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29
	Annual Exam	6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 19, 21, 24, 27.
Class-10	Mid Term Exam	4, 5, 14, 17, 20, 22, 23, 26, 28 & Vattaseril, St. Geevarghese Mar Dionysius
	Annual Exam	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12,13,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,26,27,28,29 & St. Gregorios of Parumala
Class-11	Mid Term Exam	Refer Page 2 of Appendix I
	Annual Exam	Refer Page 2 of Appendix I
Class-12	Mid Term Exam	Refer Page 3 of Appendix I
	Annual Exam	Refer Page 3 of Appendix I

Class XI Syllabus

- Unit 2 (Orthodox Worship) is not part of Class XI syllabus. This unit has been moved to Class XII.
- The Contents (renumbered) as per revised syllabus for Class XI will be
 - Unit 1: Bible Studies (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 2: Church History (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 3: The Christian family (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 4: Various Religions and Ecumenism (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 5: Human Rights (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 6: The Christian Approach to Various Ideologies (4 Chapters)
- The Second Revised Edition dated February 2022 of Class XI Textbook, is available for freedownload from www.ossaebodhanam.org. The Units have been numbered 1 to 6 in the revised edition.

Portions for Examination

Mid-term Examination

- Chapters 1 & 2 from all 6 Units of the syllabus
- Holy Qurbana - A Study: Chapters 1 to 5

Annual Examination

- Chapters 3 & 4 from all 6 Units
- Holy Qurbana - A Study: Chapters 6 to 10

Class XII Syllabus

- Unit titled 'Orthodox Worship (4 Chapters)' has been moved from Class XI to Class XII.
- Units 3 and 4 of the current Class XII textbook has been combined into 1 Unit. The new Unit will have 4 lessons (selected from the 8 lessons in the current text book). The Title and Lessons of the combined Unit will be
 - Unit Title - Learning and Teaching in Sunday School. Chapters will be
 - Chapter 1 : Learning and Teaching in Sunday School
 - Chapter 2 : Teaching Methods
 - Chapter 3 : Learning Aids
 - Chapter 4 : Sunday School Teacher – Talents and Preparations
- Units 6 and 7 of the current Class XII textbook has been combined into 1 Unit. The new Unit will have 4 lessons (selected from the 8 lessons in the current text book). The Title and Lessons of the combined Unit will be
 - Unit Title - Environment, Science and Health. Chapters will be
 - Chapter 1 : Eco-Spirituality: Meaning and Significance
 - Chapter 2 : Information Technology: Problems and Prospects
 - Chapter 3 : Science and technology
 - Chapter 4 : Drug abuse and Threat to Healthy Living
- The Contents for Class XII as per **revised syllabus** will be
 - Unit 1: Missionary Movement and monasticism (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 2: Orthodox faith (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 3: Orthodox Worship (4 Chapters) - Moved from Class XI
 - Unit 4: Learning and Teaching in Sunday School (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 5: Christian Education (4 Chapters)
 - Unit 6: Environment, Science and Health (4 Chapters)
- The Second Revised Edition (Online) of Class XII Textbook, is available for free download from www.ossaebodhanam.org. Unit 7 has been excluded from the syllabus.

Portions for Examination

Mid-term Examination

- Chapters 1 & 2 from all 6 Units of the revised syllabus
- Rituals are Meaningful: Chapters 1 to 5

Annual Examination

- Units 1 to 6 (24 Chapters) of the revised syllabus
- Rituals are Meaningful: Chapters 1 to 10

Appendix II
Syllabus for the Arts Competition 2023

- 1. Sub-Juniors:** a) Action Song b) Coloring
- 2. Juniors:** a) Drawing b) Bible Story Telling
- 3. Intermediate:**
A) Elocution: a) Priesthood B) Moses
B) Bible verses writing
- 4. Seniors:**
Elocution: “My Grace is sufficient for you...” – 2 Corinthians 12:9
When the days are dark, he is my light...
- Quiz Competition:** 1 Maccabees
2 Corinthians
Anointment of the Sick
Contributions and Happening in the Church: 1876-1934
- Essay writing:** Respect: A Give and Take Policy
Be Perfect as Your Heavenly Father Is Perfect
- 5. Secondary:**
Elocution: Christ, the key to scripture
But one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and
straining forward to what lies Ahead ... (Philippians 3:13)
- Quiz Competition:** Books of Joshua
Epistle of Galatians and Ephesians
Feast of Denaha (Epiphany)
Life and Contributions of:
A) H.H. Baselios Marthoma Augen I
B) H.H. Baselios Marthoma Mathews I
C) H.H. Baselios Marthoma Mathews II
- Essay writing:** All That Smells Good Should Not Be Plucked.
War: A Tool to Make Peace. (Agree/Disagree)
- 6. Solo song: Any Christian Song (English/Malayalam)**
- 7. Group song:**
Buds: Sleeba Namaskaram (Morning and Evening)
Premiers: Khemta Namaskaram (Morning and Evening)
Teens: Any Song from Holy Week (Holy Monday/Holy Friday)

