



THE MAR THOMA SUNDAY SCHOOL, ABU DHABI

TALENT SEARCH 2026

Events, Portions & Guidelines Circular

Circular No: ADMTSS/02/2026

Date: 13 May 2026

“Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” – 1 Corinthians 10:31

Dear Parents & Students,
Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

The Sunday School Talent Search is a blessed opportunity for our children to identify, nurture, and use their God-given talents for the glory of God. Through various events, students are encouraged to develop confidence, creativity, discipline, and spiritual growth.

We warmly invite all students to participate enthusiastically in the Talent Search 2026 competitions. Parents are kindly requested to encourage and support their children in preparing prayerfully and responsibly for the events.

GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES

- Each student can participate in a maximum of three (3) individual items.
- Every participant will be assigned a chest number, and only this number will be used during the competition.
- An event will be conducted only if there are at least two contestants
- If only one registered participant appears for an event, the participant will be awarded First Position.
- A minimum of 60% marks is required to be eligible for prizes.
- The NIV (New International Version) Bible will be used as the standard version for Bible Reading .
- Judging will be based on guidelines listed below and the decision of the judges will be final.
- Event toppers in each category will be eligible to represent the Sunday School at Explore 2026.
- The details mentioned in this circular supersede any previously shared information regarding Talent Search 2026.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Please click on the link to register for the events : [Click here to register.](#)

Last Date for Registration: 22 May 2026 (11:55 PM)

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Tentative Date	Events	Categories	Tentative Time
06 June 2026	Singing Solo English, Singing Solo Malayalam, Elocution	Intermediate, Senior & Young Adult	10:30 AM – 5:00 PM
07 June 2026	Coloring	Nursery, Beginner & Primary	8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
07 June 2026	Drawing	Junior, Intermediate & Senior	8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
07 June 2026	Essay Writing	Young Adult	8:00 AM – 9:00 AM
07 June 2026	Bible Reading	Junior, Intermediate, Senior & Young Adult	1:30 PM – 5:30 PM
21 June 2026	Singing Solo English, Storytelling	Nursery, Beginner & Primary	10:30 AM – 5:00 PM
21 June 2026	Singing Solo English & Singing Solo Malayalam	Junior	10:30 AM – 5:00 PM

EVENTS BY CATEGORY

Category	Class	Events
Nursery	KG 1 & KG 2	Singing Solo English Coloring
Beginner	Grades 1 & 2	Singing Solo English Coloring, Storytelling (English)
Primary	Grades 3 & 4	Singing Solo English Coloring, Storytelling (English)
Junior	Grades 5 & 6	Singing Solo English Singing Solo Malayalam Drawing Bible Reading
Intermediate	Grades 7 & 8	Singing Solo English (Male & Female) Singing Solo Malayalam (Male & Female) Drawing Elocution Bible Reading
Senior	Grades 9 & 10	Singing Solo English (Male & Female) Singing Solo Malayalam (Male & Female) Drawing Elocution Bible Reading
Young Adult	Grades 11 & 12	Singing Solo English (Male & Female) Singing Solo Malayalam (Male & Female) Essay Writing Elocution Bible Reading

SELECTED LIST OF SONGS

Category	Language	Song
Nursery KG 1 & KG 2	English	1. <i>My God is So Big, So Strong and So Mighty</i>
Beginner Grades 1 & 2	English	1. <i>Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest</i>
Primary Grades 3 & 4	English	1. <i>Lord, I Lift Your Name on High</i>
Junior Grades 5 & 6	English	1. <i>Sowing in the Morning</i> 2. <i>When We Walk with the Lord</i>
	Malayalam	1. <i>Manam Mahathwam - KK 134</i> 2. <i>Yerusalem Enn Imbaveed - KK 293</i>
Intermediate Grades 7 & 8	English	1. <i>Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us</i> 2. <i>Ho My Comrades!</i>
	Malayalam	1. <i>Karthavine Naam Sthuthika - KK 57</i> 2. <i>Onne Ulla Enikku Anandam Ullakalil - KK277</i>

Senior Grades 9 & 10	English	1. <i>Fear Not, I Am With Thee</i> 2. <i>Softly and Tenderly</i>
	Malayalam	1. <i>Paadin Imbha Geetham – KK 113</i> 2. <i>Kantha Thamasam Enthaho – KK 388</i>
Young Adult Grades 11 & 12	English	1. <i>To God Be the Glory</i> 2. <i>He Leadeth Me</i>
	Malayalam	1. <i>En Karthave – KK 432</i> 2. <i>Yeshurajante Ezhunallathil – KK 391</i>

