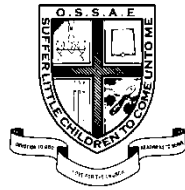


ORTHODOX SYRIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL  
ASSOCIATION OF THE EAST  
EAST ASIA REGION



CIRCULAR 2

**April 2024**

**Respected Vicars, HMs and Teachers,**

Greetings to you all in the name of Triune God!

Wishes of the Resurrection of our Lord

OVBS is a time of happiness for each one of us and more over a time of reminiscence of our childhood. Like the previous years, we sincerely pray and hope that we could provide an amazing experience for our children, to make the vacation memorable as well as momentous.

Following are some of the decisions and plans.

**A. ORTHODOX VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (OVBS)**

The theme of OVBS EAR for the year 2024 is “Let’s pray” – St Luke 11:1. This year we adopt a blended approach of Digital and Printed Materials. This is to ease the financial burden on our Churches and Congregations, associated with the printing of OVBS materials. At the same time OSSAE EAR found it’s necessary to give students some items in printed format which can be physical take-away for students, for instance, songbook. We would still like to keep it open for each unit to decide.

The **Digital Materials** are available in PDF, Word, and PowerPoint formats which could be presented to the children in class and or given necessary pages printed as per unit’s or teacher’s preferences. For instance, some relevant pages from the Textbooks chapters may be identified by the teacher that would need to be printed. We do encourage younger children be given printed pages for coloring or activity.

The **Printed Materials** are taken from OSSAE OKR. Therefore, we do not cater printing any OVBS materials under our leadership. Printed Material option is given for those who still like to give takeaways like song books and provide items like badges, certificate as the items printed together will be less cost.

**Textbooks** are provided only in digital format. Materials available as digital and printed formats are as follows.

MATERIALS	DIGITAL		PRINTED	
Textbooks	✓	NEA	✗	
Songbook	✓	OKR	✓	OKR
Badges	✓	EAR	✓	OKR
Certificates	✓	EAR	✓	OKR
Crown	✓	EAR	✓	OKR
Flag	✓	EAR	✓	OKR
Poster	✓	EAR	✓	OKR

NEA – North-East American Diocese prepared OVBS Materials

OKR – OSSAE Outside Kerala Region Nagpur prepared OVBS Materials

EAR – OSSAE East-Asia Region prepared OVBS Materials (same designs as last year)

Materials are taken from each of the above mentioned entities and each unit shall opt the format of material they prefer except textbooks. We will coordinate the material for you.

#### **ORDER AND PAYMENTS**

1. An order form will be provided by OVBS EAR Director to all HMs and shall fill their preferences of both digital and printed materials. In the order form, inform us your scheduled dates of OVBS.
2. All Printed Materials that are bought from OKR and payment for the printed materials as per OKR invoice shall be transferred to OSSAE EAR Account. And we will make the payments to Nagpur Office.
3. For Printed Material transportation, please advice the OVBS EAR Director whether the unit intent to collect materials directly from India or to be couriered from Nagpur to each unit. If choosing the latter, the courier charge will be incurred.
4. HMs shall ensure that the payments equivalent to INR as per the receipt are to be remitted to OSSAE EAR Account for both material and transportation (if opted) within the stipulated time frame and inform OVBS EAR Director of the same.

## **OVBS ACTIVITY 2024**

The Executive Committee is so thrilled to see the OVBS vibe grow each year which brings us to initiate Competition and Activities for all the OSSAE-EAR churches with power packed performances and best moments of fun and action.

From the Reels and Poster/Collage Competitions, we would like to inform that ***St. George Indian Orthodox Church Brisbane*** has been awarded '**The Best OVBS Unit 2023**' by East Asia Region.

The excitement doesn't end here: We wish to further capture the highlights of this OVBS 2024 as well.

1. REELS: We encourage all our units this year to share us a maximum 30 second reel that capture best moments of OVBS 2024 on completion of OVBS. Once the decision is made by Judges, these Reels will be posted on our social and a winner will be announced.
2. COLLAGE: Kindly email us also a photo collage loaded with highlights of fun and creativity. Content can be but not limited to - short messages on highlights, write up, pictures, art and craft gallery etc. Once the decision is made by Judges, these Collages will be posted on our social and a winner will be announced.
3. THEME ACTIVITY: Send us a photo or a video of an activity by students which conveys the Theme of the year "Let's Pray". Once the decision is made by Judges, these will be posted on our social and a winner will be announced.
4. Every unit please send us your OVBS Program Schedule 2024 which will also be considered when awarding the best unit.

Once your OVBS is completed, Kindly share your entries to the OVBS EAR Director by email [ossae.eastasiaregionovbs@gmail.com](mailto:ossae.eastasiaregionovbs@gmail.com). '**The Best OVBS Unit 2024**' will be awarded based on the activities mentioned above.

## **B. SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS TRAINING COURSE**

The OSSAE EAR has incorporated teachers training in the past year which have been useful for our teaching staffs. This coined the idea to introduce Sunday School Teachers Training Course comprising of various classes that will enhance the teaching and learning process within our Church's structure. The classes will continue once or twice in a year for making it easy for everyone to attend. Participation certificates will be provided for those participating in each class. Once the Region declares the completion of course, a certificate of completion will be awarded to those who attended all classes.

The first session is scheduled on May 12, 2024 on the Topic “Psychological concepts in learning framework”.

HMs should make sure all our teachers both Class teachers and supporting teachers attend our classes and attain the final certification. It is necessary that our Children should be taught by trained teachers who understand our vocation and calling.

Thanks a lot for the support over these years.

Yours in Christ

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