

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017

No. 17

# The Swaminarayan

**Education is that which liberates**

**Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,**

## **Theme for next week**

The theme for next week is “**Think.**” I have written about it on the back of the newsletter.

## **S6 Parents’ Consultation Evening**

The second meeting for **ALL S6 Parents’** and teachers will take place on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017 between 4.30-7.00 pm in the Yogi Hall. As always all the parents will have an opportunity to meet their child’s subject teachers including the House Tutors. This is an ideal opportunity to review their progress and performance after the Mock Examinations at the beginning of this term.

## **Half-term**

The half-term holidays will be from Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017. All the staff and pupils return to school on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2016 as normal. Everyone should note that the school is open during the half-term. Any pupil attending extra lessons must sign in at the office.

## **Power of Words**

- Learning just one word will enable you to pick up several more on the way. Acquire books that will help you to learn new words –reading;
- Effective usage of the English language is important: - learn parts of speech what they mean how to use them to construct sentences
- Find at least 20 minutes each day for reading without fail - result - you will read: half a book a week; two books a month; 20 in a year; 1000 in a lifetime!
- Read loudly to improve your pronunciation. Keep a library of good books at home. Read quality newspapers and magazines
- Keep a little pocket size notebook
- Jot down every new word you encounter with their meanings
- Keep the notebook with you at all times
- Refer to it during moments of free time: journey home, in the car, on the bus. Dare I suggest more!

## **Summer 2017 External Exam Entries – Mr Cotton & Dr Chouder write:**

These will be sent to the Exam Boards before the half term holiday.

There are a large number of entries. Senior Students from the school will be doing exams this summer with a varying number of "separate entries" including written exams and submission of Controlled Assessments and "Cash-Ins" (where applicable) each involved.

Students should consult with their teachers where necessary about their Exam Entries. The processing of these entries has and is taking place "as we speak"!

This involves many things including discussion amongst the relevant staff, the administrative processing by myself and the final permission of the Head.

It is intended that before the entries are sent that included in the final checks, students will receive an Unofficial Schoolbase generated Entry Statement for their own information and checking.

These will also be available via the Schoolbase Online portal. To access the Entry Statement online go to: [www.schoolbaseonline.biz](http://www.schoolbaseonline.biz) and enter the following details:

**Domain** : Swaminarayan

**Username and Password** : supplied via email by Bibi in the school office.

On the left hand side choose the option **Pupil Exams**. **Please check these carefully when you receive them.**

It is important that the entries are sent correctly by the deadline, as any amendments after this are not guaranteed to be accepted by the Exam Boards, and even if they are, will be likely to have added considerably punitive late fees on an escalating scale.

### **Lasting Learning**

1. Learning and memory are like “Siamese twins”.
2. The brains comprises 2% of our body weight but uses 20% of our energy.
3. The more stimuli we give our brain, the greater will be its learning capacity.
4. Repetition of the same task strengthens learning.
5. The brain is capable of learning anything and processing information quickly.
6. Our brain is highly effective and adaptive.
7. Growing a smart brain requires the exploration of alternative methods, multiple answers, critical thinking and creative insights.

### **SIX WAYS TO SUCCESS: English/English Literature**

Below are six points, through which students could achieve success in English

1. Engage in wider reading. At the higher level, read books of a more challenging nature.
2. Aim for an informed personal response to literature.
3. Focus on the language used by writers.
4. Practise speaking and listening skills regularly and thoroughly.
5. Be aware of the need for Standard English both in speech and writing.
6. Develop and expand ideas.

### **Think**

#### **Think**

Most people never really think. If we learn to think properly, our minds have a limitless capacity to create new and ingenious solutions to any problem that we are likely to face in our lives.

#### **Feel**

The quality that separates the outstanding student from the average student is their capacity to think, analyse, evaluate and examine a question from a very individual and unique point of view. This ability enables them to look at a question and quickly arrive at an answer. It becomes more and more relevant the further you climb up the education ladder. The questions you will be asked will not just be about presenting facts but they will force you to look at charts or graphs and digest information in a passage and provide an answer. It is a skill that also becomes more relevant at work the higher you climb up the levels of the company. While the workers in a factory perform repetitive tasks, the manager is paid to think and make decisions. It means gathering information from all available sources, studying it and arriving at a solution or plan of action. People who generate ideas and provide solutions to problems are valued by companies because it is ideas which enable companies to grow and stay ahead of the competition.

#### **Do**

Scientific research has shown that people only use 10% of their brain. The other 90% is lying dormant waiting to be brought into use. The more you train yourself to think, the greater your chances of growing as a person and fulfilling your ambition in life. You must have noticed that the students who get the highest marks in the class also know how to concentrate and have a great attitude to work!

**Yours sincerely,**

**Nilesh Manani**