Note: KK – Kristheeya Keerthanangal

EVENT RULES & GUIDELINES

I. SOLO SINGING – ENGLISH & MALAYALAM

Total Marks 100

- For Junior, Intermediate, Senior & Young Adult categories, two songs will be provided and contestants must sing one song selected by the judges.
- For Nursery, Beginner & Primary categories, only one song will be provided.
- Participants must sing:
 - Two stanzas (1 & 2), OR
 - Two stanzas with chorus, as instructed by judges.
- Contestants must follow the approved tune/notation.
- Improvisations are not allowed.
- Actions are not permitted for Nursery, Beginner & Primary solo singing.
- Evaluation Criteria
 - Tune / Notation **(40 marks)**
 - Pitch **(20 marks)**
 - Clarity **(15 marks)**
 - Presentation **(15 marks)**
 - Rhythm **(10 marks)**

II. STORYTELLING

Time Limit : 3 Minutes (Maximum), Total Marks :25

Topics

- Beginner Topic: Baby Moses (Exodus 2:1–10)**
- Primary Topic: Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1–10)**

- The given topic can be paraphrased.
- Hand movements and facial expressions are allowed. No action or acting allowed.
- Participants are to memorize the story and not dramatize the story.
- Evaluation Criteria : Stories will be graded on four Categories
 - Content **(10 marks)** - how accurately the Biblical content is presented in a story form.
 - Clarity **(5 marks)** - how clearly the words are spoken, language, flow of thought.
 - Presentation **(5 marks)** - voice modulation, body language, eye contact, expression and hand gestures.
 - Moral Application **(5 marks)** - how well the story is concluded to give a message of Christian life application.

III. BIBLE READING

Total Marks 100

1. The portion to be read will be given at the time of reading.
2. Podium will not be set up
3. Bible will be provided.
4. If the participant takes more than one minute to locate the portion, or reads the wrong portion, the participant will be disqualified.
5. Evaluation Criteria:
 - a) Quickness **(30 marks)**- how quickly the portion is taken.
 - b) Accuracy **(30 marks)**- how correctly the portion is read.
 - c) Clarity **(20 marks)**- how clearly read, voice modulation.
 - d) Presentation **(20 marks)**- evaluates how the Bible is held, opened & closed, observe the manner of reading (without shoes, head cover for girls), check for eye contact and adherence to dress code.

IV. COLORING

Time Limit : 1 hour, Total Marks: 25

1. Each child should bring their own color pencils, drawing pads and necessary stationary.
2. The picture to be colored will be provided.
3. The coloring topic will be based on biblical themes.
4. Evaluation Criteria
 - a) Creativity & Color Harmony **(5 marks)**
 - b) Neatness & Precision **(5 marks)**
 - c) Theme Adherence **(5 marks)**
 - d) Technique & Skill **(5 marks)**
 - e) Presentation **(5 marks)**

V. Drawing

Time Limit : 1 hour, Total Marks: 25

1. Each child should bring their own pencils, drawing pads and necessary stationary.
2. The Drawing topics will be based on biblical themes and will be given at the start of the event.
3. Evaluation Criteria
 - a) Creativity & Color Harmony **(5 marks)**
 - b) Neatness & Precision **(5 marks)**
 - c) Theme Adherence **(5 marks)**
 - d) Technique & Skill **(5 marks)**
 - e) Presentation **(5 marks)**

VI. ESSAY WRITING

Time Limit: 45 minutes , Total Marks : 100

1. The topic will be given at the time of the event
2. The minimum word count for the essay is 200 words
3. Writing Sheet will be provided.
4. Each child should bring their own necessary stationery and writing pad.
5. Evaluation Criteria

- a) Content **(50 marks)**
- b) Clarity **(20 marks)**
- c) Presentation **(15 marks)**
- d) Moral application **(15 marks)**

VII. ELOCUTION

Time Limit: 5 minutes , Total Marks : 100

1. The topic will be given 15 minutes prior to the elocution.
2. Participants are not allowed to carry any materials such as reference books, Bible, or mobile devices to prepare for the elocution.
3. For preparation, Holy Bible with paper and pen will be provided.
4. A podium will be provided for the participants.
5. The speech must be within 5 minutes (maximum) and at least 2 minutes 30 seconds (minimum).
6. If the speech exceeds 5 minutes or is less than 2 minutes 30 seconds, the participant will be disqualified.
7. A warning bell will ring after 4 minutes to notify the participants that they have 1 minute left to conclude the speech.
8. Evaluation Criteria:
 - a) Content **(50 Marks)**: Evaluate the ideas presented in the speech, including the content of the introduction, body, and conclusion.
 - b) Clarity **(20 Marks)**: Consider how clearly the speech is presented, including language and flow of thought.
 - c) Presentation **(15 Marks)**: Assess voice modulation, body language, eye contact, expression, and hand gestures.
 - d) Moral Application **(15 Marks)**: Evaluate how well Christian values are upheld throughout the speech

Tunes/ Notations for all the selected songs will be available on our Sunday school website :

<http://admtss.com/talent-search/>

We request the prayers, cooperation, and wholehearted participation of all parents and students to make Talent Search 2026 a meaningful and spiritually enriching experience.

.....