Notes:

1. All the levels of the Arts competition should be over by the month of December as per our Year plan. These have to be held in the months of August, September, October, and November at Unit, District, Zonal and Diocesan levels, respectively.
2. The competitions for the Sub-Juniors and Buds will be at Unit and District levels only.

Appendix III
Project work of the Students during 2023
General Guidelines

- The Project work is not a classroom assignment. The students can do it in their leisure time or in the break time when they are tired of learning secular subjects.
- One of the projects given below can be selected for this year. Project of the children of classes IV to VI are to be conducted on an oral level only. Students of Classes VII to XI (Class X excluded) should submit it in a well hand-written form.
- The length of the written project should be from five to ten pages. Photos and other data can be added, if available.
- Teachers and parents should help the child in developing his/her ideas. Teachers can select books and websites and give the name of these to the students. However, each project should be an independent work of the student.
- The Class teacher should maintain a register for the internal assessment of the student and the marks for the project should be entered in it. It shall be examined by the HM and verified by the parish priest. All those who are in this process should remind themselves that we are serving the Lord and that Christian values should not be compromised at any cost.
- The mark of the project work can be as follows: Punctuality (2 marks), Text (3marks), Comprehension of the idea (3 marks), and Presentation/Neatness (2 marks). October 15 is the cut- off date for the submission of the project at unit level.
- Selected Projects can be presented in front of the people during the anniversary of the Sunday School or on Sunday School day.

Themes for Projects:

Class IV	1) Recite the fruits of the Spirit with Bible reference 2) Recite the names of 12 apostles
Class V	1) Recite the “I am sayings” of Jesus with references. 2) Make note of maximum number of liturgical books used in the Church and the occasion of use
Class VI	1) Name all the books of the Old Testament 2) Narrate briefly about the life and contribution of Late H. G. Alvares Mar Yulios Metropolitan
Class VII	1) Write briefly about St. George 2) Write the main events in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony and its significance.
Class VIII	1) Prepare a note on the 8 Sundays of Great Lent 2) Write briefly about the life of Pampady Thirumeni
Class IX	1) Write briefly about the life of St. John Chrysostom 2) Prepare a report on Synod of Diamper and its effects on the Malankara Orthodox Church
Class XI	1) Write briefly about the contributions of Late H. G. Dr. Paulose Mar Gregorios. 2) Write briefly about the establishment of the Catholicate in Malankara.

Prayers and Hymns for 2023

Class		Prayer	Hymn
Jesus Kids		Trisagion	Glory is to God on high ... (Sthuthi Deyvathinuyarathil ...)
1	Mid Term Exam	Lord's Prayer ... (Swargasthanaya Njagalude Pithave ...)	Renew your creatures (Karuna niranjavane)
	Annual Exam	Peace be with you Mary ... (Kripa niranja mariyame ...)	May this offered Eucharist ... (kazhchayathil karthave nin ...)
2	Mid Term Exam	Prayer before going to bed Prayer when you got up in the Morning	By Thy light we see the light..... (Velivu niranjoreesho nin...) (5 stanzas)
	Annual Exam	Kauma (upto Barekmor)	In oblations and in prayer ... (Deiva suthanmar ayiduvan ...)
3	Mid Term Exam	O holy Father, guard us by Thy sacred ... (Shudhamulla Bava ...)	Let us give peace from our hearts... (Anyonyam Slomo nalkin ...)
	Annual Exam	Prayer before and after food.	Remember we those prophets ... (Neebiyanmarum Jathikalodevangeliyon ...)
4	Mid Term Exam	O Jesus Christ our Lord, Do not Close ... (Moran Yeshu messiah ...)	By the mother's Earnest Prayers... (Ninmathavu Vishudhanmar..)
	Annual Exam	O Merciful God, the voice of our Prayer ... (Karunayulla Daivame ...)	Those apostles ... (Bhoovilashesham ...) Paul the Blessed ... (Paulose sleeha ...)
5	Mid Term Exam	Psalm 4 (from 'Soothara' of Family Prayer Book)	Come the time of prayer is here ... (Yachikendum Samayamitha ...)
	Annual Exam	Nicene Creed (Nikhya Vishwasa Pramanam)	Hearken Gracious Lord we pray ... (Anpudayone nin vathil ...) Seraphim of fiery line ... (Srappikale kandeshaya ...)
6	Mid Term Exam	Psalm 51 (from Holy Qurbanakramam)	Kukiliyon of St. Mary
	Annual Exam	Praise of the Cherubim ... (Karthavinte Bahumanam Thalsthanath ennekkum ...)	Blessed are those servants good ... (Yajamanan varumannera ...)
7	Mid Term Exam	Prayer before and after receiving the Holy Qurbana.	Kukiliyon of Saints.
	Annual Exam	O thou full of mercy... (Anugrahangal Niranjirikunnavane)	Lord thy mercy on us cast ... (Njagalkulla Karthave ...)

8	Mid Term Exam	Psalm 91 (from Holy Qurbanakramam) Psalm 121 (from Holy Qurbanakramam)	Kukiliyon of the Cross.
	Annual Exam	He who sits under the protection of the most high... (Mahonnathante Maravil Irikunnavanaya Karthave ...)	Kukiliyon of the Cross.
9	Mid Term Exam	Awaken us lord from our sleep in the sloth of sin ... (Urakkamillatha unarvaullavane ...)	Kukiliyon of the Departed.
	Annual Exam	It is good to give thanks (Karthavine Sthothram cheyyunnathum...)	Kukiliyon of the Departed
10	Mid Term & Annual Exam	Grant us Lord God ... Forever and ever. (Deyvamaya karthave pakal Samayathe ...)	Kukiliyon of the Clergy.
	Annual Exam	Lord, I have called upon you.... O God, Barekmor/ Karthave ninne njaan vilichu... Daivame sthuthi Ninakku	Kukiliyon of the Clergy.
11	Mid Term Exam	Mary said my soul magnifies the Lord ... St. Luke 1:46-55. (Mariam paranjathenthennal ...)	The one on whom fiery angels ... (Agniayanmar are nokki ...)
	Annual Exam	Psalm 149 (from Holy Qurbanakramam) Psalm 150 (from Holy Qurbanakramam)	Saviour has spoken.... (Rakshakanura cheythan...)
12	Mid Term & Annual Exam	As the angels and archangels on high... (Athyunnathangalil swargeeya Malakhamar ...)	High priests and priests ... (Melpattakkar pattakkarode ...)
	Annual Exam	Psalm 148 (from Holy Qurbanakramam)	Clear o lord my every debt ... (Ente kadangalashesham nin ...)

Please note these are the Prayers and Hymns to be taught during the academic year-2023. Detailed version of the prayer and hymns is sent from the OKR Office. Please use only that for teaching/examination purpose.

2023 Year Plan at a Glance

Month	Event	Dates in India	Dates in the Gulf
January	Sunday School New Year begins	01.01.2023	06.01.2023
	Annual Statements and Annual Reports of HeadMasters to District Inspector		
February	Sunday School Day	05.02.2023	03.02.2023
	Leaders Meet	15 and 16 Feb 2023	
	Announcement of Result X/ XII (2021)	20.02.2023	
	Annual Statements, Annual Reports of Diocese to the Zonal Secretary	28.02.2023	28.02.2023
	Annual Statements and Annual Reports of Zonal Secretaries to Director Diocesan General Body		
May	Beginning of Summer Vacation	As per the decision of the Diocese/Region/Sub Region	
June	Reopening after vacation		
July	Half yearly Examination	16.07.2022	14.07.2022
	Annual Reports of Diocesan Directors to the OKR Director	30.07.2022	30.07.2022
August	School level Competition	N/A	
September	OKR Annual General Body Meeting.	Will be informed Later	
October	Last Date for submission of Application Form for X/ XII Exam	1.10.2023	
	Last Date for submission of Application Form for X/ XII Exam with late fees	15.10.2022	
	Zonal Level Competition	N/A	
November	Diocesan Level Competition and Teachers' Conference	TO BE DECIDED BY THE DIOCESE	
	Charity Day (Jeeva Karunya Dinam)	26.11.2023	24.11.2023
December	Annual Examination for X and XII	03.12.2023	01.12.2023
	Annual Examination for Nursery to Class IX and Class XI	10.12.2023	08.12.2023