

The Swaminarayan

Education is that which liberates

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Theme for the week

The theme for next week is “**Have a dream**” as expressed by **Martin Luther King**. I have copied parts of his memorable speech at the feet of the Lincoln Memorial at the back of the newsletter.

Param Pujya Mahant Swami Maharaj

The Swaminarayan School is proud to welcome Param Pujya Mahant Swami Maharaj to London on his first visit as the spiritual guru of BAPS. Pupils, staff and parents have been working really hard to make sure that the route from Gibbons through the school carpark is filled with memories. I have not seen the carpark as inviting, as clean, enhanced by the intricate patterns that marks his route. We would like to pass on our sincere thank you to everyone for their hard work.

Drive slowly, drive carefully and drive safely

For Friday 16th June, Monday 19th June, Tuesday 20th June and the morning of Wednesday 21st June, parents are advised of the following arrangements:

1. They should drop their child/ren off in the main school car park by entering through the main school gate.
2. Parents will not be allowed to leave their car parked in the main carpark after dropping their child/ren and must leave through the second gate adjacent to the caretaker's bungalow.
3. Parents wishing to visit the Mandir, should park their cars in the car park across the bridge.
4. The security guards will be at both gates to ensure a smooth flow of traffic. Parents are requested to follow their instructions to the letter to maintain our high standards in the health and safety of everyone.
5. Parents are requested to maintain a 5 miles/hour speed limit whilst in the carpark.

Volunteers for the TSS Summer Fair Saturday, 1st & Sunday, 2nd July 2017

Please complete the form attached to this newsletter and hand it in to the office.

Parents Questionnaire

Parents are reminded that tomorrow is the last day for submitting your response to the Parents Questionnaire. Please send it to the school or ask your child to hand it to their House Tutors.

Sports Day

The Sports Day for the senior pupils will take place on Tuesday, 27th June in Gibbons Ground. Any parent wishing to join us, should inform the office by Friday, 23rd June so that we can make the necessary arrangement for lunch.

Follow your dreams

I have never read anything so exacting and inspirational about dreams as this extract from Martin Luther King's speech which so vividly exemplifies what can be achieved if we are truly passionate about pursuing our dream. Nothing I write will ever match its passion...

"...Though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed; 'we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal'. I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today!"

"I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of 'interposition' and 'nullification', that one day right there in Alabama, little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today!"

"I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and 'the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together'. This is our hope, and this is the faith that I go back to the South with. With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that one day we will be free."

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani

Volunteering For Your School – Summer Fair 1 & 2 July 2017

Every year schools up and down the country hold summer fairs that raise funds to contribute towards equipment or facilities, etc. for children at their school. Please visit some of the fairs at your local school and you will see how these fairs/events are brought together with a mixture of enthusiasm and fun by a team of volunteers and parents from each class who take up an allocated task to man a stand or run an activity.

It is the one time that you can really contribute and get involved to help the school. The children are so proud to see their parents helping out (outside of the school trips). This collaboration builds the relationships between all members of the school and the families, as they enjoy coming together on these events - together...hopefully in the sunshine!

Our fair is like NO other! We attract a huge crowd over the 2 days! For this, an army of manpower is needed. We are always grateful to the Mandir for supporting us with additional volunteers to help us at our fair, however, would love to see more of our parents host the activities or help in any other way. Our parents have vast talents, skills, contacts etc. that can help bring even more to the fair and to the school community as a whole. This is where YOU can help make a difference! Every year we work hard to build up the number of school volunteers to make it a great experience for all our visitors.

This year ...a heartfelt request please to help us take the hard work out of building the volunteer teams and come forward and sign up as a volunteer for either or both days for as little as two hours to as much as the whole day. Whatever works with your commitments, we are confident that with the 300+ parents we have at the school, if we all do a little bit, then we will exceed our target of recruiting 200 parent volunteers for the weekend. You can sign up on the tear off slip at the bottom of this newsletter or email admin@tssuk.org

SUMMER FAIR VOLUNTEERS 1 & 2 July 2017

Name:.....Child's Class.....

Times Available (between 1-9pm).....

Days Available (Saturday and/or Sunday).....

Email Address:.....Mobile Number:.....