

The Swaminarayan

EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Theme for next week

The theme for next week is “**Believe in yourself.**” I have written about it at the end of the newsletter.

S1 Parents’ Consultation Evening - TODAY

The first Parents’ Consultation Evening for Senior 1 pupils will take place TODAY between 4.30-7.00 pm in the Yogi Hall. All the parents will have an opportunity to meet their child’s subject teachers including the House Tutors, who meet the pupils twice per day and keep a very careful eye on their welfare, progress and achievements.

Entrance Examinations 2017

Yesterday, we had more than fifty candidates from the Preparatory and External Schools writing the Scholarship paper for entry into Senior 1 for September 2017. There are forty places on offer with seven scholarships. Rigorous JCQ standards will be maintained in marking the papers, which will then be further scrutinised before the announcement of the scholarships.

DRAMA AND LAMDA DATES: Spring Term, 2017 - Mr Benny writes:

Please would parents of students throughout the Senior School circle the following dates in their diary, where applicable:

Year 11 GCSE Drama: Tuesday, 17 January, *periods 1 & 2*. Coursework under controlled assessment. Students involved must bring in their laptop and a USB.

ISA DRAMA REHEARSALS (Year 9 actors): Every Thursday (4.15-5.30ish p.m.) and Sunday 19th March DRESS REHEARSAL. PERFORMANCE: Saturday, 25th March at Ascot.

LAMDA EXAMS: 28th, 29th and 30th MARCH, 2017. The LAMDA fees will be incorporated into next term’s fees invoice, as per usual.

Tate Modern Visit - Nyah Varsani & Kajol Jain (Year 10) write...



Tate Modern! On Tuesday, art students from years 9, 10 and 11 visited one of the most famous art and tourist attractions in London, the Tate on Bankside.

On arrival, we went straight up to the viewing platform on the 10th floor of the new Tate extension, Switch House, from where we took in some of the spectacular landmarks of the London skyline, including the Shard, the Gherkin and St Pauls Cathedral.

Once downstairs in the gallery, we began looking through the collection for an art piece relating to our current project theme. There were many different items on display and it was difficult not to be distracted by the giant spider sculpture

which was hanging from the ceiling in one of the rooms!

After making our studies in Switch House, we stopped to enjoy our extensive packed lunches (a highly anticipated element of any day trip). Once we had sated our appetites for food, we went in search of more art, this time looking for things which caught our eye with their materials or techniques.

There was a huge variety of work on show, including a tower constructed out of hundreds of radios playing different stations (to represent the Tower of Babel) and optical illusions created by lines, colours and moving parts. All in all we gathered lots of information and ideas to assist us in our projects and had a wonderful time! Thank you to Ms Morrison for organising the trip and Mr Patel for accompanying us.

Grading New GCSEs from 2017

Examinations in the reformed English Language, English literature and Mathematics GCSEs will be taken for the first by the current Senior 5 pupils this summer so I thought parents and pupils will find the attached information sheets from Ofqual useful.

Peripatetic lessons – Mr Oza writes:

Instrumental lessons for piano, drums, flute, guitar and violin lessons are offered in school by peripatetic teachers. Lessons are to start from this week and next week. Parents who want to enrol their child/ren for these lessons should collect an application form from **Mr Oza** and return them by the end of next week **Friday 20th January 2017**. Please note that these lessons are offered during school time with an organised time table so your child/ren will not miss the same lesson more than once or twice in one whole term. This is the same procedure in every other school for peripatetic music teachers. Peripatetic teachers also help prepare children to appear for external music examinations through ABRSM, Trinity music examination boards.

Believe in yourself

Think

The greatest president of America failed in business in 1831. A year later he ran for state legislator but was defeated. He then started another business in 1833 but that also failed and after another ten years of hard work he ran for Congress and faced another defeat. Undaunted he tried again in 1848 and was once more defeated. Still, he did not give up and managed to run for the Senate in 1855 only to lose. His desire to serve his country was so intense that just one year later he ran for the Vice President but lost. He then ran for the Senate in 1858 and was defeated. Almost thirty years after he began his long journey to fulfil his ambition to serve his country, Abraham Lincoln was elected to become not only the 16th president of the United States in 1860, but is widely acclaimed as their greatest, and most influential president.

Feel

Like Lincoln, you will face many difficulties in your young life when trying to achieve something. Accept it as part of life and rather than feel defeated, look at each experience as an opportunity to learn. Believe in yourself and carry on striving hard. There are no easy roads to success and everyone who has ever tried to achieve something special has faced problems, but they have never lost heart and always continued to march forward.

Do

The world is full of people who have taken chances and faced many obstacles, yet they have never given up. The world is richer because they persevered and believed in what they were trying to achieve. Eventually, they found their moment and were successful. The world would have been a poorer place if all these men and women had given up and lost self-belief at the first sign of difficulty. Believe in yourself always, never lose hope, and your chance will also come.

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani